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THE LINK

The Official Publication of PUC/AUP- Alumni of Western North America



Go
LIGHT
YOUR
WORLD



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THE LINK—AWESNA

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Table Of Contents

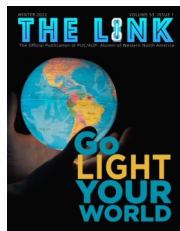
Message from the AWESNA President	3
Mercy, Compassion, and AWESNA	5
Editorial	6
Community Affairs/San Gabriel Valley Report	7
AWESNA Elections	8
Alumni News—Angela Lalas	10
Dr. Mendoza's Recognition	11
2021 Fundraising Event	12
Convention Report	16
Retreat Speaker	21
Board of Officers	22



WEBSITE: <https://puc-aupawesna.org>



The Link—AWESNA



Cover Page designed by Jeruel Ibanez, Layout Editor

Message from the AWESNA President



“GO, LIGHT YOUR WORLD!”

Eppie A. Manalo, President, AWESNA

One of the most dynamic and loaded verbs in the English language is “Go.” Dictionaries propose various shades of meanings for this seemingly simple, “household” term: *to move on a course or proceed; to move away from a place; to move along in a specified manner; to pursue a certain course or follow a certain procedure; to resort to another; to function properly; to continue to be in effect or operation; to carry out an action to a certain point or extent; and to pass from one person to another or circulate.*

Whatever be our intent, “Go” provides options suitable for our present situations and priorities. Our mandate as believers in Christ, still stands as clearly articulated in the most famous version of the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19 – 20, where on a mountain in Galilee Jesus calls on his followers ¹⁹*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,* ²⁰*and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.* Our Divine GPS further clarifies as it were, the implementing guideline for this commission in Matthew 5:16, *In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.*

Seventh-day Adventists have known and accepted this commission to mean sharing the message of Christ’s birth, death, and resurrection for our salvation to unbelievers, with the ultimate goal of leading them to a personal, saving relationship with Him. Corollary to this is the responsibility of making disciples, training others, to be involved in this sacred task.

As an association, AWESNA needs to situate itself in the context of the Great Gospel Commission as we partner with God and our Alma Mater in preparing future workers for service here and in the hereafter. Thus, as we continue sharing our time, talents, and resources; and as we interact with one another and with others beyond the confines of our church and association, we do so, conscious of our Divine appointment as God’s “light-bearers.” The best part of this job description is despite our imperfection, God, who knows our limitations has promised to empower us. Our part is to allow Him to work in and through us to fulfill His purpose in the different roles we perform in AWESNA.

From Noah to Abraham, from Moses to Jonah, from Daniel to Paul, God has always given a special blessing to those who, leaving the comforts of home and relatives, cross the boundaries of their little worlds to bring God’s message and blessing to the nations. Some of us have had the privilege of sharing God’s message across continents. Some of us may not have the same opportunity, but still shine in our respective corners.

AWESNA will continue to “Go and Light the World” with God at the helm, for nothing is impossible with our Leader. He just needs our commitment and availability to be part of a noble journey called SERVICE. Enjoy a blessed holiday season and a new year of hope for God’s continuing blessings of life, health, and steadfast hope in Jesus Christ’s second coming.

Cris Rice aptly conveys AWESNA’s theme this year in the lyrics of this moving song, *Go Light Your World*.

There is a candle in every soul
Some brightly burning, some dark and cold
There is a Spirit who brings a fire
Ignites a candle and makes His home.

So carry your candle, run to the darkness
Seek out the helpless, confused and torn
Hold out your candle for all to see it,
Take your candle, and go light your world.

Sincerely,

E. Amalano

Frustrated brother, see how he's tried to
Light his own candle some other way
See now your sister, she's been robbed and lied to
Still holds a candle without a flame.

'Cause we are a family whose hearts are blazing
So let's raise our candles and light up the sky
Praying to our Father, in the name of Jesus
Make us a beacon in darkest times.



Welcome Remarks by President Eppie Manalo



Endowment Fund check from Dr. Bangloy, EF Chair



Opening Ceremonies with Auditor Oscar Pablo



Presiding at the HOD Meeting

Taken during the AWESNA Convention at Double Tree Hilton Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona on September 2021

MERCY, COMPASSION, AND AWESNA

By Libni Cerdinio, Associate Editor, The Link



I have been involved in AWESNA affairs, off and on, since I immigrated to the USA in the late 1980's. In my estimation, the essence of AWESNA's existence may be summed up as a mission of mercy and compassion.

