

Expanding the Kingdom of God



# SOUTHEASTERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

Portfolio



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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.

**"Expanding the Kingdom of God."**

# 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
- 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.

# INVESTING IN INNOVATION

SECC has initiated the "sanctified shark tank" to engage young people in our local churches. The initiative involved churches submitting project proposals to receive funding for projects designed to actively engage young people in carrying out the tasks, mentoring them to take ownership of the church, and impacted outreach.



Churches incorporated the six strategies outlined in the Fuller Youth Institute's book "Growing Young" into their project proposals.

Many of the churches created and carried out projects that began meaningful intergenerational dialog and collaboration within the church. Community outreach events, service to people in need, equipment purchases, and other crucial elements were made possible.

## PASTOR MEETINGS

Three 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 Equipping You

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.

## Encourage Time Away

*The Journey:* is 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.



It's important to note that sabbaticals are distinct from regular vacation time.

## *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.

## Invest in Your Mental Health

We provide *anonymous counseling coupons* so pastors and their families can use this resource.

## Invest in Your Physical Health

Get fit, get rewarded. When you log your exercise activity, you will be rewarded at the end of the year.

# INTENTIONAL MENTORSHIP

We prioritize mentorship within our organization. Both the Ministerial and Youth Departments are dedicated to engaging with pastors through intentional interactions, including meals, Zoom calls, and office appointments. Additionally, administrators actively reach out to pastors to support them on their journey. Our conference's central location facilitates easy access for many churches, and administrators are readily available for pastors to drop in and spend time with them.

**Ministerial Associations:** We have Ministerial Associations that gather by geographical location to share a meal, conversation, and pray together as fellow disciples and ministers of Jesus. They are not required, but we encourage you to attend for fellowship and connection.

**Optional Pastor Cohorts:** Our Optional Pastor Cohorts are designed to provide intentional support to our pastors, addressing both professional and personal needs. These cohorts gather



tree times a year, offering valuable opportunities for growth and development. One ongoing cohort is led by Dr. Bryan Cafferky, focusing on equipping pastors with effective conflict resolution strategies within their churches.

**Required Pre-Ordained Meetings:** The Ministerial Department offers mentoring, assistance, and a supportive community for pre-ordained pastors journeying toward ordination alongside their colleagues. Throughout the academic year, there are three scheduled meetings for this purpose.

**Pastors Connect:** Through out the year, we offer pastors opportunities to connect with each other doing something fun, from skiing to paddleboarding and having a spiritual emphasis, 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.

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.

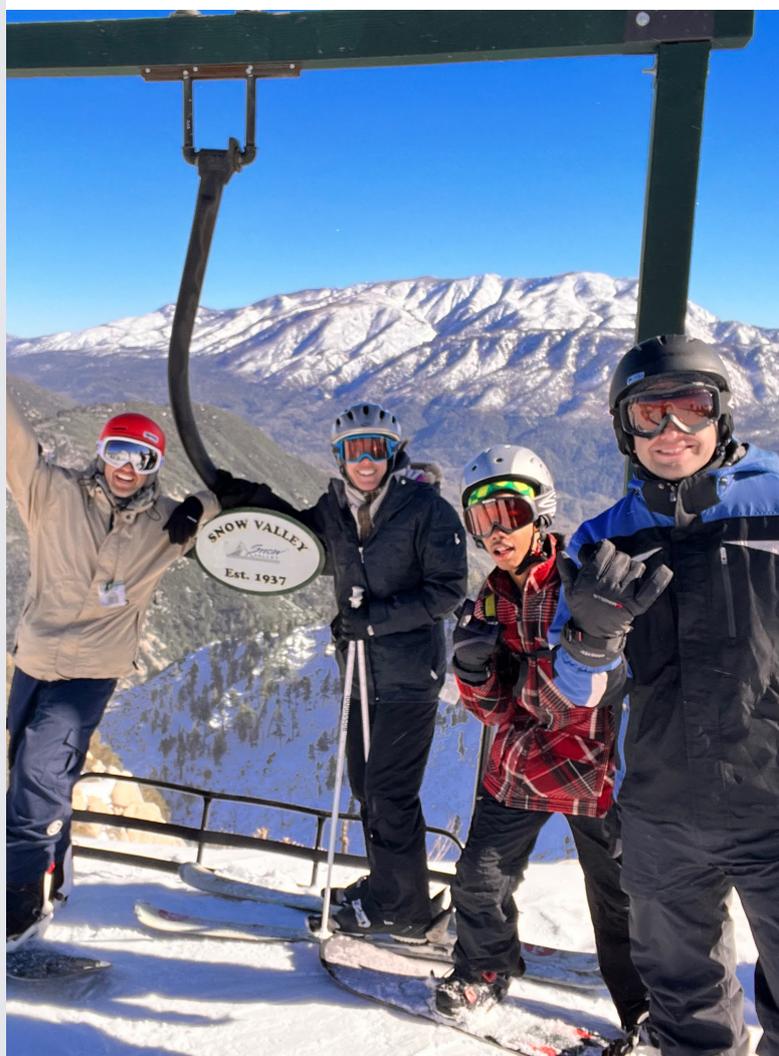
### 10. Pastor Connect:

