

AUSTRALASIAN GOOD TIDINGS

E-NEWS – August 2015 #42

22nd General Conference Session - SDARM

**Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement 22nd General Conference
Delegation Session – 25 August to 8 September 2015**



The 22nd Delegation Session of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement started on Tuesday 25th of August, in the beautiful state of Virginia in the United States of America. The location for this very important event was held at a conference center situated on Smith Mountain Lake, in the town of Wirtz. This was a historic moment, as the last GC session held in the USA was in 1979 in Bushkill, Pennsylvania.

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Travel

Around 170 delegates, representing 38,675 members in more than 100 countries worldwide, gathered from around the globe for this quadrennial business session of the church.



Prior to the beginning of the session, delegates arrived via plane, into Roanoke, Charlotte and Washington airports. It took a couple of days for all delegates to arrive. They were bussed in groups via Roanoke to the venue, which is about 45 minutes' drive into the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains.

Welcome Address

The GC president for the past four years, Br. Davi Paes Silva, shared a brief message, emphasizing our need of the Holy Spirit and of continuous connection with Christ.

Br. Silva made reference to John 20:22, "*And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.*" Then he emphasized important points found in Hosea 5:15, 6:1-3, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 805, and other passages. He encouraged the delegates in a few very important aspects of preparation—acknowledging our condition, seeking the Lord, experiencing His healing and revival, and receiving the former and latter rain of the Holy Spirit.

Following this part of the meeting, we sang Hymn #132 from the *Reformation Hymnal*, "Holy Spirit Faithful Guide." Each delegate had the opportunity to pray for the guidance and outpouring of the Holy Spirit, during a special prayer season in groups of two.

The Session Begins

All of the departmental leaders and regional secretaries presented news of the work from the past four years.

Good news was gleaned from these updates, mentioning many encouraging things which have happened. People are accepting Christ even in these faith-challenging times. Some countries which were more restrictive are now more accessible. The willingness of youth all over the world to work for God is wonderful to see. And we were overjoyed to welcome 15 additional units, bringing the total to 90 missions, fields and conferences worldwide.

New Technology

This General Conference session sees some new technology coming into use. A delegate attendance tracking system allows the chairman to keep accurate track of how many delegates are present on the floor during the session, particularly for voting.

There is also an electronic voting system that makes it much easier to record and tally votes which would formerly have been recorded on secret ballot and tallied by hand.

Both technologies have proved to be a great help, once everyone was familiar with how to use them.

Work commenced

After all the reports were heard and accepted, the usual committees were chosen and they commenced their work. The session is being chaired by Duraisamy Sureshkumar, assisted in the chair by Peter D. Lausevic, with Eli Tenorio as the session secretary.

For the most recent photo news and worship live video streams from the session, visit:

<http://gcsession.sdarm.org/2015/media/>

For GC Daily Bulletin Session updates visit: <http://gcsession.sdarm.org/2015/news/>

For more information, please visit:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/sdarm.gc

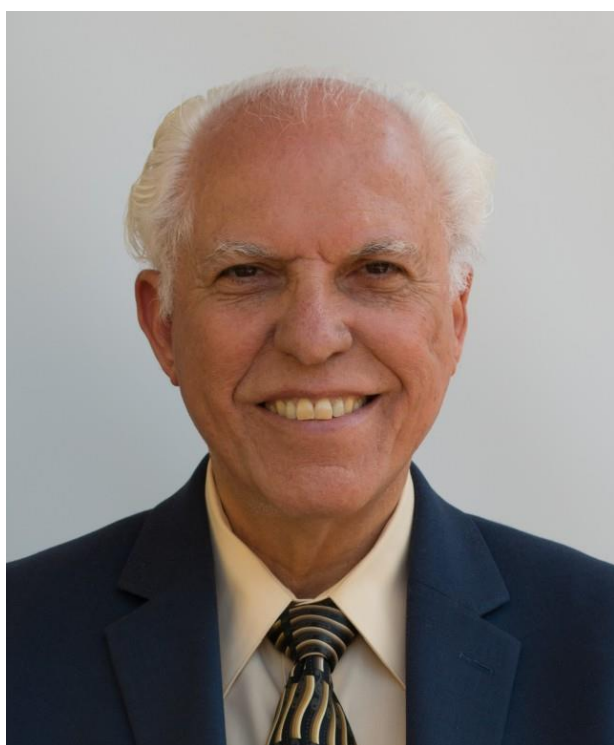
Twitter: www.twitter.com/SDARMChurch

Morning and evening worships for the session: www.gcsession.sdarm.org/2015/delegation-session/

The Bulletin Committee,

Davi Paes Silva, Adrian Finaru and Csongor Matyas

Davi Paes Silva is Re-elected as General Conference President



Earlier today, Friday, 28 August, 2015 (USA Eastern Daylight Time), Br Davi Paes Silva was re-elected as President of Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement General Conference. Br Silva's name was one of three presented by The Nominating Committee to the 22nd General Conference Session of the SDARM. After the election, Br Silva addressed the session with a short message of exhortation.

