

Pastor's Newsletter – September 3, 2010

Dear GGSDA Saints!

I want to start by just quickly giving you a number of SAVE THE DATE notes: As we come to the end of summer and heading into the “Church Season,” there are some just terrific things coming that we hope you will put on your master calendar somewhere!

#1—APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY—SABBATH AFTERNOON, SEPT. 11. We have Dr. Bill Loveless coming, a great expert in leading churches through a strategic planning process that focuses only on what we appreciate about our church, our strengths, the gifts God has given us, and then begin to set up a Master Plan for the future of Garden Grove SDA Church. We are clearly on the move, and it seems the right time to ask ourselves to be ready for higher and higher stages. We are hoping that the whole church, young and old, will stay for the potluck and for a two-hour process in the Fellowship Hall, so we can “listen” to every age, every point of view. Come be a part of it!

#2—BEACH VESPERS—SEPT. 18, 5:30 PM--I’ve been here almost a year, we’re 20 minutes from the beach, and no beach vespers yet! So we set a date, the announcements of the details will come out later, but please save the date, and everybody come!

#3—OPEN HOUSE—OCT. 2, 6:00 PM—We are inviting everyone willing to drive to Riverside to come to an Open House at our home! I drive it that direction every day, we hope many of you will come at least once our way, see us in our place, and give us a chance to host you and hang out with you in our back yard. See my study out behind the house, and just come have some dessert and “be” with us! It’s 5690 Peacock Lane in Riverside, but we’ll send out directions as we get closer!

#4—SEARCH II—OCT. 15-30. The Evangelism Committee has asked that we come right back with SEARCH II! Just 3 weekends this time, in the Fellowship Hall, all oriented around the theme of Noah’s Ark and the Flood. We will have a debate, videos, an Ark replica, and all kinds of other extraordinary parts of this that will make it unforgettable. Debate the first night, a great concert by the Ambassadors from the Philippines the 2nd night, one of the best choirs in the Adventist Church, anytime, anywhere, doing both a sacred and secular concert around the message the first Saturday night—it is just going to be a great series. Think about who you can invite!

WEEKEND SERVICES:

9:30 am SABBATH SCHOOL: Somewhere find a SS class to be part of if you aren’t getting to one now. The Filipino group up in the Fellowship Hall is alive. I keep hearing about the hot discussions out in the Young Adults, taking a new look at the 28 Fundamental Beliefs—I’m going to try to get there more myself!. Great stuff everywhere.

10:55 am DIVINE WORSHIP: Praise, and a mission interview about our Bosnian Project, and then we begin a new sermon series: “YEA, GOD!” on the great attributes of God. Tomorrow we start with: “YEA, GOD, FOR YOUR POWER!”

How does God show His power, Why doesn't He show it more, How can we release more of it?

POTLUCKS:

Youth—Wallace's, right after church. Young Adults, saying goodbye to some of our young people heading off to college—at Tameifuna's, 1:00-4:00 pm.

GIFT GOES ON: 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall. Because the Vietnamese Group is up at the Vietnamese Camp meeting in Soquel this weekend, Shane Montessa will be showing pictures of the Adventist Heritage site, Adventist Village, in Battle Creek. Our own Tom Neslund is the President of this organization.

PATHFINDERS: They had a great turnout for registration this last weekend. Plans include Pine Springs Ranch, camping in San Diego, and our annual skiing/snowboarding trip! The first official meeting for Pathfinders and Adventurers will be September 25, 2010, at 6:00 pm, so it's not too late to sign up. There will be a table in the foyer after church. They are still looking for volunteers to help with classes and honors. The hiking will be postponed until Sept. 25, because leaders are going to their various training conventions. To sign up or get information: Alex Caldwell, Pathfinder Director, 562-899-1925; acwaverun@msn.com; Sandra Caldwell, Adventurer Director, 562-773-9450; scaldwell262@yahoo.com.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: “Your help is needed to participate in the ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) “ENDITNOW” Violence Against Women Campaign. There will be sign-up sheets in the church lobby this Sabbath only. Stop by and take a stand by signing the petition. Our signatures will join the thousands of others towards the goal of One Million Signatures. The plan is to present these signed petitions to the world council at the next United Nations Summit. If you'd like to read more about this endeavor, please go to: <http://www.enditnow.org/>.

Hope we can see you tomorrow!

God bless you all—
Pastor Dan