



youth & adult **mission**

A portrait of a young man with dark hair, smiling, wearing a purple shirt. The background is a vibrant, colorful, abstract splash of paint in shades of red, orange, yellow, green, and purple.

**From Rapper
To Preacher**

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On the Cover: Sebastián lived two lives in Chile. He was quiet and went to church on Sabbath, but after church he turned into a rapper who drew large crowds. Story, page 24.

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= stories of special interest to teens

Dear Sabbath School Leader,

This quarter we feature the South American Division, which oversees the Seventh-day Adventist Church's work in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, the Falkland Islands, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay, with adjacent islands in the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The region is home to 343 million people, including 2.6 million Adventists. That's a ratio of one Adventist for 130 people, a slight increase from a ratio of one Adventist for 136 people three years ago.

Funds raised by this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will support mission projects in two countries: Brazil and Chile.

In Brazil, a church will be built on the campus of Pernambucano Adventist Academy in Sairé. The academy, which opened in 2014, is close to the hearts of many Adventists in Brazil. It was built at great personal sacrifice to replace a beloved and storied school, Northeast Brazil

Academy (ENA), which was destroyed by a flood in 2000. The new church will seat about 500 people.

In Chile, one mission project aims to open 100 children's Sabbath School classrooms in low-income churches across the country. Two other projects in Chile are based at Chile Adventist University in Chillán. New dormitories will be built to allow 50 more students to live on campus. Currently, the university has about 3,000 students, the vast majority of whom are not Adventist and live off campus. The new dorm rooms will be open to all but are especially needed by Adventist theology and education students who come to the university from far-off places and are studying to work in Adventist churches and schools. Also at the university, an Adventist Volunteer Service center will be opened to train students to serve as missionaries. The new center will consist of an auditorium for 250 people and five classrooms for mission classes. The center intends to send 30 missionaries into the world each year.

Opportunities

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, aims to reach and influence new generations for mission in the South American Division through the following projects:

- Church, Pernambucano Adventist Academy, Sairé, Brazil
- Dormitories and missionary-training center, Chile Adventist University, Chillán, Chile
- Children's project: 100 children's Sabbath School classrooms in low-income churches, Chile

Special Features

If you want to make your Sabbath School class come alive this quarter, we offer photos, videos, and other materials to accompany each mission story. More information is provided in the sidebar with each story.

You also can download a PDF of facts and activities from the South American Division at bit.ly/sad-2025. Follow us at facebook.com/missionquarterlies. Download the PDF version of the youth and adult *Mission* quarterly at bit.ly/adultmission and the *Children's Mission* quarterly at bit.ly/childrensmission. *Mission Spotlight* videos are available at bit.ly/missionspotlight.

Thank you for encouraging others to be mission-minded!

Hope on the Amazon



BRAZIL | October 4

Cassi

Some pastors live in parsonages attached to a church. Others buy or rent homes located away from the churches where they minister. Pastor Cassi lives on a boat that is also a church.

Cassi's floating church is a Thirteenth Sabbath project, purchased with the help of worldwide offerings collected in the first quarter of 2016. People like you have made it possible for Cassi to minister to unreached people in remote villages along the Amazon River.

Today's mission story is a look at the work of Pastor Cassi and the floating church, which is named *Hope of the Amazon*.

When the boat arrives at a village, Cassi goes door to door to meet people, to gain their trust, and to become friends. The first few days are challenging because Cassi arrives as a stranger and no one knows him. Among his first stops are the homes of the village leaders, whose support can play an important role in the success of his stay. He

invites them and all residents to come to the boat and see inside the floating church.

The first meeting on the boat is a big party. Cassi and his wife organize a special program with Christian music, food, and a drawing for prizes. The prizes include kitchen dishes, electric fans, and soccer balls. At the party, Cassi also shares an inspiring message from the Bible and invites people to return for Bible-based seminars every evening. The first week of meetings covers topics like marriage, child raising, and health. The second week kicks off Bible studies that will last 25 to 30 evenings. During the day, Cassi and his team offer lessons on cooking, guitar playing, and singing. A doctor and dentist also stop by the village to provide free treatment.

When people see that Cassi has come with a sincere desire to improve their lives, they often come to the meetings every evening. About 150 people can fit in the sanctuary of the floating church.

During the first month at a village,



construction work begins on a Seventh-day Adventist church. Usually, the church is built quickly in 30 to 50 days. Construction workers are hired by the church conference to sail to the village and build the church.

When the Bible studies finish, Cassi appeals to participants to give their hearts to Jesus in baptism.

By the time that Cassi baptizes the first villagers, the new church is usually open and ready for worshipers.

Then all worship services and other meetings are transitioned off the floating church and into the new building.

At that moment, Cassi works in earnest to disciple new church members. He encourages them to share with others what Jesus has done for them. He works to strengthen their faith through home visitations and additional Bible studies. New members are also trained to lead the new church and to organize Sabbath School and church services on Sabbaths and prayer meetings on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

Cassi and the floating church stay in a village for five months. Then they hand over the new church to a permanent pastor who continues the work that Cassi has started. The floating church used to visit more than two villages every year, but then church leaders realized that it needed to spend more time nurturing people in each village.

After ten months at two villages, Cassi and the floating church spend the rest of the year — December and January — in the major river port of Manaus. There, the boat undergoes annual repairs and Cassi works with church leaders on strategic planning, including choosing villages for the next year. He also takes a vacation.

Cassi and his wife have planted four churches in four settlements in two years. A total of 174 people have been baptized.

“Each person has their own story,” Cassi said in an interview on the floating church. “But God has been sending us special people, and He is leading in His special way.” 🌍

Story Tips

- Show South America and Brazil on the map. Then show Manaus, the home port of the floating church when it isn't taking the gospel to people on the Amazon and Negro rivers.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Cassi and the floating church at: bit.ly/Cassi-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Mission Posts

- The South American Division's seminary, the Latin-American Adventist Theological Seminary, is located in Brazil.
- The first Seventh-day Adventist to visit Brazil was L. C. Chadwick, who stopped over in Rio de Janeiro for several weeks in August 1892.
- In May 1893, the first Adventist colporteur, Albert B. Stauffer, arrived in Brazil. Stauffer sold books in German and English because there were no church publications in Portuguese.
- In 1900, Guilherme Stein Jr. published the first missionary magazine, *O Arauto da Verdade* (“Herald of Truth”), in Rio de Janeiro.

The floating church named *Hope on the Amazon* is bringing hope to many people thanks to a 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering. Thank you for supporting this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath projects in Brazil and Chile with your prayers and donations. Together, we can work to spread the good news of Jesus' soon return. Hear stories of people touched by Pastor Cassi's work next week.

Forgiveness and Hair



BRAZIL | October 11

Cassi

These are the stories of four lives touched by a floating church, a boat named Hope of the Amazon, that sails on the Amazon River in Brazil. The floating church was acquired with a 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering.

Jair

One evening, Jair saw people boarding a white boat as he took a walk in his remote village on the Amazon River. The boat had docked recently, and he saw that the people were going to a meeting. He decided to join them.

Nearly all 150 seats in the main hall of the floating church were filled. Jair found an empty seat and sat down. That evening, the floating church's pastor, Cassi, was preaching about forgiveness.

Forgiveness was a painful topic for Jair. He had visited many churches to seek forgiveness. But every church leader had told him that his particular sin was

unforgiveable. When Jair was younger and using drugs, he had killed a man. It had been a revenge killing. The man had killed Jair's brother. Now Jair was 32 years old, and he longed for God's forgiveness.

Jair came to the floating church with no hope for forgiveness. But that night, he heard that God could forgive any and every sin.

Jair returned the next night and the next to hear more sermons. At the end of the meetings, he gave his heart to Jesus and was baptized. He was a forgiven, redeemed man.

Maria

Maria didn't want to visit the floating church, but her husband came to every meeting. As the meetings wrapped up, the husband decided to be baptized.

It was then that Maria decided to go to the floating church. She attended the very last meeting.