There is a broad definition of mercy beyond its legal context - the "compassionate behavior from a person in power, such as when a judge shows clemency, leniency or mercy during sentencing." [1]. Beyond withholding punishment (forgiveness), the biblical definition of mercy includes compassion for those who are suffering and caring about those in distress.

I have been privy to the extent of the help AWESNA has extended to PUC/AUP. Rallying alumni financial support through the endowment fund, AWESNA has cared for the needs of PUC/AUP corporately. Alumni has also individually helped needy students with their tuition and personal needs.

The full extent of PUC/AUP alumni's impact on the well-being and destiny of specific individuals can never be known this side of eternity. However, we can have a glimpse of it, every now and then.

During our visit with our eldest son Marvyn and his family in Florida in 2019, my wife Beth and I were blessed with witnessing one sublime result of PUC/AUP alumni's benevolence in helping one of the programs at PUC/AUP. We met a winsome lady who was volunteering as a kitchen helper during the Sarasota Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church's Vacation Bible School that summer. She met PUC students soliciting subscriptions to *Health & Home* in Angeles, Pampanga many years ago. One article in that magazine launched her to a spiritual quest that led to Christ and the worldwide fellowship of Seventh-day Adventists.

In His parable of the last judgment, Jesus Christ said:

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me." Matthew 2:34-36, New Living Translation (NLT).

In His sermon on the mount, He also said that "God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Matthew 5:7, New Living Translation (NLT).

1 <https://www.compassion.com/poverty/mercy-definition.htm>. Accessed on January 7, 2022.



January 23, 2022

EDITORIAL

Marjorie Reyno—Huynh, PIO

Dear Fellow Alumni,

W

ELCOME to AWESNA's Spiritual Retreat at San Diego Marriott Mission Valley on January 28-30, 2022.

Despite the surging Omicron variant of COVID-19 we are gathered to be inspired at the beginning of the year with an appropriate theme of "Go Light Your World". On January 17, 2022 we celebrated Martin Luther King's Day. He said, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; Only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do this". How appropriate is this theme for the moment—with seeming hopelessness of eradicating Coronavirus, lost jobs and lives, financial crisis and other issues we have a duty to be lights in the darkness.

God has commissioned us in Matthew 5:14-16 (KJV): "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. **Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.**" AWESNA Alumni—Let us SHINE ON FOREVER! We look forward to our Speaker, Pastor Darren Carrington as he shares his message to us from God.

I would like to thank all the contributors and photographers namely: Esther Liongco Ong, Yvet Pineda, Pedrito Tongpo and Serafin Lalas.

To get updates about AWESNA and to access the current and past LINK editions go to the AWESNA website at <https://puc-aupawesna.org>. Or Join our Facebook page, The Link-AWESNA and invite your friends!

Shine On!

Marjorie Reyno-Huynh



The Link-AWESNA



WEBSITE: <https://puc-aupawesna.org>

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Community Affairs Projects

By: Esther Liongco-Ong, AWESNA Community Affairs Chair



The AWESNA is extending support again to the Adventist University of the Philippines.

1. **"Gift Giving to AUP Working Students"**. This project will provide P2,000.00 cash plus one bottle of multivitamins to augment the personal needs of 135 working students. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our generous alumni donors.
2. **"Lifeline to Community"** is one of the Community Extension Services (CES) Programs of Adventist University of the Philippines sponsored by AWESNA to help working students staying outside AUP campus as a means of communication. The CES students will be provided with a cellphone donated by AWESNA. If you have used cellphones that you no longer use, please feel free to contact Esther Ong or Angeline Lopez. Target to complete the said project is before the end of the first quarter 2022.



San Gabriel Valley Chapter Projects

By: Esther Liongco-Ong, Chapter President

1. **"Pamaskong Handog ng mga Pasco"** for those Adventist University of the Philippines non-teaching faculty affected by Covid pandemic salary deduction. Through the generous donation of the Pasco family from Mindanao, 46 recipient families will benefit from the said project by receiving cash value amounting to P6,000.00/family to help them during the Covid pandemic surge in the Philippines.
2. **"Theme & Logo Contest"** for Palawan Medical Mission Trip in June 2022 . This contest is open to all the Adventist University of the Philippines students to encourage them to participate to cultivate their artistic ideas in envisioning the mission of AWESNA and visualizing the impact to the community. Winning entry will be used for the banner and t-shirt designs. Prizes will be awarded to the grand winner and all consolation entries amounting to P10, 000.00.



