



A Life Changing Experience

My visit to Dunkirk Refugee Camp

By Pastor Damian Chandler, Senior Pastor



There are events in your life that change you completely. They are marked in your memory like road signs on a highway. And once you experience them you are never the same. I experienced one of those life changing events in Dunkirk France.

While preaching in England at Newbold College, a pastor at the church invited me to go with him on an adventure to a refugee camp in France. Now I had never been to France and so I did not need convincing. But to go to a refugee camp only sparked my interest further. Upon arriving at the camp my curiosity turned

to concern and my concern turned to compassion.

To see humans living the way the refugees were and to hear their stories was life changing. Many had walked for months from Iran and Iraq and Syria across the continent to seek asylum in western Europe. But for some their journey was not over. Their goal was to cross the channel into England and to do that they tried to steal away on trains, hide under the axels of trucks, praying not to be caught. And though many we caught and returned, they only prepared to do it the next night.

The most powerful encounter we had was with the christians at the camp, many of whom felt unsafe because of holding to their christian faith on a mostly muslim populated camp. We sat in the cramped quarters of their modest cabins and shared our love for Christ. I was amazed as I watched them pull bibles from under pillows and mattresses. When I was there to strengthen them, I found that their faith was a strength to me.

I ask you to join me in prayer for the all of the refugees, especially the christians on Dunkirk Refugee Camp. But I also pray that their faith will challenge yours as it most definitely challenged mine. 🙏

Gaining Perspective on the Renovation:

Confessions from Your Renovation Leader By Kwasi Donkor, Renovation Committee Leader

"I don't want to do this anymore!" This was the thought I had entering our renovation committee meeting on the third week of October. The sentiment was birthed of frustration stemming from 2 long weeks of work deadlines, little sleep, and...a stalled renovation.

I settled in for the meeting, shared a devotional thought, and opened the floor for discussion. To that point, I had been prepared to share with the team my frustrations with how little we had been able to accomplish with the renovation recently... but God had other plans.

Pastor Chandler shared with the group a book he was reading called "The One Thing" that deals with focusing on accomplishing one's goals. He also shared that he was learning the importance of taking a step back and showing appreciation for accomplishments. In that moment, the conversation shifted as we began to recall

all the projects we tackled over the last two years and how far we had truly come. In the confines of the Youth room...observing the painted walls, newly installed floors, club seats, upgraded electrical switches... my mood began to change.

Church family, let me be the first to tell you that we are not as far along in the renovation as we would like to be. But at this time, I'd like to share with you how far we've come. Over the course of two years, we have seen many changes to our church building, both large and small. Here are the highlights:

- Upgraded the sanctuary audio system. This also included removing the hazardous exposed wires in the balcony.
- Refreshed the sanctuary lobby with new paint and modern light fixtures. Stay tuned for more improvements to the lobby in the coming months.



- Installed new ADA compliant drinking fountains in the hallway. I'm sure many of our children are thankful they no longer accidentally run into the old ones!
- Installed new doors in all the children's classrooms, secondary bathrooms, church office, and Associate Pastor's office.
- Removed the popcorn ceilings in the (fellowship-side) hallways and classrooms.
- Painted all the classrooms, church office, and Associate Pastor's office.
- Installed a new moveable partition between the Kindergarten and Junior classrooms.
- Installed new flooring in the classrooms
- Installed new cabinetry in the Cradle Roll, Kindergarten, and Junior classrooms.
- Completed mold remediation in the classrooms and community service room.
- Re-wired each classroom to mount flat screen TVs.
- Upgraded electrical switches and receptacles in the classrooms and hallways.

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A Year of Service!

By Dorothea Simmons, Mission Ministry Council Leader 2016

We kicked off the 2016 Year of Service with more than 50 Capitol City SDA Church family members walking in the **Martin Luther King March for the Dream**. We marched alongside 28,000 community members and organizations from Sacramento region and beyond.



MLK March 2016

Our Church Family pledged **10,000 Hours of Community Service for 2016**, to offer Acts of Kindness, volunteer individually in our own neighborhoods as well as with Church Family on Sidewalk Sabbaths.

