

Expanding the Kingdom of God



SOUTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE



CONTENTS

- 3 The Team
- 4 The Mission & Values
- 5 The 4 E's
- 6 Investing in Innovation
- 7 Pastoral Resources
- 8 Intentional Mentorship
- 9 Top 10 & Job Tips
- 11 Compensation & Benefits
- 12 Area Map & SECC Stats



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THE MISSION

The Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists' mission is to expand God's kingdom through the preaching, teaching, publishing, and living of the everlasting gospel by women and men in the cross-cultural communities of our territory.

OUR VALUES

These values shape our mission and life together as a church.

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." —John 10:10, ESV

- We value the **COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS** that are affirmed and nurtured within our shared life in Jesus Christ and the participation of every member in the planning and implementing of our ministries in churches, schools, and institutions.
- We value cross-generational and multicultural ministries and seek leadership and engagement in **INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY** from every person within our community



"Expanding the Kingdom of God."

- We value the growth and development that comes with discipleship and embrace a **CULTURE OF LEARNING AND DISCOVERY** as we embody the hope and promise of the gospel in our ministries and our individual lives.
- We value and accept our calling to be the body of Jesus Christ and locate within our **LOCAL CHURCHES** the resources to live hopefully and faithfully and bear witness to God's saving grace and the everlasting gospel.

- We value the circle of fellowship and family that encircles the globe and regard our role within the sisterhood of churches as a sacred opportunity to model inclusion and acceptance within our **WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY**.
- We value all people as **DAUGHTERS AND SONS OF GOD** and find within the church a community that nurtures and serves each of us, even as it insists that we encourage and serve our everyday life in Jesus Christ.
- We value the sacred gift of the Holy Spirit, sent by Christ for our comfort and guidance, and are **PERSISTENT IN PRAYER** and honest in seeking God's presence, even as we seek to bless the communities that God calls us to reach with love and grace.



THE FOUR E'S

A Compass for our Future: With our eyes fixed on Jesus, the One True North, we move forward into the future, following Jesus step-by-step and attentive to the Spirit's leading.



- We **ENGAGE** next-generation leaders as a welcoming Christian community.
- We live out our calling to **EVANGELIZE** in new and creative ways, intentionally participating with love and grace in the shared life of our communities.
- We **EDUCATE** for lifelong faithfulness and success, embracing the highest standards of academic excellence.
- We **EQUIP** members of every age to embrace their calling to mission and service, empowering discipleship.

CENTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & EVANGELISM

At SECC, we believe in the power of relationships and mentorship. Our new center is designed to facilitate a transformative experience where pastors actively disciple lay leaders.

To join any class at our new center, you'll need to start with our foundational course, Discipleship 101. This course emphasizes living out an intentional relationship with Jesus, which flows naturally into how we live our lives and share our faith with others.



We offer a Community Worker and Bible Worker track and are adding a Youth Worker and Church Leadership track. At the end of the program, students will receive a certification from us, and we are partnering with other academic institutions to add additional value.

The Center is launching soon!

PASTOR MEETINGS

Three mandatory annual meetings for the conference pastors:

- **All Pastors Meeting:** A comprehensive gathering of pastors from the five counties, focusing on housekeeping and business matters.
- **Pastor & Teacher Health Day:** A gathering at Drayson Center for fellowship and exercise together.
- **Professional Development Day:** An opportunity for Pastoral Enrichment: A day where guest speakers delve deeply into specific topics, empowering pastors with enhanced skills for ministry. Previous topics included "Adaptive Leadership with 'Canoeing the Mountains'" by author Tod Bolsinger and "SDA History at a Glance" by Ty Gibson.



PASTORAL RESOURCES

Invest in Pastoral Growth and Education

We believe in fostering lifelong learning among our pastors. To support this, we allocate \$350.00 annually for pastors to attend conferences and engage in other learning opportunities.

Furthermore, we offer an M.Div. program for pastors with undergraduate education, as well as the opportunity to pursue a D.Min degree with two thirds of the cost subsidized.

An Unhurried Life

- *The Journey:*

A distinctive retreat program provided free of charge to our pastors and their families. This cohort-based experience consists of six retreats spread over two years. designed to foster intentional growth in one's relationship with Jesus. Through The Journey, participants learn to live and minister out of the overflow of His life and grace.

- *Sabbatical:*

Our pastors have the opportunity to apply for up to three months, allowing for an extended time with God, family time, and personal and professional growth.



- *Quarterly Sabbaths:*

We encourage our pastors to spend one sabbath per quarter away from the church they pastor. This time is at their discretion whether they use it for a total rest day or to visit another church in the area.

Strengthening Pastoral Wellness

We offer counseling and coaching opportunities to support pastors and their families in their personal, professional, and mental well-being.