The next day, when Pastor Cassi was conducting baptisms, Maria declared that her husband could only be baptized if she were baptized with him.

Pastor Cassi wasn't sure what to do. So, he prayed and ended up baptizing both her and her husband. Afterward, he put Maria into a



discipleship program that all new members take. Through the program, Maria learned biblical truths that she had missed at the meetings. Today, Maria and her husband are faithful and active church members in their isolated Amazon village.

Geiciane

A 38-year-old woman named Geiciane approached Pastor Cassi after a meeting.

“When I was a kid, I used to go to church,” she said. “As a teen, I left the church. But tonight, I have decided to return to the church.”

Through the floating church, God had claimed another soul for His kingdom.

Paulo

Paulo never left the church. He had never gone to church in the first place.

The 60-year-old man had also forbidden his wife from going to church, but she had slipped out of the house and gone anyway. Upon returning home, she had always faced a big fight. She thought her husband would never go to church.

When Pastor Cassi and his team arrived, they didn’t say anything to Paulo about church. Instead, they spoke about his everyday life and his interests, including fishing. They sent a barber to his house because he needed a haircut. He lived up on a hill, and it was hard for him to come down.

The day that his hair was cut, he decided to go to the floating church. On the boat, he hugged Pastor Cassi and the other members of his team. “Who are you people?” he asked. “You are even worried about the number of hairs on my head.”

Paulo attended the rest of the meetings and was baptized with all his family.

Pastor Cassi praises God for every soul claimed through the floating church.

“Each person has their own story,” he said. “God has been sending us special people, and He is leading in His special way.” 🌍

The floating church is taking hope to people on the Amazon River after being

Story Tips

- Show South America and Brazil on the map. Then show Manaus, the home port of the floating church when it isn’t taking the gospel to people on the Amazon and Negro rivers.
- Pronounce Jair as ZHAAE-r.
- Pronounce Geiciane as: jason-EE.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Cassi and the floating church at: bit.ly/Cassi-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Fast Facts

- The capital of Brazil is Brasília, although the largest city is São Paulo.
- The official language of Brazil is Portuguese. Portuguese is pronounced differently in Brazil than in Portugal, but speakers can understand each other.
- The word “Brazil” comes from brazilwood, (“red like an ember”), which grows along the coast and makes a red dye.
- Brazil has also been known as “land of the Holy Cross,” “land of the parrots,” and *pindorama* (“land of the palm trees”).
- Brazil was claimed by the Portuguese Empire in 1500 but settlement didn’t begin for another 30 years.

acquired with the help of a 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering. Thank you for supporting this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath projects in Brazil and Chile with your prayers and donations. Together, we can share the hope of Jesus’ soon return.



Stranger on a Boat

BRAZIL | October 18

Jamilly

Jamilly felt a little scared when the stranger showed up outside her house and called out, “Hello!”

It was unusual for strangers to come to her house. It was unusual for strangers to come to any house in the remote village on the Amazon River in Brazil.

Mother and Father were out. Jamilly, who was twenty years old, was at home with her four-year-old brother.

The stranger introduced himself as Pastor Cassi from the Seventh-day Adventist Church and asked Jamilly about her life.

“How is your relationship with your parents?” he said.

“It isn’t good,” Jamilly replied.

They spoke some more, and Jamilly relaxed. Her fears went away, and she cried. She said she wished that she had a better relationship with her parents.

Then Pastor Cassi said, “Would you like to be part of the floating church? Would you like to come to our meetings?”

Jamilly had seen the large white boat arrive at her village. She had thought that it was carrying doctors and nurses offering free medical treatment from another Christian denomination.

But now she realized that it was the home of Pastor Cassi and his team and that it contained a Seventh-day Adventist church. Pastor Cassi was going house to house to befriend people and to invite them to meetings on the boat.

Jamilly agreed to go to the floating church. Then she broke down in tears again. She had remembered her difficult relationship with her parents, who had divorced two years earlier.

Pastor Cassi listened to her story, and he offered words of comfort, encouragement, and hope.

Jamilly cried some more, and the pastor suggested that they pray together.

From that day, Jamilly began praying for her parents. She also went to the floating church every evening. She enjoyed hearing presentations about family relationships, health, and the Bible.

She invited her mother to go with her, and she did.

After about a month, Jamilly gave her heart to Jesus in baptism. It was the best day of her life! She and her sins were buried in the waters of the Amazon River, and she emerged as a reborn child of Christ. A number of other



villagers were also baptized that day.

After the baptisms, meetings moved off of the floating church to a newly built Adventist church building in the village. Construction workers had been building the church while Jamilly and other villagers had been attending meetings on the boat.

Jamilly went to the new church for Sabbath worship services. She went for prayer meetings on Sunday and Wednesday nights. She participated in a discipleship training program that taught all new church members to share what Jesus had done for them with others.

But Jamilly's relationship with her parents didn't seem to improve. Mother stopped going to church after the boat left. Father wouldn't go at all. Tensions grew, but Jamilly kept praying.

Then one day Father visited the village's Adventist church. Jamilly was traveling and away from home when she heard the news. A friend called and told her by cellphone. Jamilly was so excited that she jumped up and down! She knew that God was hearing her prayers. She knew that God would bring her family to Him.

A year has passed since Jamilly's baptism, and she is preparing to become a mission volunteer with One Year in Mission, a church program in which young people spend a year of their lives in mission work. Just as Pastor Cassi came to her village to share the gospel, she wants to take the gospel to other people in Brazil and beyond.

"Don't give up on your dreams to serve the Lord," she said. 🌍

The floating church is bringing hope to people like Jamilly on the Amazon River after being acquired with the help of a 2016 Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering. Thank you for supporting this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath projects in Brazil and Chile with your prayers and donations. Together, we can share the hope of Jesus' soon return.

Story Tips

- Show South America and Brazil on the map. Then show Manaus, the home port of the floating church when it isn't taking the gospel to people on the Amazon and Negro rivers.
- Pronounce Jamilly as: ZHA-milly.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Jamilly and the floating church at: bit.ly/Jamilly-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Fast Facts

- By the middle of the 1700s, cane sugar was Brazil's most important export, while African slaves to work in the sugarcane plantations was its largest import.
- From 1500 to 1800, Brazil bought more than 2.8 million slaves from Africa.
- In 1807, the royal court of Portugal was moved to from Portugal to Rio de Janeiro because of wars in Europe. It stayed in Brazil until 1821.
- In the 1800s, Brazil first became a kingdom and then the Empire of Brazil led by the son of the Portuguese king. It finally became an independent country in 1889.
- Brazil is the fifth-largest country in the world, with a total area of 3,287,956 square miles (8,515,767 km²).
- At 2,731 miles (4,395 km) from north to south, Brazil is the longest country in the world.
- Brazil has the greatest biodiversity in the world, containing more than 70% (about 4 million) of all known animal and plant species.

Light and A Voice

BRAZIL | October 25

Andrielle



The house didn't look promising. Andrielle was going door to door to sell Christian books just as Covid restrictions were being lifted in Brazil. Her courage evaporated as she looked at the imposing house. It was a large mansion surrounded by a high wall. She couldn't see over the wall. But through the wrought-iron gate, she could see the entrance of the house surrounded by tall, majestic trees.

Andrielle wanted to leave.

But her heart felt impressed to ring the doorbell at the gate.

She couldn't refuse or ignore the strong feeling.

"OK, Lord, I will go," she said.

"I'll ring the doorbell three times. But if no one comes out, I'll just leave. I'll have done my part."

Then she rang the doorbell.

No response.

She rang the doorbell again.

No response.

On the third ring, the door of the mansion cracked open to reveal a short, gray-haired woman.

Andrielle signaled for the woman to come closer.

She was sure that the woman would not invite her into the house. No one wanted visitors in their homes because of fears of contracting Covid.

The woman gave Andrielle a long look through the gate.

Then she waved a hand and opened the gate.

"Please, come in," she said.

She didn't ask any questions. It was so simple.