AWESNA ELECTIONS

By: Ismael Junio, AWESNA COMELEC Chair

Greetings fellow alumni & AWESNA members,

Being the chairman of the Committee on Elections of AWESNA, it is with great anticipation and excitement to say that 2022 is election year for new set officers for AWESNA. We are now officially opening the nominations and submission of candidacy both for the Chapter organization officers and Executive organization officers. All Chapter organizations can now start nominating candidates.

I am encouraging and appealing to individuals who has the desire & the heart to serve our wonderful organization – please feel free to file for candidacy as well! Along with our beloved president – Dr. Epie Manalo, we strongly encourage the spirit of volunteerism & service, so please, there is no shame in volunteering & signing up for an office/responsibility that you feel you can be of help.

The Candidacy Application Form is available for download from our AWESNA website or you can ask from me as well. As voted upon in our last House of Delegates meeting held during the annual AWESNA convention, the following is a short version of our election year timeline & procedure:

Nov. 2021

1. Candidates can start filing applications and must be received by April 30, 2022
2. Candidacy application forms mailed to:
Ismael Junio
100 W. Broadway, Suite 1080
Glendale, CA 91210
ATTN: AWESNA COMELEC

OR

Scan signed Candidacy application form and email to:

melcobcat@gmail.com

ATTN: AWESNA COMELEC

April 30, 2022 – Deadline in filing of candidacy

May 16, 2022 – Sending out official ballot to all AWESNA Chapter Treasurers

1st Week of June – Distribution of ballots by Chapters

June 1, 2021 until July 10, 2022 – Election period

July 15, 2022 – Last day to receive completed ballots from all chapters. All Chapter Treasurer's collects all chapter ballots and send by snail mail in one sealed mailing envelope to:

Ismael Junio

100 W. Broadway, Suite 1080, Glendale, CA 91210

ATTN: AWESNA COMELEC

July 17, 2022 – Counting of ballots

July 24 or 31, 2022 – Declaration of newly elected officers during AWESNA Board meeting

2022 Annual AWESNA Convention – Installation/Inauguration of newly elected officers

I strongly encourage all eligible AWESNA members to prayerfully consider serving and participate in this election and to take on the present and future challenges in continuing the legacy of AWESNA and of our Alma Mater – Adventist University of the Philippines. God bless everyone!

Ismael Junio (818)731-8815

COMELEC OF AWESNA

Application for Candidacy

I, _____, being an alumna/alumnus of
PUC-AUP from the Class Year _____, hereby file my candidacy with the desire to use the talents
God has endowed upon me for a three (3) year term of voluntary service in the AWESNA organization.

Name of office sought: **(Choose only one below and for which organization)**

EXECUTIVE ORGANIZATION: (Check only one)

President:

Treasurer:

Vice-President:

Auditor:

Secretary:

PRO:

CHAPTER ORGANIZATION: (Check only one)

President:

Treasurer:

Vice-President:

Auditor:

Secretary:

PRO:

Candidate Mailing Address:

Candidate Phone:

Candidate E-mail:

Signature:

Date:

Angela Lalas named Executive Vice President of Finance

By Dr. Richard Hart, President Loma Linda University Health*



December 15, 2021

The Loma Linda University Health Board of Trustees this week voted to promote Angela Lalas, MBA, CPA, the organization's Chief Financial Officer, to also include the title of executive vice president of finance. As many of you know, Angela has served as senior vice president for finance since 2015 and was appointed CFO in 2018.

Angela joined Loma Linda University Health in 2006 as manager of internal audit after working as a senior tax consultant for Deloitte. She has focused on financial analysis, strategic planning, budgeting, and data analysis in her roles since, including director of internal audit, CFO of LLUH Shared Services, director of the Loma Linda University Foundation, and vice president for finance for LLUH.

She was recognized for two years as a "Rising Star in Healthcare" and one among the "CFOs to Know in Healthcare" by *Becker's Hospital Review*, and one of the 15 "Up and Comer Award" recipients by *Modern Healthcare* in 2017—all leading publications highlighting business, legal news and analysis for the hospital industry.

