

# Mountain View Sunrise

ISSUE 71 / SPRING 2026

A Newsletter of the  
Mountain View Conference  
of Seventh-day Adventists



**Welcome, New Members, to the Seventh-day Adventist Church!**



Johnny and Lisa Larck with  
Pr. Oliveria and elders



Eric Greene & Jenna  
Laudadio with Pr. Monterrey



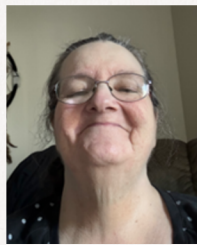
Kimberly Eddleblute, Anna Danhart,  
Cynthia Wiltshire, Rhonda Risdent-  
Wheeling SDA



Barbara Foster  
with Pr. Carter



Mike and Lisa Young  
with Pr. Monterrey



Elizabeth Moore  
Profession of Faith  
via Zoom



Lexi Murphy  
with Pr. Murphy



Brenda and Petrolino with  
Pr. Bernedo



Brenda Johnson  
with Pr. Buchanan



Diana James  
with Pr. Garlock



Abrielle Dulac  
with Pr. Gamallo



Ariel Batista with  
parents, Ariel  
and Michelle



Eleven new members added to Parkersburg SDA  
on Nov. 11, 2025



John Fauber POF  
with Pr. Monterrey



Alissa Mae Lello  
with Pr. Reyes



Dallas Matthew  
with Pr. Gamallo



Jessica & Jody Burnem  
with Pr. Ryan

## Message from the President

"Sharing Your Table" is a wonderful opportunity to connect with old friends and make new friends. Jesus often ate with those He wanted to reach and minister to. That's why we are reminding each of you of the opportunity you have to share Jesus when you sit down to eat with a friend. Why don't we all make it a priority to share our table with those we want to reach for Jesus?

-Tim Bailey, MVC President





## Around the Conference

# Happenings . .



On February 20-22, 2026, thirty-five Pathfinders spent the weekend at Valley Vista for Pathfinder Winter Camp. The theme this year was "Grounded," based on Psalms 1. Pastor Eddie Reyes spent the weekend challenging the Pathfinders to see what they are rooted in, telling them, it's important that we check our roots to see if we can withstand the storm when it comes.

Questions that Pastor Eddie asked our Pathfinders:

1. If a storm hit tomorrow, would you stand?
2. If following Christ cost you popularity, would you stand?
3. If no one else stood with you, would you stand?

***"Pastor Eddie's sermons really weren't that bad!"***

-Actual words from a young pathfinder to her mom, sincerely being impacted by the sermons.



***"I am very thankful for our Pathfinder Leaders and staff. Thank you for helping our young people cultivate a Christ-like spirit."***  
-Beth Ackman, MVC Pathfinder Director

Pastor Eddie talked about feeding, cultivating and protecting our beliefs.

Sabbath afternoon was spent working on honors. Pathfinders worked on Stars, Fire Building and Camp Cookery, and Aboriginal Lore.

-Beth Ackman, MVC Pathfinder Director



## And did you know . . . ?

In December of 2025, the Mountain View Conference participated in a mission trip to Ghana, Africa, with the Columbia Union.

Six of our pastors went on the trip, and Pastor Garlock took his 11-year-old daughter, Kai.

At the conclusion of their meetings, nearly 200 individuals chose to commit their lives to Christ. Our own pastors were allowed to enter the water and assist with the baptisms, an unforgettable moment for them all.

The participants returned home inspired, grateful, and deeply aware of the privilege of serving the Lord overseas.





## Conference Hosts 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Marriage Retreat

On Valentine's Day weekend, MVC hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Marriage Retreat. This year our speakers were Jose and Sonia Vazquez, from the Columbia Union office, and their theme was, "Saying I do, Again!" Our group size increased this year, and the couples were happily surprised to be able to stay in the two new cabins and the handicap cabins, all with their own bathrooms, beds made and linens supplied.

The weekend started with a romantic atmosphere and lovely meal, especially made for them in our camp lodge by one of our new cooks, Lori Sipes, and her husband, Dave. Then couples moved over to the youth chapel, where they were challenged all weekend with topics that sometimes can be a strain in marriage. It was not all serious, though. There were fun activities such as a couples craft, the "Newlywed Game," and a night of bowling in Elkins, W.Va., where they could socialize and make friendships with the other couples.

