

December 2024

SOUTHLANDS

A South New South Wales Conference Publication



From House to House

Justin Lawman, President

Second only to giving Bible studies on my list of fun things to do as a pastor is visiting the members. Give me a church role, preferably up to date, a free day, and the journey begins. You never really know what awaits you, and it's always better if you have a friend to join you. You find the address, pray, knock on the door, listen, watch and learn. Before leaving you open the Bible, read a verse and pray for the family by name.

Visiting the members in their homes brings many blessings. In this busy world it is so easy to have a superficial knowledge of our fellow members and friends. Sitting in their home meeting the family and hearing their story with all its highs and lows really opens a depth in your knowledge of the person.

Missing members often return to church after being encouraged by a visit from the church. In a practical

way it reminds people that God cares for them and Jesus wants to be involved in their life. It informs the preacher and helps them be more relevant in their sermons.

Could you help the Pastor and Elders with visiting the members?

SOLID NOT FANCY



04 Care

2. Members are visited regularly





Heresy: How to Navigate It. (Part 2)

Tom Kent

Paul said that there “must also be heresies” among God’s people, “that they which are approved may be made manifest”. (1 Cor 11:19). Paul also teaches us in his letter to Timothy that to be approved has to do with how we “study” and how we apply and share “the word of truth” (2 Tim 2:15). When we further study this text in connection with other scriptures, we find that the Bible summarises being ‘approved’ as referring to those who:

1. Understand the truth (2 Tim 2:7)
2. Love the truth (2 Thess 2:10)
3. Live the truth (1 John 2:6)

Before continuing on to our second point, there is a worthy point to make: someone can have an intellectual “understanding” of the truth, and can supposedly be “living the truth” but at the same time have no love for the truth.

Wasn’t that true of the Pharisees? Boy, did they know their Bibles! Boy, did they follow the letter of the law to the T! But what did Jesus say about them?

‘Hypocrites!... ‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.’ Matt 15:7-8

Their heart was far from Jesus. They didn’t love the Truth.

This was my experience growing up as a Seventh-day Adventist. I understood some things in my mind, and knew that I needed to put on a good show, but I had fixed my heart on the things of this world. Interestingly, people today have also gone to the other extreme, and thrown out a correct ‘understanding of the truth’ and the need to ‘live the truth’, all in the name of loving Jesus who is the truth. What confusion. How sad! Both are wrong.

This is why it is crucial that we have an experience with

Jesus in all three areas, that we may be approved!

Continuing on from last month, then, we need to...

2. LOVE THE TRUTH (2 Thess 2:10)

‘The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.’

Did you catch it?

Those who fall for the deceptions, and heresies, in the end don’t actually have a ‘love of the truth’. And notice: receiving a love of the truth is a necessary part of being saved. Wow!

Loving the truth, or in other words, loving Jesus (Jn 14:6), is crucial. When we love the truth, we will love every part of God’s word (Jn 17:17). Will someone say, ‘Amen!?’ And when we love the truth, we will see Jesus at the heart of every doctrine and teaching of scripture (John 5:39). Just think about it! Every doctrine of the scriptures is like a photo frame. The teachings are the frame, while JESUS is the picture!

But do we love Him?

Consider this quote from the Spirit of Prophecy, and ask yourself the question, ‘Is my answer “Jesus”?’

“Who has the heart? With whom are our thoughts? Of whom do we love to converse? Who has our warmest affections and our best energies? If we are Christ’s, our thoughts are with Him, and our sweetest thoughts are of Him. All we have and are is consecrated to Him. We long to bear His image, breathe His spirit, do His will, and please Him in all things.” (SC, p. 58)

