



# CONCH SHELL

19 EDITION | AUGUST

## PUT FIRST THING FIRST

In moving forward, let us stay focus on our Adventist distinctive educational Mission. Let us be mindful of the many 'distractible educational goodies' that are freely available in the educational markets around us. Many of these distractible goodies are now filling our classroom learning activities and the extra- curricular activities. While in themselves, they are great educational tools to enhance learning, however they can be hindrance rather than blessing to God's cause in the lives of our schoolchildren and our Mission.

Satan the archenemy of God and His cause is constantly at work; collaborating with human great minds to devise educational activities that may appear 'Christian', but deep inside are seeds implanted to move the souls away from honoring God and preparing them for His imminent return.

Satan under the cover of 'national curriculum' employ his schemes in ways that appear all good with all possible positive outcomes to develop a child holistically, but well-hidden are strategies to capture the minds and hearts of both the teachers and students away from the source of Truth and the Truth Himself.

However, we praise God for providing us Biblical examples of schools established to meet the needs of His people. For example the schools of prophets during Elijah, Elisha and Samuel were established to address contextual spiritual needs of their times. Some of the good outcomes of these schools that we can learn from are:

- (1) Produced spiritual moral leaders that were needed to counter the wickedness of their times,
- (2) Produced leaders with skills that are necessary for the social and economic welfares of their times,
- (3) Produced future leaders to pass on the knowledge of the true God. A good example is King David.

As today's leaders, do we also discern our positions and roles in these prophetic time history? I would like to suggest two biblical understanding that we need to capture in our Adventist schools:

- (1) The context of our time, Apostle Paul in his writing to young Timothy admonished him about the time of the end. He called it 'perilous times' in 2 Timothy 3: 1-5. Have we seen such behaviors in our schools? How do we address them? Note that we are admonished to prepare a generation to meet our coming King - number one goal!
- (2) Preparing young people for God's final call of action. Prophet Joel in his book prophesized that God will pour out His Spirit (Joel 2: 28) among young people to do His final work. Are we encouraging our schoolchildren to have these big pictures and allow God to work in them to be part of the final harvest?

Finally, thank you so much for your work and contributions to our Adventist Education. May our Master Teacher and Enabler provide wisdom and discernment as we travel in these unprecedented times of our human history.

God bless

**Joseph Pitakia**  
Associate Education Director



## TPUM STAFF INSPIRED THROUGH EDUCATION WEEK

The Trans Pacific Union Staff were treated to a feast of inspiration from powerful messages and songs, during their morning worships via zoom this week. The morning worships were taken by various Adventist Schools from around the Trans Pacific Union being a feature during their Education week from the 7th to the 14th of August. Following the theme 'Moving Forward' the schools shared each day from the weeks reading, which was prepared this year by Mrs Tepora Taala Fuimaono, who is the Principal of Samoa Adventist College.

Mrs. Mere Vaihola, TPU Education director was pleased with the involvement of the staff and students from the selected schools that participated and would like to thank the following schools for their time in preparing and the sharing of God's word.

Monday - Jones Adventist High School - Solomon islands

Tuesday - Beulah College - Tonga

Wednesday - Epauto SDA School - Vanuatu

Thursday - Tuvalu SDA Primary - Tuvalu

Friday - Lalovaea SDA High School - Samoa

The worship's were also shared Live on facebook on the Trans Pacific Union facebook page, where many from around the pacific region also joined in and were blessed.

Maveni Kaufononga mentioned at the end of the week that "It was such a blessed week, I personally was blessed and enjoyed the worship programs this week taken by our schools from around the Pacific" He also asked the TPU Staff to continue to support and pray for all our Adventist schools around the Union during these challenging times. - **John Tausere**

## EDUCATION WEEK ON HOPE MEDIA



*Teachers host for Hope Channel*

The daily programs started every night at 8pm where teachers presenting the word of God with the theme "MOVING FORWARD," and also featuring students singing and teacher's sharing words of encouragement. Apisalome the Fiji mission CFO states, "my children where excited to see and listen to their teacher's presenting on Hope TV." There has been positive feedback on Hope media on the programs presented and one of the presenters stated "it was a real blessing and honor, although I find it hard as I am not use to this, I am only used to sharing Jesus to my students in my classroom." Now other missions are looking at including Hope Media platform next year to share and promote Adventist Education. The Trans Pacific Education department's vision for this quinquinum 'is a vibrant Adventist school, living our hope in Jesus and transforming the Pacific' and Education Week of Prayer is one of the strategy to achieve such a vibrant Adventist community states the Education Director for TPUM Mere Vaihola.