A video of the message may be found online at:

<https://youtu.be/jPgJxxUGk>

Davi Paes Silva gives his first address after being re-elected as President of the General Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement, 22nd General Conference Session, Roanoke, VA, USA.

“Dear Brethren, I am very thankful to the Lord because we see that the Holy Spirit is working in the session and I am conscious, that we have a big task before us, and that by ourselves we can do nothing.

“I understand that those who voted made a commitment to support us in the work. We have no idea how to work by ourselves with our small team, but we depend first on God’s grace. We depend on the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

“As we travel around the world, we see that we have much to do. We have many problems to solve. But if we get closer to the Lord, if we make a complete surrender of our life to Him, if we keep a connection with Him the whole time, for sure God’s people will be victorious very soon.

“Brethren, when we think that the message of the Seventh Day Adventist Church started in 1844, how many years have passed already? When we consider 1888, more than 120 years (have passed) and we are still in this wilderness.

“The Reform Movement started in 1914, more than 100 years (ago). I think, we have no reason to manifest a kind of triumphant idea – we have no reason.

“I think that it is time to seek the Lord. We should recognize our weakness. We should recognize our dependency, and we should surrender ourselves completely to the Lord.

“Otherwise, we don’t know how many years we will still walk in this wilderness. I don’t know, but we need to make a decision — not a resolution — but we need to decide by ourselves here, to seek the Lord with our hearts. Our connection in our life should include all the departments in our life.

“A question, brethren: Are we walking in the light that we know?

“I would like to read some Bible verses. Isaiah 55:6 & 7, ‘Seek the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.’

“Brethren, besides surrendering our life to Christ we need to do something else. We need to remain in Him. Colossians 2:6 & 7, ‘As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.’

“In Revelation, chapter 14 we find the description of the character of the 144,000. ‘And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father’s name written in their foreheads.’

“Brethren, what is the meaning of this, having the Father’s name and Christ’s name in our foreheads? What is the meaning? We have His character in our life.

“His character is impressed in our life. Verse four says, ‘These are they which were not defiled with women,’ which means they kept themselves pure – these people have a pure doctrine.

“They follow the Lamb wherever He goes. The Spirit of Prophecy says if you want to follow the Lamb to Mount Zion, we need to follow Him today. It is not enough, brethren, to dream about salvation. Salvation depends on a vital connection with the Lord the whole time, and verse 5 says, no lie was found in their mouth; they are blameless.

“Now, God’s people have a work to do. We find in Revelation 18, ‘And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he

cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit...'

"Now in verse four, 'And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people.'

"Then, brethren, we have a mission that is far beyond our power; we depend on the Holy Spirit individually and as a church. We need to be baptized by the Holy Spirit individually and as a church to fulfill the Word.

"We see here two great powers. For instance the Bible talks about Babylon. Babylon controls the world. The angel of Revelation 18 needs to face Babylon.

"Compared with the denominations of the world, we are just a very small number. How can we do this ourselves?

"Dear Brethren, we have a great responsibility before the Lord. Let us seek the Lord with all our hearts. I count on your prayers in my behalf and on the behalf of my team that will be chosen later.

"I would like to appeal to you, please, brethren, let's take seriously our calling. Let us struggle with the Lord as Jacob, so that our name can be changed to 'Israel', an 'overcomer'.

"I have a question for you, how many of you are willing to pray for us? (A raising of hands)

"Thank you very much, brethren."

Peter D Lausevic Elected GC First Vice-President

30 August, 2015



Earlier today, Sunday, 30 August, 2015 (USA Eastern Daylight Time), Br Peter D Lausevic was elected as First Vice-President of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement General Conference.

The First Vice-President is to reside in the United States in order to directly assist the GC President.

After much prayerful consideration, three names were presented by the Nominating Committee to the Session. After 2 rounds of votes, the delegates elected Br. Peter Lausevic to the office of General Conference First Vice-President. Br. Lausevic gave a word of thanks and asked for the support of the brethren all around the world in their prayers.

Prayers were offered for Br. Peter by Br. Silva and Br. Sureshkumar.

Rolly Dumaguit Elected GC 2nd Vice-President

30 August, 2015.

Brother Rolly Dumaguit has been elected as 2nd Vice-President of the General Conference of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement.

Brother Rolly Dumaguit will reside outside the USA to assist the President in the affairs of the General Conference throughout the world.