Angela is a CPA and holds an MBA in strategy and leadership from the Drucker School of Management at Claremont Graduate University.

I am grateful for Angela's commitment to excellence, her leadership, and her strategic management of our organization's finances. She continues to demonstrate world-class expertise as a finance professional. I am thankful to have her in this role as Loma Linda University Health grows to serve our communities in increasingly broader ways. Please join me in congratulating Angela.

Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH

President, Loma Linda University Health

*Reprinted from Loma Linda University Health Newsletter

Dr. Doris Mendoza's Recognition

By: Laurence Tabanao Gayao



Congratulations to Dr. Doris Aduara Mendoza, Dean AUP College of Medicine and AUP COM for the recognition of your outstanding leadership in conducting numerous Missionary Endeavor to the church and the community. May God continue to richly bless you. Recognition was given on September 26, 2021 by Southern Asia Pacific Divi-



sion officers.





AWESNA 2021 Fundraising Event

By Perida Tongpo, AWESNA Fundraising Chair

Of all the fundraising events during the last two terms, 2021 fundraiser ranks as the most challenging one. The event, held at the Loma Linda Academy Chan Auditorium, October 17, at 3 p.m., was beset by seeming setbacks involving venue arrangements, program preparations, and logistics. Yet all the hurdles paid off, for by God's grace and the support and hard work of participants and those involved in the preparations, what seemed to be impossible turned into a beautiful and successful fundraising endeavor.

The main feature of the program dubbed **"We Are His Hands,"** was BELYSA, a group of five very talented young ladies from Loma Linda Academy and Loma Linda Filipino Church: Athena Francisco, Sophia Lalas, Brooke LaTour, Julianne Role, and JV Wongkaren, directed by Dr. Jethrone Role, one of the parents. It was so delightful to witness the dedicated support that the parents (AUP alumni and AWESNA Loma Linda Chapter members) of these young people unselfishly sharing their time, talents, and resources for their children's talents to be fully developed and used for God's cause.

Marigold Jeanne Dela Cruz served as Master of Ceremonies. Intermission numbers included instrumentalists: TOCAR composed of the Lachica and Sampayan children, the UKULELE group from Greater Los Angeles chapter, led by Gladys Roman; and the Loma Linda Rondalla directed by Rose Ebor. Vocalists were Dr. Ephraim Dela Cruz, and the Enriquez siblings trio. Dances were also presented during the breaks: a very beautiful, graceful Hawaiian dance performed by Melissa Gage Mark, first place award winner in an International Hawaiian dance contest. Filipino folk dances were performed by Loma Linda ladies included "Pamaypay Ng Maynila" and "Pandango Sa Ilaw" which was skillfully performed by the youth from LLFC. These dances were directed by Jessica David. At the end of the program, community singing was led by dynamic song leader/director Lando Palitang, dynamic song leader.

Committees and other members working behind the scenes worth mentioning—the program committee, headed by Perida Tongpo, with the support and guidance of AWESNA President, Dr. Eppie Manalo; refreshments team under the leadership of Nida Halversen; decorators headed by Berti Fabro; ushers coordinated by Dr. Beth Role, assisted by AWESNA members from different chapters. Special shout-out to the media team headed by Dr. Jesse Role,

for the awesome job of creating the poster, the printed program; and manning and providing audio-visual services.

Speaking of fundraising, the Benevolence list is the soul of the event. When at some point in the planning, some frustrations and weariness occurred, willing, generous donors provided the needed shot-in-the arm.

Special mention goes to the FILOMENO/ALEJANDRA Family Foundation owned by the Cucueco/Canlas families who donated \$10,000 were the grand benefactors. Additional benefactors, patrons, sponsors and donors were parents of BELYSA, who spent their personal funds for uniforms and also gave \$1000.00 each; other alumni and friends and chapter presidents and their members—resulted in a net profit of more than \$40,000.00. Praise the Lord for such support for the 2021 AWESNA Fundraising Event to benefit the association's Endowment Fund.

When there seems to be no way, GOD WILL MAKE A WAY!

Photo credit : Yvet Pineda



L to R: Pianist: Cristy Rivera-Ocdamia; Master of Ceremonies: Marigold Jeanne de la Cruz; BELYSA: JV Wongkaren, Conductor: Jethrone Role, Julianne Role, Brooke LaTour, Athena Francisco and Sophia Lalas.