After a lot of determination and hard work, **Community Services** reopened their food pantry doors under the leadership of Bro. Tim White and Bro. Morven Liburd. The food pantry is opened on Mondays from 10:00 - 1:00 (closed holidays and the first Monday of the month) and serves approximately 120 families per month. Community Services is an integral part of the SDA Church, it is the place our community reaches out to on a weekly basis.

April also launched our first **Sidewalk Sabbath**. Each fifth Sabbath (April 30, July 30, Oct 29) 150 plus Capitol City SDA Church family members and friends volunteered, as a team, at various locations, including: Salvation Army's Center of Hope Shelter, Citadel Center, Family Services Distribution Center, Transition Living Center, Capitol City SDA Fellowship Hall, Gramercy Court Nursing Home, Loaves and Fishes, and VA Medical Center.

Volunteers served hot meals and visited with those who had nowhere else to go. Sorted canned food, built and packed food boxes, donated over 100 items of men's clothing, dress shirts, t-shirts, pants, suits, shoes and socks, visited elderly in nursing home and veterans in the hospital. Volunteers spruced up buildings by painting doors and walls, and gardening.



SIDEWALK SABBATH



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The **Gifts Project** was started. Neck warmers, scripture pills, and encouragement cards were made for family and friends, and visitor welcome cards with blue sachets were made for guests that worship with us. Free treats were provided to passerbys at the ice cream stand and free popsicles were delivered to George Sims baseball field.

Health and Wellness Community Fair with free Farmer's Market and Veteran's Day Thank You Reception with Art and Photo Exhibit were also part of the year of service. We donated 150 thank you lapel pins to the Fresno Veteran's Day Parade. We also hosted an Advanced Funeral Planning seminar with a catered lunch. (See health fair photos pages 5, 6 & 7 and featured article on page 7.)

During the Year of Service, our church established a remarkable relationship with **Elder Creek Elementary School** on Lemon Hill. (See article on page 8-9.)

Throughout the year, many of you volunteered time helping others on your own, cooking a meal for family or friends who were sick or lost loved ones, provided a ride to someone who needed one, Acts of Kindness, no matter how small the deed it all was an important part of our year of service.

We end the year with two special events, **Angel Tree Banquet** providing gifts to low income families and our first **Drive Thru Live Nativity**. With 64+ still actors, scene leaders, scene builders, traffic controllers, pastors, elders, musicians, singers, artist, seamstress, cooks, and many hours of preparation. The ultimate community service projects for the year, ministries, church family, friends, and other churches, volunteering together to share the birth and love of Christ.

All in all, it was a good year. Some things worked really well, other times not so well, but through it all, the purpose was the same. To serve God. We impacted the community and each other in ways not yet known. **"Cast your bread upon the waters and after many days it will return."** Ecclesiastes 11:1

SIDEWALK SABBATH



The **Year of Service** could not have been done without the support of the pastors, deacons, volunteers, elders, church family, the Mission Ministry team, and the constant prayers of a few, as well as random words of encouragement from

church family members that always came right on time. A special Thank you to James Simmons and our heavenly Father! Peace and God's Protection and Blessing towards you! 🙏

Health and Wellness Community Fair 2016: Sharing the Love of God through bits and pieces of our health message.

Submitted by Dorothea Simmons, Mission Ministry Council Leader 2016, Dr. Karen Higgins and Detrach Williams, Health and Temperance Ministry

Capitol City Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church Missions Ministry focuses on providing opportunities for members to serve the community and church family throughout the year but with a special outreach ministry each 5th Saturday. The October 29, 2016 Sidewalk Sabbath focused on hosting a Health and Wellness Community Fair in collaboration with the Health and Temperance Ministry team. This would be the church's 2nd annual health fair. Our joint mission was to show our church family and community that we not only care about their spiritual needs, but their physical health and wellbeing.