Get fit, get rewarded.

Log your exercise activity every month and receive financial reward at the end of the year!

INTENTIONAL MENTORSHIP

We prioritize mentorship within our organization. **The Ministerial and Youth Departments** are dedicated to engaging with pastors through intentional interactions, including meals and virtual and office appointments. Administrators actively reach out to pastors, offering support and guidance throughout their journey. Our conference's central location allows many churches easy access, making it convenient for pastors to visit. Administrators are readily available, providing a welcoming space for pastors to drop in, connect, and spend meaningful time together.

Our **Ministerial Associations** gather by geographical location, providing an opportunity for pastors to share a meal, engage in meaningful conversation, and pray together as fellow disciples and ministers of Jesus. While attendance is not required, we encourage you to join for fellowship, support, and connection with your peers.

Optional Pastor Cohorts: These cohorts are designed to offer pastors meaningful support and address their professional and personal development.



They meet three times a year and provide valuable opportunities for learning, connection, and growth. One ongoing cohort, led by Dr. Bryan Cafferky, focuses on equipping pastors with essential conflict resolution strategies to navigate challenges within their churches effectively.

Required Ordination Track Meetings:

The Ministerial Department offers guidance, mentorship, and a supportive community for pre-ordained pastors as they progress toward ordination alongside their peers. To aid in this journey, three structured meetings are scheduled throughout the academic year.

Pastors Connect:

Throughout the year, we provide pastors with opportunities to connect through fun activities, from skiing to paddleboarding, all while incorporating a spiritual emphasis, such as A Day Away with Jesus.

TOP 10

REASONS TO WORK IN SECC:

1. Relationship with Jesus is #1

priority: We support you taking time to be with Jesus.

2. We uphold our unique Adventist

witness: Lifting Jesus and the everlasting Gospel to the world.

3. Support for family life balance:

Taking moments to have quality time and care for family supports you in ministry.

4. Diversity: This conference respects and embodies diversity. From leadership to the way it's reflected in our churches.

5. Autonomy: There are not many required pastors' meetings. We let you pastor in the gifts God has given you.

6. Creativity & innovation are supported: Creative forms of evangelism are supported and funded.

7. Community: Many pastors have said they love the relationships they have built with colleagues, an area we continue supporting.

8. Location, Location: You have access to the beaches, mountains, and desert within 2 hours of drive.

9. Weather: Sunny Southern California, where you can be outdoors year-round.

10. Pastor Connect: Fun days and spiritual emphasis days where pastors connect with colleagues, have fun, and spend time with Jesus.

JOB TIPS

Resume:

- A reflection of who you are and what you have accomplished.
- Share interests, values, skills, etc.
- Customize what you've done around ministry: conference hire, school, local church, volunteer, paid, etc.
- Possible headings:
 - Resume Title (Your Name)
 - Summary of Qualifications
 - Education
 - Experience (directly related)
 - Other Experience/Volunteer
 - Skills
 - Honors/Awards
 - Professional References
 - References (on own page)

- **Cover Letter**

- Don't repeat what your resume says.
- Use it to flesh out what you've accomplished in more of a descriptive way.
- Share a few highlights and strengths.
- Keep it short, less than a page.

- **References**

- Go on their own page.
- Have at least three of them.
- Add name, email, phone number, and relation to you (supervisor, dean, professor, coworker, etc.).

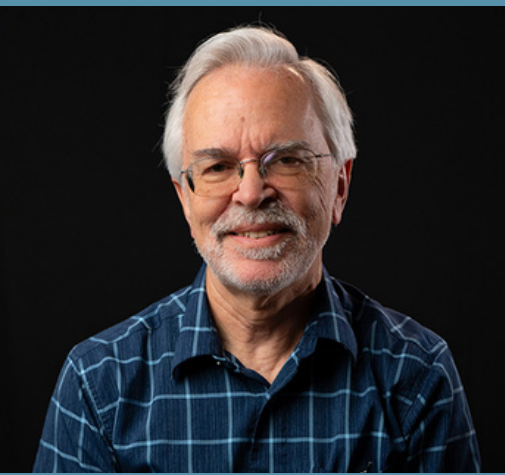
- **Interview**

- Dress professionally. First impressions are lasting.
- Use the PAR method when answering questions. Don't give hypotheticals. Share what you have already done.
 - **P - Problem.** Define a problem you overcame (project completed, a conflict, etc.)
 - **A - Action.** What steps you took to address it.
 - **R - Result.** What was the difference or value you added?

- **Helpful Links**

- [Quintessential Careers](#): Real New College Grad Resume & Cover Letter Job-Search Samples.
- [Resume Help](#): Professional Resume Builder.
- [Riley Guide](#): A great place to begin your interview prep
- [Quint Careers](#): Helpful tips and resources.
- [Job Interview Questions](#): Get help before you go interview on possible questions.