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

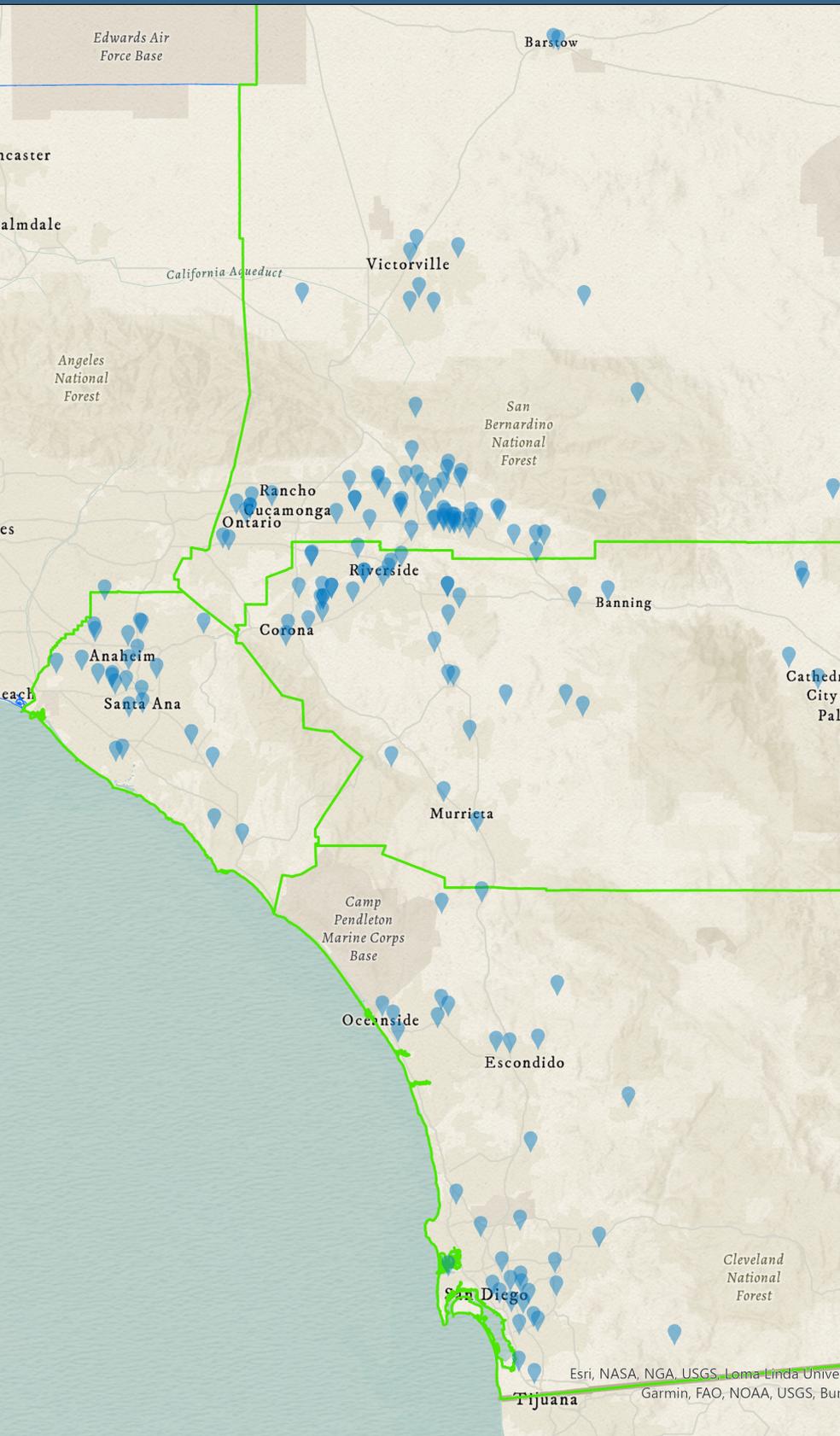


The compensation package includes\*:

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

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

# SECC Territory Map



# SECC Statistics

- Schools - 27
- Pastors - 214
- Churches - 151
- Companies - 12
- Groups - 16
- Counties - 5
- Total Membership - 68,215
- 2022 Tithe - \$64.8 Million

