

Pastor's Newsletter – Nov. 20, 2009

Dear Saint!

If you are ever tempted to doubt that there is a God, doubt no more--because the butterflies flew last Sabbath. They came overnight in a box packed with ice from Florida. I had to change the ice several times, we followed the instructions exactly--but it was supposed to be 70 degrees, and we were right on the border! I just stood there praying that at least one butterfly would fly--with over 200 standing there watching and waiting--and they flew! It was church and worship at its best.

I am just totally blessed with the terrific and wonderful diversity of our church! Just this week I have eaten Indian, Thai, Italian, and Mexican! In past weeks I have added Korean and Vietnamese and Japanese to my repertoire! It is a taste of what heaven will be like, and I just revel in it! We're proud to be part of it.

THIS WEEKEND:

TONIGHT: FRIDAY NIGHT ALIVE, 7:30 pm, Open Mic Night, in the Fellowship Hall. I'll be heading down there in just a little bit.

SABBATH MORNING: Youth and Young Adult Breakfast, 9:30, Music 9:45. Ruben Escalante, Jr., a practicing attorney, will be leading the Young Adult discussion, I've gotten a sample, you shouldn't miss this! And don't forget that all SS's are focusing on starting at 9:30 am, so families can come all at one time and spread out to their various departments.

WORSHIP SERVICE: 10:50 am. Children's Church is joining us this Sabbath, because there will be an Adventurer's Induction Service at the beginning of the Worship Service. Over 20 children have already joined Sandra Caldwell and her team, and they will come marching down the aisle during the Opening Hymn! There will be a lovely installation service, and they will be an active part of the whole worship. The service will be filled with highlights illustrating Romans 7, "LOVE GOD, AND DO WHAT YOU WANT!"

CANS: Adventurers, Pathfinders, and the Youth are asking that every family in the church bring a bag of canned goods, and bring them up to the platform during the designated song during the Gathering Hymns. Then the young people will go through the community after church and collect the bags that have been placed there by our neighbors, and brought back to our Community Service Center to be put into baskets for Thanksgiving for families. Take a picture, the platform is going to look very special.

POTLUCK: The potluck this Sabbath is for the Evangelism and Health Committees.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: The children and their families will be going to the Oak Canyon Nature Center in Anaheim after church.

THE GIFT GOES ON: The Vietnamese Group will be meeting at 4 pm Sabbath afternoon.

TUITION AID SALE: Thanks to a number of donors, we are closing in our commitment of \$9900 for nine GGrove Orangewood Academy students. If you haven't made a pledge yet, fill one out Sabbath--anything, \$10 a month, will help us finish this commitment. Then bring something for the sale Sunday, Nov. 22 in our parking lot, AND ESPECIALLY drop by and pick something up--it's for the best cause we can support!

CHURCH RENTAL: As you know, the Church of Christ that rented the GGrove church for many years moved to their own church in April, and that has caused some challenges with the Church Budget. But God led a new congregation to approach us, and the Church Board approved their request to begin renting our church on Sunday and other evenings beginning in December. We are still very seriously looking for another congregation to come in Sunday morning, listen for any leads. We want to be terrific partners in sharing our tremendous facility. Very careful protocols have been established to make sure that everything is protected and respected.

COMING UP: Women's Tea, Saturday night, Dec. 5, 5:30 pm. Women's Ministry also has an Adopt-a-Family outreach this week, contact Lizz Randall, lizzrandal@aol.com or the Church Office.

Happy Sabbath, everybody!
God bless--
Pastor Dan

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