Andrielle entered the mansion and learned that the woman's name was Heidi. She was a retired teacher, and her husband was a wealthy landowner who owned many properties around the city.

Andrielle introduced herself and said she was selling books.

Seeing Heidi's interest, she told the story of redemption from beginning to end.

"After sin entered the world, Christ became flesh and dwelt among us," she said. "He came as a man to live amid all the evil. What He did gives us the right to eternal life. Soon He will come in the clouds



to catch us up and take us to heaven, where there will no longer be pain and suffering and death. I really, really want to live with Christ. I want you to be there as well. I want to meet you in heaven.”

Heidi started to cry. She had a story of her own to share.

“When you rang the doorbell, I didn’t want to let you in,” she said.

“But when I looked out the door, I saw a light shining around you, and a voice said, ‘Let her into the house.’ I never let strangers into the house. I never open the gate. But because of the light and the voice, I let you in.”

Heidi spoke of a hard life without any hope.

Despite her wealth, she had lacked love, peace, and joy.

She said she had tried to commit suicide four times, but her son had stopped her every time.

Then Andrielle had no doubt that it was God who had impressed her to ring the doorbell.

She told Heidi, “It was God who sent me here. He wanted me to tell you about the gift of salvation so you could have hope once again.”

From that day, the two women became good friends.

It was the day that Heidi realized for the first time that God loved her and wanted her to live for Him. 🌍

Pray that many people in Brazil will desire to prepare for Jesus’ soon coming with the help of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering. Part of the offering will help open a church for students at Pernambucano Adventist Academy, which is located in the region of Brazil where Andrielle lives. Thank you for planning a generous offering for this important project of hope.

Story Tips

- Show Brazil on the map.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Know that today Andrielle is a 27-year-old missionary nurse preparing to fly to Palawan, Philippines, to share the good news that Jesus is coming soon.

Fast Facts

- Brazil contains 60% of the Amazon rainforest.
- More than one-fifth of the Amazon rainforest in Brazil has been completely destroyed, and nearly 93% of its Atlantic Forest has been cleared by logging.
- Of the 202 animals in danger of becoming extinct in Brazil, 171 are in its Atlantic Forest.
- Brazilian cuisine varies greatly by region, reflecting the country’s varying mix of indigenous and immigrant populations.
- Rio de Janeiro holds the world’s largest carnival, attended by millions of people, and held each year in the first week of March.
- In addition to beaches, landmarks in Rio de Janeiro include the giant statue of Christ the Redeemer on the top of Corcovado Mountain, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.
- The Amazon River flows through Brazil and is the second-longest river in the world, after the Nile in North Africa.
- Brazil forms a giant triangle on the eastern side of South America with a 4,500-mile (7,400-km) coastline along the Atlantic Ocean. It borders every country on the continent except Chile and Ecuador.

Teaching for Eternity



BRAZIL | November 1

Washington

Washington's whole life revolved around Northeast Brazil Academy in Brazil.

His father was one of the first graduates of the school, which was founded in 1943. He himself was born at the school. Ever since he was a small boy, he dreamed of studying at the school.

As he grew older, his dream came true. He studied at the school and graduated from there before going on to work for the Brazilian tax service. When he got married and had a son, he hoped that the boy would also study at the school.

But then a flood swept over the school in 2000 and destroyed it.

Washington and many other people who loved the school were devastated.

Several years passed, and Washington learned that the Seventh-day Adventist Church had purchased land to open a school to replace Northeast Brazil Academy. He was overjoyed! He changed his whole life to make the school part of his life again.

At the time, Washington was living in Recife, a large city located several hours by car from the new school site. He had made a good life for his family in Recife, and he owned several homes there. He was also nearing retirement age.

But all that didn't matter. He prayed to move to the new school.

At work, he asked for a job transfer. Transfers weren't easy to obtain, but sometimes employers who were nearing retirement age were allowed to move.

Washington's supervisor offered a transfer to a job in another Brazilian state.

Washington declined the offer.

"I cannot go there," he said. "I want to live near the site of the new Seventh-day Adventist school. Education is very important to me."

"Do you really want to go there?" the supervisor asked.

"Yes."

"Done," the supervisor said.

It was as simple as that.

The supervisor signed a paper and said, "Now you are working near the site of the school."

Initially, Washington's wife and young son were not excited about the move. Life was easy in Recife, where they had lived near



Washington's son, 10-year-old Igor, on his first day of school at Pernambuco Adventist Academy.

a big shopping center and everything was nearby. The school site was surrounded by a forest. But they both agreed to move.

Washington bought land near the school site and built a new home. He sold two houses in Recife and donated the money to the school project.

When school construction started in 2007, Washington eagerly followed its progress. He engaged in fundraising and helped recruit students.

He paid students' tuition and gave away his home to the school's first principal. Then he built a second home near the school.

To his joy, the school finally opened in 2014 and his son, Igor, was the first child to be registered as a student. The boy was 10 years old.

Today, Washington is 65 and has retired, but he still works at the tax office near the school.

Igor has graduated from the school, which teaches through high school, and is studying at a university.

Washington beamed as he spoke about his love for the school, whose full name is Pernambuco Adventist Academy. He is pleased that three generations of his family have studied there and that his life continues to revolve around it.

"I think Pernambuco Adventist Academy teaches for eternity," he said. "I believe it puts children on the path to heaven." 🌍

Story Tips

- Show Recife, Brazil, on the map. Then show Sairé, the closest city to Pernambuco Adventist Academy.
- Read more about Pernambuco Adventist Academy and Northeast Brazil Academy in the online *Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventists*: bit.ly/Pernambucano.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Washington at: bit.ly/Washington-SAD.

Fast Facts

- Brazil's national dish is *feijoada*, a bean stew made with beef or pork.
- The most popular sport in Brazil is soccer. The Brazilian men's team has won the World Cup tournament a record-breaking five times.
- Brazil's border touches all countries on the South American continent except Chile and Ecuador.
- More than 400 different native groups, speaking about 300 different languages, live in the Amazon, more than anywhere else on Earth.
- The Brazilian city Rio de Janeiro, often just called "Rio," is one of the most-visited cities in the Southern Hemisphere. It is known for its carnival, samba and bossa nova rhythms, and famous beaches, including Copacabana and Ipanema.

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will help Pernambuco Adventist Academy finally open a large church with seating for 500 people. Thank you for planning a generous offering for this important project.

God's Online Call



CHILE | November 8

Samuel

Samuel couldn't understand why he was failing his university classes in Chile. He had always done well in high school. But in his first semester at the university, he failed algebra, calculus, physics, and chemistry — the very classes that he needed to pass to become an electrical engineer.

His second semester wasn't going any better. Then, just as he was preparing for final exams, he received an odd message.

A relative wrote under a social media post, "Samuel, study theology." The social media post was a congratulatory message to Adventist pastors during pastors' appreciation month.

Samuel thought the message was rather abrupt. The relative hadn't even greeted him or asked how he was doing.

He replied, "Hello! How are you?"

The relative wrote back, "I'm fine. Study theology."

It was not the first time that someone had suggested that Samuel become a pastor. He replied in the same way that he always did.

"I don't need to study theology to visit church members and preach and work for the church," he wrote. "But if the Lord calls me, I'm willing."

The relative replied, "Pray."

Samuel agreed to pray, and he did.

As he walked to final exams, he looked at the sky and said, "Lord, is that You? Are You really calling me? If You are calling me, I don't want to reject it. But I really need You to confirm. I don't want this to be just in my head. I don't want this to be Plan B just because Plan A didn't work."

Changing his major would mean giving up everything. It would mean leaving a career in engineering, moving far from home to Chile Adventist University, and potentially disappointing his parents.

Then Samuel remembered that Abraham had followed God without knowing where he was going. He remembered how the disciples had followed Jesus. He also remembered people who had rejected Jesus. He thought about the people who had told Jesus that they first needed to say goodbye to their parents or claim an inheritance. He didn't want to be like those who rejected Jesus.