The journey started off with the health team and several other church members canvassing the community to survey the needs of the community as well as to offer medical services. The team had a wonderful and exciting time going door to door, meeting the community, taking blood

pressures, diabetes checks, talking with the community about their various needs and praying with those who requested prayer. As a result, God touched 9 individuals' hearts who requested Bible studies. In addition, the needs survey added new ideas for church ministry as a whole.

As the date of the health fair approached, the missions ministry with a team of 30 volunteers lead a month long door to door crusade canvassing over 2500 homes in the Lemon Hill area. Posters were displayed at surrounding elementary, junior high and high schools, community centers, churches, and Sacramento works, as well as online.

The health ministry teams, throughout the year, has focused on opportunities to provide awareness of health care needs through early detection, education, prevention and the engagement of physical activities and life style change.

With enthusiasm and excitement vendors were signed up to meet these goals for our second annual health fair.

This year a more diverse group of vendors were in attendance. The vendors ranged from a pregnancy van to a nutritionist to an audiologist who worked in partnership with California Telephone Access program to give free phones to the hearing impaired. Among our vendors was our very own Maple Avery who was able to share her passion for essential oils with us. I hope all were able to try her delicious edible lemon essential oil cupcakes.

For many of our neighbors, it was the first time they enter our church doors. They were greeted warmly, visited information booths, completed health screenings, and got a relaxing massage. Some sat and had lunch with our church family, while others were prayed for. Our guests also enjoyed the Community Services free Farmer's Market.

The day was also filled with seminars from Weimar and other vendors. The seminars included how to deal with depression, heart disease and diabetes, as well as helpful tips on eating a proper, whole food diet from a nutritionist.

We serviced 100 attendees throughout the day. They very much appreciated the health fair, and almost all requested to be contacted for future events. The following comments were shared:

"Our first time here and we love it!"
- Malia K.

"A great thing to do." - Jean D.

Several vendors shared their enjoyment of the intimate setting as it allowed them to spend more time with participants.

All in all, we had a wonderful day and, most importantly, we were able to share the love of God through bits and pieces of our health message.

Thank you to all who supported and volunteered for our second annual health fair. 🙏



Elder Creek Elementary School: A growing relationship!

By Dorothea Simmons, Mission Ministry Council Leader 2016, and Dorothy Shelby

The Elder Creek Elementary Garden was suppose to be part of the first Sidewalk Sabbath on April 30, but was postponed to a later date. Although delayed in our sight, on God's calendar everything was right on time. Elder Creek Garden became the catalyst for many volunteer projects.

It all began with a simple question Pastor Chandler asked Principal Doan of Elder Creek Elementary School "Is there anything our church can do for your school?" Several months later the answer was "yes, we need help with a garden"

Bro. McZeek volunteered to build two redwood raised planter boxes and then delivered them to Jamie Gomez, Student Support Coordinator at Elder Creek Elementary.

The garden boxes initially were to be placed on the east side of the school, but Sis Dorothy Shelby, who volunteered to help with

Sis. Shelby stated "looks like these weeds reach to China."

It took a few hours but the weeds that went to China were pulled up.

"Praise the Lord. Incredibly we even found potatoes growing among the weeds."

- Sis. Dorothea Simmons



school students watered the boxes until August, then the grounds keeper watered the boxes. Because there was no time to watch seeds start to grow we transplanted; 2 Tomato, 1 Pepper, 1 Eggplant, 1 Basil, plants.

When school resumed in September, these plants were harvested and given to the new students.

Fall Garden - Taught cultivation, garden prep, weeding, adding nutrients, composting and worms. Determined when plants will be expected to mature and discussed nutritional values.

Planted were peas, radishes, onions, chard, lettuce, and carrots. Kids loved to dig in



This has proved to be one of the strangest gardens I have ever experienced. The garden was started three weeks before school was out for the summer. Two or three summer

dirt, water and plants seeds...way too many seeds. Transplanted were 3 cabbage, 3 broccoli, 3 cauliflower and 3 kale.

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Elder Creek Elementary School

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The wind furnished us with a super abundance of weeds, but the children buckled down to the least favorite task of weekly weeding.



