



# 2024 January



## Vallejo Central Newsletter

### Christmas Cantata

The congregation was treated to the musical talents of our own church members under the direction of Viktoria Kolpacoff on December 16, 2023. The narrators were Pam Ditto and Bill Keating.

Members and guest enjoyed the Vallejo Central cantata "The First Christmas." Singers and performers did their best to play Jesus' birth story with music and acting. For several Sabbaths, singers practiced songs like, "Away in a Manger," "Silent Night," "O Come All Ye Faithful," among others. Children have a special participation dressed as angels or shepherds they sang "What Can I Give Him."

The general coordinator of the cantata was Gloria Gonzales, and the musical director was Viktoria Kolpacoff. At the end, everybody was invited to join the potluck. ~Carmen Velasquez



The shepherds were the first to see baby Jesus.



# The Gospel According to Gabriel

~ Carmen Velasquez

Pastor Estay preached the whole Salvation plan through the voice of Archangel Gabriel. There was a war in heaven, and Lucifer, the archangel who once held the high-ranking position in the angelic host, fought to be like Michael, the Prince of God. A third of the angels were cast down from Heaven causing great sadness there. God's decision of creating a new world brought joy in Heaven again. Even when Michael knew what will happen in the world, He had a plan that was shared with the angels. He will be the sacrificed lamb to save humans. "I offered him to take his place, said Gabriel, but only He could save the world. The prophecy was fulfilled in Jesus, and I (Gabriel) came to announce His birth to shepherds. Jesus was born." At the end, Gabriel invited the congregation to join him singing "Joy to the World."



Brad	Marlow	3
Debbie	Music	3
Maribel	Galsim-Viray	7
Trinh	Bui	11
Guillermo	Galsim	11
Lily Sky	Ranjo	11
Angel	Wilensky	11
Kelly	Pfister	13
Korina	Ament	13
Alexander	Gacad	13
Linda	Reed	14
Arielle	Keating	15
Joseph	Bowlby Jr.	16
Alexander	Coykendall	16
Velma	Politano	16
Shelany	Rios	16
Emma Jane	Baber	17
Jared	Deloso	17
Rudy	Noble Jr.	17
Sareda	Thompson	19
Caroline	Martinez	20
Oliver	Napod	23
Andre	Hamilton	24
Kaleb	Peleki	24
Gayle	Ranjo	25
Micah	Fuchs	27
Charity	Fededelis-Daguna	27
Ian	Delgado	28
Paz	Belga	29



## January 2024 Prayer List

Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer. Ps 4:1

- Angel & Soley Abad
- Emma Baber
- Dennis & Geraldine Cabanez Denise, Alexi, Zach and Jad
- Romedios Dalida
- Allan & Gladys Ellorin, Juegen and Tristan
- Attila Gogos
- Nula Jackson
- Casey Leach
- Lisa Martinez
- Leticia Pacas
- Linda Reid
- Rudy & Mina Tolosa, Joshua and Jonathan



If you want to share what God has done in your life or would like to be included in the next newsletter, please submit to [Trinh2t@gmail.com](mailto:Trinh2t@gmail.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.



# Everyone... Everywhere ~Carmen Velasquez

Few weeks ago, when I took one of the ladies, I take care off to the nail salon, a Hispanic woman came to the spa asking for a pedicure; the owner of the spa didn't want to help her, in spite of this woman's insistence. All the girls in the spa were kind of rude, but at the end they decided to do it, after making her wait for another hour. This woman had purple spots in hands and legs; she said those were caused by the chemotherapy she has been receiving in the last three years. She told me she has liver cancer, and her womb was removed because of cancer too. She thinks her toenails ingrown is a consequence of the chemotherapy too, and it causes her extreme pain. Every three weeks she has to come to this particular spa because here is the only place they do a good job, she said. When she was telling me about her health problems, I felt in my heart I had to pray with her, but I had my doubts thinking she might reject me. Even though, I told her, "Can I hold your hand? I want to pray for you." She accepted, and I started praying for her, her health, her family, her life. At the end, she said The Lord's Prayer, and I followed her. Now I understood the girls at the spa were not really rude, but maybe they didn't want to be blamed if something happens to this lady while they work in her toenails. Two days later, I went to get a pedicure, and the owner asked me if I knew her client. "No, that day was the first time I saw her." She saw me kind of confused of why I was holding hands with her. She saw me praying; in a way I was witnessing for her and the ladies at the spa. Then, I thought I need to be braver if I hear the Holy Spirit's voice calling me to pray for Everyone... Even in the most unexpected places.



