

Pastor's Newsletter – March 19, 2010

Dear Saint!

In many SDA churches, the pastor will distribute a survey, asking people to rank what subjects they would most like to hear preached about in church. In every survey I have heard about—in every size church—in every part of the country—the most highly sophisticated (Loma Linda?), to the most simple country church—liberal or conservative—classical or contemporary music—the #1 choice is always: Last Day Events! We are Adventists—that's just who we are. Most came into the church through some sort of evangelistic meetings, and there is always a lot of second coming and “Countdown to the Showdown” preaching in most of our evangelistic meetings. And so people are looking for more of that in the church!

So tomorrow—will be about Last Day Events! “HEAVEN CAN'T WAIT!” As we begin to ramp up towards THE SEARCH and April 10, this sermon is part of my personal gearing up to preach evangelistic sermons—which is a different style than Sabbath morning! So come tomorrow, as I take on the challenge of preaching about last day events—but only from Jesus and the Gospels this time—no Daniel and Revelation, no 1 Thess., no beasts, no charts! I wanted to see if I could do it! Can we still be passionate about our Adventist message—and be absolutely proud and UNASHAMED? I think and hope you will hear a few different slants tomorrow.

WEEKEND SERVICES:

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS: 9:30 am for breakfast, 9:45 am Praise, 10:10 am Bible Study

SS CLASSES: New Class starting, tomorrow, 9:30 am, Fellowship Hall: Ron Reynolds is starting a new class, assisted by Dr. Merrill Schmidt, up in a corner of the Fellowship Hall. They are going to go through each book of the Bible, “LOOKING AT THE BIBLE BOOK BY BOOK,” asking the same question of each book—“What Does It Say To You About God?” They are committing to wrestling with the hardest questions: What does Creation say about GOD? What kind of GOD would expel Adam & Eve on their first offense? Does the flood tell us GOD is unforgiving? What kind of GOD would destroy all but eight? How could a loving GOD allow the killing of so many men, women, children, and even babies? They aren't looking to fill the class from people leaving other classes, but hoping that this class will interest some who may have been coming just for church, who are looking for something to sink their teeth into. Starts this week, Sabbath, March 20, 9:30 am.

DIVINE WORSHIP: 10:50 am-12:15 pm. Our Praise Team will start with the greatest second coming songs we know. We will also have a very fast-paced, 10-minute, high-energy panel discussion of the hottest Religious Liberty Church/State issues we are facing today. And then the sermon, “HEAVEN CAN'T WAIT!”

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: 11 am, in the Youth Chapel, with a potluck at 12 noon. (Asian, Indian, or your family's favorite dish!) The program is by Oscar and Zaidy Olivarria.

GRACE TEAM: 12:30 pm, in the front of the Sanctuary.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE: An absolutely crucial meeting, ready to nail everything down for THE SEARCH. We need EVERYBODY to be there, potluck, Fellowship Hall. The SPANISH GROUP will also be eating up there, and then joining to work on preparing the 6000 copies of Spanish literature that is ready to be passed out into the community.

THE GIFT GOES ON: 4 pm, with the Vietnamese Group.

PATHFINDERS - 6:30 pm, ADVENTURERS - 7 pm: Celebrating March birthdays, along with all the regular fun and educational activities. The camping trip to San Diego is next weekend, leaving at 2 pm. Call Sandra Caldwell, 562-773-9450.

EASTER: There is a truly unforgettable worship service being planned for Easter Sabbath, April 3. This is one of the best programs you can invite someone to, and then we can invite them from there to come to THE SEARCH.

LLBN: Several have asked me about my program on LLBN (Loma Linda Broadcasting Network). I had not planned on “promoting” it, but they want to know the times, so I got them from the station. For about 2 years I have had a 30-minute program called “FLAME OF TRUTH”. There is a song, and then I preach about a 22-minute sermon. I go over every few weeks and spend about 2 hours taping those messages. Here are the times: Monday—8:30 pm; Tuesday—10 am; Wednesday—6 pm; Thursday—12:30 pm; Friday—9 pm; Saturday—2:30 pm. LLBN is actually having to move from its current satellite (AMC-4 which is dying), to G-19. If you have a satellite dish you will need to have your installer move your dish to the new satellite (Frequency 11842; symbol rate, 22000; Polarity, horizontal; FEC, $\frac{3}{4}$). For more information you can call: 1-866-552-6881.

GOOD NEWS: Pastor Ted Sneed turned 80 on Tuesday! And Nadine Accongo is turning 85!

BAD NEWS: A funeral for Fern Johnson who used to attend is at 3 pm today at the church, and Ismael Bejarano died with a tragic heart attack Wednesday night. I understand the services are a week from Monday. I am on my way down there now.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL!

Pastor Dan