Emcee: Marigold Jeanne Dela Cruz



Endowment Fund Chair: Dr. Bangloy



Fundraising Chair: Perida Tongpo



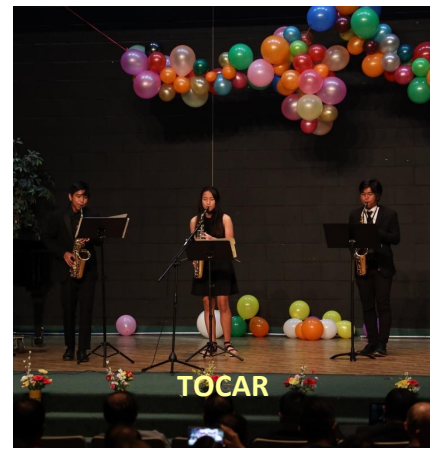
BELYSA: Athena Francisco, JV Wongkaren, Brooke LaTour, Julienne Role, Sophia Lalas



Loma Linda Church Rondalla Group



Pandanggo sa Ilaw by the Loma Linda Filipino Church Youth Group



TOCAR



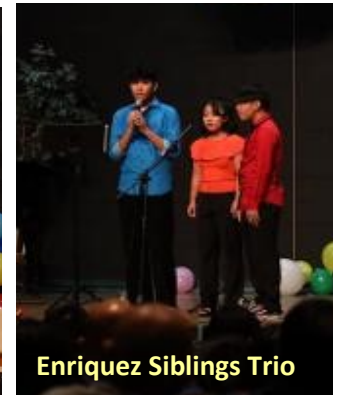
**Dr. Ephraim "Boy"
Dela Cruz**



Greater Los Angeles Chapter Ukelele Ensemble



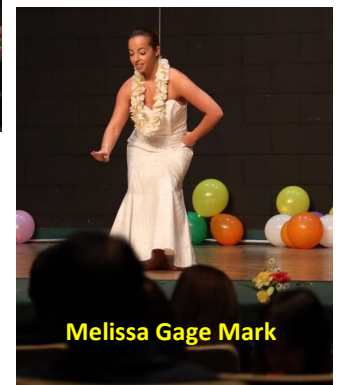
Loma Linda Filipino Church Dance Group



Enriquez Siblings Trio



Orlando Palitang and LLFC Rondalla during the Community Sings



Melissa Gage Mark

**Photo Credits:
Yvet Pineda
Serafin Lalas**

51st AWESNA CONVENTION REPORT

The 51st AWESNA Convention was held on September 3-5, 2021 at Double Tree Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley in Scottsdale, Arizona. The theme was “Resilience and Resolve”. The featured speaker was Pastor Dan Smith.

It was a long awaited convention because the 2020 convention was cancelled due to travel and social distancing restrictions due to Covid-19. The 2021 convention was planned and prepared with much analysis, checking news updates, safety protocols, faith and prayers due to the Delta Coronavirus strain was still active.

Scottsdale was a beautiful venue, literary warm at temperatures in the 100s and figuratively because of the warm welcome by the Arizona Chapter under the leadership of Pastor Ron Yabut and chapter members. The chapter was organized in 2019 under the leadership of Pastor Geof Tio who together with our Convention Chair, Annie Madigan secured the venue in 2020 but was postponed to 2021. There was a change in hotel and meeting accommodations due to a monsoon rain prior to the convention that ruined the meeting areas and guest rooms. Truly the AWESNA leadership met so much challenges for this convention to happen but God has led us through. The eagerness of alumni and friends to convene brought an attendance of an estimated 600 during the Sabbath Services.

Friday morning seminar workshops organized by our Continuing Education Committee, Gina Siapco and Dr. Eduardo Gonzaga Jr. were relevant topics in this technologically advanced digital age. Jesse Austria Role, Phd, Multimedia Communication Design Committee Chair, gave a workshop on “AWESNA Website Orientation and Development”. He taught us how to navigate the AWESNA website, how to register for conferences, pay our dues, reserve our hotels and meals, etc. The AWESNA website can be found at: <https://puc-awesna.org>. The second speaker was Patrick Voon via Zoom meeting talked on “What’s Phish got to do with IT?” who gave us tips to prevent become victims of phishing.

