

ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

Kelly Kessinger

Kelly Kessinger was raised in the quiet strength of a devout Indiana home, but her life would become a masterclass in navigating storms. After moving to Central California, she met Robert, a nurse and third-generation Adventist. Their friendship blossomed into a marriage blessed with four children, yet as they navigated the complexities of faith, they found themselves adrift, lacking a shared spiritual anchor.

God's first "wink" arrived during a moment of sheer parental exhaustion. Overwhelmed by the logistics of collecting four children from four different church events simultaneously, Kelly realized they desperately needed a single church home. A week later, a knock at the door revealed an invitation to a new church plant: The Ark. When her daughter Piper eagerly asked to return the following week—having already been cast in the Christmas program—Kelly saw the hand of Providence. Soon, the entire family was baptized and joined a community that truly felt like home.

Yet, God was calling Kelly out of the shadows. Her pastor suggested she become a Bible Worker, a thought she resisted due to her natural shyness. During a seminar on divine calling led by Pastor Elizabeth Talbot, Kelly pleaded fervently with God for direction. The answer in her heart was immediate: I want you to be a Bible Worker. Still wrestling, she finally surrendered, but with a "fleece" laid before the Lord. She asked for three specific signs: a direct call from the pastor, the head elder's approval, and the assurance that she wouldn't be alienated if she failed. Within a week, the pastor and elder were in her living room offering the position with those exact terms.

Kelly's "yes" launched a decade of spiritual growth. She balanced motherhood with an MA in Pastoral Ministry from Andrews University and transitioned into hospital chaplaincy. But in 2020, her world was upended. Robert was struck by Guillain-Barré Syndrome, leaving him paralyzed and Kelly as his sole caregiver. The provider became the patient. The ultimate test came in a shadowed hospital room when Robert contracted sepsis. During his final hours, Kelly and their children stood by his side. In a final mercy, Robert remained alert, allowing them to whisper their love before he fell asleep in Jesus.

Left with raw grief, Kelly took a job at a hospice. Friends feared the environment would break her, but it became a "double blessing." Her own scars allowed her to walk intimately with the dying, and their journeys helped heal her own heart. When she prayed for a new door, God opened a position at Adventist Health Glendale just nine months after her loss. The move to Glendale was a leap of faith. Kelly began "church shopping," eventually wandering into Vallejo Drive. Still carrying the weight of her loss, she tried to stay in the shadows, slipping in and out of the pews unnoticed. She wanted to be a face in the crowd, but God had other plans. When Pastor Mark Witas joined the hospital's chaplaincy team and began attending Vallejo, he shared her calling with the congregation. The "invisible" chaplain was revealed.

Today, Kelly has found her "Grace on the Hill." She no longer hides. Having earned her MDiv and now serving as a Senior Chaplain and Interim Director at the Simi Valley Adventist Hospital, she is slated for ordination this year. Kelly carries her scars not as a burden, but as a bridge to those in their own valleys. Her life is a vibrant invitation to trust: that even when the path is hidden and the pain is real, God is good, His provision is sure, and the Anchor always holds.



WORSHIP

Prelude	<i>Rondeau</i> by Joseph Mouret	Organ
Introit	<i>I Sing The Greatness of Our God</i> by Fred Bock	Chancel Choir & Organ
Invocation		Pastor Aivars Ozolins
Opening Hymn	<i>Marvelous Grace #109</i>	Chorister, Choir, Organ & Congregation
Responsive Reading	Psalm 139:1-8	Frank Preciado
Children's Feature		Teresa Bergman
Welcome Greeting Time		Tramel Family Grace Hill Worship
Praise and Worship	<i>Again I Say Rejoice</i> <i>Trust In God</i>	Grace Hill Worship
Garden of Prayer		Ash Reynolds
Prayer Response	<i>For Thine Is The Kingdom</i> (please remain kneeling)	Grace Hill Worship & Congregation
Choral Anthem	<i>Nothing But The Blood of Jesus</i> <i>arr. Craig Courtney</i>	Chancel Choir & Piano Antonella Quintana, violin
Sermon	Z A C C H A E U S	Pastor Anthony Paschal, Jr.
Worship in Giving/ Benediction		Pastor Anthony Paschal, Jr.
Congregational Response	<i>The Blessing</i>	Grace Hill Worship & Congregation
Postlude	<i>Toccata on "O Filii et Filiae"</i> by Lynnwood Farnam (please remain seated)	Organ

