



AUXILIARY NEWS

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A Message from Our Director

Our emphasis this year has been on service and loving, as in Mother Teresa's quote, "Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love." I recently had dinner with Dr. Nick Walters (SM'89) and his wife Phosfe (Faye) while they were visiting in the US. In 2011 the Walters were recipients of Auxiliary mission funds to help remodel a building and equip a clinic in Ekamai, Thailand. They also received funds to purchase Thai Bibles for the student nurses and supplies for Child Evangelism in clinics in rural Thailand.

Dr. Walters sent us this update on their long-time service in Thailand.



Merle Hildebrand, Alice Wongworawat,
Mrs. Faye and Dr. Nick Walters

We just completed our 32nd year of continuous overseas mission service and God is continuing to bless. I say "we" because all the family members are missionaries together; that and adaptability among others are the keys to long-term mission service. Our two sons are now missionaries in Loma Linda, one being a dentist working in Menifee and the other a family physician at the SAC Clinic in San Bernardino. God has called us all to be missionaries wherever we are.

Mission Hospital, previously known as Bangkok Adventist Hospital, will be 88 years old this year. The name change is to match the Thai name of the hospital, which has not changed. Although there is another Christian hospital and a Catholic hospital in Bangkok, we are the only "mission" hospital in the eyes of the people here. A name to be thankful for.

Being the only remaining Adventist missionary physician in the entire division it is important to keep our name Mission Hospital going strong only with the Lord's help. We just completed a refurbishing of our physical therapy and emergency departments and God willing, are working on patient rooms over the next decade.

Please keep us in your prayers.

Nick and Phosfe Walters



Entrance to Ralph Waddell Wing of Mission Hospital; Ralph Waddell SM'36 was founder of Bangkok Adventist Hospital

Our recent APC Homecoming vespers reminded us of the ways we as Auxiliary members and friends can continue the teaching and healing mission of Loma Linda University, even if we never leave this country. I ask you to continue to support all our alumni with your gifts and prayers as we face an uncertain world.

Looking forward to a heavenly Homecoming,

Merle



From the Editors

Our wish for you this season is a prayer for peace.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi

Lynda Chan and Karen Wat Nielsen

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The Auxiliary News is the newsletter of the
Loma Linda University Medical Auxiliary.

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Cookbooks



New Prices for Cookbooks Shipped

Due to numerous postage increases, it is necessary to increase our shipping prices effective January 1, 2025. Purchase price remains the same.

Cookbook	Price	Shipping	Total
1 Apple A Day	\$16	\$14	\$30
Set of 2 Apple A Day	\$28	\$16	\$44
Set of 3 Apple A Day	\$36	\$18	\$54
Open Table	\$34	\$16	\$50

Auxiliary News Sponsors

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Drusilla Heidar

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In Loving Memory

Barbara Anderson

wife of James M Anderson SM'68

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Elizabeth Culver

wife of Don Culver SM'68

Marguerite Marsh

widow of Robert L March SM'44B

Mildred Stilson SM'46,

widow of Donald Stilson SM'46

*Marguerite Marsh, 97, and Mildred Stilson, 104,
were Life Members of the Medical Auxiliary.*

Mission Vespers

Sabbath March 1, 2025

Reported by Lynda Chan

After a piano prelude by Zion Taito, musicians Chris Jordan, Cameron Jordan SBH'27, Jennifer Lumitang SAHF'27 and Chloe Lastica SN'26 led the congregation in classic hymns. Medical Auxiliary board members Patti Batin Hall SM'88 and Lynda Chan SAHP'83 opened the program with a warm welcome and opening prayer. The SM'88 Men's Quartet which included Gerard Ardron, Dale Lamberton, Cary Shakespeare and Dave Schrenk, sang harmonious musical selections after the prayer and during the offertory.

LLUH President Richard Hart SM'70 introduced Melissa Pender SM'17 and Tyler Pender SM'17 who took us on a beautiful pictorial journey to the Global Campus of Malamulo Adventist Hospital, Malawi. Both Melissa and Tyler enjoy the resources at this large center. Melissa is developing an academic curriculum for LLU trainees in internal medicine and tropical diseases, and for local clinicians at the Malawi College of Health Sciences. Tyler enjoys the training opportunities of the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons. However, being in the mission field is not without its challenges. At times this past fall, even emergency surgery cases could not be performed due to the fuel crisis in Malawi, power outages, lack of solar and battery power, and not enough water. The Penders expressed appreciation for all those who have donated equipment, medication and who have helped sponsor students. The current economic times are challenging due to the recent devaluation of the Malawi currency, but God continues to bless and keep the hospital doors open.