Brother Dumaguit was one of four candidates proposed by the Session Nominating Committee on Monday morning August 31, 2015 (USA Eastern Daylight Time). After the delegates completed three rounds of voting, Br. Dumaguit received the required majority vote. After being invited to speak to the Session, he expressed his feelings of insufficiency to carry out the work of this office, but is prepared to trust God in whatever plan He has for him. He requested that the brethren from around the world should pray for him as he would for them.

Prayers were then offered for Brother Dumaguit.



Dedication – Ruby Anna Macdermott

Wentworthville Church - 22 August 2015

Praise God for a beautiful warm sunny Sabbath day. The weather reached a top of 28°C being the hottest day out west in August this year. August 22, 2015 was a special day at Wentworthville SDARM church especially for Karen, friends and family with the dedication of her daughter Ruby Anna Macdermott.

Psalm 23:1 *"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want"* was presented by all the children followed by a song for the special dedication service. The service was conducted by Br. Peter Lausevic, instructing the congregation in the importance of parents dedicating themselves to God, as well as their



precious little ones. The lifework of parents is to train and educate their children for heaven.

Mark 10:16, "And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them." What a wonderful experience of true dedication.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. This language is positive. The training that Solomon enjoins is to direct, educate, develop. But in order for parents to do this work, they must themselves understand the 'way' the child should go. It is impossible for parents to give their children proper training unless they first give themselves to God, learning of the Great Teacher lessons of obedience to His will." Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students, p. 108.



For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=9870>

Baptism – Manuel and Sarah Bellina - Queensland

Manuel and Sarah Bellina – 15 August 2015



On a beautiful sunny Sabbath, 15 August, Queensland brethren and friends from most of our groups gathered at the Sweeney Reserve at 2pm. The North Pine River at Petrie is tidal, and so we had a very small window of opportunity before the tide turned. Br Manuel and Sr Sarah Bellina had made the decision to join with the people of God through baptism.

The day started at Clayfield Church with Sabbath School as usual. The first part of the Divine Service was the Profession of Faith. After a very quick lunch, we adjourned to the river. God blessed us with beautiful weather. Brethren with their musical instruments provided melodies familiar to baptisms.

After the baptism we travelled to a hall close by for the Fellowship Meeting and after Sabbath a very delicious evening meal. Everyone provided a plate of food. Pumpkin soup and homemade dinner rolls, pumpkin pie, coconut pudding, cake, and fresh fruit made the meal.

We pray the Lord will bless and guide Br Manny and Sr Sarah in the future, and may we all be encouraged to endure to the end for the beautiful life Jesus is preparing for His faithful people.

~ Reported by Irene Wiseman



1st International Congress of Sacred Music

Sacramento – 20 to 23 August 2015



The first international congress of sacred music for the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement took place during 20-23 August 2015 at the Oak Hills Church, 1100 Blue Ravine Rd, Folsom, CA 95630.

Many groups, solos and choirs were able to offer praise to our heavenly Father from a number of churches within the USA as well as overseas. For services, items, program and more information please visit:

<http://www.sdarm.info/icsmusic/>

“And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.” Revelation 5:11-14.



Photos taken from SDARM GC Website, photo gallery.

For more photos:

<http://www.sdarm.org/news-events/photos/2015/8/first-international-congress-sacred-music-aug-20-23>

Engagement Congratulations



Timothy Wiseman and Jessica Walkom

On Sunday, 16 August, Brother Timothy Wiseman and Sister Jessica Walkom announced their engagement to be married.

May God bless their commitment to each other.

"Make Christ first and last and best in everything. Constantly behold Him, and your love for Him will daily become deeper and stronger as it is submitted to the test of trial. And as your love for Him increases, your love for each other will grow deeper and stronger." The Adventist Home pp. 105, 106.

~ Mary Wiseman

We would like to extend our congratulations and best wishes to Timothy and Jessica as they plan their future life together.

"[Love] suffereth long, and is kind; [Love] envieth not; [Love] vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. [Love] never faileth..." 1 Corinthians 13:4-8.

Sydney Churches Special Combined Meetings

Combined Sabbath morning at Schofields – 15 August 2015

All members from Wentworthville, Slavic and Schofields churches assembled together for a combined Sabbath morning program held at the Schofields centre. This special Sabbath was organized due to a short visit from Br Sureshkumar, who at the time was the Vice-president of the General Conference.

Sabbath School started as normal at 9:30am, and the lesson study for that day was “How to Study the Bible”. *“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding”* Proverbs 4:7. Whenever one enters the study of God’s Word, it is essential to always begin with prayer. *“Without the guidance of the Holy Spirit we shall be continually liable to wrest the Scriptures or to misinterpret them”*... Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 704.

It was wonderful to have so many children fellowship together in the Children’s Sabbath School class. They studied about the twelve spies who went to search out the land of Canaan. Ten came back with a negative report, but Caleb and Joshua came back with a positive report: *“Sure giants live there in walled cities, but our God can fight for us. Let us go and conquer the land.”* Children’s Treasures Vol. 1, No. 3 p. 47. Let us learn to always be positive and trust God for leading and strength as we face many obstacles in our lives.