Harvesting radishes was a great thrill to all the children.

"We revived a failed enclosed garden."

"Despite the woefully inadequate space in which to garden. The children look forward each week to see how things are growing."

"My grandson Josh and I both look forward to each week meeting with these wonderful children. Here are a few of the names, Jesus, Sarah, Angela, Messiah, Andy, Christopher, Alaja, and Rashe."

- Sis. Dorothy Shelby



"Ms. Dorothy has been here at our school since before school started, faithfully tilling our little garden. She started a garden club mixed with children from all backgrounds and ages, and they look forward to meeting with her every week. She comes rain, shine, heat, or freezing cold, and always brings her grandson Josh who loves the kids just as much as she does. The garden has become a special spot of peace on our crazy school campus. Miss Jamie even meets with students for counseling in the garden! We love all that Ms. Dorothy teaches our kids- nutrition, gardening, patience, productivity, and confidence!"

- Jamie Gomez, Student Support Coordinator

In addition to the garden project, we also donated over 100 notebooks, reading books, pens, pencils, paper and markers for their Back to School Drive. And on Mondays the Community Services Food Pantry donates perishable items to the resource center at Elder Creek Elementary. Students and parents are able to pick up much needed food at school.

"We at the Food Pantry of Capitol City S.D.A. Church also give back to our community children. We donate time, manpower, and as well as food to the Elder Creek Elementary School, that is just down the street from the church. We at the church want to be the light of the community and by giving to this school we hope to be the beacon of light for the neighborhood. Let the community, the world see that Capitol City S.D.A. Church loves, cares, and wants to give back to the community, one school, one pantry, one hope to an individual at a time." - Morven Liburd, Assistant Director of Capitol City SDA Food Pantry



"I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to a wonderful group of people who represent the very best in community involvement. I want to thank all the volunteers for your commitment to our students." Our families, students, and staff are extremely appreciative of the support we have received." We hope to continue the partnership for years to come!"

- Thu Doan, Principal Elder Creek Elementary School

"I love what this garden is producing."

- Sis. Dorothea Simmons

Community Services — back in action!

By Tim White, Community Services Leader



The Capitol City SDA Church was blessed to be able to reopen its Community Services food pantry to the neighboring community on June 1, 2016, after being closed for 2-1/2 years. After some remodeling of the existing pantry, we were able to link up with the Sacramento food bank.

Since June, we have served close to 500 individuals and families. The Community Services program was greatly missed by those we had served in the past. It has truly been a blessing to serve our community and they seem to receive us well. So with continuous prayer, we have hope of doubling our numbers in 2017. 🙏

Gaining Perspective on the Renovation:

Confessions from Your Renovation Leader
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Over the course of the next year, here are some projects we will be tackling:

- Remodel the women's and men's bathroom
- Complete the sanctuary lobby renovation
- Remodel the parent's room and bathroom
- Paint hallways
- Install new flooring in the hallways
- Install cabinets in the remaining classrooms

At this time, the renovation committee solicits your support in the form of prayers for this renovation. As with many renovations, there are ups and downs when dealing with construction. We have had our share of obstacles but God has been faithful through it all. We are excited for the new accomplishments that await us in the next few months!

"...And they came and worked on the house of the Lord of hosts, their God."

Haggai 1:14b, ESV 🙏

Reconnecting Members Ministry Social #2

Members enjoyed food, fun and fellowship!

By Carol Herbert, Reconnecting Members Ministry Leader

Many people look at this ministry as one that is not important. I remembered when I was asked to serve as leader of this ministry. I thought the same thing, but God told me He wanted me to serve for there are members who need encouragement and I know that you will follow my command.

During these past two years, I had the privilege of ministering and supporting the needs of our members who, for several reasons, have found themselves disconnected from the body of believers. This is a very difficult spot to find yourself. Therefore, I want to encourage our members to make sure active

members don't become inactive. It is much easier to keep a connection than to try and establish it years later.

