

Volume 11, Issue 1

1st Quarter
Newsletter
2018

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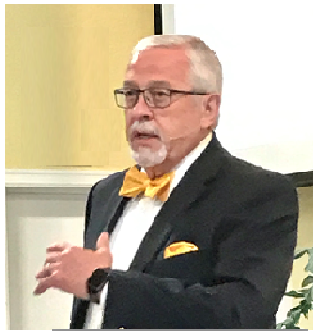
1st Quarter Newsletter



A Place to Belong! A Place to Grow!

Fond Farewell

Pastors Ben & Mary Maxson



Dear Paradise Church Family,

I write this letter with a great mix of emotions. God called us to pastor the Paradise Adventist Church thirteen years ago. Now He has made it clear that it is time for us to transition once again—time to retire from the full time responsibilities as pastors of this wonderful church.

It has been my great pleasure to pastor this church family. These years have been the most rewarding and fulfilling years of ministry in my life. After twenty years of ministry in local conferences and General Conference, we came to Paradise, and this church has certainly become our home. These thirteen years have passed very quickly. They have been filled with great rewards and great struggles as we walked together seeking to follow God's will for our lives and church family. We have seen God show up in many ways. We have grown together, worked and ministered together, as well as laughed and cried together.

We have a great deal to celebrate about God's leading and blessings. He has made it possible for us to grow our ministries in many ways. We have seen His guidance

and blessing in our Paradise Adventist Academy. We have seen God show up in the lives of individuals and families. We have watched God draw individuals into our church family, and rejoiced as they found a new relationship with Jesus. We have seen God's Spirit work in the lives of young and old, and have seen new ministries beginning that are celebrating the intergenerational church family that God has brought together.

Thank you for allowing us to become part of this wonderful church family! Mary and I have learned to love you and look forward to continuing as part of this great family. Thank you for granting me the privilege of serving as your pastor. We will now step back from pastoring, and will give the church time to transition to new pastoral leadership. We will continue our teaching and speaking ministry as invited by different conferences and churches.

At the same time, Paradise will continue to be our home, and PAC will continue as our church home. We pray that God will continue to guide and bless us as a church family as we move forward with Him—growing together and looking forward to Jesus' soon coming. Until then, let us draw together and help each other celebrate God's goodness, and worship Him with our hearts and lives. Let's join together and find our strength in Him.

With confidence in Him,

Ben Maxson, Pastor

My Dear Church Family,

My ministry of eleven years serving the PAC family has been a joy to my heart and soul. Each of you have left your lives on my heart—some more than others as we have interacted more. Each of you is God's child, and He sees you as His precious sons and daughters of God.

Before coming here, I travelled throughout North America and would be in a location for the weekend only and didn't have the opportunity to connect with each individual seeing God working through their lives as I have now had that privilege to do. Both Ben and I prayed that God would direct us to a place where we could work together in ministry and disciple people—connecting them to Jesus—and Paradise was where God lead us both. It has been a learning, growing, inspiring experience walking beside you and seeing how God has made a difference in your lives. We have laughed together, cried together, worshipped together, visited in the hospital, stood beside you at the grave site...all has been to the glory of God.

I thank you for the honor of trusting me with your lives—in service with Him. I leave you with the text that Jesus left His disciples when he prayed for His disciples:

John 17:11-15 (NIV) I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name--the name you gave me--so that they may be one as we are one.

While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been

lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

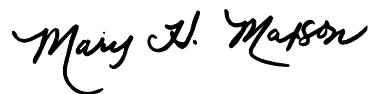
I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.

I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to grow you in that knowledge of Him. Spend time in Scripture and prayer—never let a day go by without hearing from Him. Pray for His presence to surround you. May you grow in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ—where God shows up and shows off His glory—is my prayer.