In December 2023, Community Services volunteers included: Emmy Vega, Ed Politano, Rudy Patricio, Jane Sarmiento, Randy Brucker, Rose Laugtug, Edith Gasmin, Nelma Traubb, Donica & Kiara Clapp, Donna Palacios, Cindy Doan, Pearlette Dobbins, Pastor Chris Estay, with a total number of 304 hours. During this month we served a total of: 134 households 279 individuals and 78 families for holiday baskets with distribution assisted by Pathfinder members & parents.

## Adventurer Visitation

" Our yearly tradition of caroling at " The Lodge at Glen Cove" is something the Adventurers and their parents cherish! On a sunny afternoon on the 16th of December the Adventurers and their families were able to spread Christmas cheer by singing Christmas carols to the elderly at "The Lodge." Valerie Ruban accompanied the kids by playing the piano and Abigail Aguilar and family prepared gift bags that the Adventurers handed out to the residents as well! It was such a blessing to see a smile on people's faces and to share God's love! ~ Jeannette Montealegre-Usi





Cradle Roll



Kindergarten



Primary



Early Teen





## Special Music



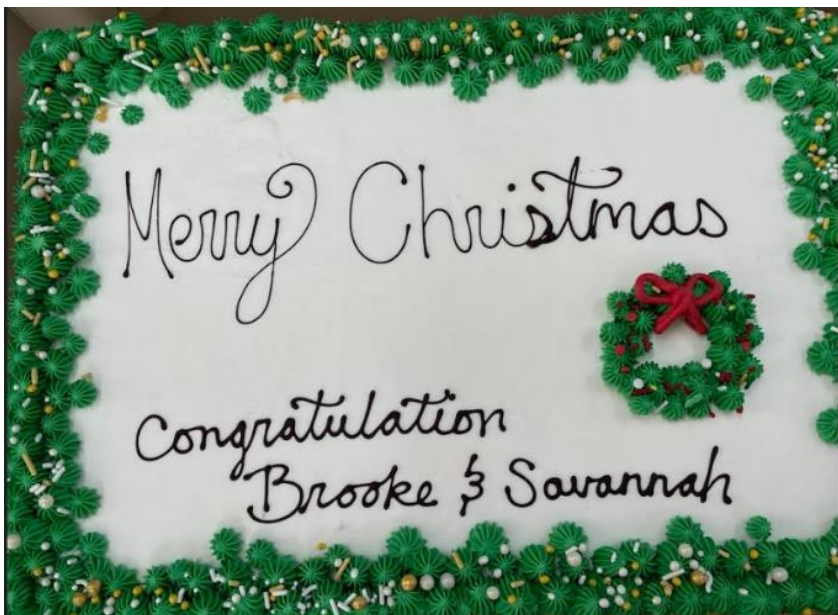
## Family Torres-Hadley Baptism and Children Dedication

~ Carmen Velasquez

December 30, 2023 was a day of blessings for the family Torres-Hadley because Kanio and Rebseen were baptized, their children Eu-Gi and Princess were dedicated and as a family they were voted to be members of Vallejo Central SDA. Kanio said the main reason they took the decision of getting baptized is, "We believe God, his Word and his Commandments. And it's not only believing, but we want to live with Him." He added, at the beginning it was only him taking Bible studies, and he wanted to be joined with his wife, so he asked for Pastor Estay prayers, and soon enough, after a special dream Rebseen had, she started Bible studies too. Before the baptism, Pastor Estay reminded us we need friends in church to support each other in our Christian walk.







## Atila, Brooke and Savannah's Baptisms

On December 16<sup>th</sup>, Vallejo Central celebrated the baptisms of three, now members of our church. On a speech Savannah Marlow said that even though she grew up in the Adventist Church it was until high school when she realized she "really considered a real relationship with God." In a week of prayer at PHAA, Pastor Laif asked them to take a moment to allow the Holy Spirit to speak to their heart, she felt so still and so in peace like never before. Pastor Miguel Verazas asked her if she wanted to get baptized, and she gladly accepted the call... after she saw Brooke stepping up to be baptized too.

Brooke Fernander said she always wanted to be baptized, and doing it in 2023 was one of her purposes of this year. "As I began to study the word of God more deeply, I realized how freeing and unexplainable it felt to seek God and want that connection with Him." There was a moment when she felt the presence of God and a voice telling her "I will never leave you, nor forsake you." She said in her heart she knew she will stand up to reaffirm her decision even when she was the only one among her peers. Pastor Henderson presented Brooke as our new/future associated Pastor. At the end, Brooke, Savannah and Pastor Henderson hugged together in the baptismal front.



Savannah and Brooke with Pastor Miguel Verazas, who lead an evangelism week at PHAA