We then were privileged to hear the Divine Service message delivered by Br. Sureshkumar. During the service it was brought out that God showed man the plan of redemption through the work of the sanctuary. Some of the key Bible verses read were:

“...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” John 1:29

“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.” Hebrews 9:22.

“But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:” Hebrews 9:7.

Br Sureshkumar shared that without the understanding of the sanctuary one can’t fully comprehend or appreciate the plan of salvation. Every sacrifice made symbolised Jesus death and the forgiveness of sins. Everything about the sanctuary pointed to something in the great plan of redemption.

We are living in the Day of Atonement. While Jesus is atoning for us, we must be also preparing ourselves and our loved ones for the great day of Jesus’ Second Coming.

After the Divine Service, a combined fellowship lunch was enjoyed by all.

We thank God for the wonderful time we all shared together.

Baby Congratulations to Damasch Family

Josiah Nathaniel Damasch - 4 August 2015



We wish to congratulate Ben and Cherith Damasch on the birth of their second child. May you have wisdom from above to bring up your children for the glory of God.

Josiah Nathaniel was born on the fourth of August. He weighed a healthy 3500 grams and his length was 56cms, quite a long baby; he is very much loved by his big sister Katherine.

May God bless this beautiful family as they live for Him.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." Psalm 127:3



"...Fathers and mothers should often lift up their hearts to God in humble supplication for themselves and their children. Let the father, as priest of the household, lay upon the altar of God the morning and evening sacrifice, while the wife and children unite in prayer and praise. In such a household Jesus will love to tarry." Reflecting Christ, p. 182.



Baby Congratulations to Gules Family

Baby Levi Joseph Gules – 3 August 2015



"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well." Psalm 139:14.

After a reasonably short labor of 7¼ hours, on Monday morning 3rd August 2015 Amy and Benny Gules were delighted to welcome their first child into this world; a baby boy, Levi Joseph.

Baby Levi arrived safe and well at home by a water birth in their dining room. Levi was a healthy 3.55kgs and 52.5cms long. Amy was attended by two private midwives, who did a wonderful job.

Much thankfulness was offered to God that morning for such a wonderful gift bestowed upon their family.

At church for thanksgiving, Benny praised God for the new life entrusted to them and quoted a special Bible verse found in James 1:17-- *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."*

Congratulations to Benny and Amy. We pray that God will richly bless your family, and may His love always abide within your family circle.



"Let parents seek, in their own character and in their home life, to exemplify the love and beneficence of the heavenly Father. Let the home be full of sunshine. This will be worth far more to your children than lands or money. Let the home love be kept alive in their hearts, that they may look back upon the home of their childhood as a place of peace and happiness next to heaven..." Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 176.

AUC Welfare Department – Tahiti & Fiji Assistance

AUC WELFARE DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE TO SOUTH PACIFIC UNION WELFARE DEPARTMENT REPORT – John Lausevic

Huahine Island, Tahiti August 2-7,2015

Throughout all the South Pacific Islands the call for aid and assistance is great. With cyclones, tsunamis and Global Warming a great concern among the peoples of these islands is gardening as it provides their only source of food and income. After patiently waiting for more than two years for a visit from the Welfare Department of the Australasian Union, the people were given help in the form of a hands-on, agriculture-based seminar. The focus was mainly on the improvement of their soils and on training workshops. A four-day workshop was held on Huahine Island, Tahiti, where a group of attendees were waiting my arrival. Thirty years have passed since I first travelled to this particular island, and few things had changed since my original visit. Another thing that was needed was improvement in my French-speaking ability. I found myself shy in the use of French due to a lack of use. I had all but forgotten basic vocabulary words. But after a day the brain cells rejuvenated, and the words started to flow again. Translation was provided into Tahitian and French by various translators.



Above Photo: Attendees inside Camp Chapel of Huahine Island - Tahiti

It was quite interesting to see the very special way one is greeted here, like royalty. Other arriving passengers might get one garland of fresh and fragrant flowers; however, when friends and church members know that anyone is coming, that particular visitor or visitors will receive so many that others stop to stare in wonder. Likewise on departure one is given a Tahitian customary send-off in the same fashion, however, with necklaces of shells as a form of saying bon voyage.

A majority of church members on Huahine Island are self-supporting market garden farmers. Their livelihood depends on their farm production with many sisters operating the farm businesses. They all sell locally to the one supermarket and farmers markets. The invitation was given out in advance, and some local farmers from the district came. Included in the attendees were several men one of which was the owner of a local 3-star hotel which had its own vegetable garden supplying the hotel kitchen and his head gardener. A local New Zealander even came with the interest in improving his soil. Other attendees were a man from Switzerland and another lady from an Indian Ocean island. Several other local farmers came throughout the entire course.