In His Grace,



Associate Pastor for Discipling & Nurture



Sabbath Walks & Company

By Linda Corbit

Most of us spend so much of our time within four man-made walls. No wonder we forget how wonderful and amazing our God is. We forget His creativity, diversity, complexity, omnipotence, and so much that nature demonstrates. Take a walk outside and spend a little time marveling at God's handiwork. I was inspired by the Apostle John's experience described in this quote from the devotional book, *Conflict & Courage*, by Ellen G. White p. 362:

In his isolated home (on the Island of Patmos) John was able to study more closely than ever before the manifestations of divine power as recorded in the book of nature and in the pages of inspiration.... In former years his eyes had been greeted by the sight of forest-covered hills, green valleys, and fruitful plains; and in the beauties of nature it had ever been his delight to trace the wisdom and skill of the Creator. He was now surrounded by scenes that to many would appear gloomy and uninteresting; but to John it was otherwise. While his surroundings might be desolate and barren, the blue heavens that bent above him were as bright and beautiful as the skies above his loved Jerusalem. In the wild, rugged rocks, in the mysteries of the deep, in the glories of the firmament, he read important lessons. All bore the message of God's power and glory....By the rocks he was reminded of Christ, the Rock of his strength, in whose shelter he could hide without fear. From the exiled apostle on rocky Patmos there went up the most ardent longing of soul after God, the most fervent prayers.

In the last three months *Sabbath Walks & Company* walked along the Oroville Diversion Pool and through a long train tunnel; skirted mud puddles and a large gully to discover a cave; and walked on the renowned Paradise Bike Trail. We enjoyed the fall colors and great company.

Alas, no Sabbath Walks have been planned for the coming year. *Sabbath Walks & Company* has conducted walks for over six years now — 76 Sabbath afternoon walks in 26 different locations! Hopefully we have helped you discover new and interesting places you can share with your family and friends. I think walking in the beautiful Paradise area is a wonderful activity for Sabbath afternoon. It has been a privilege and delight to be part of *Sabbath Walks & Company*. However, I'm moving out of the area soon and no one else has offered to take on the leadership yet. It is a fun and easy ministry and I'd be more than happy to help someone to continue it. In the meantime, a brochure listing 26 family walks is available on the slat wall in the Church Foyer. If you need more detailed information please email me at linda.corbit@gmail.com

We hope many of you will continue the purpose of *Sabbath Walks & Company* —an opportunity to combine appreciation of God's beautiful world, fellowship with friends, old & new, and healthful exercise! While there will be no more church-sponsored walks, we hope you will continue the tradition!



Connections Empowerment Team

by Kris Gerrick, CET Leader



Your Calling According to Him—What a privilege it is to

embrace the ministries of God's church! Every believer is given special gifts by God to help build up the body of Christ. Your gifts are vital and needed, not only to strengthen our church family and connect to our community, but using your gifts will bring you immeasurable joy.

How does Connections Empowerment Team (CET) help?

We can help a person "get plugged in" to fellowship; to our church; to a pastor; to a Sabbath School class; to a small group Bible study; to a self-guided Spiritual Gifts assessment leading to spirit-filled ministry service; to Discipleship; to our school — all to help you get plugged in to Christ.

What can I expect? Paradise Adventist Church aims to live in Jesus and share God's love. That means providing a

loving, contagious, Spirit-led environment where people are more than visitors, they are family. We focus on passionate worship, biblical truth, and caring service. We strive to be "A Place to Belong" and "A Place to Grow".

What can I do at Paradise Adventist Church?

We will help you find opportunities to use your spiritual gifts and talents in activities that will be comfortable and enjoyable for you. Throughout the week many opportunities for classes and volunteer activities are available for all ages. And there are other opportunities during worship services on Sabbath mornings.

Find your Spiritual gift: Ask for a self-guided *Spiritual Gifts Assessment* from the Welcome Center. If you want help with the Assessment form, we're here to make it easy.

*Connections Empowerment Team—
Kris Gerrick, Leader; Doreen LaChapelle;
Joanne Robinson*

Connections Empowerment Team (CET) Mission:
To provide a connection for everyone who walks through our church doors
in their search to become an integral part of the body of Christ.