The weekend concluded on Sunday morning with a Recommitment Ceremony as couples headed back home, refreshed and revived, having drawn closer to each other and to God.



Getting the lodge ready for the weekend



Our speakers, Jose and Sonia, were loved by all



Our new cook, Lori, and husband, Dave, serving up laughs along with the delicious meals



Megan Garcia presents about the power of prayer as she shares her own moving testimony

Over 50 guests came to Boulevard SDA for the workshops



## Discipleship Workshops Renew Mission

This year, MVC will be hosting four Discipleship Workshops in the different regions of our conference. The first one was already held in the Boulevard SDA Church in Charleston, W.Va.

Speakers in Charleston included Pastors Jeremy Garlock and Tony Garcia, Megan Garcia, and MVC President, Tim Bailey.

Attendees learned how to improve their personal worship time, how to pray with power, how to live a life of worship, how to give Bible studies, and more!

***"I'm really excited about these workshops, as they are leading up to our new online training school starting in September!"***

-Tony Garcia, MVC Lead Bible Worker and Personal Ministries Director



## Get Involved!

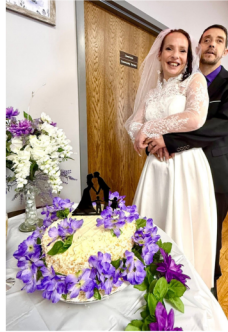
Interested in going to one of these workshops? You may have missed one of the first three, but the last one will be held on April 11, 2026, at the Parkersburg(WV) SDA Church, and you are invited! Come in time for church, eat lunch provided, and enjoy the afternoon meetings. Call 304-422-4581 for more info or check out our Facebook page.

Stay tuned for more info about online school!



## Baptism Stories to Warm Your Heart

Michael and Lisa Young are a couple that responded to an appeal made at the previous baptism from our evangelistic initiative of "Pentecost 2025," back in November of last year. Our Beckley Church helped them to get married, with their children also playing a part. They were married and baptized the same day, Sabbath, December 13, 2025. We had a total of four new believers from Pentecost 2025. Thank you, Lord, for your new followers!



A Wedding. . .and baptisms!

"I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a BRIDEGROOM decks himself with ornaments, and as a BRIDE adorns herself with her jewels." Isaiah 61:10 NKJV.

-Preston Monterrey, Pastor



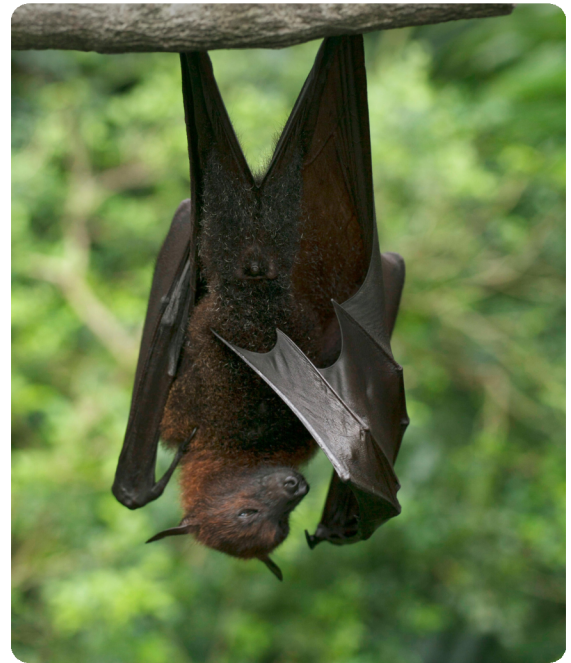

***"Thank you, Lord, for your new followers!"***

-Pastor Preston Monterrey, Beckley and Valley View SDA Churches

## Another Wedding and Baptisms!



Petrolino Beltran and Brenda Rojas and daughter, Janet, had been coming to the Parkersburg Spanish Church Plant for about three years and were always involved in the activities. One day, after studying the Bible with Pastor Miguel Bernedo, they decided that they wanted to be baptized. Before their baptism, they also decided it was time to get married. Pastor Walter Cardenas performed the wedding ceremony, marrying them to each other, and later Pastor Miguel performed the baptism ceremony, marrying them to God. Congratulations! And welcome to the family!