Classes began promptly at 9am and stopped at noon for an hour or more as needed, then continued until 5pm. After a short dinner break a video was shown in relation to health or gardening. Some of the attendees could not come early due to having to make deliveries of their vegetables. They were accommodated, and I was able to repeat some things. On this trip I was asked to prepare two special subjects. The one that was most important to them was “Watermelons and the Secrets to Growing Melons”. The emphasis on this class was growing them organically. Melons, watermelons and seedless watermelons were the popular topic at hand. That was a very enthusiastic class as watermelons aka “Past’equé” are the most popular as well as most expensive fruit in the Islands. Growing them organic is an unknown thing as they are used to having to grow them under a very intensive chemical pesticide regime. “Improving Your Tomatoes” class was the next most important class to the attendees. If you are wondering how the local tomatoes were grown, they were grown lying on the ground exposed to fungal problems and pests. Each attendee commented on how they appreciated these two sessions as tomatoes and watermelons are an important crop there. They all felt they could walk away knowing how to improve their farming skills.



Photo above: Most of the Attendees – Huahine Island

The importance of organic farming was stressed, and many details were given on improving their very sandy soils. Most attendees were able to bring in a sample jar of their soil, and a rating was given them. A day was spent visiting and consulting various garden owners, including the hotel’s garden bed areas and discussing individual tailored ways of soil improvement. The next day, after the previous night’s video was shown, the hotel gardener was already implementing what he learned. This was a good thing to see as many times I have left the country and have been unable to see any results of training given.

All the attendees were very thankful for the time spent with them. Although short, it was direct to the point, and they felt that the knowledge they gained was tremendous. Learning how to make compost properly along with bio-fertilizers and natural pest remedies really gave them a fresh outlook. The local brethren brought gifts of food daily for meals, and one brother who owns a French bakery donated bread for every meal. He attended when he could. The Welfare Department has arranged for a Compost Tea Blower Unit to be delivered along with a pressure water pump to the campground where the seminar was held in order to improve their water delivery capacity and also to help them make large scale compost teas. Much appreciation is given to the host families of this seminar for their care and support given to the speaker during the week. Pineapple juice and fresh papayas are a great sore throat remedy and were available throughout the entire time there. No fees were charged for attendance to anyone, and all walked away feeling renewed in their efforts to earn a living and to eat healthier foods.

Fiji Highlands

August 9-16, 2015

The following week was spent in Fiji, a beautiful country with rivers and mountains all flowing towards the sea. The islands are volcanic in nature, with wonderful scenery to view everywhere. The plan was to drive directly to the Highlands where the seminar was to be given. However, a change in plans came about. It called for a visit to Suva, the capital city, to view the building progress updates of the church hall and kitchen. This place is out in the countryside, located on the newly purchased block of land there. The building is almost completed in preparation for their upcoming conference. However, after this, plans are being made for a Fly and Build church building project. It is slated for June 20, 2016 – August 7, 2016. During that time people from all over the world are welcome to come and help build the lighthouse planned for this property.



The village Chief taking notes during compost training module – Fiji Highlands.

After viewing this place, we took a drive to look at the surrounding areas. As we turned around to go back into one of the farm driveways, we saw a farmer. The brother driving me knew this man, and I was promptly invited to give a small mini talk on farming questions the man had. At the end of the conversation, we promised to give his local farmer's cooperative, along with any of our church members in Suva, a seminar. And in exchange, the farmers' cooperative would donate the vegetables needed for next year's Fly and Build Project. We shook hands and went on our way, by which time it was dark. A peaceful night's rest was had in Suva, and the following entire day was spent travelling in the direction of the workshop destination. A few stops here and there in some markets to evaluate what type of produce was being grown was helpful in getting background information ready.

The Highlands of Fiji is a special place, as the village where the seminar was to be held is located about 66 kilometres (29 miles) away from the town of Nandi. In order to get there, it takes more than two hours of grinding four-wheel-drive trekking with "S" bends, switchbacks, gullies and plenty of potholes to be encountered. The thought came too late to bring a chiropractor with me to straighten out all my bones.

We arrived just before dark and were given a meal to eat in the traditional Fijian custom of sitting on mats. With the cold rarefied night air at altitude, the meal of hot soups was a delight. Afterwards the various houses in the village were notified of and invited to the seminars. The nights were quite cold here in contrast to sea level in Huahine Island, and the houses have no heating or running water amenities. A cold spring water pipe delivers fresh running ice cold water 24 hours a day. A quick splash on your face is guaranteed to wake you up. One has no need of alarm clocks here, so leave your alarm clocks at home. Rising time is with the singing hour of the local roosters. Village time is dictated by the rising of the sun, and setting of the sun with no comforts of city life. A beautiful thing it is, once you get used to being in harmony with nature's Eight Laws of Health.