*Epauto staff and students Panel Discussion Worship*





*Mrs Jennifer Vaileva and Form 7 students*

Every year, the church ear-marked the offering collected on this special sabbath as its contribution to the school. The best of all, GOD was with us. The school has exceeded the target of TOP\$25,000, for the local churches have collected TOP\$50,469.10. **WHAT A MIRACLE!** Deputy principal VonErik Liligeto expressed his "big thank you to all the local churches throughout the Kingdom of Tonga, parents, guardians and ex-students who were there to support their children, thank you so much for your willingness and commitment." Matthew 10:42, "If you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded." You serve God by serving others. Even the smallest service is noticed by God and will be rewarded. Your continuous support will be a blessing to help Adventist Education move forward in Tonga. -**VonErik Liligeto**

*"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and men."*

LUKE 2:52

## SAC STAFF & FAMILIES CELEBRATED EDUCATION WEEK

Samoa Adventist School conducted its Adventist Education Week from the 14th to the 21st of August.

The special week started with an opening Sabbath where teachers and their families gathered together to welcome the Sabbath and the Education Week. The opening speaker of the week was the Principal, Mrs. Tepora Fuimaono who was also the writer of the special week's reading this year.

During the week, the primary school had their special devotions in their respective classes while the high school had theirs' combined with the school Chaplain, Mr. Evander Tuaifaiva was the speaker with each class assisting him each day.

The school set a time in the school program of the day for this special fellowship, both students and staff thoroughly enjoyed and were uplifted by the messages delivered each day.

The conclusion of the week was again celebrated on Sabbath by the staff and students. This time the Chaplain with the help of the Spiritual Committee of the school led out in the program which involved everyone being divided into groups and actively participating by going through the main messages during the week.

According to deputy principal Mr Baelua "It was indeed a blessed week reflecting back on God's leading in everyone's life going through the Adventist Education system and even more assuring with the message of 'Moving Forward' by faith, in obedience, and with reassurance, wisdom, alacrity, resilience and determination." - **Trevor Baelua**



*SAC Staff and families*

## SOLOMON ISLAND EDUCATION WEEK ENDED WITH BAPTISM

The Tau Adventist School in the Solomon Islands ended their Education Week Program with a baptism of 2 candidates of the Hope Channel Satellite evangelistic program on the 14th of August. At the baptism about 30 students stood to accept the call for Bible study in preparation for Baptism later in the year.

The Education Week Program was held at the Tau Adventist Church from 7th to 14th August. It started with a great interest from the students, because of their involvement in the program, especially in singing and this motivates them to come to the programs. The Tau Adventist School (both Primary and High School had an enrolment of both Adventists and non-Adventists students. During the Education Week a lot of the non-Adventist students participated in the program.

As Tau Adventist School is a non-boarding school and a lot of the students who live far from the school had to find accommodation at the school with the teachers to attend the evening Programs. It was interesting to see a lot of the primary kids attended the program although it was too early for them and the program was adjusted so that it started early at 5:30 pm and finished early. The evening programs started with singing, Health Tips, and children's corner before the main presentations. The Presentation of the Education Week Readings were taken by the teachers. The students, parents, and the Tau Village community, enjoyed the Presentations and encouraged by the stories and lessons of the Presentations, a real encouragement to keep "Moving Forward".



