

Pastor's Newsletter – July 9, 2010

Dear Saint!

I am just sending out a quick note to all of you, so that you can know the special plans for this Sabbath. I have hated to miss two out of last three Sabbaths. Even though I was worshiping with huge Adventist audiences, with my brothers and many other long-term friends, it didn't feel spiritually "home"—that's now only in Garden Grove with you all!

SABBATH SERVICES:

POTLUCK: Let's start with that—make sure you plan to stay for our monthly potluck, pushed back a week so I could be here with all of you. It's the quickest way for me to catch up with everybody, so I hope you will all plan to stay, come up to the Fellowship Hall, and party! Bring your best "comfort food" and enjoy the best of a summer Sabbath by eating with us.

9:30 am - YOUTH BAPTISMAL CLASS—we will be back together again this Sabbath, right at 9:30, in my office. Do what you can to get all your young people there, for the 30 minutes we can be together before going to their regular SS.

9:30 am - SABBATH SCHOOLS

11:00 am - DIVINE WORSHIP—This service is filled with life and creativity, a wonderful summer worship service.

The sermon starts a new series on "Christ and Culture," and is titled: "THE WORLD—LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT!" We will look at the old question about how far as Christians and Adventists we can live in the real world, or do we need to draw boundaries and be as separate as possible in order to keep our faith, soul, and children pure from contamination. Since most of us can't move out into the country or "flee to the hills," what are we supposed to do? Can you go to school in a public school in the middle of a city, or should you go into debt and go to Weimar or Southern, far from the temptations of the world? Can you immerse yourself into the real world and somehow filter out the bad, or do you need wall it all out?

Because we have a new General Conference president, Elder Ted N. C. Wilson, who preached a momentous sermon as his "inaugural address" last Sabbath before 70,000 of us, I will try to share a little context for those of you who could not be there, integrated into the heart of the sermon. We will also try to have copies of his sermon there for those of you who have not had the chance to see or read it. We will also have copies of some of the documents put out by La Sierra University at their booth at the GC Session, with regards to the Creation and Evolution dialogue in the church.

12:30 pm - POTLUCK

4:00 pm - THE GIFT GOES ON, Fellowship Hall

We'll catch up with more news next week!

God bless you all, can't wait to see you again—

Pastor Dan