A dedication plaque was then presented to Ryan Hayton SM'05 in loving memory of his wife Sharlene Hayton, one of the pillars of Malamulo Adventist International School.

Steven Hildebrand SM'80A announced the 2025 AIMS Global Service Award Recipients: Ingrid Blomquist SM'81, Giglia Parker SM'75 and Fekede Gemechu SM'70.

Wes Youngberg SPH'88 gave an enthusiastic mission appeal before the traditional final hymn, "So Send I You," was sung as past and present alumni who have served overseas carried lit candles to the front of the church. Jason Lohr SM'01 offered the benediction and Lorelei Repique Bietz SM'88 played an organ postlude.

All those who attended and joined us by livestream experienced a wonderful Sabbath blessing!



Drs. Melissa & Tyler Pender with Dr. Hart



SM'88 Mission Vespers Quartet



Presenting the plaque to Ryan Hayton

Auxiliary Homecoming Luncheon

Sunday March 2, 2025

Reported by Karen Wat Nielsen SM'76B

The APC Homecoming Luncheon was held at the beautiful Redlands Country Club. This year's theme was royalty, borrowing from speaker Melody Joy Davis' new book ***Wear The Crown***. Decorations designed by Beverly Collins featured flowing purple drapery, crowns, candles and royal-hued flowers. Attendees perused offerings from E & M Chocolates, Silver & Quill, the Little White House and the Junior Medical Auxiliary before sitting down to enjoy the smooth music of Jeremy Alvarez's flugelhorn and Kyle Zimmerman's saxophone. Kyle's mother, Pearl Zimmerman SM'94, introduced the young musical team from Los Angeles. Danielle Hoxie, Hospitality Chair, welcomed guests and conducted a short business meeting before Jolene Hilliard gave the blessing for the Italian-themed luncheon buffet. Guests enjoyed caprese, romaine heart Caesar salad, sauteed broccolini, eggplant medallions, lasagna, linguini pasta and garlic focaccia bread. Dessert included peach cobbler, fresh fruit and imported Italian confections.



Danielle Hoxie



Pearl Zimmerman



Melody Joy Davis

Lynda Chan introduced speaker and author Melody Joy Davis, wife, mother and singer with the internationally renowned Heritage Singers. Melody has recently followed God's leading to leave her long-time home in Southern California and step out in faith with her music producer husband Tim Davis to move to Northern California. Her topic, "A Radical Life of Faith and Trust," highlighted the importance of renewing our minds and using the truth of Scripture in our lives. Her remark that "resistance builds endurance" reminded us that if trees do not face wind or weather, they will not grow strong roots. As daughters of the King, we can stand firm and be prepared to "Wear the Crown" because we have developed our roots in Him.

The luncheon concluded with the hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers" played by Jeremy and Kyle and a benediction by Dr. Russell Hoxie SM'88.

LLU Auxiliary Homecoming Luncheon (cont.)



Tammy Hilliard, Elaine Lamberton & Missi Rouhe



Jeremy Alvarez & Kyle Zimmerman



Thank You from Waterloo Adventist Hospital, Sierra Leone

On behalf of all of the staff and the theatre department, I want to extend our heartfelt thanks to both AHL and the Medical Auxiliary for supporting our endeavors to acquire an endoscopy machine. We routinely see patients with either critical or mysterious diseases that need clarification through directly seeing the problem. This machine will literally bring light to some of our patient's darkest times. Sometimes we can feel overwhelmed by our patient's suffering and our inability to offer meaningful hope for this life. But this generosity of donors and their investment in the future of Sierra Leone will go a long way towards offering our suffering patients the wellness God wants for us all.

We're now working to renovate and reorganize the theatre to make best use of the endoscopy. We'll be sure to update you once it is up and running. The hopes and dreams we've had for our hospital and our patients seem palpable and tangible today. There aren't really any better words we can use to express our gratitude for both God's blessings and your unending support — so I'll just say — Thank you.