Samuel kept praying.



Story Tips

- Show South America and Chillán, Chile, on the map.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Samuel at: bit.ly/Samuel-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Mission Post

- The first Adventists in Chile were Claude Dessignet and his wife, who were converted in France and then emigrated to Chile in 1885.

In his third week of prayer, he had a breakthrough. He remembered that when he had been baptized, he had chosen a Bible passage to be read at the occasion. For some reason, he had not chosen a verse that is customarily read at baptisms in Chile. He had been studying Matthew at the time and had chosen Matthew 28:19, 20, where Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” (NKJV). Thinking about the Bible passage, Samuel saw that it fit into the idea that God wanted him to be a pastor.

Samuel also remembered his own name. Like Samuel’s parents in the Bible, his parents hadn’t been able to have children. Before marrying his mother, his father had suffered testicle cancer and nearly died. A doctor had saved his life by removing the testicle.

Afterward, the doctor had informed him that he would be unable to have children. But God had other plans.

After marriage, Samuel’s parents had prayed for a child and, when Samuel was born, chose his name, which means “asked of God.” They had dedicated him to serve God.

When Samuel remembered his miraculous birth and the Bible passage that he had chosen for his baptism, he prayed, “Lord, I accept Your call. Now help me talk to my parents.”

Samuel’s mother immediately welcomed his decision.

“I knew engineering wasn’t right for you,” she said.

But his father struggled.

He had planned on having an engineer for a son. So much money had been spent in preparing him to become an engineer. Samuel had a younger sister who was already studying at Chile Adventist University, and the family home would be empty without Samuel.

But finally, Father accepted that God was calling Samuel to study theology.

Samuel left his university without any debt, and he was accepted at Chile Adventist University just a week before classes started. The relative who had encouraged him to study theology was thrilled!

Today, Samuel is 21 and studying to become a pastor at Chile Adventist University.

“I feel so grateful to God for the calling that He has given me,” he said. “I’m willing to follow Him wherever He calls me.” 🌍

Part of this quarter’s Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will go to Chile Adventist University in Chillán, Chile. The offering will allow 50 more students to live in dormitories on campus. Currently, the university has about 3,000 students, the vast majority of whom are not Adventist and live off campus. The expanded dormitories will be open to all but are especially needed by Adventist theology and education students who come to the university from far-off places and are studying to work in Adventist churches and schools. Samuel lives in one of the dormitories that will be expanded with the offering. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

Praying for a Tumor



CHILE | November 15

Maria

Maria grew up in a devout Christian family in Chile. They celebrated all of their church's holidays. But no one ever prayed to God until the day that a doctor found a large tumor in the liver of 5-year-old Angel.

"God, please save the life of my little sister," Maria prayed.

Maria was 21 and eldest of the three sisters in the family. Angel was the youngest.

When Angel's teacher learned about the tumor, she also prayed. She asked her church to pray. She was the wife of a Seventh-day Adventist pastor.

The prayers touched Maria's heart. She couldn't understand why a church would pray for a little girl they didn't even know.

As the date approached for Angel's surgery, Maria prayed more fervently. She promised to go to the Adventist church if Angel recovered.

"If You heal her, we'll go to that church," she prayed. "It will be confirmation for us that You want us to go there."

The surgery went well, and Angel recovered

completely after a month in the hospital.

After she returned home, Angel's teacher and her pastor-husband began visiting the family regularly. They gave many hugs. They asked about their well-being. They showed sincere interest in their lives, and they kept returning.

To Maria, the pastor and his wife were like a fairy-tale couple. She had never seen such a loving couple, and she saw Jesus' love in a whole new light.

After two years, she and her family gave their hearts to Jesus in baptism. Even little Angel, who was 7, was baptized.

The family was won to Christ through the same method that Christ used when He walked on earth. Ellen White says, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with people as one who desired their good. He showed sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He invited them, 'Follow Me'" (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 73).



For many months, the pastor and his wife practiced Christ's method: spending time with the family, wanting things to go well for them, feeling for them, and helping when they could until the family wanted to know their Jesus.

Today, Maria is 35 and a teacher and counselor at the only Seventh-day Adventist university in Chile, Chile Adventist University.

Wherever she goes, she loves to share her testimony of how God answers prayers and she met Jesus through the unconditional love of a pastor and his wife. She even spent a year as a missionary teacher with Adventist Volunteer Service in Ecuador and saw people's lives changed through her testimony.

"Since I met Jesus, everything has been one amazing story after another," she said. 🌍

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will go toward two projects at Chile Adventist University, where Maria teaches, in Chillán, Chile. One project will expand the dormitories to make room for 50 more students to study on campus. Currently, the university has about 3,000 students, the vast majority of whom are not Adventist and live off campus. The new dorm rooms will be open to all but are especially needed by Adventist theology and education students who come to the university from far-off places and are studying to work in Adventist churches and schools. The second project is a new Adventist Volunteer Service center at the university that will send 30 missionaries to different parts of the world every year. The center will have five classrooms for training students to be missionaries and an auditorium with 250 seats. Thank you for your generous offering for these two projects. Next week, hear about Maria's experience as a missionary teacher with Adventist Volunteer Service.

Story Tips

- Show South America and Chillán, Chile, on the map.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Maria at: bit.ly/Maria-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Mission Posts

- The first Adventist missionary to work in Chile was Clair A. Nowlen, who came to Valparaíso, Chile, around October 1894 to sell Adventist publications.
- The first youth camp in Chile was held in 1941 at the Adventist College of Chile, now Chile Adventist University.
- Chile has an increasingly secular society that resembles countries in North America and Europe, as well as the South Pacific countries of Australia and New Zealand. According to the national census in 2012, 66.7 percent of Chileans were Catholic, 16.4 percent were Protestant, 16.4 percent were of no religion, and the rest were "Other." In 2021, it was estimated that only 46 percent were Catholic, 15 percent were other Christian, 37 percent were of no religion, and 2 percent were "Other."

Fast Facts

- Chilean food reflects the country's nearness to both the sea and the mountains. Seafood is plentiful from the ocean, fruits and vegetables from the interior, and, originally, llama from the mountains — although this has mostly been replaced by beef.
- The capital of Chile is Santiago.
- About 40 percent of Chileans live in or around the capital, Santiago.
- Chile stretches farther south than any other country in the world and it is the closest to Antarctica.

Adventure in Ecuador



CHILE | November 22

Maria

Maria embarked on a new path of faith after her little sister, Angel, recovered from liver cancer. She believed that the God of the Seventh-day Adventists had answered her prayers, and she and her family joined the Adventist Church.

But joining the church didn't seem like enough. God had done so much for her, and she wanted to do something more for Him.

Maria was helping at-risk children as a social worker in Chile. It was a good job, she made good money, and she had good friends.

One day, a friend asked, "Would you like to move to another country to work as a missionary?"

The friend invited Maria to sign up for Adventist Volunteer Service, the Adventist world church's program for mission volunteers.

Then Maria attended an Adventist youth congress where the speaker also made an appeal for missionaries.

Maria couldn't refuse. She prayed, "Here I am. Send me, Lord."

Maria found herself serving for a year with Adventist Volunteer Service in Ecuador. She was to use her social-work background to counsel children and teach classes at an Adventist school in Santo Domingo, Ecuador's fourth-largest city.

At first, it was difficult for Maria to adjust to life in a new country. She missed her parents and two sisters terribly.

She also struggled to adapt to her surroundings. Ecuador and Chile are on the same South American continent, but they seemed like worlds apart. For one thing, she found Ecuadorian meals to be tasty but very different. In Chile, people ate a light breakfast of yogurt, bread, tea, and maybe fruit. In Ecuador, breakfast consisted of rice, beans, and fried plantains. The big Ecuadorian breakfast looked more like lunch to the missionary from Chile.

Then there were mosquitoes. The pests seemed to be everywhere. Maria used mosquito repellent, but it didn't seem to help. Bites covered her body.



The climate was also different. Maria was used to Chile's hot, dry summers and cold winters. Ecuador was always tropical, with high humidity and lots of rain.