Card Cheer!

Last spring a "card ministry" was launched to bring comfort and a smile to our members and their families when they are sick, alone, suffering a loss or some other need. Each Sabbath, four addressed cards are set out at the Welcome Center for all to sign. They are mailed that day by our library staff and within the week...

Voila! Instant Cheer!

Cards are supplied by members, handmade or purchased. If you would like to be a part of this easy effort, stop by the desk and sign a note of encouragement and/or leave blank cards to be used for this ministry.

Paradise Pathfinders Paradise Prayer Warriors

By Linda Corbit



October's events started with the Pacific Union Camporee at Lake Skinner (this was reported in the last newsletter). Several of our kids were featured in the *Pacific Union Recorder* articles about the Camporee. Our kids were very excited to see who was on the cover and in the pictures. Since the Camporee, the Pathfinders have been busy earning honors and working on class requirements. Our Bible Experience Team members have also been very diligent in memorizing their parts of the books of Esther and Daniel.

Also in October, we were privileged to participate in the PAC Worship Service for Pathfinder Sabbath. We were blessed and we hope you were too. Later in the month, we took part in "Love Paradise" and helped plant hundreds of daffodils along the renovated part of Pearson Road. That should be a beautiful show in the Spring!

On Veteran's Day Weekend in November eight of our teens attended the Conference Pathfinder Teen Caving event at Lava Beds National Monument. It was cold and frosty in the

mornings but we had a lot of fun (thank you to Mrs. Parsons for sharing your motorhome with us!). We had a great bunch of kids and explored many caves. We also earned our Junior Ranger Badge plus worked on three Honors: Caving; Winter Camping; and Mountains. Two of our LITs (Leaders in Training), Brianna and Shane, represented us very well in a skit for the Sabbath Morning Worship Service.



On Sabbath November 25, three of our Pathfinders, Alexis, Emily, and Lyn, were baptized, showing their love for their Savior, Jesus. This is what Pathfinders is all about. Thank you, Church Family, for your prayers and support.

***"This is what
Pathfinders
is all about."***

We culminated the first half of the Pathfinder year with a Party in December which included games and cookies.

The next few months will be busy ones — especially for the Pathfinders participating in the Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE). This will involve the Area Qualification round, then the Conference testing, followed by the Union round which is on March 24 in Fresno. Hopefully we will advance that far. The Final (the NAD round) is in Florida. Last year we took a first place standing in that round.

We are looking forward to an Area 4 Get-together Saturday evening, January 13. It is fun to interact with the Pathfinders from other Clubs nearby. In March we will

Continued Next Page...

be looking for sponsors for our Annual Bike-a-thon fundraiser on April 8. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. We hope we can count on you when our Pathfinders call and ask for your support. Although we charge fees for our activities, this does not cover all our costs, particularly the travel expense for PBE. We also have several Pathfinders that are not able to pay the usual fees.

We are already starting to work on fundraising for the big International Oshkosh Camporee which will take place in August of 2019.

Currently we are in need of staff members: Honors teachers, secretary/treasurer, and tent master. It is a wonderful opportunity to get involved and enjoy the Pathfinder camaraderie.



Bob Kilpatrick
with
The Homecoming Band
◇ **Worship**
◇ **Message**
◇ **Concert**

February 17
at 5:30 p.m.
PAC Sanctuary
Invite your Friends!
Free Event!

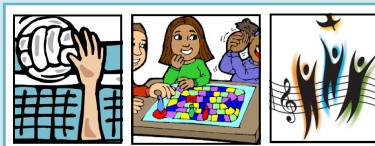


Intergenerational Vespers Dinner & Game Night!

Praise ~ Board Games
Fellowship ~ Volleyball
Ping Pong ...and more!

February 10 & March 3

At 5:00 p.m. in the PAA Gym!



What's New at Your Church Library?