In the afternoon, the House of Delegates met. The highlights included welcoming the new chapter, San Gabriel Valley officers and delegates and Arizona Chapter President, Pastor Ronald Yabut who was just recently elected. Also, the procedure for the upcoming elections was discussed and the Mission Trip to Palawan for June 2022 was presented. The Endowment Fund Committee happily reported on AWESNA’s assistance to AUP amounting to \$200,000.00

The Opening Ceremonies with colorful Filipiniana attire where representatives of each chapter carry their banners in a festive procession with Orlando Palitang as the narrator. Opening prayer was offered by Gladys Gallego, President of Central Valley Chapter and the National Anthem was sang by Mirielle Enriquez accompanied by Ramon Lijauco, Jr. A warm welcome was by Eppie Manalo, AWESNA President and Ron Yabut, President of the host Arizona chapter.

The Musical Praise showcased the talents of the Arizona Chapter Singers, Ukulele Ensemble—Greater Los Angeles Chapter, Ripples and the Messenger’s Quartet. “In Remembrance” a slide show honoring our alumni members that died in the past two years was presented. It was put together by Ramon “Bojo” Lijauco. The Vespers Service followed was coordinated by Gladys Roman, President of Greater Los Angeles Chapter. Our featured Speaker was Pastor Dan Smith, DMin, Global Evangelist for Quiet Hour Ministries, a speaker for Loma Linda Broadcasting Network (LLBN), and the president of GRACEFORCE, a non-profit organization that builds churches and holds crusades around the world. He led numerous missions around the world most especially in the Philippines where his services as evangelist and fundraiser has led many souls to Jesus Christ and realized important projects for AUP and other institutions. We were blessed with the dynamic speaker and musical talents. The attendees enjoyed the fellowship and took lots of pictures with their classmates and friends. It showed how much we missed each other! Covid was contagious but the alumni spirit to gather and help AUP was more contagious!



51st AWESNA Annual Convention House of Delegates Meeting, September 3, 2021 , Scottsdale, AZ



San Gabriel Valley Chapter with their President, Esther Ong, 4th from left



AWESNA President, Eppie Manalo



Arizona Chapter— Host Chapter with Ron Yabut, new President (extreme left)

Photo credits:

Esther Liongco Ong, Marjorie Huynh



The Sabbath School Service was led by the Arizona Chapter with Ron Yabut as the coordinator. It started with happy singing led by the beautiful voices of the Praise Team composed of Charity Cabrerros, Ruth Gurango, Nica Sta. Ana, Cecille Velarde, Jennevi Yabut, and pianist Michelle Perdon-Wongkaren. The theme song, “Nothing is Impossible” was sung with gusto. The Focus on Missions was presented by Esther Ong, Community Affairs Committee Chair, reporting on the Christmas cash gifts, masks and sanitizers given to 156 AUP working students and promoted the plans for Medical/Dental/Evangelistic Outreach in Palawan for June 2022. Myrna Castillo called for the Offerings and Rigel and Sinead Abcede gave the Special Music. The Sabbath School Lesson review on the topic of Sabbath keeping was given by a panel consisted of Pastors Glenn Santa Ana, Jun Bautista, Bing Alabata, Geof Tio and Ron Yabut.

The Second Service started with the music from the Convention Instrumental Ensemble followed by Felicita-tions from Eppie Manalo, Ron Yabut and Francisco Gayoba (virtually). Elmer Bangloy and Octavius Quijada invit-ed the people to worship. Beautiful heavenly music throughout the service included the Brown Brothers, USA, The Convention Choir led by Ramon “Bojo” Lijauco, Instrumental Ensemble led by Bangele Alsaybar, Jr with ac-companists Arlene Ferrolino, Ritchie Carbajal, Anabelle Ursales. Serafin and Angela Lalas led in the Scripture Reading and Prayer. Rene Donato and Oscar Pablo gave the Stewardship Emphasis. The Message was given by Pastor Dan Smith, “Saved by Grace—or Saved by Grit?”. Closing prayer was by Pastor Dem Robles. Lunch fol-lowed in one of the ballrooms. The morning has been joyous so far and lunch gave the alumni and friends more time to bond, sitting and eating together, taking lots of pictures. It was a meeting everyone looked forward to.