As the weeks passed, Maria began to adjust to her new surroundings, and she loved serving God at the school.

Many children at the school came from an indigenous people known as the Tsáchila, which means "true people." Indigenous men dyed their hair a reddish-orange and wore horizontally striped black-and-white skirts. Women wore skirts that were brightly colored with horizontal stripes.

The children learned about Jesus at school and also at the church's Pathfinder club. Then they went home and taught their parents about what they had heard. Maria was amazed to see children and their parents growing closer to God through her work at the school.

Maria's activities went beyond teaching. She joined a church group that visited a rehab center for alcoholics every week. At the center, she gave Bible studies and played games with people. A number of those people gave their hearts to Jesus in baptism.

Maria also regularly visited a children's home, where she told Bible stories and put on skits with the children.

As the year passed, Maria was amazed to see that God was revealing spiritual gifts that she hadn't known that she had. She had understood that she had a gift for reaching minds through teaching, but she hadn't realized that she also had a gift for reaching hearts through exhortation (see Romans 12:6–8). She had always been shy, but now she was learning to speak about God at school and elsewhere. She shared her personal testimony at various churches. She told how she had prayed for God to save her little sister's life when she was ill with liver cancer. She described how God had answered their prayers and she and her family had joined the Adventist Church. Maria was surprised to see that a testimony as simple as hers could change hearts with

Story Tips

- Show South America and Chillán, Chile, on the map.
- Pronounce Tsáchila as: SA-chee-la.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Fast Facts

- Chile's most famous poet is Pablo Neruda (1904–1973), who received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1971. The three homes he owned in Chile (in Isla Negra, Santiago, and Valparaíso) are now museums and popular tourist destinations.
- Chile is a long narrow country on the west coast of South America, between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes Mountains.
- The national language of Chile is Spanish.

the help of the Holy Spirit.

It was hard when the year ended. Maria didn't want to leave her mission field.

But then she found a new mission field. After returning to Chile, she was offered a job as student counselor and teacher at Chile Adventist University. She was delighted!

"I fulfilled a mission in Ecuador, and now this is my mission field," she said. 🌐

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will go to Chile Adventist University, where Maria teaches. The university plans to open an Adventist Volunteer Service center that will send 30 missionaries to different parts of the world every year. The center will have five classrooms for training students to be missionaries and an auditorium with 250 seats. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

Life-Changing Ride



CHILE | November 29

Varinnia

It was an Uber ride that changed many lives.

Nineteen-year-old Varinnia took an Uber ride to Chile Adventist University, where she was studying. The driver was curious about the long metal poles that she had asked him to load into the car. Varinnia worked with the Pathfinders, and the poles were for Pathfinder flags.

“What are you doing with the poles?” asked the driver, who was in his mid-50s.

“I am helping prepare for a special week of prayer organized by the Pathfinders,” Varinnia said.

The driver looked puzzled.

“What are Pathfinders?” he said.

Varinnia explained that Pathfinders are a club similar to Boy Scouts but the focus is squarely on the Bible.

“We do a lot of evangelism as well as outdoor activities, but the outdoor activities are always combined with the Bible,” she said.

The driver wanted to know more.

“Which church do you belong to?” he said.

“Seventh-day Adventist.”

“Do you live on the campus of Chile Adventist University?”

“Yes, I live in the dorm.”

“Oh, then you are a missionary,” the driver said.

“No, I’m just a student.”

The conversation turned to God and then the Bible. Varinnia asked the driver if he had a Bible at home.

“Yes,” he said. “I read it often, and I like it.”

“Would you like to study the Bible with me?” Varinnia asked.

A short time later, the driver dropped off Varinnia and her flag poles at Chile Adventist University. Not long after that, Varinnia went to his home and began Bible studies with him, his wife, and their daughter.

One might think that the Uber ride changed only the lives of the driver and his family. But it also changed the lives of his passenger and her parents.

Varinnia’s parents were very protective.



They had not wanted her to join Pathfinders or study at Chile Adventist University. They had said Pathfinders would distract her from her homework and Chile Adventist University was too far from their home in Chile's capital, Santiago. The distance from Santiago to Chile Adventist University is about 650 miles (1,040 kilometers).

So, Varinnia had enrolled at Chile Adventist University without their support. She had only found tuition money by obtaining a scholarship. She had only begun to participate in Pathfinders at the university.

For several years, Varinnia had been praying for a better relationship with her parents.

When she told her parents about the Uber ride, they were shocked.

"How did you do that?" her mother demanded.

"It was all God and the Holy Spirit," Varinnia replied.

Her parents didn't say anything more, but from that day, their relationship with their daughter changed. Her parents began to give her more freedom when they saw that God had used her to convince the Uber driver to study the Bible.

Varinnia couldn't be happier. It was an Uber ride that changed many lives.

"When I see the change in my parents, I can only say it is all God and the Holy Spirit," she said. 🌍

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will go to Chile Adventist University in Chillán, Chile. The offering will allow 50 more students to live in dormitories on campus. Currently, the university has about 3,000 students, the vast majority of whom are not Adventist and live off campus. The expanded dormitories will be open to all but are especially needed by Adventist theology and education students who come to the university from far-off places and are studying to work in Adventist churches and schools. Varinnia lives in one of the dormitories that

Story Tips

- Show South America and Chillán, Chile, on the map.
- Pronounce Varinnia as: VAR-in-i-ya.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Varinnia at: bit.ly/Varinnia-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Fast Facts

- Chile is more than 2,670 miles (4,300 km) long from north to south, but it is only 217 miles (350 km) at its widest and 40 miles (64 km) at its narrowest.
- There are different stories about the name "Chile." One is that it came from the name of a local tribal chief called Tili. Another is that it comes from a Native American word meaning either "the end of the earth" or "sea gulls." Some people think it came from the "cheele-cheele" sound a local bird makes.
- The currency of Chile is the Chilean peso.
- The Spanish conquered Chile in the 1500s. Chile became an independent republic in 1818.
- A stunning mine rescue in Chile captured people's attention around the world in 2010. A total of 33 miners were trapped 2,300 feet (700 m) below ground when a tunnel collapsed in northern Chile. Rescuers located the miners after 17 days and, two months later, over a period of 24 hours, all 33 miners were rescued.
- In 1945, Chilean Gabriela Mistral (1889–1957) became the first Latin American to receive a Nobel Prize in Literature. She appears on the 5,000 Chilean peso banknote.

will be expanded with the offering. Thank you for planning a generous offering.

Unexpected Missionaries

CHILE | December 6

Alvaro, Natalia, and Catalina



Alvaro and Natalia never planned to become missionaries on a far-off island.

The couple had been happily married for nine years in Chile. He worked as a dentist for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She was a physical therapist at Chile Adventist University. They had a 3-year-old daughter, Catalina.

Then they heard a sermon about Adventist Volunteer Service, an organization where Adventists can volunteer to help the Adventist world church in its mission to proclaim the gospel around the world. They felt that God was calling them to volunteer.

“Can we do this as a family?” Alvaro and Natalia asked each other.

They felt terribly old. It seemed like only university students and young people in their 20s volunteered with Adventist Volunteer Service. Alvaro and Natalia were both 35 years old.

The couple spoke with the university pastor, who had made the appeal in his sermon.

The pastor assured them that God calls people of all ages to be missionaries. So, the couple took volunteer training at the university and looked for job openings on VividFaith.org, an Adventist Church website

where people can apply for volunteer positions. They felt drawn to an opening for volunteers to serve a year on remote volcanic Easter Island, and they applied for the position.

A short time later, the couple received the news that their application had been accepted, and they were asked to leave for Easter Island in two weeks. They were surprised about the speed with which God had answered their prayers. It was their first lesson as missionaries. They saw that God was in charge, and they needed to submit.

Two weeks later, the family boarded a plane and flew 5 hours and 30 minutes to Easter Island. They landed at an airport that is considered to be the most remote in the world. It is located about 2,350 miles (3,780 km) from the next nearest airport.