By Janelle Miller

Ladies! Mark Your Calendars for The Second Annual Library Ladies' Tea:

January 27 in the Fellowship Center from 4-6 p.m. Join us for tea, a nosh, making of a new bookmark, and reviews of four library books by your friends who have read them. Books for check out will also be available. All ladies are invited. Find out what is in the library. It is a goldmine!

For children...Many more CDS of stories from "Your Story Hour" have arrived in time for settling in to hear a good story on these long winter nights. Come check them out!

Cataloging is still on-going with hopes of completion by spring.

Thank you to all who have donated so many wonderful books, DVDs and CDs to the PAC Library. Please take note: Any future donations of cassette tapes or VHS tapes will be discarded as we are no longer stocking them in the library.

Your Church Librarians—Angel Clark; Lisa Fairchild; Janelle Miller; Joanne Robinson

A Letter to Our PAC Ministry Leaders

Submitted by the PAC Transition Team

PAC Transition Team

Brian Dudar, Co-chair
Randy Waring, Co-chair
Garrison Chaffee
Galen Fillmore
Kris Gerrick
Devon Horning
Liv Johansson
Marcia Lang
Dan Martella
Charlie Rollo

This team was created to help and support the pastoral/office staff with any transitional issues that are related to Pastors Ben and Mary Maxson's retirement, and to alleviate some of the added ministry load that will fall to the remaining staff.

During the first three months of 2018, a member of the Connections Empowerment Team (CET) will be contacting you regarding a new ministry protocol that has been put in place to reduce the added ministry load on Pastor Dan, Pastor Garrison, and the Church Office Staff due to the retirement of Pastors Ben and Mary Maxson.

The Connections Empowerment Team currently consists of Kris Gerrick, Doreen LaChapelle, and Joanne Robinson. The team will act as a temporary substitute for your ministry's pastoral liaison during the transition to new pastoral leadership.

It is the CET's intention to help with any questions or problems that you may have previously directed to your pastoral liaison regarding your ministry. The team will act as a conduit from you to the PAC Transition Team or Church Board as is deemed necessary.

Our ministries are strong and self-reliant, and we are confident that all of you can manage any challenge. However, CET will be there when needed.

Calls from CET members will begin going out to the ministry leaders beginning in January.

Connections Empowerment Team:

Kris Gerrick 530.854.9288; Doreen LaChapelle 530.872.9643; Joanne Robinson 530.966.7727

CREATION NUGGET

Submitted by Loren Sutherland

Francis Crick, one of the pair of scientists who won the Nobel Prize for being co-discoverer of the structure of DNA and who is a self-proclaimed humanist and critic of Christianity said: "An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that in some sense the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions that would have had to been satisfied to get it going." Of course, as a humanist, he could not believe in miracles and thus his worldview trumped scientific evidence. "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." Romans 1:20 NIV *Underlines not in originals.*



Wooden Spoon Plant Based Cooking Series

By Peggy Williams



In February 2016, a group of ladies presented a class on the joys and challenges of cooking with tofu. It was such a success that a new class at PAC was formed...*The Wooden Spoon Cooking Classes*. Thanks to many volunteers, the financial support of the church, and the Health Ministries committee, by the end of November over 300 people had come to 14 additional classes for church members and the community. Asian dishes, holiday meals, vegan cheese making, breakfast ideas (with children helping with the demos) were just a few classes offered...and ALL PLANT BASED!

We are gearing up for another good year. Most classes are offered on a Thursday evening in the Fellowship Center. We are also expanding our classes to "in-home" cooking experiences for interested students in grades 5-8 on Sunday afternoons.

Even though this ministry is something I believe in, I sometimes wondered if the classes were making any difference in the lives of people. Anyone who is involved with any type of church ministry realizes that in addition to finding volunteers to run

the programs, there is never a lack of planning and work involved. So I again asked myself: "Is it worth it?" The answer is a resounding YES!