Compensation & Benefits

Living and working in Southeastern California Conference (SECC) has many lifestyle and personal benefits. However, getting paid and being taken care of are important additional benefits.

As an employee of SECC, your benefits will include:

- Full Medical Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Vision Insurance
- Education Allowance (for children)
- Paid Leave, including sick time and FMLA
- Confidential Counseling Sessions
- Payroll LTD (Long Term Disability) Insurance
- Wellness Payback
- Matched Retirement Investments

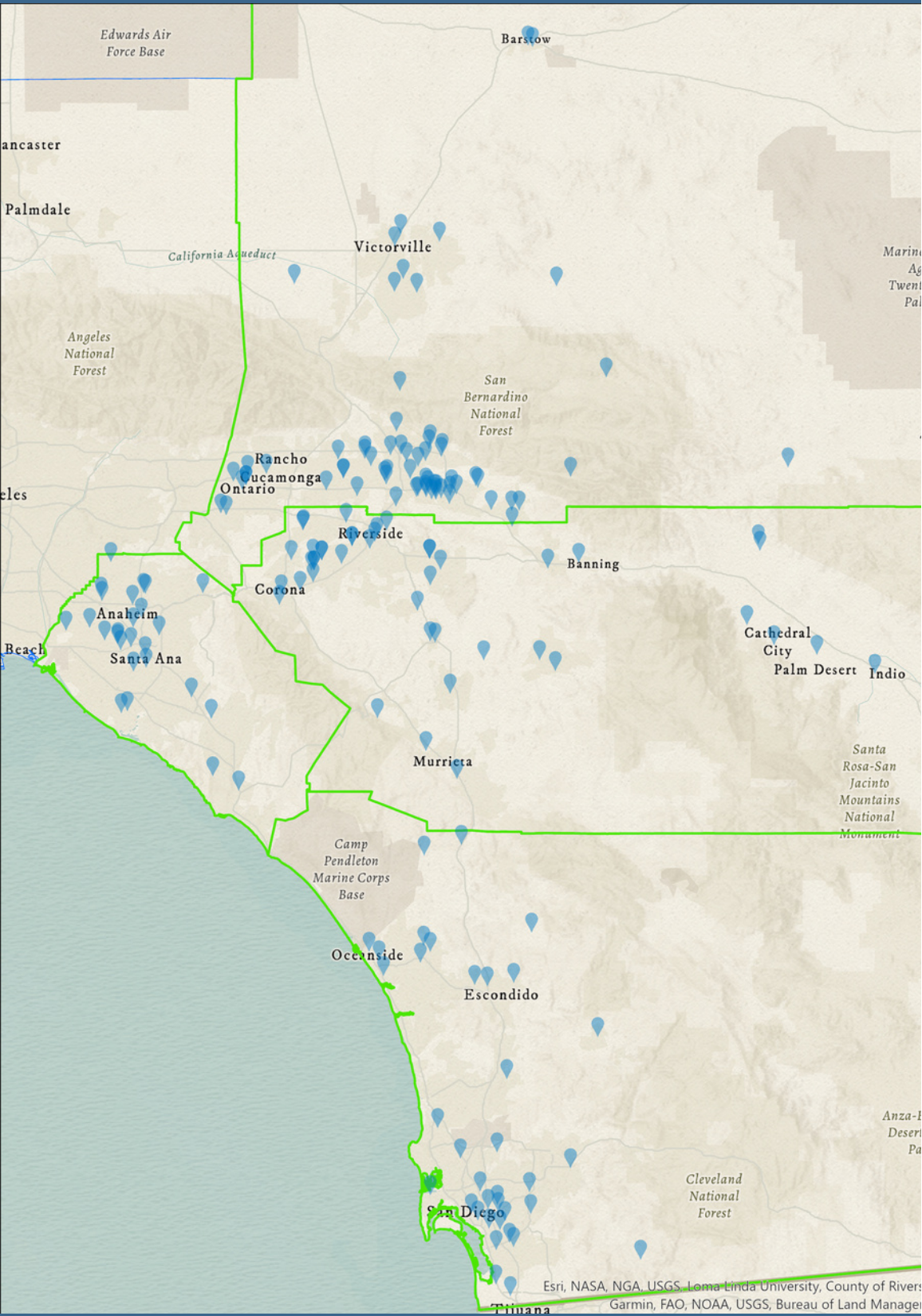
The compensation package includes*:

12-month \$55,605.68 to \$77,451.71

**Depending on the cost of living and experience.*



SECC Territory Map



SECC Statistics

- 27 Schools
- 214 Pastors
- 151 Churches
- 12 Companies
- 16 Groups
- 5 Counties
- 68,307+ Members