Please watch for the signs when people are pulling away, take time to call, encourage, fellowship with them, and invite them to your homes. You can be the conduit of God's grace in their world. The reason for having reconnecting socials is to help connect with members and to get to know each other, beyond just seeing each other in church. It was very different to see members interact at different social activities. We got to know each other better and connected better.



"The game night was so fun. I wish we could do it again! The most fun part was winning and exchanging presents." — ALVIN (AGE 9)

"The church social was a great time to have fun and fellowship. We got time to socialize with people that we normally don't get a chance to mingle with and so this was a great time to know our church family. We had some good laughs too and watching our church family kids play together was the best part."

— DANIEL AND ENNIES

This experience was very awesome for me and for others who expressed how excited they were to embrace such excitement during the different reconnecting socials. Praise God for the vision! I will miss this ministry, but looking forward to serving the Lord in whatever he has in store for me. It is such an honor to serve the Lord in ministry. 🙏

Homecoming 2016

By Carol Herbert, Reconnecting Members Ministry Leader

The Capitol City Church Homecoming is a program of celebration and is meant to encourage those who have been away from our congregation awhile, for those who may not be attending church regularly, or for those who have moved to another location or another city. It is a time to come home and see what your church has been doing and to fellowship with fellow believers that you have not seen for a while. It gives your church family a chance to reunite with you – for you to pray and worship with us.

POWER HOUR BEGINS IT ALL!

For this year's homecoming celebration, our committee decided to start our celebration on Wednesday evening. We were pleased to invite our former Associate Pastor Trevor Barnes, Jr., Senior Pastor of the Appian Way Seventh-day Adventist Church, to be our special speaker for our special prayer meeting service. Pastor Barnes presented a dynamic message entitled "After The Blessing Just Say Thanks!" and the service was well attended. We were truly blessed and honored that he accepted our invitation.



Prayer Meeting Speaker: Pastor Trevor Barnes, Jr.

DIVINE WORSHIP

We began our Divine Worship with the Invocation by Elder Shawn Williams and an enthusiastic welcome by Beverly Witherspoon and Margrietta Geter. Jermaine and Justin Erby presented a lively children's story, followed by a reading of the Capitol City SDA Church history—presented by Angela Fusilier and written by Carol Herbert.



Charter Members Honored: (left to right) Carol Herbert, Margrietta Geter, Honorees Frances Alton, Honoree Frances Johns; Pastor Damian Chandler, and, Angela Fusilier



Jermaine and Justin Erby present a lively children's story



Church History Presenter: Angela Fusilier

Three charter members were honored (**Frances Alton, Frances Johns, and Rosemary Abraham**) and presented with a special plaque acknowledging their years of service and sacrifice.

Among our special guest was Pastor Willie & Sis. Bernadette Johnson. Pastor Johnson is the NEW Coordinator/Director of the African-American Ministries/Inner City of the Northern California Conference and he was introduced to the congregation that Homecoming Sabbath. We were all honored to be present for the occasion and appreciated by their attendance at our Homecoming Celebration!

If you are interested in a copy of the CAPITOL CITY SDA CHURCH HISTORY document, [CLICK HERE](#). For those who do not have access to a computer the Internet, you can get a hard copy from the church office.



Special Music: "Footprints"

The special music was presented by the "Footprint"—a special Fijian group, whose harmonies were just beautiful and memorable. Thank you for sharing your gift of music!

Our faithful praise team presented a spirit-filled praise and worship session and set the tone for the service and Sis. Nola Grice led us in a passionate Prayer of the People. Another special music was presented by visiting guests: **Tamara Bodie, Lola Moore, Alethia Evans and Dr. Wayne Bucknor**, who also performed at the evening concert which celebrated



Elder Dwight David



Pastor Willie & Sis. Bernadette Johnson
New Coordinator/Director
African-American Ministries/Inner City
Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventist



Praise & Worship Team



Guest Special Music: Tamara Bodie, Lola Moore, and Alethia Evans



Guest Special Music: Dr. Wayne Bucknor



Guest Speaker: Pastor Gregory Nelson

Pastor Chandler's milestone birthday. **Elder Dwight David** presented the Tithe and Offering in his usual gracious manner, followed by special music. We were truly blessed by Dr. Bucknor's inspirational piano solo. He has blessed by an amazing anointed spiritual gift of God.