Photo above: Classroom in Fiji Highlands with partial attendees

Another day began with the seminar along the same lines as those done in Tahiti, but with an emphasis on local conditions, growing issues and questions. Translation was given into Fijian by Bro. Tevita Rokabaro. Farmers from another local village located on an opposite ridge line were invited and came a day late. They only attended two days; due to a misunderstanding, they did not come for the third day. They could see us

off in the distance foraging for Compost Class materials and thought I was leaving the village. So they did not return for the Composting Class. Hopefully others who learned will be able to show them.

The largest complaint of the members and other attendees was not understanding soil biology and why the diminishing returns of their plantings were affected. In addition continuous insect damage was another serious problem. After understanding the principles behind crop rotations, pest control methods and improvements to the soil through composting materials and other natural fertilizers, the farmers could now be able to remove the need for fighting the insects and instead use their newfound knowledge by improving their crop yields.

They have every tool available to them: fresh air, sunshine, cool nights, fresh water, natural fertilizers, volcanic loam soils, mineral rock dusts, and available composting materials everywhere; it was just a matter of putting all of these things into a physical perspective. The same thing happened for the attendees in Tahiti. Once their eyes were opened to the possibilities, they embraced the ideas easily. Many of the attendees used a slash and burn method or a herbicide burn-off method. They would kill the soil biology every time they prepared the land for a crop. Some attendees even used a chemical dip not designed to ripen tomatoes as a crop ripening method which then changed the colour of their tomato fruit from green to red in a day. Explanations were given to show not only how to market and harvest but also the dangers in using such chemical cocktails to change the natural post-harvest methods of ripening. We were also able to show the relation between some of their farming practises and the resulting health issues. They were very appreciative. Many simple health remedies were given out to help them deal with problems on hand.

The attendees felt blessed, and the feedback from both places seminars and hands-on training sessions were given was... "Please come back next year to see if we have improved our lives".



Photo above: River weeds as composting materials in Fiji Highlands

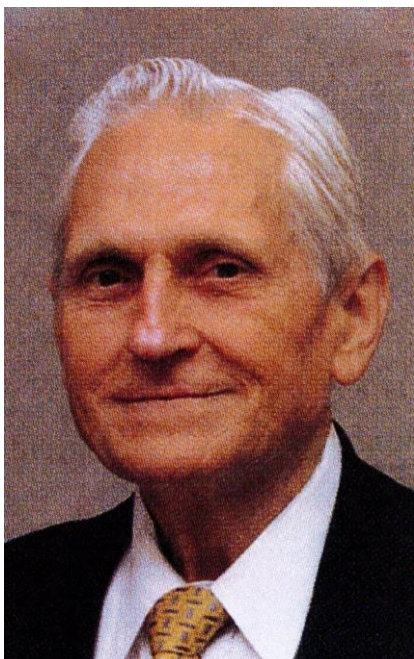
The members living in this village expressed the need to build a house of worship and are willing to cut and saw timbers to build a place. Monetary assistance is needed in the form of several thousand dollars to purchase the expensive wall and roofing iron, cement and four solar panels to provide lighting at night. The Welfare Department of the AUC has building plans available for a simple structure which when built would have two multi-use rooms for visitors and classrooms. The plan currently is to have both churches built simultaneously during the Fly and Build dates. This particular project will happen only if funding is found

for this Highlands Church Project. Please contact the Welfare Department via email at welfare@sdarm.org.au for further information on how to donate.

This trip and these seminars would not have been possible on such short notice except for donations given to the Australian Welfare Department from caring individuals across the globe who wish to aid those in need in a direct manner. Much thoughtful appreciation is given on behalf of the Welfare Departments of the Australasian Union Conference and also the South Pacific Union Mission.

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=9773>

Get well wishes to Benjamin Burec



Our petitions go to our heavenly Father on behalf of Brother Benjamin Burec who had a fall and sadly has been hospitalised since early August.

For many years, Brother Benjamin Burec and Sister Elsa Burec have been faithful in serving God by working at the General Conference headquarters, Roanoke, Virginia.

We would like to wish Brother Benjamin Burec God's blessings for a very speedy recovery.



For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=9754>

London Congress



CROYDON CHURCH, LONDON

July, 10-12, 2015, a spiritual Conference was held in Croydon Church in London. The keynote speaker was the current president of the General Conference, Br. Davi Paes Silva. The main subjects were, the lost sheep, the lost coin, the prodigal son, and Jesus receives sinners these

were four themes full of interest to every soul that seeks to know the message of salvation in its full and pure meaning.

