

# ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

## Rudy and Noemi Umali

Rudy (Rodrigo) and Noemi Umali are treasured, long-term members who have been a vital part of the Vallejo Drive Church family for close to 45 years. They transferred their membership from the Philippines in 1981, soon after arriving in the United States. Both hail from devoted Seventh-day Adventist families and were born on Luzon—Noemi in Biñan, Laguna, and Rudy in Lipa, about 30 miles apart. They both were baptized around the age of 10.



They both chose to study at Philippine Union College (now Adventist University of the Philippines). Though attending at different times, their shared commitment to Christian service determined their academic choices. Noemi earned a BS in Education to become an elementary teacher, while Rudy pursued a BS in Business Administration, preparing him for roles of financial stewardship.

Noemi dedicated two decades of her life to education, teaching elementary students, primarily in Adventist schools. Meanwhile, Rudy focused on financial ministry, serving in the South Central Luzon Mission (now Conference). He held several critical roles, including accountant, Assistant Treasurer, and Auditor at the Mission Headquarters in San Pablo City, before serving as Treasurer at the Lipa Adventist Academy.

Their paths first crossed in Lipa under unconventional circumstances. Noemi was teaching in a local school and boarding with a doctor’s family at a small Adventist clinic. Rudy, before going to PUC, was humbly working as the clinic's janitor.

Rudy was immediately captivated by the kind and beautiful teacher. Despite the vast difference in their social standing—a janitor pursuing a respected teacher—Rudy’s heart was instantly set on her. His determination was absolute. He persistently tried to win her affection, showering her with attention and writing heartfelt letters that consistently went unanswered. Noemi initially showed clear disinterest. When he was invited to a meal, she famously burned his pancakes, and she returned the chocolates he gave her, stating, "I don’t eat chocolate."

Despite the clear rejection, Rudy was not deterred, seeing her initial resistance as a challenge rather than a final verdict. His effort continued for nearly five years, even as Noemi was being pursued by another young man. Rudy also had powerful allies in his corner: the doctor’s family, who greatly admired his character and viewed him as their own son, and the mission president, a friend who believed the couple belonged together. The doctor’s wife explicitly told Noemi, “I would hate for him to marry someone else."

Noemi finally recognized Rudy's admirable character traits, especially his quiet persistence, endurance, and deep commitment against all odds. She began to see him as a viable marriage partner. They dated for about a year and were married in December 1971 and were blessed with three lovely children: Minette, William, and Rodrigo, Jr.

In 1980 the Umalis decided to emigrate to the US. They settled in Glendale, quickly finding a home in the Southern California Adventist community. Rudy secured an accountant position at Glendale Adventist Hospital for 20 years, followed by 10 years as a senior accountant for White Memorial Hospital. Parallel to Rudy, Noemi served in Nutrition Services at Glendale Adventist Hospital for over 25 years. They both retired in 2010 after decades of dedicated service.

The Umalis are an integral and cherished part of our Grace on the Hill at Vallejo Drive Church family. This has been their spiritual home for the last 45 years, where their children grew up, were nurtured, and served alongside them. Rudy and Noemi have served faithfully in various capacities, embodying the spirit of community and dedication. We thank God for this beautiful family.

As Noemi just celebrated her 90th birthday, we extend our warmest wishes: Happy Birthday and many blessings!