Last week I met a lady from the community who attended our classes. She was shopping in the bulk food section of WinCo and was happy to know that she could get almond flour to make almond milk for a cheese recipe. She was also filling her shopping cart with an abundance of whole foods. I was energized, just as I am each time we

"What's there not to be excited about?"

have a class and hear words of appreciation for the effort being made and having many people say, "I didn't know that vegan food could taste that good!" When I spoke with another participant, she told me her entire Thanksgiving meal was plant-based (except the rolls from Raley's), and that she had used some of the recipes from our *Save A Turkey* cooking class. When a 4th grader who has come to classes with his mother is excited about the upcoming children's cooking classes, that definitely makes all the work and planning worth it!

Watch for announcements of our 2018 classes and come join us. Classes are \$7.00 each; samples and door prizes included.



Calling All Alumni!

Are you a former PJA, PAS, or PAA student or staff member? We hope you'll return to celebrate **Alumni Weekend, March 9-11!** Sabbath School will feature the school's transition from Junior to Senior Academy. Worship Service sermon by Rick Mautz (1968 10th grade graduate).

PAC Member Address Changes

(Call the Church Office for phone numbers) **New to our church family*



- Ted & Cheri Atwood** — 2116 Canada Goose Drive, Loveland, CO 80537
- Kim Bacso** — CMR 467 Box 4317, APO AE 09096
- David & Ally Blasy** — P.O. Box 931, Loma Linda, CA 92354
- *Abdiel & Whitney Bosque** — 1450 Scandia Way, Paradise, CA 95969
- Bryce Bower** — 1 Global Place, #976, Glendale, AZ 85306
- Kelton Bower** — 2182 De Mille Road, Paradise, CA 95969
- Jordan Brunner** — 121 Penzance Avenue Unit 2, Chico, CA 95973
- Kevin Cummings** — Sittner Hall, #252, 201 SW 1st Street, College Place, WA 99342
- *Stefan & Mimi Cummings** — 6278 Dawnbridge Court, Paradise, CA 95969
- Brandon Dudar** — Sittner Hall, #354, 201 SW 1st Street, College Place, WA 99342
- Curtis Eldenburg** — 70 Jac O Lyn Way, Chico, CA 95973
- Josiah & Michelle Ferch** — 7356 Arutas Drive, N. Highlands, CA 95660
- James Fleming** — 5815 Ingalls Road, Paradise, CA 95969
- Jenni (Frye) Silver** — 1871 Auburn Oak Way, Chico, CA 95928
- Andrew Goymer** — 5941 Debbie Lane, Paradise, CA 95969
- *Jenessa & Robert Grigg** — 6225 Forest Lane, Paradise, CA 95969
- Alisa Hillberg** — 836 Via Powdre, San Lorenzo, CA 94580
- David Hosler** — 1343 Shadowridge Drive, Carson City, NV 89706
- Ryan Knopper** — P.O. Box 1163, Quincy, CA 95971
- Alexandra Lang** — P.O. Box 529, Collegedale, TN 37315
- Lauren Logan** — P.O. Box 1051, Collegedale, TN 37315
- Shannon Magpusao** — 779 Red Hill Way, Paradise, CA 95969
- Dustin Miracle** — 104 Tuscan Drive, Paradise, CA 95969
- Erik & Ciara Owen** — 187 Redbud Drive, Paradise, CA 95969
- Alethia Rix** — 358 Jefferson Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080
- Andrew Santos** — 23651 Viento Dr Apt. #103, Land O Lakes FL 34639
- Donna Seaman** — 14728 Main Street, Apt. #M5, Mill Creek, WA 98012
- Jason Thomas** — 3050 Sunnyside Lane, Paradise, CA 95969
- Jefferson Wright** — 400 Mission Ranch Blvd Apt 151, Chico, CA 95926
- Jonathan Zumwalt** — 2100 Valley View Pkwy #1628, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Our Church Family's Notable Events October 2017 — January 2018

Baptisms:

- Lynette Constance Baron**
November 25
- Madeline Sarah Carlson**
November 25
- Zane Arland Franks**
November 18
- Alexis Skylar Pickett**
November 25
- Emily Pickett**
November 25