Organist & Pianist: Haesung Park, DMA
Worship Team Director: Matt Daley, DMA
Guest Chancel Choir Director: Ernesto Herrera

PREACHING SCHEDULE

April 25, 2026: Pastor Jonathan Henderson
May 2, 2026: Pastor Jonathan Henderson
May 9, 2026: Chaplain Kelly Kessinger
May 16, 2026: Pastor Jonathan Henderson

CHURCH LIFE

WELCOME & 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.

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS IN (2nd Reading and VOTE):

Holmes, Timothy Kent from Mt. Rubidoux SDA Church in Riverside, CA
Vedamani, Sylvia from Mt. Rubidoux SDA Church in Riverside, CA
De la Cruz, Christian from Glendale Spanish SDA Church in Glendale, CA
Salinas, Ximena from Glendale Spanish SDA Church in Glendale, CA
George, Alister MD, The Place Adventist Fellowship Church, Newbury Park
George, Karen, The Place Adventist Fellowship Church, Newbury Park, CA

NEED SOMEONE TO PRAY FOR YOU? Stop by our Prayer Ministry table in the courtyard after the service and pray with one of our prayer volunteers.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: Today's flowers are in celebration of the Ozolins family birthdays. If you would like to donate flowers for a special occasion, please contact Anne Leah at the church office: office@vallejodrive.church

MOTHER'S DAY LUNCHEON: Please donate for our annual Mother's Day Luncheon on May 9. Mark your envelopes "Mother's Day" or donate online under "Sabbath Hospitality Special Fund." Deadline to donate is end of April.

GRADUATION SABBATH JUNE 6, 2026: Class of 2026, please submit your name, school, level, and picture to office@vallejodrive.church. Deadline: Thu, May 28. Congratulations!

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. Please pray for the Gomez family, Christine Yefremian, Lindner family, James Takamune, Angela Britton, Petra Rodriguez, Alice Nassimian, Christina Bustos, Sofia Almago, Shirley Collins, Kimberly Lee, Trish Low and family, Wesley family, Jacqueline Baptiste, Lailyn Anyayahan, Crystal Vines, and James Alexander.

9:30 am SABBATH SCHOOL & 10:15 am MISSION FEATURE in CHAPEL
Lesson Study 9:30 am: Barry "T" McGregor | Special Feature: Janette Allen "My Audacious Prayer"

PHILIPPINES MISSION TRIP REPORT: The coordinators of Mission Tuguegarao Philippines want to thank the church board and members of Grace Hill at Vallejo Drive Church for the wonderful support, prayers, and donations to the mission trip. With your support and God's blessings, 30 people accepted Jesus as their Savior through baptism.

GAA NEWS: Please continue to pray for and support Glendale Adventist Academy's faculty, staff, and students. For information, call 818-244-8671.



Please scan the QR code to indicate how you would like to support our church community.

CHURCH EVENTS

Sun, April 19	Quilting Bee	9 am, Fellowship Hall
Sab, April 25	Footwashing and Communion	11 am, Sanctuary
Sab, May 9	Mother's Day Sabbath Heritage Singers Concert	11 am, Sanctuary 4 pm, Sanctuary
Sab, May 16	Music by Glendale Academy SCC EQUIP 2026	11 am, Sanctuary 3 pm, Church Campus

MINISTRIES & OUTREACH

FOOD BANK: Set up: Mondays & Friday afternoons | Distribution to Community: Monday & Sabbath afternoons. See Pastor Ben for more details.