James Fernando MD SM'16
Medical Director
Waterloo Adventist Hospital



Pictured is Dr. Ifeanyichukwu Ogbonnaya, the PAACS surgeon on staff at Waterloo.

Thank You from Malamulo Adventist Hospital, Malawi

A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Pender, Sherwin, and Dice families at Malamulo Adventist Hospital!

Thank you to GHI and Medical Auxiliary for the holiday gifts. Some of the items were shared for Christmas dinner. We enjoyed a delicious potluck in the company of the missionary families, visiting family members, and visiting physicians from Loma Linda.

I have attached a group photo and some additional photos of the festivities. The Penders used the packages of cranberries and nuts to make our Christmas tradition of vegetarian meatballs with cranberry sauce. The Dice family shared a photo putting their GHI/Auxiliary [domino] gift to good use.

We also appreciate the most recent arrival of medical supplies, phone stands with encouraging Bible verses, and other small items from family and friends in the US. Thank you for your ongoing support and for thinking of us during this holiday season. God bless.

Sincerely,

Melissa Pender SM'17 and friends



Sorry this is very delayed! The holidays got a little crazy with Brent's parents visiting. I wasn't able to get a picture of us with all the stuff, because, well, we ate some of it pretty fast after it arrived, haha!

But I did take some pictures of us making Christmas cookies, so I thought I could send those since the Medical Auxiliary sent us lots of sprinkles for the cookies.

Hope you had a blessed holiday season,

Laura Sherwin (Brent Sherwin SM'15)

JMA Update

Reported by Ayla Nelson

As we near the end of the school year, JMA is preparing to pass the torch to our new leaders who will continue the honor of overseeing our lovely group of ladies. This year we have had the amazing opportunity to serve our community and the residents at the Ronald McDonald House. Soon we will be welcoming another baby into the fold and all of the JMA aunties are overjoyed! We look forward to finishing the year strong and welcoming the incoming students in the next few months.



The JMA enjoyed baking cookies for residents at Ronald McDonald House in Loma Linda.



RMA Update

Reported by Jennifer Traboulsi

Since the first of the year, RMA has had a park meetup with many medical residents' spouses and their children.

We also planned Valentine's Day date nights for residents and their spouses at Citrone Italian Chophouse.

Coming up, we are planning to have a small Easter event in April.



5th year resident Anthony and wife on their date night.

Little White House

The Little White House (LWH) provided winter shopping fun for students at its Valentine event on February 3, 2025. A supper of "burgers" with all the trimmings, chips, desserts and drinks was provided. Some lucky attendees were able to choose prizes hidden behind shed doors labeled Door #1, Door #2 or Door #3. On March 6, the volunteers celebrated with special birthday pies for LWH Co-Chair Sharon Stewart, left, and Connie Fuller, right. (Center photo below.) The LWH Bridal and Easter boutiques were held on April 14. (Photos on page 8.)





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SAVE THE DATE

- **FALL MISSION LUNCHEON**
Mitten Building, Redlands
Tuesday, October 14, 2025
- **APC MISSION VESPERS**
Sabbath, February 28, 2026
- **APC HOMECOMING LUNCHEON**
Sunday, March 1, 2026

Dues Reminder

Your 2025-2026 dues are payable now. You may pay online at www.llumedaux.org or by mailing a check to the Medical Auxiliary at the address at the top left-hand corner of this page.

Regular Dues \$55
Retired, Widowed, or Divorced \$35
Life Membership \$1,500 or 4 payments of \$375
(includes one non-transferrable admission to the APC Homecoming Luncheon.)

Dues keep our office running and pay for mailing of announcements and this newsletter. If you consider a Blue Zone lifestyle, a Life Membership can be a great bargain!

Little White House celebrates brides and Easter on April 14, 2025



The mission of the Loma Linda University Medical Auxiliary is to demonstrate God's love through benevolence and shared service. **The Auxiliary promotes the mission work of its Alumni; the education and welfare of medical students, residents and their spouses; and the intellectual and spiritual growth of its diverse membership.**

The Auxiliary is committed to continuing a heritage of unselfish dedication to service, beneficence and healthful living, as well as to responding to humanitarian needs in today's changing world.