# WORSHIP

Prelude	Come Thou Fount (arr. Joel Raney)		Piano
Introit	I Sing the Greatness of our God (Bock) Chancel Choir & Organ		
Invocation	Pastor Aivars Ozolins		
Opening Hymn	Jesus Saves #340	Chorister, Cong, & Organ	
Responsive Reading	Psalms 106:1-6 NIV	Pastor Cindy Ramirez-Hui	
Children’s Feature	Pastor Anthony Paschal, Jr.		
Pastor Appreciation	Tribute	John Vigil & Elders	
Ministry Spotlight	Pastor Jonathan Henderson		
Welcome Greeting Time	Iris and Nathan Henderson Vallejo Drive Worship		
Praise and Worship	House of the Lord My Worship	Vallejo Drive Worship	
Garden of Prayer	Pastor Ben Garcia		
Prayer Response	Into My Heart (please remain kneeling)	Choir and Congregation	
Choral Anthem	Here I Am (Quintana)	Chancel Choir & Piano	
Sermon	“The Nation of Abraham: The Strangers”	Pastor Jonathan Henderson	
Musical Blessing	Great Is Thy Faithfulness	Ayanda Fuzane	
Benediction/ Worship in Giving	Pastor Jonathan Henderson		
Congregational Response	Let The Church Say Amen	Vallejo Drive Worship	
Postlude	The God of Abraham Praise (arr. Gordon Young) (please remain seated)	Organ	

Organist/Pianist: Haesung Park, DMA  
Chancel Choir Director: Helene Quintana, DMA  
Praise Team Director: Matt Daley, DMA

# PREACHING SCHEDULE

November 22, 2025: Pastor Anthony Paschal, Jr.  
November 29, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson  
December 6, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson

# CHURCH LIFE

**WELCOME AND HAPPY SABBATH!** Thank you for choosing Grace on the Hill at the Vallejo Drive Church as your place of worship. We pray that you will be blessed today.

**PASTOR APPRECIATION SABBATH:** Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after the church service as we celebrate our pastors.

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** Today’s flowers are in celebration of Pastor Appreciation Sabbath. Thank you Pastors for all you do for our church and our community.

**MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS IN (1<sup>st</sup> Reading):** Canson, Earl A IV, Earl Alden III, and Yara Marlen from Bakersfield Southside SDA Church; Cruz, Matthew and Franco-Cruz, Cynthia from Community Adventist Fellowship; Valderama, Majorie and Raymond from Crescenta Valley Filipino SDA Church; and Baity, Malcolm from Greensboro SDA in Greensboro, NC.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Our church family consists of not only those who attend our services in person, but also those who attend online. Hence, you may not recognize some of the names on the prayer list. Those are people from across the globe who have requested our prayers. James Takamune, Jacqueline Baptiste, Victor Salazar, Petra Rodriguez, Carole & Susan Lindner, Lisa, William Walker, Phil Chavez, Rob, Vlado Arsov, Wesley family, Roger Hernandez, Leo Vliores, & Trish Low and family.

**9:30 am SABBATH SCHOOL & 10:15 am MISSION FEATURE in CHAPEL**  
This Sabbath, Nov 15: “Annual Sacrifice Offering”

**AYANDA FUZANE CONCERT:** Nov 22 at 6:30 pm  
**THANKSGIVING SABBATH:** Nov 29 at 11 am  
**ANNUAL CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Dec 6 at 4 pm  
**CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD DESSERT NIGHT:** Dec 13 at 6 pm  
**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: THE CHRISTMAS STORIES:** Dec 20 at 5:30 pm

**ANNUAL PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE MINISTRY (Nov 1 - Dec 6):**  
Please stop by the Christmas tree with the angels to choose from our 42 children. Every child is allotted 2 gifts at \$25 per gift.

**QUILTING BEE FUND:** If you are unable to join us for our monthly Quilting Bee, please mark your envelopes “Quilting” or log on to [adventistgiving.org](http://adventistgiving.org).

**GENTLE CLOUD MINISTRY:** Need help with your phone, computer, or other tech gadget? Rene Alvarez, an IT expert, is volunteering to help those in need, mostly elderly, via phone. Please email him if possible at [renealvarez01@gmail.com](mailto:renealvarez01@gmail.com) or give him a call at 323-770-4108. We thank Rene for his generosity and willingness to help.

**GAA NEWS:** SO-Lux Candle Fundraiser for GAA Music Dept. Deadline for orders: Fri, Nov 21. Contact the school or Mrs. Victoria Mills for more details. 818-244-8671. Please continue to pray for and support Glendale Adventist Academy’s faculty, staff, and students.