@ Charnwood
Adventist Church
in Canberra

7-8 MAR

Melody Mason

2025 ✨

PRAYER CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE



Singles Retreats



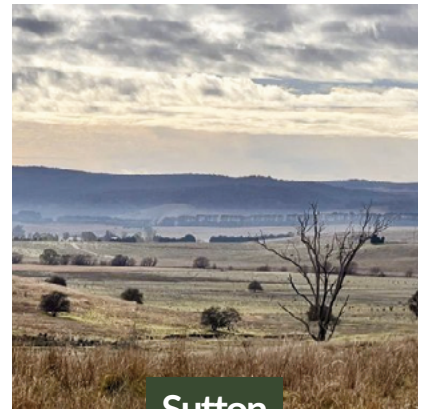
Lithgow

14-16 Mar



Jindabyne

6-9 Jun



Sutton

19-21 Sep

Online registrations open two months prior to the events at www.snsw.adventist.org.au

Enquires to snswsinglesministries@adventist.org.au



Meet new
friends!



FEB 28 - MAR 2

Leadership Weekend

WITH WES MCDONALD
ADVENTIST ALPINE VILLAGE





Summer Camp 2025

Teen Camp
7-12 January 2025



Reminder →

**REGISTRATIONS
CLOSE
FRIDAY 6TH
DECEMBER**



Junior Camp
14-19 January 2025





Narrandera Adventurers Investiture

Alan Oliva

Sunday the 10th November, Narrandera church hosted their annual Adventurer Investiture/Teddy Bear's Picnic.

The afternoon kicked off with an award ceremony and was followed by a mini Olympics and a teddy bear treasure hunt. To wind down the day the kids enjoyed: Face Painting, Teddy Bear's Hospital, Piñata Bashing, Photo Booth, Lolly Guessing Competition, Drink, Ice-Cones, Ice Cream and Fruit Stations.

Many of those who attended were children from the local community, who have been attending the monthly Adventurer meetings.

The Narrandera Church youth were pivotal in the running of Adventurers throughout the year as well as this special annual event.

Thank you to everyone involved in this important ministry!

Riverina Regional: A Call to Action in the end times

Abel Afele

The recent Riverina church regional gathering brought together 275 believers from Griffith, Yoogali, Narrandera, and Hay for a day of heartfelt worship, special ordination services, and a deep sense of connection. Local leaders were commissioned as elders, deacons, and deaconesses, uniting the churches in their shared mission to serve during these challenging times.

Pr. Justin Lawman's message, inspired by end-times prophecy, encouraged everyone to reflect on the significance of their purpose in God's plan. His words resonated deeply, reminding us of the importance of sharing the Gospel with courage and urgency. The worship

service was a particularly uplifting moment, as voices joined together in praise, and many felt a renewed sense of the Spirit's presence.

The joy of seeing the conference's support in our local churches was deeply appreciated, as was the opportunity to pray over our conference leaders. Together, we asked God's blessing and guidance as they continue to lead our mission in SNSW. This gathering was a divine wake-up call, urging each of us to step fully into our calling and carry the light of Christ to a world in need. Let us answer God's call to spread His Word with urgency and faithfulness.



EVENT CALENDAR



DEC

11 Faith FM Strongman - Narromine

13 NSW School Term Ends

17 ACT School Term Ends

25-1 Conference Office Closed

JAN

5-7 Staff Camp

7-12 Teen Camp

14-19 Junior Camp

SOUTHLANDS

South New South Wales Conference

President

Justin Lawman

Editor

Kyle Morrison

Want to read or share news from your local church or ministry?... because we want to publish it! Please send us an email so we can work at getting your articles and photos published in the next conference newsletter.

Email Southlands Newsletter at

snscomms@adventist.org.au

Southlands Newsletter

The Southlands newsletter is a publication of the Seventh-day Adventist Church (South New South Wales Conference).

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Seventh-day
Adventist Church™

South New South Wales

Super Sunday

Sunday, 13th April

Adventist Alpine Village

10:00 am - 02:00 pm



What Stall Could You Run?

Arts & Crafts, Fresh Food, Farm Produce,
Preserves, BBQ, Fun & Games, Music & More.

Local Church and Pathfinder Club fundraising stalls encouraged.

Enquiries and applications to snscomms@adventist.org.au