## God Answers Prayer

I was up in the attic of my rental home one day, making sure I had stapled the screen so the bats could not get back in! It had taken quite a few hours to get them all to leave the night before. Up there with me were the 2 children of my new tenants, as they wanted to see the bats that were hanging on the outside. I thought I was finished, but then I decided to put a few more staples in the wood frame, just to be sure. Suddenly, I was falling! I prayed as quick as I could for God to save me from certain death, as I knew that below me was a cement garage floor. As I landed, I thanked God for answered prayer and thanked the child behind me, who I felt had helped me. His answer was, "Miss Amy, I did not touch you." Now, physics tells me I was standing on 2 boards and should have fallen to the floor. But, the fleeting prayer to God saved me. . . although, He did remind me for days about the incident with a very sore tailbone!

***"Suddenly, I was falling! I prayed to God as quick as I could. . ."***

-Amy Fullmer, member of Parkersburg SDA Church

**Do YOU have an answer to prayer to share?** email to [lizb@mvcsda.org](mailto:lizb@mvcsda.org)



## Camp Meeting Speakers



### First weekend speaker: Grant Agadjanian

**Grant Agadjanian** is a multifaceted individual with a rich background in both military service and public speaking. He served in the US Army, where he held the rank of Colonel and was involved in multiple conflicts. His military career culminated in a significant change of command, marking a pivotal moment in his career. Agadjanian is also recognized for his contributions to Creative Media Ministries, based in Murrieta, California, where he serves as the President. His professional journey reflects a commitment to public service and the promotion of positive change. We look forward to getting to know him and to hear his messages!

• Mid week • • •

**Michael Carder** is an Evangelist/Public Speaker at Amazing Facts Ministries, specializing in religious outreach and faith-based community engagement, where he plays a vital role in delivering impactful sermons and leading inspiring events that bring people together. Prior to his current role, he served as an Assistant Pastor in the Mountain View Conference, where he honed his skills in pastoral care and religious education. We are happy to have Michael back with us this week!



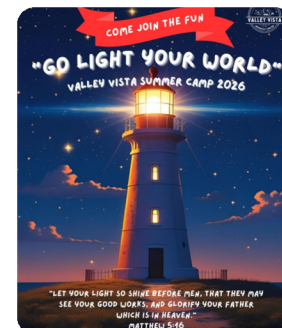
### Second weekend speaker: Dr. Alex Bryant, NAD President

**Dr. Alex Bryant** earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in theology and business administration from Oakwood College in 1981, was ordained in 1986 and earned his Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University in 1988. In December 2011, he received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Fuller theological Seminary.

He began his pastoral ministry in Springfield, MO, and in Coffeyville and Independence, Kansas, in 1982. Dr. Bryant went on to serve as Temperance director, Youth/Pathfinders/National Service Organization Director, and Superintendent of Education at the Central States Conference, before being elected conference president in 1997.

The General Conference Executive Committee elected him to serve as Executive Secretary of the North American Division in October 2008, in Manila, Philippines. He was then re-elected in Atlanta, Georgia at the 2010 General Conference Session. He currently serves as the 5<sup>th</sup> president of the NAD and vice president of the GC of SDA's. He and his wife, Desiree, have three children and three grandchildren. We are so happy to have Dr. Bryant as one of our speakers and pray you will be blessed!

## Summer Camp is Coming!



Summer Camp is just around the corner, and we can't wait for an unforgettable week of fun, friendship, and spiritual growth. This is an amazing opportunity for every child in your congregation or school to explore new adventures, make lasting memories, and grow closer to our Creator.

Our camp is packed with exciting activities for every interest, such as horseback riding, ropes courses, cooking creations, drama, arts & crafts, swimming, wood burning, wilderness survival, gymnastics, archery, pond fun, and a wide variety of sports.

Each day begins with uplifting morning worship and concludes with inspiring evening worship, giving campers the chance to strengthen their faith and deepen their relationship with God.