A very different culture greeted the family. While the Roman Catholic influence was strong on mainland Chile, people on the island leaned on ancestral teachings.

On mainland Chile, everyone spoke Spanish, but on the island everyone spoke the Rapanui language.

Alvaro and Natalia had never felt trapped



on mainland Chile, which is one of the longest countries in the world stretching about 2,650 miles (4,265 km) from the north to the south. But Easter Island covered only 63 square miles (101 sq km), and most of its 3,800 people lived in the capital, Hanga Roa.

Food was never a problem on mainland Chile, but bread was rationed on the island. Sometimes there was no flour. Food arrived by boat, and the tides didn't always allow the boats to dock.

Complicating matters, the couple quickly learned that many islanders didn't like people from the mainland. This made it difficult to make friends and gain people's trust.

Remembering how quickly God had brought them to the island, Alvaro and Natalia decided to trust in Him and take His hand.

Then God began to work in an amazing way.

Alvaro worked in tourism rather than dentistry in order to meet more people and better promote the Seventh-day Adventist church. Natalia got a job at the local hospital. They bought a small motorcycle and went door to door, making visits and giving Bible studies.

The couple was also responsible for leading the local Adventist church, which had 10 elderly members when they arrived. For the next year, Alvaro and Natalia did everything that a pastor does except baptize and officiate weddings. They even conducted a funeral.

As they worked at the church, they reopened clubs for Pathfinders and Adventurers that had previously been closed. To their delight, about 25 children showed up for the first meeting. As the months passed, the number of children grew and grew. The couple trained local Master Guides, and placed the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs into their hands. When they left, the two clubs had 95 children, and the children were bringing their parents to church on Sabbath. One Pathfinder and his mother had also been baptized. A pastor flew to the island to carry out the baptism.

Alvaro and Natalia said it was a challenging year, but they wouldn't change

Story Tips

- Show South America and Chile on the map. Then show Easter Island.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Catalina at: bit.ly/Catalina-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Fast Facts

- Located 2,200 miles (3,540 kilometers) west of Chile is Easter Island, also known as Rapa Nui. It is shaped like a triangle 14 miles (23 kilometers) long by 7 miles (11 kilometers) wide and it has an area of 63 square miles (163 square kilometers).
- Easter Island is famous for its more than 600 giant stone heads (*moai*), which were erected sometime between 1050 and 1680 AD. Many of the statues stand 10 to 20 feet (3 to 6 meters) high, but the largest statue still standing is about 37 feet (11 meters) tall.

anything about it.

"Thanks to God, the church now has local leadership on the island, and the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs have remained open," Natalia said. "We believe that God did a lot in the year that we were there. He opened the way." 🌍

Alvaro, Natalia, and Catalina served as Adventist Volunteer Service missionaries for one year on Easter Island after hearing a sermon at Chile Adventist University and receiving volunteer training there. One of the mission projects for this quarter is to open an expanded Adventist Volunteer Service center at the university that will train even more missionaries. Thank you for giving generously to this important project.

From Rapper to Preacher



CHILE | December 13

Sebastián

Sebastián lived two lives in Chile. At home and high school, he was quiet, studious, and obedient. On Sabbath mornings, he went to church with his parents. He even held leadership positions in the church.

But after school and even after church on Sabbath, Sebastián turned into a rapper who drew large crowds with his performances.

Sebastián grew up in a Seventh-day Adventist home. When he was a boy, his parents were mission-minded teachers who worked at several Adventist schools in Chile.

As a teen, Sebastián wasn't interested in church. He thought that the only thing it offered was monotony. He had heard about God all his life, but he had never developed a relationship with God through prayer and daily devotions. All he knew about God was what he heard in church. It seemed like God's plans didn't include him.

Outside of church, hip-hop music was sweeping across Chile and the rest of South

America. The music hypnotized 14-year-old Sebastián. He felt transformed when he listened. He was particularly attracted to freestyle rap, a style of hip-hop music in which artists improvise unwritten verse to a beat. He joined other teens at rap battles, where they debated and insulted each other on topics such as history, science, and religion. Participants had to be well-read to win the contests. As Sebastián won, his friends encouraged him to keep competing. He competed in city parks against much older people in their mid-20s. One Sabbath afternoon, he won a rap battle by successfully defending Satan during a debate about Satan.

Sebastián liked the challenge, and he enjoyed the glory of victory. He used alcohol and other substances that were common at the rap battles. He listened to hip-hop all the time.

Somehow, he managed to keep his two lives separate. His parents didn't know that he was leading a double life.

Four years passed.

Then Covid struck. Chile went into lockdown, and Sebastián was stuck at home. He found rap battles online, but they weren't the same. His world lost its meaning.

For the first time, Sebastián thought



about God. He felt empty, and a desire grew in him to know God.

He had grown up having family worship every day, but he had never thought about having personal time with God. No one had ever told him that the way to know God was to spend time with Him in the Bible and prayer.

Sebastián wanted to have a relationship with Jesus, and he wondered if Jesus felt the same way. To find out, he asked Jesus one day to wake him up in the morning to spend time together. Sebastián usually slept in, and it was a struggle to get up in the morning. But after he made that prayer request, he began to wake up at 5 or 6 o'clock.

He was so happy and even relieved. He was sure that Jesus was saying, "I am alive and interested in having a relationship with you."

As Sebastián read the Bible, he realized that it was more than a book. The passages of the Bible were deeper and more attractive than any rap verse that he could improvise. For the first time, he stopped feeling empty. He no longer felt alone. He spent many hours with God in the Bible and prayer during the Covid pandemic.

As restrictions were lifted, Sebastián joined an Adventist youth group in selling books door-to-door. The experience strengthened the inner transformation that had started during the pandemic. As he shared his love for Jesus, Sebastián sensed God calling him to become a pastor.

Today, Sebastián is 21 and studying theology at Chile Adventist University. He is considered a star student, and his teachers sent him to Bolivia to attend a creation conference organized by the South American Division. He also serves as a student chaplain.

Sebastián expressed gratitude to God for the opportunity to study at Chile Adventist University.

"I feel it is truly an act of grace toward my life because I see where I was and where I am, and there is a radical difference," he said. "I had to change my lifestyle, my thoughts, the things I listen to, and the things

Story Tips

- Show South America and Chillán, Chile, on the map.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Sebastián at: bit.ly/Sebastian-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Fast Facts

- Chile's most popular sport is soccer, although it has been most successful worldwide with tennis.
- Chilean Rodeo is Chile's national sport. Two cowboys (*huasos*), wearing traditional garb, try to stop a young bull, charging it with the chests of the horses. The regulations state that only Chilean horses may be ridden in Rodeo.
- Chile's Atacama Desert is one of the driest areas on the Earth, and you can find many species of reptiles and cacti there.

that I was consuming."

He added, "God is still working in me. I hope to be worthy of the calling that He has made of me." 🌍

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A Dream Job



CHILE | December 20

Jenny

Jenny never planned to move to Chile from the United States. When she graduated from Andrews University, she volunteered to teach English for a year in Chile. She thought that she would return to the United States at the end of the year. But five years later, she found herself teaching Bible classes at Chile Adventist University.

Here is what happened.

Ever since she was a young girl, Jenny had wanted to become a missionary.

While completing undergraduate theology studies at Andrews University in Michigan, she spoke about her desire with one of her teachers.

The teacher had helped another student go to Chile for a year with Adventist Volunteer Service and suggested that Jenny consider a similar path.

Jenny liked the idea. After graduating from the university, she visited VividFaith.org, an Adventist Church website where people can apply for positions with Adventist Volunteer Service. She saw an opening in Chile and sent her resume. Before long, she was accepted

and flying to Chile to spend a year teaching English at a center of influence.

Jenny couldn't have been happier!

The year passed in a flurry of English classes, Bible studies, and friendships. Jenny was invited to stay a second year, and she agreed.