Afternoon services started with a Musical Praise by the Ripples, Messenger’s Quartet, Arizona Chapter Singers, Brown Brothers, USA. Francisco Gayoba gave an AUP virtual update. Elmer Bangloy and Dr. Miguel gave an up-date on the Endowment Fund and inspired the crowd to stand if they pledge to support the Endowment Fund. Don Ferrolino gave the closing prayer. The Program coordinator was Perida Tongpo, President of the Loma Lin-da Chapter.

The banquet hall was filled to capacity as mood music was played by Lorie Bangloy and Bojo Lijauco on the flute. The energetic welcome by Liberty Olive Bautista and Master of Ceremonies, Charity Cabrerros and Arne Setser with prayer from Pastor Simeon Rosete started the ball rolling. Different honor classes were recognized and musical entertainment was provided by Selected Philippine Meistersingers and Ambassador Alumni, Ukulele Ensemble, Hawaiian dance, Jonathan Bangloy, Folk dancers from Loma Linda Chapter, Mirielle Anne, Neal Sean, and Niel Dan Enriquez. The San Gabriel Valley New Chapter Officers were inducted. The Alumni awards were given to Bangele D. Alsaybar, Jr for Most Outstanding Alumnus and Perida Ilacas Tongpo for the Leadership Award. It was a very enjoyable and entertaining evening.

Sunday Devotional was Coordinated by La Sierra Chapter under Dr. Miguelito Fernando with Speaker, Bing Alabata.

It has been an invigorating Convention, not only did we meet our classmates, teachers and friends after a year without a Convention but we were blessed by the uplifting music and inspiring sermons that we heard. The closeness of attendees was palpable and as if we didn’t want to part ways. And after all the fears of getting Covid, so far there was no infection that occurred. We thank God for blessing AWESNA, the alumni, family and friends that attended and the recipients of the wonderful projects that AWESNA has bestowed. Truly in times of a pandemic, monsoon, fears and anxiety we experienced prior to the Convention, we witnessed God’s protection and blessings. May this meeting remind us to look forward to that day when we will all gathered together when Jesus comes.

Sabbath Services



Sabbath School Panel



Featured Speaker: Pastor Dan Smith



AWESNA President Dr. Eppie Manalo



Arizona Chapter PRAISE Team



RIPPLES, conducted by Bojo Lijano, Jr.



Pastor Dan Smith with Alumni



LA Chapter Ukulele Group



Dr. Alfonso Miguel



AWESNA Convention Choir conducted by Ramon "Bojo" Lijauco, Jr.



Young Adults and Young at Heart at the Banquet



Bangele Bangloy Jr and Perida Tongpo



Loma Linda Chapter Dancers



"Music Department"



Bing Alabata

Photo credits" Pedrito Tongpo, Esther Liongco Ong, Marjorie Huynh and Bernadette Junio

Spiritual Retreat Speaker



Darren Miles Carrington is currently serving as Senior Pastor at the Fullerton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Orange County, California.

Born in San Diego, California, Pastor Darren was raised in a military family and moved to various locations in the United States and even lived in Okinawa, Japan. He didn't come to Christ until he was 15 years old at a Kenneth Cox Prophecy Seminar.

Once he was baptized into the Paradise Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church, he paid his own way through his last two years at San Diego Academy in National City. Pastor Darren first became a Youth Ministry Worker in 1990.

He graduated with his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Theology from La Sierra University.

Pastor Darren also spent one year living at Adventist University of the Philippines (formerly PUC) while attending AIIAS. He sang in both the AUP Ambassadors Choir and the LSU Chamber Singers, among others.

On top of Ministry Work, Pastor Darren has also served in the public sector for Marriott International and The San Diego State University Foundation.

Pastor Darren and his Wife Alejandra have a beautifully blended family with 3 adult children and 2 new "FurBaby" puppies.

They currently live in Los Angeles and make frequent trips to their families' home in Nayarit, Mexico.

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CONVENTION

Overall: Eppie Manalo
Venue: *Annie Madigan
**Araceli Quijada



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CERS (BOO) 2019-2022



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The Adventist University of the Philippines—

Alumni of Western North America (AWESNA)



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SPIRITUAL RETREAT

JANUARY 28-30, 2022

SAN DIEGO MARRIOTT MISSION VALLEY
8757 Rio San Diego Drive, San Diego, CA 92108

SPEAKER:

Pastor Darren Miles Carrington
Senior Pastor Fullerton Seventh-day Adventist
Church in Orange County, California.