I need your help with promoting camp during church services or any upcoming youth events. Let's make this summer one your children will never forget!

#### Camp Details & Dates

- Lifeguard Camp (Ages 15+): June 7-11, 2026
- Teen Week (Ages 13-16): June 28 - July 5, 2026
- Junior Week (Ages 10-12): July 5 -12, 2026
- Adventure Week (Ages 6-9): July 12 -19, 2026

Camp Fee: \$395 per child.

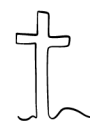
If you have any questions or need more information, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Also, if you know any teens or young adults aged 17 and older who are looking for a meaningful summer job, encourage them to apply. Working at camp is an incredible opportunity to grow personally, build leadership skills, make lifelong friendships, and be part of a team that inspires and mentors children while sharing the love of Christ.

**"Let's make this summer one your children will never forget!"**

-Courtney Ackman, Summer Camp Director





## MVC Welcomes New Pastoral Family!



**Stephen Gamallo** is a graduate of Southwestern Adventist University and currently serves as a public-school special education teacher and pastor in West Virginia. Together with his wife, **Natalie**, and their three children, he returned to his childhood region in 2019 after several years of ministry in the Texas Conference.

Stephen has a deep passion for opening the Scriptures and helping people see the one great story of the Bible—God’s plan to save humanity through Jesus Christ. Whether in the classroom, the church, or the community, his desire is to help people grow in faith, strengthen their families, and discover the transforming power of the gospel.

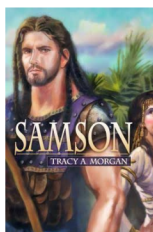
Stephen is the new pastor of the Summersville SDA Church and we, and the church, are thrilled to have him and his family as part of our Mountain View Conference team! Welcome!

## Announcing the Speaker for Women’s Retreat 2026!



Tracy Morgan

**Tracy A. Morgan** is the author of *Bathsheba: A Story of Sin and Redemption*, a historical novel exploring the biblical story from Bathsheba’s perspective, and the 2010 historical fiction novel *Samson*, both published by Pacific Press. She is a writer for publications like *Women of Spirit* and currently lives in Maryland, working at Highland View Academy as the Director of Development since 2025.



**Registration info coming soon!**

## MVC Health Weekend is Coming Soon!

On May 1-3, 2026 MVC will be hosting their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Health Retreat Weekend. Last year attendees enjoyed health seminars from four different speakers, fun activities, and a healthy cooking class. All that and more is planned for YOU this year! REGISTER NOW to reserve your spot. Registration closes April 23, 2026. Scan the QR code to register.



## Former MVC President Passes



Kingsley and Nancy, when here in MVC



Kingsley and Nancy, a more recent picture

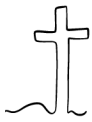
Many of you knew one of our former MVC Presidents, **Kingsley Whitsett**. We are sorry to inform you that Kingsley passed away on February 4, 2026.

Kingsley came to Mountain View as pastor of the Buckhannon/Glenville Churches and Conference Youth Director and National Servicemen’s Organization (NSO) in 1986.

When Education, Health, Young Adults, Summer Camp, Pathfinders were added to his position, he moved to Parkersburg to work from the Conference Office.

He served as Executive Secretary then at the 2002 Constituency as President of the Conference. He retired in 2006 after over 20 years serving in the Mountain View Conference.

Members from MVC office were able to attend his memorial service in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Come soon, Lord Jesus.



## What is Mountain View Mission?

Some time ago, I received a phone call from a church member wanting to understand better the Mountain View Mission offering. This offering is a major financial pillar of support for a broad range of ministries in our conference, and each member's support on a continued basis is needed and appreciated.

The Mountain View Mission offering is used and allocated under the direction of the Conference Executive Committee to support a variety of ministries. From the years 2020 through 2025, the donations to Mountain View Mission from our church members averaged about \$57,000 per year. In examining the most impactful ministries, we find that more funding is needed.