By the end of the second year, she could speak fluent Spanish, and the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Central Chile Mission was looking for a bilingual assistant. She was offered the position as a volunteer. Jenny agreed and for the next three years managed church membership records, trained church secretaries, and served as the local leader for Adventist Volunteer Service — the very organization for which she was volunteering.

Along the way, she also got married to a Chilean.

Jenny couldn't have been happier!

Then Chile Adventist University called, asking if she would be willing to teach Bible classes. Jenny was excited to return to her roots after majoring in theology at Andrews University.

When she became a legal resident of



Story Tips

- Show South America and Chillán, Chile, on the map.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Jenny at: bit.ly/Jenny-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Fast Facts

- Cape Horn is the southern tip of South America. Before the Panama Canal was built, ships sailed all the way around South America to get from Europe and Atlantic ports to the Pacific. It was a very dangerous route because Cape Horn is known for strong winds and dangerous waves.
- Children in rural areas of Chile have to wake up very early in the morning to walk to school or meet the bus. Some have to travel two hours each way to get to school.
- On the long coastline of Chile you can see penguins, pelicans, and sea lions, and in the water you can see whales as they swim to and from feeding and breeding grounds.
- Chile's copper mines are located in its desert region.



A dormitory at Chile Adventist University that will benefit from this quarter's offering.

Chile, she made the transition to Bible teacher at the university.

For the first time in five years, she was not part of Adventist Volunteer Service but a full-time university employee.

Today, Jenny is one of five Bible teachers at the university.

She and the other teachers teach general Bible classes that are required of all but theology students at the university. Theology students have their own classes. Many of Jenny's students learn about God and the Bible for the first time in her classes. About three-fourths of the university's 3,000 students come from non-Adventist families.

Jenny, who is 28 years old, couldn't be happier. Being a missionary with Adventist Volunteer Service opened the door to a career that she had never dreamed possible.

"I meant to come to Chile for one year and now it has been more than six years," she said. "I feel like it was here that God wanted me." 🌍

This quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will go toward two projects at Chile Adventist University in Chillán, Chile. One project is to open an Adventist Volunteer Service center that will send 30 missionaries into the world every year. The center will

have five classrooms for training students to be missionaries and an auditorium with 250 seats. In the second university project, dormitories will be expanded to allow 50 more students to study on the campus. Currently, the university has about 3,000 students, the vast majority of whom are not Adventist and live off campus. The new dorm rooms will be open to all but are especially needed by Adventist theology and education students who come to the university from far-off places and are studying to work in Adventist churches and schools. Thank you for your generous offering.

Adventists Everywhere



13th SABBATH | December 27

Jonaton

Jonaton couldn't seem to get away from Seventh-day Adventists. Originally from Ecuador, he had never met an Adventist before moving to Chile as a teen. But after his arrival, Adventists seemed to be everywhere.

Now, Chile doesn't have an overwhelming number of Adventists. The Adventist Church has about 106,000 members in the country of nearly 20 million people. That's about one Adventist for every 88 people.

But everywhere Jonaton turned, there seemed to be Adventists.

In Ecuador, Jonaton grew up in a Christian family that rarely went to church. His parents were not very religious, but Jonaton had always believed in God and often talked and prayed to Him.

When he was a teen, two uncles who lived in Chile invited him to move to the country to work and study. Jonaton thought it was a great opportunity. He arrived in Chile a month before the country closed down during the Covid epidemic.

With the lockdown, Jonaton couldn't work.

He couldn't study. He was stuck at an uncle's farm in the south of Chile, and he wasn't sure what to do.

As the weeks passed, Jonaton learned that his uncle's farm was adjacent to a Seventh-day Adventist campground. Two Adventist campground caretakers befriended him. Every Friday evening, they offered him delicious food and treats. Jonaton started to understand that Friday evening was a special time. The caretakers told him that it was the beginning of the Sabbath. But Jonaton wasn't interested in learning about the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Around the same time, a man bought another piece of land beside the uncle's farm. He introduced himself and asked Jonaton, "How's your spiritual life?" He also was a Seventh-day Adventist.

Every day, the man visited with Jonaton and told him about God and the Bible.

Jonaton listened courteously but wasn't interested.

Soon he learned that the man's favorite



Story Tips

- Show South America and Chillán, Chile, on the map.
- Watch a short YouTube video of Jonaton at: bit.ly/Jonaton-SAD.
- Download photos for this story from Facebook: bit.ly/fb-mq.

Bible verse was Joshua 1:9. Whenever the man faced a challenge, he claimed the promise of the verse. Then the man began to ask Jonaton to repeat the verse whenever they met.

Jonaton quickly memorized the verse and repeated it for his neighbor, saying, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (NKJV).

Before long, the Bible verse became Jonaton’s favorite verse. It was the only Bible verse that he knew by heart.

Then Jonaton’s second uncle in Chile called to tell the teen to get ready to go to the university.

Jonaton asked which university. Would it be at a good university in the capital, Santiago?

But the uncle had already made up his mind.

“You will study at the Seventh-day Adventist university,” he said.

Jonaton was surprised. He thought to himself, “Adventists again! They are everywhere!”

But he didn’t share his thoughts with his uncle. Instead, he asked, “Why a Seventh-day Adventist university?”

“They are more kind to immigrants and will help with your visa,” the uncle said. “The university also has a good Christian environment.”

Covid restrictions were still in place, so Jonaton started classes online at Chile Adventist University.

Quickly, he realized that life at the university was different. Everything seemed to be centered on faith. The teachers prayed before every class and gave worship talks. Jonaton liked everything that he saw and heard. But he wasn’t interested in learning more about the Adventist Church.

The next year, Covid restrictions were lifted, and Jonaton moved into the men’s dormitory on campus. Life suddenly became very different. There were rules in the dormitory. Usually, Jonaton played soccer or

went out shopping on Friday evenings. But he couldn’t engage in those activities at the university, and he couldn’t understand why.

New Adventist friends opened their Bibles and explained the meaning of the seventh-day Sabbath. They showed how God rested on the seventh day of Creation in Genesis 2:1–3 and how God reminded His people to observe the seventh-day Sabbath in the fourth commandment in Exodus 20:8–10.

Jonaton began to understand what the two Adventist caretakers had been trying to teach him on his uncle’s farm. Without realizing it, he began to copy his friends’ behavior and keep the Sabbath.

Then he met a girl. Jonaton saw that she was very focused on God and wanted to become a missionary. To get closer to her, he decided that he needed to know more about her beliefs and habits as an Adventist. So, he began to take Bible studies.

As Jonaton dug into the Bible, he sensed that it was wrong to study the Bible in order to pursue a woman. He decided to forget the woman and focus instead on knowing God. He rationalized that human relationships are fleeting but a relationship with God is eternal.

One Sabbath, a preacher at the university church challenged the students to look for indications that God was calling them to follow Him.

Jonaton wondered if God had called him.

Then he remembered the Adventist caretakers who had befriended him at his

uncle's farm. He remembered the Adventist man who had taught him Joshua 1:9. He remembered his uncle sending him to Chile Adventist University.

At that moment, he realized that there could only be one reason that he always seemed to be surrounded by Adventists: God was calling him.

Jonaton gave his heart to Jesus and was baptized.

Today, he is 19 years old and serving God with all his heart. He still loves the promise of Joshua 1:9.

"My favorite Bible verse and the first Bible verse that I ever memorized is Joshua 1:9, which says, 'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go,'" he said. 🌐

Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will go toward two projects at Chile Adventist University in Chillán, Chile. One project will expand dormitories to allow 50 more students, like Jonaton, to study on campus. Currently, the university has about 3,000 students, the vast majority of whom are not Adventist and live off campus. The new dorm rooms will be open to all but are especially needed by Adventist theology and education students who come to the university from far-off places and are studying to work in Adventist churches and schools. The second project is

Before 13th Sabbath

- Remind everyone that our mission offerings are gifts to spread God's Word around the world, and that one-fourth of our Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, also known as the Quarterly Mission Project Offering, will help three projects in the South American Division. The projects are listed on page 3 and on the back cover.
- The narrator doesn't need to memorize the story, but he or she should be familiar enough with the material so as not to have to read it. Alternatively, children and adults can act out the story.
- Before or after the story, use a map to show the places in the South American Division — Brazil and Chile — that will receive the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

to open a new Adventist Volunteer Service center that will send 30 missionaries into the world every year. The center will have five classrooms for training students to be missionaries and an auditorium with 250 seats. This quarter's other projects are 100 children's Sabbath School classrooms in low-income churches across Chile, and a new church on the campus of Pernambucano Adventist Academy in Brazil. Thank you for your generous offering.