Our featured guest speaker was **Pastor Gregory Nelson**. Pastor Nelson was born in Brooklyn, New York and is the current Pastor of the Madison Mission Seventh-day Adventist Church in Huntsville, Alabama. Pastor Nelson had us sitting on the edge of our seats with his dynamic message "God's Still Got it!"



Homecoming Church Congregation

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HOMECOMING 2016

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The benediction was give by Pastor Damian Chandler and was joined on the podium by his wife, Tanzy, and their children. They thanked everyone for coming and also blessed the food, which followed Divine Worship service. A special meal had been prepared by our Hospitality team. It was especially planned and prepared for our church family and guests. It was delicious and enjoyed by all. Thank you Hospitality Team for all your hard work and dedication. It was a job well done!

EVENING CONCERT

The Sabbath evening celebration was very special, because it was our Pastor Damian Chandler's Birthday and his vision was to celebrate his birthday by worshipping. He planned a concert, which featured his own original songs, performed and written by him. The songs he wrote consisted of his testimonies, which were very powerful. I personally was touch with his testimony telling of when he and his family traveled to California to take his position as the senior pastor of Capitol City Seventh-day Adventist Church. One of his most inspiring songs, which he wrote and sang, was "I'll Trust You." Also performing at the concert was our own Capitol City Praise Team in full force and looking beautiful. Pastor Chandler had invited visiting guests: **Tamara Bodie, Lola Moore, Alethia Evans and Dr. Wayne Bucknor** to also join the concert performance. Our Pastor really did a wonderful job preparing and delivering all of his original songs at the concert. The concert was very well organized and had a good attendance. Happy Birthday Pastor, you did an awesome job. Well done!



Pastor Damian and Sis. Tanzy Chandler with children (left to right) Zoe, Levi and Salem



Pastors Willie Johnson & Damian Chandler



Evening Concert with Pastor Chandler and Concert Participants



Evening Concert with Pastor Chandler and Concert Participants



Zoe Chandler sings "Only For You"

RECEPTION

Following the concert, a reception was held in the multipurpose room for Pastor Chandler's birthday celebration. The room was specially decorated for him and each person was able to embrace him with love, and congratulate him on a job well done during the concert and wish him a happy birthday. We love you Pastor Chandler!

CHURCH PICNIC

On Sunday, we concluded the Homecoming celebration with a church family picnic at William Land Park. We played different games, engaged in fellowship with each other and had a great meal. The potato salad was the specialty of the picnic. It was very delicious. Thank you Brother and Sister Katz for a job well done! 🎉

Married Couples Ministry Christmas Party

Submitted by Married Couples Ministry Council

OUR MISSION:

As a ministry, we acknowledge the challenging process married couples face in becoming one flesh. The process is a life long journey that begins with a wedding ceremony.

After the vows are said, the cake is cut, and the honeymoon ends, how do you sustain your marriage?

The Family Life Married Couples Ministry mission is to enhance marriages based on God's principles. Our overarching goal is to: **Become One Flesh**, connecting with God first and then with each other, as we seek to grow our marriages, in unity with God's design for our marriages.

"...and the two shall become one flesh, so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no man separate."

Mark 10: 8& 9

MONTHLY MEETINGS

On the 2nd Sabbath of each month, married couples meet at a host home for light refreshments and discussion, guided by a book or video series, focused on enhancing marriages. Our next meeting will be in February 2017, where we will begin a new video series titled "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage". If you would like to join us as we come together to invest in our marriages, please email Joseph Erby at josepherby@sbcglobal.net for details and to be added to the Couples Ministry Email list. All married couples are welcome.