The first theme was presented Friday afternoon, the next two, Sabbath morning and Sabbath afternoon. And the last issue was presented Sunday morning. Each topic reflected in greater light and grandeur the love that Christ had and has for us.

A warning message was also given to not fall into the leaven of the Pharisees. But I emphasise one thing that he said: "No one should be alarmed; Jesus also loves the Pharisees". Christ not only wants to save open sinners, but also secret sinners. The downside for this last group is that salvation is more difficult because of their outward appearance of righteousness and their inward belief that they are good; they trust in their own merits.

I also want to highlight the phrase "Trust in God is not a feeling". Whether we feel good or bad, we win or lose, we are poor or rich, we should still trust in God and not doubt His forgiveness, love and mercy toward us. If we hesitate, we are at the mercy of Satan. This last point is very important, since we should not love God only when we receive external blessings. If we do this, we show that we do not love God truly but instead love the blessings more than God. What is more important, loving the Creator or creation? The Creator clearly; He is the Source of all life and happiness. We should give to Him all glory and honor.

During the Congress, we praised the Lord with songs and melodies. On Saturday afternoon there was a special program of praise. It was well attended, because many wanted to participate in those special moments. Br. Silva, in his two last discourses, gave some time to answer questions. This was very good;



many in the room took the opportunity to raise questions and concerns. Br. Silva, by the gift that God gave him, and the research that he did for many years on the subject of the plan of salvation, knew how to answer every question directly, using the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy.

Finally, Br. Silva appealed to us to be sure of our salvation, the redemptive power of Christ's blood. All hearts were satisfied. The truth was exalted.

The Sunday afternoon, just after lunch, we went to Brighton, in the South of England, where we were able



to see and touch the sea. It was a cloudy day; it rained even at some point, but we were happy to be all together there and to get to know one another better.

~ Reported by Leonardo Tito Rojas

For more photos: <http://www.sdarm.org.au/?p=9809>

Canvassing Project in London

Canvassing project in Croydon, London

The 2015 London Project was a blessed endeavour. Though our numbers were few, God blessed our efforts. What made it so unique is that we as canvassers reached out to the community not just by the sharing of books, but also by reaching out to those who were seeking for truth through prayer and personal Bible study. The canvassers were able to share the love of Jesus with people in many ways. We were invited to people's homes to give Bible studies and pray for them. It's truly amazing the way God has blessed our work in London. Let us all pray for the seeds we have planted, that they may sprout and grow.



Above photo: Group of colporteurs in London - Left to right: Oliver, Rebeka, Kate, Wendy, Ana, Kevin and Leonardo. Behind Pastor Jorge Banfi.

~ Reported by Kevin Garbanzos

RLPA - News

RLPA has printed a new flyer – “Your Free Gift”.

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PO Box 132, Riverstone, NSW 2765



EMC Missionary Training Program 2016

The theme for MTP 2016 is “Education in Service.” We are building on last session’s work in community programs, including health education.

To apply for MTP 2016, please download the following files and read over all the information. Then print and complete the application form, and return it to us prior to the **1st of November, 2015**. Please be sure to have the form signed by your local church elder or minister.

Forms may be downloaded from: www.sdarm.org.au/emc

- [MTP 2016 Info Flyer](#)
- [MTP 2016 Detailed Brochure](#)
- [MTP 2016 Application Form](#)

Post: PO Box 132 Riverstone, NSW 2765

Tel: +61-2-9627-7553 Fax: +61-2-9627-7554

Email: emc@sdarm.org.au

Cost, Location & More

Costs
AUS\$3,200 for the entire time, including lodging, meals, textbooks and consumables.
If you are coming from outside Australia, you will be responsible for your own airfares, visas and travel insurance (required).

Location
The training program will be held at Elim Heights Youth Camp (first four weeks), the SDA Reform Movement Australasian Union headquarters in Schofields, NSW and other field locations (for the practical experience portions).

Accommodation
Accommodation will be arranged as part of the program and will be covered in the cost of attending.

Contact
For more information, please contact via the following.

SDA Reform Movement
Missionary Training Program
PO Box 132, Riverstone, NSW 2765

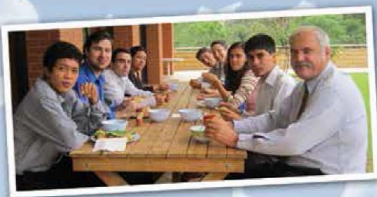
Phone: Australia: (02) 9627-7553
International: +61-2-9627-7553
Fax: Australia: (02) 9627-7554
International: +61-2-9627-7554
Email: emc@sdarm.org.au

Education in Service

Missionary Training Program 2016

7th Feb – 12th June, 2016
Sydney, Australia

Missionary Training Program 2016



Elim Missionary College
*Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement
Australasian Union Conference*

An intensive, short-term course designed to help prepare you for soul-winning.

