

Pastor's Newsletter – November 6, 2009

Dear Saint!

We are still developing this email newsletter list, and we hope by next week that it will combine all of the lists we have access to. Spread the word, encourage people to give us their email addresses, because this is the cheapest and fastest way to communicate with everybody!

I continue to just be blessed and excited as I meet more of the incredible people of Garden Grove. Dinner with Bob and Carol Meckstroth. Sherbet with Hugo and Yolande Leon. Birthday party with the Ramkissoon's, Thomas', Ito's, Newen/Ahn's, all just terrific people, with a great passion for this church.

So far I have met with: Our new Worship Committee; Nominating Committee; Church Board; Finance Committee; Video Committee; Website Committee; Elders; Youth and Young Adults; and SS Council. Next Sabbath, the 14th, we will have a potluck with the Deacons and Deaconesses, and with the Spanish group in our church. On the 21st the Evangelism and Health Committees. We'll fit the others in somewhere! Every group is excited, taking what has already been done and then getting ready to jump up to the next level.

THIS SABBATH:

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS: 20 in Young Adults last Sabbath! 9:30 food again in the morning, then the band and Praise Team joint worship at 9:45, separate lesson study: Young Adults with Pastor Ruben Escalante, in the Youth Chapel; and the high school Youth in the Library with Silvino Briceno.

WORSHIP SERVICE: Gathering songs, 10:50. Special Readers' Theater. Message by Pastor Ritchie Pruehs.

AFTERNOON: Youth, Pathfinders, Adventurers, Thanksgiving Can Ministry.

VIETNAMESE GROUP: I will be speaking for their "The Gift Goes On" service at 3:30.

KNOCHE MEMORIAL SERVICE: 5 pm, Sanctuary. Keith Knoche, pastor here for ten years in the '80s, passed away two weeks ago. The family has honored us by choosing Garden Grove, the last church he pastored, to be where they will come to remember him. His friends and family are coming from all over to be with us, and I hope that our church will all come out to remember a very special man, whether you were here during his time or not. It will be followed by our regular potluck reception in the Fellowship Hall, instead of at lunch time. I will be having the brief homily in the service.

My favorite Garden Grove moment this week? The Conference Youth Department invited all of the youth leaders from each of the Orange County churches to meet at Hometown Buffet in Anaheim Tuesday night for training, organization, and inspiration. Amanda Johnston put out the word from the office. I had a conflict with Worship Committee, but needed to eat somewhere anyway, so slipped by for a few minutes. Here was Moenau Rivera, Garden Grove. Then I came. Garden Grove. Then Joel Tameifuna. Garden Grove. Then Lesieli and Setaita Tameifuna. More Garden Grove. And that's all there was! Out of 19 churches, Garden Grove was the only church that showed up! And we had 5 there! We learned from Erick Penick, but he also learned that Garden Grove is committed to having the best, more alive youth and young adult ministry in Orange County! Proud to be from Garden Grove!

God bless you all, have a great weekend!

Pastor Dan