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 seniors, via phone. Please contact him at renealvarez01@gmail.com or 323-770-4108.

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@vallejovalleydrive.church or text 818-571-2038

TEENS4CHRIST: T4C Hangout: A Friday after-school activity with games, snacks, and vespers for 6th- 8th graders. Fridays at 3 pm. vallejovalleydrive.church/T4C

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

YOUNG ADULTS: 2nd and 4th Sabbaths of the month: Afternoon Bible Study | 3rd Friday: Joint Vespers with local churches

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 AdventistHealth Glendale's LiveWell's Exercise program on Mon 2 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 5pm on Zoom: Seeking Jesus- led by Pastor Mark Papendick
Wednesdays 7pm in-person: Bible Study- led by Pastor Jonathan and Pastor Aivars

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 2026: April 19, May 17, June 28.** Contact Alma 818-254-6829 or Winna 818-919-9228 for more information. Sponsor a quilt for \$35! Unable to join us on Sundays? Donate by marking your tithe envelopes "Quilting" or via AdventistGiving.org and select Women's Ministry.

HAVE A MUSICAL TALENT? COME SING OR PLAY WITH US!

Praise Team: Contact Matt Daley for more info: worship@vallejovalleydrive.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 for info

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.

CHURCH FINANCES

Year to Date: April 16, 2026

Total Local Church Giving	\$278,618.15
Total Local Church Spending	\$275,117.28
Budget Giving (incl. in local)	\$136,329.49
Budget Spending (incl. in local)	\$157,587.86
Tithes Received 2026	\$413,224.43
Tithes Received 2025	\$300,250.60

SABBATH SCHOOL

KIDS CONNECTION at 9:45 am in Room 106 for 0-12 years old

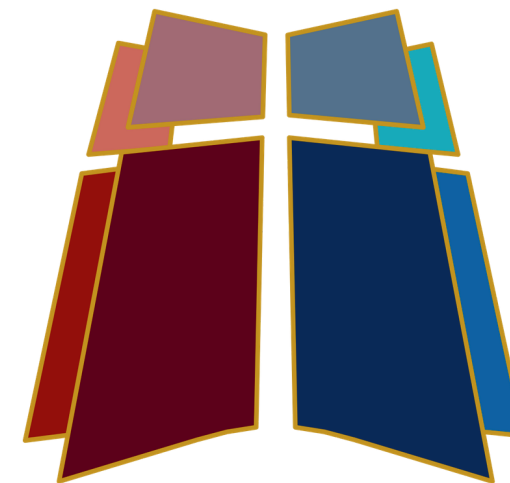
Beginners	Birth - 36 months	1st floor, Room 116A
Kindergarten	4 - 5 years old	2nd floor, Room 206A
Primary	1 st - 3 rd grades	2nd floor, Room 202A
Juniors	4 th - 5 th grades	2nd floor, Room 208A

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

10-10:45 am: Young Adult (YA) 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	henderson@vallejovalleydrive.church
Teaching/Care Pastor: Aivars Ozolins	818-928-9230	pastoraivars@vallejovalleydrive.church
Admin/Comm Services: Ben Garcia	818-424-4180	adminpastor@vallejovalleydrive.church
Youth Pastor: Cindy Ramirez-Hui	818-246-2476	pastorcindy@vallejovalleydrive.church
Kids Conn/YA Pastor: Anthony Paschal, Jr.	818-246-2476	youngadults@vallejovalleydrive.church
Worship Director: Matthew Daley	818-246-2476	worship@vallejovalleydrive.church
Choir Director: Helene Quintana	818-246-2476	office@vallejovalleydrive.church
Treasurer: Michelle Sharda	818-246-2476	treasurer@vallejovalleydrive.church
Admin Assistant: Anne Leah D. Guia	818-246-2476	office@vallejovalleydrive.church



Grace on the Hill

@VALLEJO DRIVE CHURCH

of Seventh-day Adventists

April 18, 2026

ZACCHAEUS

Pastor Anthony Paschal, Jr.

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

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