Stand Up For Jesus! – QLD Camp Meeting 2015 Invitation

Every day we meet challenges to our faith as Christians. Whether it involves our beliefs, our standards, or our practices, these challenges are a constant threat to our call to “be in the world, but not of the world”. While we cannot escape our calling, we can meet the challenges it presents to us successfully. So how do we meet those challenges, and what will it cost us if we do? Come and join us as we discover together the answers to these questions and more. It is our hope that this weekend program will inspire you to “Stand Up For Jesus!” at home, at work, and at play—always.

Program commences Friday evening, 5:30pm for the Opening of the Sabbath (Sunset is at 5:49pm)

Topics and Worships include:

- A Stand Worth Taking (Friday Night)
- The World’s Greatest Need (Sabbath Worship Service)
- Dare to Stand Alone! (Young People’s Meeting)
- Developing Your Spiritual Posture (Close of Sabbath)
- Black, White or Grey? (Sunday morning)
- When Families Fail
- The Challenge to Choose
- Armed to Stand
- Little Things
- When Jesus Stands For You

Group Discussions will be focused on applying the material presented in order to help you meet the personal challenges you face as a Christian in your everyday life.

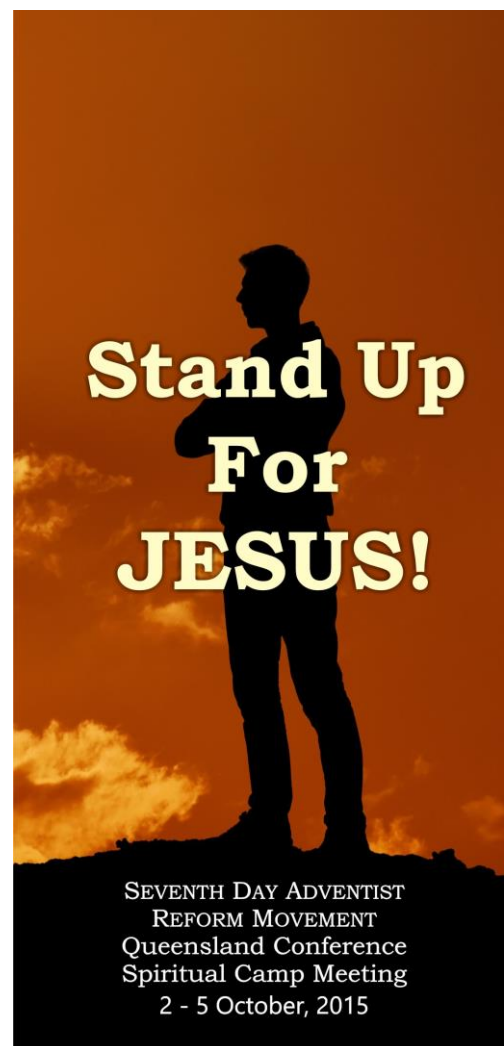
Activities in Nature on Sunday afternoon.

Program concludes Monday morning after worship and breakfast. Clean-up and Checkout by 10:00am.

Day Visitors are welcome. Please [register now!](#)

For further information on prices and online registration: [QLD Conference 2015 Camp Meeting – Prices and Online Registration](http://my.sdarm.org.au/civicrm/event/register?id=11&reset=1) (<http://my.sdarm.org.au/civicrm/event/register?id=11&reset=1>)

Email: qld@sdarm.org.au Tel: 0415 621 355



Coming Events Calendar

- 10-13 September 2015** **22nd GC Session Spiritual Meetings – Public**
“Christ Is All, and in All”
Location: Salem Civic Center, Taliaferro Complex, Salem, VA, USA
For further information <http://gcsession.sdarm.org/2015/>
- 2-5 October 2015** **Queensland Conference 2015 Camp Meeting**
“Stand Up For Jesus”
Location: Minden Retreat, 25 BOUGHENS Road, Minden Queensland
For further information contact: +61-(0)7-3862-4803
Email: qld@sdarm.org.au
- 18 October 2015** **Vegetarian Way Cooking Classes – 3:00pm - 6:00pm**
Location: Function Hall - Perth
6 James Street, Guildford, WA 6055
For further information contact: Luke
Mobile: 0411 250 852
Email: wa@elimhealth.org.au
- 25-29 December 2015** **Education and Family Camp – more info coming soon**
Location: Elim Heights Youth Camp, NSW, Australia
For further information email education@sdarm.org.au
Telephone: +61-(0)2-9627-7553
- 7 Feb – 12 June 2016** **2016 EMC Missionary Training Program**
“Education in Service”
Application forms available www.sdarm.org.au/emc

GOOD TIDINGS E-NEWS

Electronic Newsletter of the Seventh Day Adventist Reform Movement, Australasian Union Conference

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