MARRIED COUPLES RETREATS

The Married Couples Retreats are designed as a weekend getaway with your spouse, to reconnect, reenergize and strengthen your marriage. Professional facilitators lead couples through workshops to equip them with the tools they need to sustain a thriving, life long commitment to each other and God. Save the Date. Our next Married Couples Retreat is scheduled for November 3, 2017. Details are pending.

MARRIED COUPLES MINISTRY COUNCIL

Our ministry council/team consists of Joseph and Wendy Erby (Leaders); Tim and Cynthia Jones; Kevin and Charlita Anderson; Andrew and Marinela Giem; and, Kwasi and Ellen Donkor

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Married Couples Ministry held our Annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 10th. An evening of fellowship and fun was had by all, as we celebrated Christmas and Marriage.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

We would like to thank Pastor Chanda Nunes, Associate Pastor, our MC for the evening; George and Tracie Sullivan our game hosts; Diane Porter for providing the beautiful decorations; Alise Hill, Aaron Hill, Aliyah Hill, and Whitney Erby for providing child care services; Michael and Simone Parks for being our official photographers for the evening; and, Pastor Damian and Tanzy Chandler for closing us out for the evening. Last, but not least, we wanted to thank all of our attendees (members, friends, family and guests) for joining us this year.

We want to wish you all a safe and happy holiday season. 🎉



Drive Thru Live Nativity

DECEMBER 16-17, 2016

Presented by Mission Ministry Council



Angel Tree Banquet

DECEMBER 18, 2016

By Carol Herbert, Angel Tree Coordinator

HISTORY

The angel tree program started as an outreach to the families of those who were incarcerated. It was such a success that other community organizations took notice and decided to be part of this amazing outreach by giving gifts to families who are in need. Apart from those other entities, Capitol City SDA church mission is to "Take Sacramento for the King", so we decided to do angel tree for families in Sacramento, who needs help for their children's gifts for Christmas.



The GIFTS

THE NIGHT OF THE EVENT

The Angel tree banquet was an amazing event. Many families from the community signed up their children to receive a gift and attended this event. There were 220 plus people in attendance from the community. The program was scheduled to start at 5:00 p.m., but the families was so excited and started arriving at 4:00 p.m. and, from there after, the cars kept rolling in. The fellowship Hall was beautifully decorated by Sister Diane Porter and all the gifts for the children added to the beauty of it all. The decorations and all the gifts on the stage brought warmth to the hall, which was very inviting to receive our guests. Many of the guests came in with a joyous expression and we received many thanks. During the program the families were able to participate in the singing of Christmas carols. We had live musical performances by Kelli Angus, Rochelle Verrett and the Brazilian family. They poured out their melodious voices as they sang to the families in attendance. The food we served was very delicious. Thanks to Sister Cynthia Jones for a job well done! Pastor Chanda Nunes gave the pastoral welcome and did a wonderful job as she welcomed our special guests for the evening. For the devotional



The STAFF

Pictured: (front - left to right) Diane Porter, Karla Hall, Kathy Whiteside, Carol Herbert, Melody Donaldson, and Mary Coleman. (back - left to right) Cynthia Jones, Mona Taylor, Wendy Erby, Michaela Herbert, and Rena Moore. Not available for picture: Vilma Pooler, Nola Grice, Rosie Cintron, Melissa George, Angela Fusilier, Ernestine Afolabi, Kay King, Margrietta Geter, Octavia Thomas, Myrtis Brown, Morvin Liburd. Official Photographer was Beverly McGhee.



REGISTRATION



PASTORAL WELCOME
Chanda Nunes
Associate Pastor



The CROOKED CHRISTMAS TREE
Damian Chandler
Senior Pastor

part of the program Pastor Chandler told an amazing story about a crooked Christmas tree and how we are all crooked Christmas trees but Jesus can straighten us out. Even the kids were really interested in the story. When it came time to hand out the gifts, it was a treat to see the looks on the children's faces. This event was a display of generosity



The SPECIAL MUSIC
KELLI ANGUS
The MC Angela Fusilier The STAFF Michaela Herbert

The PRESENTATION OF GIFTS



and love. It was inspiring. During the presentation of gifts the families were so thrilled that they could not stop thanking us. After the families received their gifts a family portrait was taken which will be given to those families at a later date. Among the presents was 7 bicycles and 2 tricycles. God is so good!