Deaths

- Elaine Pryor** 
October 29
- Elizabeth Ranney**
January 1
- Verna Moores**
January 2
- Maxine Sears**
(Mother of Linda Martella)
January 8
- Roberta Galloway**
(Mother of
Nancy Quattlebaum)
January 21



New Members:

- Stefan & Mimi Cummings**
from Truckee, CA
- Jenessa Grigg**
from Loma Linda, CA
- Jeff & Eva Martella**
from Waldwick, NJ
- Abdiel & Whitney Bosque**
from Napa Community, CA
- Weddings 
- Jenni Frye & Marc Silver**
January 6, 2018
- Chloe Cummings & Grant Gustavsen**
July 29, 2018

Grace Notes

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...you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. ~Matt. 17:20

United Prayer

Sundays at 7 a.m.
in the Fellowship Center



Contact Anita Lee if you need a ride or
have any questions 530.519.1613

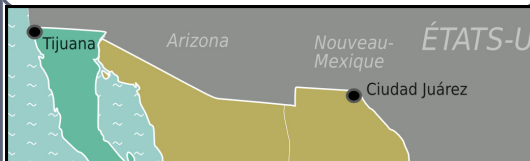
DISCERNING THE
Voice of God
BY PRISCILLA SHIRER

Church-Wide Women's Bible Study
Monday Evenings, Starting February 12th
At 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Center

Christian Edition
coming to
Paradise Adventist Church!
March 25th at 6:30 p.m.
In the Sanctuary

CHRISTIAN EDITION
A MEN'S CHORUS

UPCOMING MISSION TRIP: TIJUANA



Building | Medical | VBS
Staying on YWAM campus
Working at an orphanage with *Homes of Hope*
Interested?
Organizational Meeting coming in February!

February - April Special Dates of Interest:

February

- Feb 7..... Joint PAC Business/
PAA Constituency Mtg.
- Feb 8..... Elders' Mtg.
- Feb 10..... Monthly Fellowship Meal
- Feb 12..... Women's Bible Study
- Feb 13..... Church Finance Mtg. *cancelled*
- Feb 15..... Church Board Mtg. *cancelled*
CET Mtg.
Retreat with Bob Kilpatrick
- Feb 19..... **Presidents' Day**
CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
- Feb 20..... Worship Coordinator Mtg.
- Feb 21..... School Board Mtg.
- Feb 23..... Junior High Vespers

March

- Mar 1..... Elders' Mtg.
- Mar 2..... Soup & Vespers
(sponsored by Elders)
- Mar 3..... Intergenerational Game
Night
- Mar 4..... *Young at Heart* Dinner
- Mar 6..... Church Finance Mtg.
- Mar 8..... Church Board Mtg.
- Mar 9 - 11..... PAA Alumni Weekend
- Mar 10..... PAA Alumni Worship
Service: PAA High School
Band & Choir
Church Monthly Fellowship Meal
- Mar 16 & 7..... God Girl (Youth Activity)
- Mar 20..... Worship Coordinators Mtg.
- Mar 21..... School Board Mtg.
- Mar 24..... Communion Worship Service
- Mar 30-Apr 1..... Pathfinders: Union Bible
Experience
- Mar 25..... *Christian Edition* Concert

April

- Apr 5..... Elder's Mtg.
- Apr 8..... Pathfinders Bike-a-thon
- Apr 10..... Church Finance Mtg.
- Apr 12..... Church Board Mtg.
- Apr 17..... Worship Coordinator Mtg.
- Apr 18..... School Board Mtg.
- Apr 19-22..... Pathfinders: NAD Final Bible
Experience
- Apr 26-29..... Pathfinders: Teen Rock
Climbing



Mailing Address:
PO Box 1266, Paradise, CA 95967-1266

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Fax: 530.877.3016
E-mail: info@paradiseadventist.org
Web Site: www.paradiseadventist.org



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we're new and improved!**
www.paradiseadventist.org

A Place to Belong! A Place to Grow!