Mountain View Mission funds have been used to support the following areas: camp meeting, Valley Vista Adventist Center, children's ministries, church and school building funds, Hispanic ministries, evangelism, Bible workers, schools, Pathfinders, youth ministries, and the summer camp program at Valley Vista. Within each of these ministries are countless stories of how different individuals have been affected in a positive way for Christ.

One young girl that did not attend church was sponsored to attend Valley Vista summer camp. While there, with a program aimed at reaching young people for Jesus, she decided to give her heart to Jesus and be baptized and join the church. As a result of that one decision, her family also joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and she is now enrolled in one of our schools. The Mountain View Mission offering helped make that situation possible, along with countless other stories. The conference level ministries are there to build up and support outreach that a local church is unable to do, and to integrate ministries to support the local church.

I want to thank all the members that continue giving to the Mountain View Mission offering on a regular basis. Much like the need for giving to the local church budget to support the local church, and returning a faithful tithe that supports ministry personnel, the Mountain View Mission offering is what helps sustain ongoing ministries like those mentioned before. I would like to encourage our members to each give generously to Mountain View Mission. If you able to give \$50 or more per month, that would be a tremendous blessing. If you give less than that but more than zero, that would be a blessing also.

Thank you for your ongoing support for Mountain View Mission, and for faithfulness in giving of tithe and other offerings. Your good stewardship in finances, prayer, and personal effort in your local church or school is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Victor Zill  
Treasurer  
Executive Secretary

***"I want to thank all the members that continue giving to the Mountain View Mission on a regular basis."***

-Victor Zill, MVC Treasurer



Scan this QR code for online giving directly to the MVC

Scan this QR code for online giving to your local MVC church



## TELL SOMEBODY ABOUT JESUS? . . . BUT HOW?

You may have noticed you are constantly hearing from MVC things like, "Tell Somebody About Jesus," or "Each One, Reach One," or ". . . Why Not Me?" All very inspiring messages, but what have you done about it? If you are like me, you hear it and get excited to tell someone about Jesus, but then you leave camp meeting or church, and don't know what or how to do it.

Well, we have an answer for that! MVC has printed booklets\* for you, free of charge. They are designed for small groups with 14 Bible study lessons inside.

So next time you are talking to that person in the community that you are getting familiar with, why not say, "Hey, I have a small group that gets together once a week at the library/my home/wherever, and why don't you join us?"

AND, as a bonus, if you scan the QR code below, you will find one of our MVC pastors does an online introduction and a closing to each of the lessons!

We've made it so easy for you, there's really nothing else stopping you!

Email [lizb@mvcsda.org](mailto:lizb@mvcsda.org) to request your free copies. Or I can at least send you a sample to check it out. What are you waiting for?



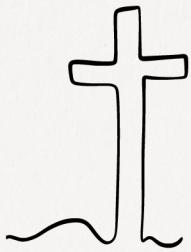
\*The beautiful, full-color booklet



Mountain View Conference  
 of Seventh-day Adventists  
 1400 Liberty Street  
 Parkersburg, WV 26101  
 304-422-4581

Non-profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit No. 52  
 Parkersburg, WV

# SONrise



The 8 Initiatives of the Mountain View  
 Conference are:

- Prayer**
- Tell Somebody About Jesus**
- Church Planting**
- Regeneration and Revival**
- Education**
- Social Media**
- Stewardship**
- Youth**

If you have a story to share about one of these  
 topics, please send it to me and I will try to  
 include it in a future *Sonrise*. Send your articles  
 and photos to: [LizB@mvcgsda.org](mailto:LizB@mvcgsda.org)

Mountain View Conf. President: Tim Bailey  
 Mountain View Conf. Sec./Treasurer: Victor Zill  
 Communication Dir. & *Sonrise* Editor: Liz Bailey

## 2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 1-3 MVC Health Weekend
- June 12-20 MVC Camp Meeting
- June 28-July 19 Summer Camps  
at Valley Vista
- July 19-22 Family Camp
- July 23-26 Hispanic Camp Meeting
- July 31-August 2 New Member's Retreat
- Sept 25-27 Spanish Women's Retreat
- Sept 25-27 Young Adult Retreat
- Oct 2-4 Women's Retreat
- Oct 9-11 Men's Retreat
- Oct 23-25 Professional's Retreat