*Tau 2 students after baptism*

The feedback from the students, parents and elders in the village was that the program was very interesting and recommended that such programs must be encouraged and presented to students, parents and the whole village community. Because of the Education Week Program, some of the parents of the non-Adventist students have allowed their children to come and attend the Sabbath programs at Tau Church. This is the first time that the School or the Church has run an Education Week here at Tau and now the students, parents, teachers and the village community are looking forward to Education Week next year. - **Kasume Media**



*25 Students after baptism*

Tenakoga Adventist Community High School in the Solomon Islands experienced Gods little miracles and blessings during the Spiritual Emphasis Education week on the 15 - 20 of August. It would be the first of its kind to invite parents as well as valued members in the nearby communities to attend the program. The guest speaker was senior Pr. Bruce Likaveke. It was interesting that the members of the communities were always the earliest to be at the church ready to listen to God's word, according to one of the teachers Chareen Simbe. At the end of the week, 25 students and 1 teacher went through the water for baptism, a total of 26 candidates choosing Jesus as their personal savior. More students took the stand for Bible studies. - **Chareen Simbe**



## REACHING OUT TO EXTENSION SCHOOL

Palm Drive School in the Solomon Islands held its Education Week on the 16 - 20 August. The school administrators and the teachers gave the opportunity to students to preach. Palm Drive extension school is Beata School, they too the students did the preaching. Each morning the principal, teacher and a singing assisted the student preacher in the program at Beata while the rest would listen to the same message from a student at the main school. Students themselves took care of the special items during the special week. On Friday, this special program was highlighted by everyone joining at Beata to celebrate it one last time.



*Children presenting their gifts to parents.*



Palm Drive students as part of the closing program brought gifts to give to students, teachers and parents of Beata. Mr Joseph Pitakia the TPUM Associate Education Director was the special speaker of the closing message followed by a lunch. Mrs Leah Drelly a teacher stated "students were encouraged and bold to preach and happy to share their gifts to the other school. But more importantly everyone were blessed because the message was given to them in a simple way by students themselves." Palm Drive is looking forward to next year's Education Week. - **Leah Daniel Drelly**

*Children presenting songs*

## EPAUTO STUDENTS REACH OUT TO LOCAL CHURCHES



*Mr Max Whilemon and students leading out in worship services*

Epauto Adventist Secondary School in Port Vila, Vanuatu as part of their Adventist Education Promotion divided staff and students into six groups to visit 10 churches across Northwest Malekula and Central Malekula on the 21st and the 28th of August. Students were involved in singing, lesson studies and preaching the word of God.

This is the first time the school had visited the churches in Malekula. According to Macsell James the district director for Malekula, "the Adventist parents were excited and asking for application forms to enrol their children in Adventist school. Also one of the government schools known as Wora school decided to change its name to Botovro Seventh-Day Primary School." - **Macsell James**



*What a Teacher is,  
is more important than what  
he/she teaches...*



## P.U.S.H RETREAT

Funafuti SDA Primary School in Tuvalu ended their Education Week on a high note with the Year 8 and Earliteens from the local church went out on a retreat to Afelita Island Resort on the 20-23 of August. "PUSH" (Pray Until Something Happen) was the theme for this special retreat. A total of 31 attended, 5 youth, 7 Earliteens (1 non-Adventists), 17 Year 8 (15 non-Adventist) and 2 children.



*Year 8 and Earliteen group picture at Afelita Resort.*

According to the principal Mr Kima Pedro who is the Bible teacher and the Earliteen Sabbath School teacher, "the purpose of this retreat is for children to master the skills of praying for it develops their personal relationship with God." For most of the non-Adventist students it was their first time to attend such event. One of the participants stated "I really enjoyed the retreat, I have learnt new things about prayer, visited a new place and making friends." The school is planning to continue with such program in order to support and encourage students in their faith journey. - **Kima Pedro**

## WORLD TEACHERS' DAY COMING SOON



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Fiji schools on lockdown
- Navesau financial challenges
- Fulton Adventist University College safe campus over covid19
- Schools preparation for examinations
- Plans for the rest of the year
- School staffings 2022

## FINALLY

*"The students in our schools and all our youth should be given an education that will strengthen them in the faith."*

**EGW. MANUSCRIPT 106, 1905**

**We would love to hear from you, your stories and challenges could be means of blessings and encouragement to others. So, please share!**

*For your stories please forward it to:*

**Mere Vaihola**  
Education Director

OR

**Joseph Pitakia**  
Associate Education Director