CHURCH EVENTS

Sab, Nov 15	Pastor Appreciation Sabbath	11 am, Sanctuary
	Teensgiving	6 pm, Fellowship Hall
	Young Adult Friendsgiving	3 pm, see Pastor Anthony for location
Sun, Nov 16	Quilting and Pathfinders	9 am, Fellowship Hall
Tue, Nov 18	Laundry Love	5:30 pm, 1157 N Pacific Ave

MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

**FOOD BANK:** Come help feed those in need! To find out how to help in this ministry, please contact Pastor Ben. We are receiving food donations at church on Mondays & Fridays. Food Distribution: Mondays 2:30pm to 4 pm & Sabbath afternoons.

**HOME AGAIN LOS ANGELES (HALA):** Unhoused families are in need of food. Come help prepare dinner and to-go breakfasts on Dec 8-10! Contact Maite & Andrew Cervik at mcervik@abclaw.net

**LAUNDRY LOVE MINISTRY:** For those in need of laundry services: every 3rd Tuesday at 1157 N Pacific, Glendale. For more info, contact Doug at 818-935-4317 or Pastor Cindy.

**ADVENTURERS & PATHFINDERS** Adventurers (PreK-4th grade) and Pathfinders (ages 10+) meet on the 2nd and 4th Sabbaths, from Sept to June. [adventurers@vallejodrive.church](mailto:adventurers@vallejodrive.church) or text 818-571-2038

**TEENS4CHRIST:** T4C Hangout: A Friday after-school activity with games, snacks, and vespers for 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Fridays at 3 pm. [vallejodrive.church/T4C](http://vallejodrive.church/T4C)

**THE BEACON (YOUTH):** 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday: 6:30-9 pm: Glow @ The Beacon (Vespers) | 4<sup>th</sup> Friday: 6:30-9 pm: Bible Study

**YOUNG ADULTS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sabbaths of the month: Afternoon Bible Study | 3rd Friday: Joint Vespers with local churches | Canned Food Drive: Nov 1 - Dec 1, 2025

**EXERCISE OPPORTUNITIES**  
Come exercise with our Adventist Fitness Clinic on Sundays at 7am at Verdugo Park. Contact Irvin Henry Jr. at (818) 625-2952 for more information.  
During the week, join AHG LiveWell's Exercise program Mon 2:30 pm, Tues 10 am, Wed 10 am here at church! Contact Sara Neal at (818) 409-8354 on how to join!

**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY GROUPS**  
Mondays 7 pm on Zoom: Koinonia- led by Elder Doug Warner  
Wednesdays 6pm on Zoom: Seeking Jesus- led by Pastor Mark Papendick  
Wednesdays 7pm in-person: Bible Study- led by the Pastoral Staff

**HAVE A PASSION FOR TECHNOLOGY?** Join our Media/AV team & be part of bringing worship to life. Contact Mavis Cordero at 818-419-4429

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY:** Baby Quilts: Capable hands needed to complete baby quilts for GAH and USC GH NICU units. **Meetings 2025: Nov 16, Dec 21. 2026: Jan 18, Feb 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 28.** Contact Alma 747-215-0611 or Winna 818-919-9228 for more information. Sponsor a quilt for \$35!

**MUSIC MINISTRY REHEARSALS--everyone is welcome!**  
Praise Team: Contact Matt Daley for more info: [worship@vallejodrive.church](mailto:worship@vallejodrive.church)  
Bell Choir: Fridays at 7:15 pm in the Bell Room. Contact the church office for info  
Choir: Saturdays at 9:15 am, in the Choir Room. Contact the church office

CHURCH INFORMATION

**LISTENING DEVICES** are available at the Hostess Desk for guests who are hearing impaired.

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS** are available at the Hostess Desk for children ages 1 to 9. Please return them at the end of the service.

**HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES** are available for people with disabilities and the proper placards in our two parking lots: 4 spaces in our Holly Drive lot, 3 spaces in our Vallejo Drive lot, and 2 spaces right in front of our Sanctuary.

