

Working Headline: “Celebration of Creation” Coming October 24  
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Seventh-day Adventists believe in the Creator God of the Bible and the Biblical account of a recent six-day creation. The creation and the Creator will be specially celebrated on Friday and Sabbath October 23 and 24 in the Loma Linda University Church. Speakers at this “Celebration of Creation” event will include faculty from Loma Linda University, Andrews University and Southwestern Adventist University as well as special guests from the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and others. The event will be broadcast live from the University Church on the Hope Church Channel and rebroadcast later on the Hope Channel.

“The ‘Celebration of Creation’ is a not-to-be missed symposium offering a unique opportunity to understand the Biblical account of origins,” says Gerry Karst. Elder Karst is a Vice President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Chair of the “Celebration of Creation” sponsoring Faith and Science Council. The organizing committee is chaired by Randy Younker, professor of Biblical Archaeology and director of the Institute of Archaeology Siegfried H. Horn Museum at Andrews University. According to Dr. Younker, “Presentations at the ‘Celebration of Creation’ will be made by a group of scientists and theologians whose research has focused on the key issues of origins that many church members have been eager to explore.”

For those who fear dry academic presentations on the subject, Loma Linda professor of biology and paleontology Leonard Brand promised that, “The presentations are designed to flow smoothly along; we don’t expect to see the audience going to sleep.” Ted N. C. Wilson, another vice-president of the General Conference, reiterates this point, “The ‘Celebration of Creation’ promises to be a very exciting and spiritually uplifting event. It will focus on our bedrock belief in God as the Creator with the power to accomplish the creation in six literal, 24 hour, consecutive days of recent origin.”

Seventh-day Adventist doctrines are spelled out in a statement of 28 fundamental beliefs. The sixth of these beliefs is the creation. It states in part, “God is Creator of all things, and has revealed in Scripture the authentic account of His creative activity. In six days the Lord made ‘the heaven and the earth’ and all living things upon the earth, and rested on the seventh day of that first week.” Because God rested on the seventh day of the creation week, Adventists follow the Biblical commandment to also rest on the seventh-day Sabbath and “remember” that He is the creator of all things. In one sense the “Celebration of Creation” on Sabbath, Oct. 24 is a special example of what Adventists are called to do each Sabbath.

Presentations in the University Church and broadcast on the Hope Church Channel begin at 7:00 PM on Friday evening October 23 with topics covering the foundations of Adventist faith. What reasons are there to believe in the recent six-day creation of the Bible? How do worldviews impact our interpretation of the evidence? And how can evidence from science be reconciled with the Biblical record of history? As the “Celebration of Creation” continues, there will be opportunities for questions and answers and even free food on Sabbath evening for the first 600 attendees.

“We have held conferences in the past that explore alternatives to the Adventist doctrine of creation,” says Timothy Standish, a research scientist at the Geoscience Research Institute. “As Adventists, we know we don’t have all the answers to all the questions, but we do have some very good answers to some questions and the Biblical creation is an answer worth celebrating. The ‘Celebration of Creation’ is an opportunity for us to unite together in praise and worship of our awesome Creator God.” Ted N. C. Wilson adds, “As Seventh-day Adventists, we believe that the culmination of the creation week with the Sabbath is of profound importance, not only to our present worship of God, but also to our belief that the Sabbath is the sign and seal of God’s people at the end of time just before Christ’s soon return. The ‘Celebration of Creation’ will provide faith-affirming presentations from scientists, theologians, and others who base their faith on the Biblical account of creation. As you attend these meetings, you will be encouraged as God is lifted up as our Creator.”

All meetings will be held in the Loma Linda University Church at the corner of Campus St. and University Ave. The first presentation begins at 7:00 PM Friday October 23, followed on October 24 with presentations at 10:00 AM, 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM. Those interested in more information can visit [www.fscsda.org](http://www.fscsda.org).