THANK YOU

First, I want to give special thanks to all those who participated in purchasing a gift for a child and all those who gave gift cards. Your generosity was really appreciated by the families. You really made a difference to the families and they will never forget how much love you showed them. "Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble." (Psalm 41: 1 KJV)

Second, I want to give special thanks to all those who took the time out of their busy life



The ANGEL TREE CHILDREN

to work alongside me with this ministry. This is an awesome ministry and you have been a blessing every step of the way. Thank you for playing your part with grace and making the program run smoothly! I appreciate you very much! "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10, NIV)

Third, I want to give special thanks to Pastor



Damian Chandler and Pastor Chanda Nunes who supported this ministry every step of the way. God is truly using you both to make a difference in this community. God speed!

Fourth, many, many thanks to all those who played a role setting up, breaking down, picking up tables and dropping them off, or helping in whatever way to make this event such a success! I really appreciate you!

Connection with Jesus

SACRAMENTO CHURCHES
January 2-6, 2017
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Join us for a wonderful week of inspiration and prayer as we focus on these concepts: praying together in agreement (Matthew 18:19), being united and in one accord* (Acts 1:14), and finding joy in His presence (Philippians 4:4).

Monday, January 2, 2017
Sacramento Capitol City Church
6701 Lemon Hill Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824
Pastor Caleb Henry – Prayer Leader

Tuesday, January 3, 2017
Sacramento Woodside Church
3300 Eastern Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95821
Pastor Walter Groff – Prayer Leader

Wednesday, January 4, 2017
Sacramento Adventist Academy
Multi-Purpose Room
5601 Winding Way
Carmichael, CA 95608
Pastor Michael Butler – Prayer Leader

Thursday, January 5, 2017
Gracepoint Adventist Church
3500 Sunset Blvd
Rocklin, CA 95677
Pastor Steve Allred – Prayer Leader

Friday, January 6, 2017
Carmichael SDA Church
4500 Winding Way
Carmichael, CA 95841
Pastor Chanda Nunes – Prayer Leader



CAPITOL CITY SDA CHURCH
Lemon Hill Avenue

Event Calendar

DECEMBER 2016

Holy Communion – 11:00 am. Dec. 31

"Letting Go ~ Taking Hold"

New Year's Celebration – 4:15 pm Dec. 31

JANUARY 2017

Theme: *"Vision Journey"*

NCC Prayer Event

@ Capitol City SDA Church*
Monday 7:00 pm. Jan. 2

*Replaces Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting this week

Family, Children's Ministry & Sabbath School/VBS Training

@ Capitol City SDA Church
(Time to be announced) Jan. 28

Elder's Training

@ Fairfield SDA Church
1101 E. Tabor Ave., Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 426-6720
(Time to be announced) Jan. 29

Church Clerk's Training

@ Northern California Conference of SDA Office
401 Taylor Blvd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 685-4300
(Time to be announced) Jan. 29

FEBRUARY 2017

Theme: *"Black History Month"*

Speakers:

Dr. Mark Woodson Feb. 4
Northern California Conference**

Dr. Ricardo Graham Feb. 11
Pacific Union Conference**

Wesley Knight Feb. 18
Oakwood University**

**Spiritual, Educational & Personal Development Seminars in the afternoon

International Day Feb. 25

MARCH 2017

★ Road to Resurrection/Miracle Sabbath
(Date/Time to be announced)

For more information, check the weekly bulletin or visit the church website.

How to get announcements into the Capitol City church bulletin:

Email announcements to church secretary / office manager at the following email address:
announcements@capitolcitysda.org

ALL announcements need to be emailed no later than Tuesday at 12:00 noon.

All other email, including requests to reserve rooms or dates, should be sent to:
office.manager@capitolcitysda.org