Next Quarter's Mission Projects

The South Pacific Division will be featured next quarter, and the special projects will include:

- Center of influence, Wallis Island, New Caledonia
- Omaura School of Ministry, Kainantu, Papua New Guinea
- Children's health project, Solomon Islands
- Children's health project, Vanuatu

Leader's Resources

Be sure to download your free Mission Spotlight video featuring video reports from around the South American Division and beyond. Download or stream from the Adventist Mission website at bit.ly/missionspotlight.

Online Information

Following are sources of information that may be helpful in preparing for the mission segment of Sabbath School. For more information on the cultures and history of the countries featured in this quarterly, visit:

Websites

Brazil: government website	bit.ly/GovtBraz
Visit Brazil	bit.ly/VisitBraz
Lonely Planet	bit.ly/LP_Brazil
Chile: government website	gob.cl/en
Chile Travel	bit.ly/Chile_Travel
Rough Guides	bit.ly/RG_Chile

Seventh-day Adventist

South American Division	adventistas.org/pt
Chile Union Mission	uch.adventistas.org
Adventist University of Chile	unach.cl
Central Brazil Union Conference	ucb.adventistas.org
East Brazil Union Mission	ulb.adventistas.org
North Brazil Union Mission	unb.adventistas.org
Northeast Brazil Union Mission	uneb.adventistas.org
Northwest Brazil Union Mission	unob.adventistas.org
South Brazil Union Conference	usb.adventistas.org
Southeast Brazil Union Conference	useb.adventistas.org
West Central Brazil Union Mission	ucob.adventistas.org

For world regions that have a Thirteenth Sabbath Offering: An offering goal device will help focus attention on world missions and increase weekly mission giving. Determine a goal for your class's weekly mission offering. Multiply it by 14, allowing a double goal for the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, which will be collected on December 27. Remind the children that their regular weekly mission offerings help the missionary work of the world church, and that one-quarter of the offering will go directly to the projects in the South American Division. On December 20, report on mission giving during the quarter. Encourage church members to double or triple their normal mission giving on the upcoming Thirteenth Sabbath. Count the offering and record the amount given at the end of Sabbath School.

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youth & adult mission

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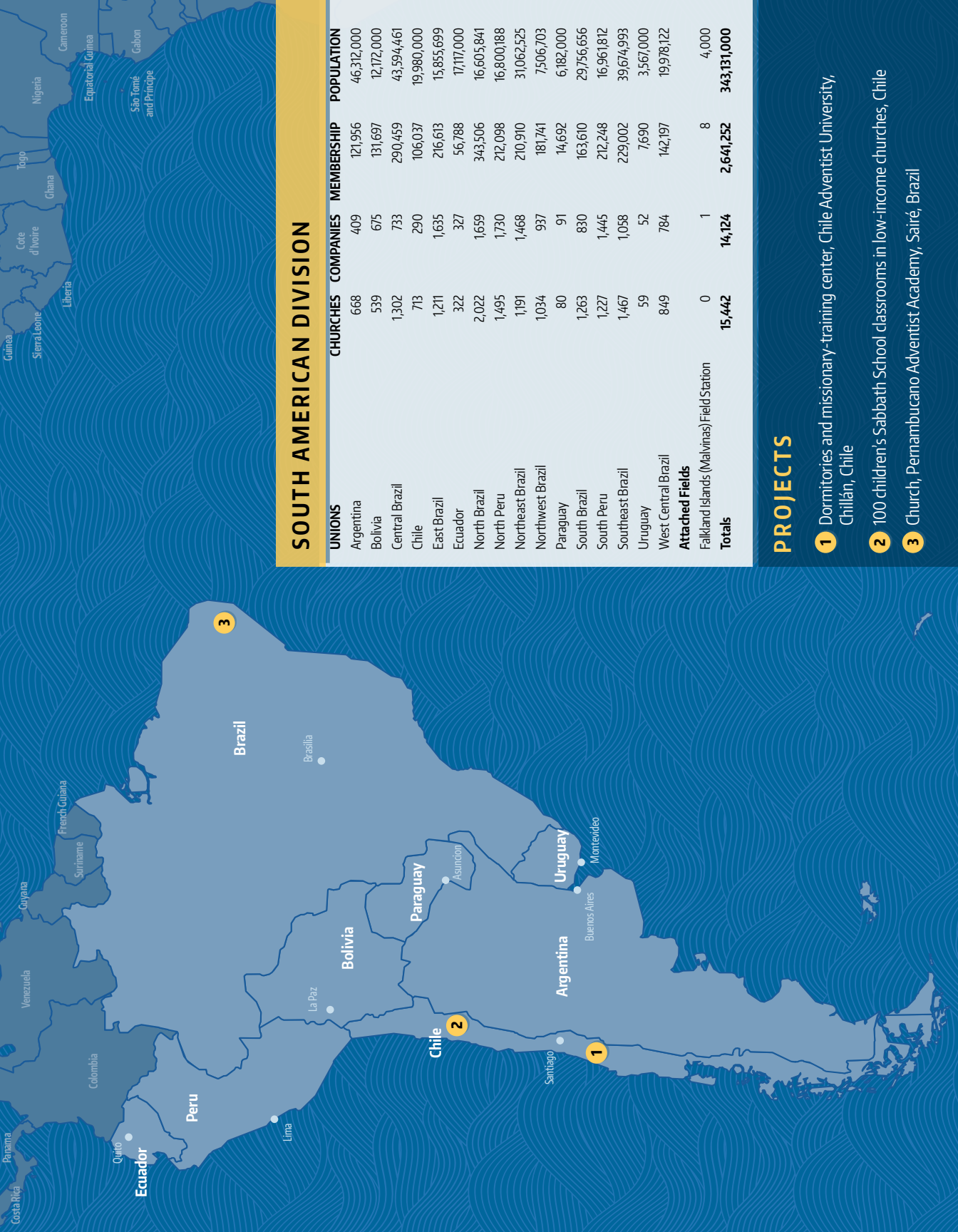
Fourth Quarter 2025

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SOUTH AMERICAN DIVISION

UNIONS	CHURCHES	COMPANIES	MEMBERSHIP	POPULATION
Argentina	668	409	121,956	46,312,000
Bolivia	539	675	131,697	12,172,000
Central Brazil	1,302	733	290,459	43,594,461
Chile	713	290	106,037	19,980,000
East Brazil	1,211	1,635	216,613	15,855,699
Ecuador	322	327	56,788	17,117,000
North Brazil	2,022	1,659	343,506	16,605,841
North Peru	1,495	1,730	212,098	16,800,188
Northeast Brazil	1,191	1,468	210,910	31,062,525
Northwest Brazil	1,034	937	181,741	7,506,703
Paraguay	80	91	14,692	6,182,000
South Brazil	1,263	830	163,610	29,756,656
South Peru	1,227	1,445	212,248	16,961,812
Southeast Brazil	1,467	1,058	229,002	39,674,993
Uruguay	59	52	7,690	3,567,000
West Central Brazil	849	784	142,197	19,978,122
Attached Fields				
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	0	1	8	4,000
Totals	15,442	14,124	2,641,252	343,131,000

PROJECTS

- 1 Dormitories and missionary-training center, Chile Adventist University, Chillán, Chile
- 2 100 children's Sabbath School classrooms in low-income churches, Chile
- 3 Church, Pernambuco Adventist Academy, Sairé, Brazil