SABBATH SCHOOL

**KIDS CONNECTION at 9:45 am in Room 106 for 0-12 years old**  
Contact Audrey Zorek (818) 256-6147 | [kidsconnection@vallejodrive.church](mailto:kidsconnection@vallejodrive.church)

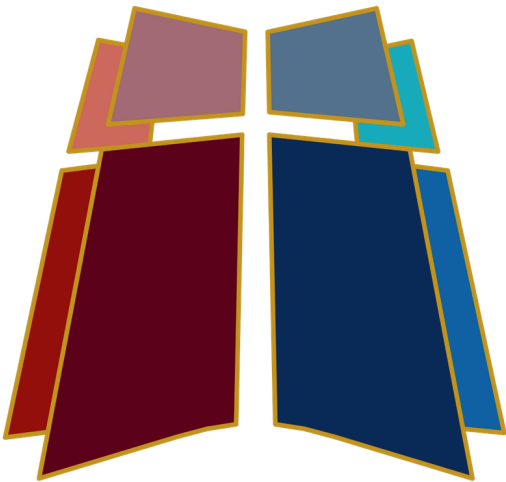
Beginners	Birth - 36 months	1st floor, Room 116A
Kindergarten	4 - 5 years old	2nd floor, Room 206A
Primary	1 <sup>st</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> grades	2nd floor, Room 202A
Juniors	4 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> grades	2nd floor, Room 208A

10 am: TEENS4CHRIST (Earliteens, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades) 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Rm 104A  
9:45 am: The Beacon (Youth/High School) 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Room 202A

10-10:45 am: Young Adult Sabbath School (Cafe)  
9:30-10:15 am: Adult Sabbath School Lesson Study (Chapel)  
10:15-10:45 am: Adult Sabbath School Mission Program (Chapel)  
9:45-10:30 am: Fellowship Hall Class (Fellowship Hall)  
9:30-10:50 am: Spanish SS/Escuela Sabática (1st Floor Room 104A)  
10-10:45 am: Gospel Conversations (Outside Hallway)

CONTACT US

Lead Pastor: Jonathan Henderson	747-291-8994	<a href="mailto:henderson@vallejodrive.church">henderson@vallejodrive.church</a>
Teaching/Care: Aivars Ozolins	818-928-9230	<a href="mailto:pastoraivars@vallejodrive.church">pastoraivars@vallejodrive.church</a>
Admin/Comm Services: Ben Garcia	818-424-4180	<a href="mailto:adminpastor@vallejodrive.church">adminpastor@vallejodrive.church</a>
Youth: Cindy Ramirez-Hui	818-246-2476	<a href="mailto:pastorcindy@vallejodrive.church">pastorcindy@vallejodrive.church</a>
Young Adults: Anthony Paschal, Jr.	818-246-2476	<a href="mailto:youngadults@vallejodrive.church">youngadults@vallejodrive.church</a>
Worship Director: Matthew Daley	818-246-2476	<a href="mailto:worship@vallejodrive.church">worship@vallejodrive.church</a>
Choir Director: Helene Quintana	818-246-2476	<a href="mailto:office@vallejodrive.church">office@vallejodrive.church</a>
Treasurer: Michelle Sharda	818-246-2476	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vallejodrive.church">treasurer@vallejodrive.church</a>
Admin Assistant: Anne Leah D. Guia	818-246-2476	<a href="mailto:office@vallejodrive.church">office@vallejodrive.church</a>



Grace<sup>on the</sup>Hill

@**VALLEJO DRIVE CHURCH**  
of Seventh-day Adventists

November 15, 2025

**“The Nation of Abraham:  
The Strangers”**

Pastor Jonathan Henderson

Vallejo Drive Church of Seventh-day Adventists  
300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale, CA 91206

Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday: 9am–6pm  
Phone: 818-246-2476 Fax: 818-246-0157  
[office@vallejodrive.church](mailto:office@vallejodrive.church)  
[www.graceunconditional.com](http://www.graceunconditional.com)