

GARDEN GROVE SDA CHURCH

Pastor's Newsletter

January 28, 2011

Dear Saints!

I wish you could see the large calendar the staff has put up in my office, with all the events that are planned for the year so far! There are options for every group almost every weekend. We had a couple looking for a wedding slot this week, and it isn't easy to find a free slot for them to get married in! We are blessed, and thank God for all the ministries that are beginning to truly flourish and find their niche in the overall ministry of GGSDA!

BIG PICTURE: The thrilling news has been the Financial Picture: Garden Grove received \$441,917 in tithe, a \$100,000 or 29% increase over 2009, and \$200,664, over \$16,000, or 9%, increase. We bow in grateful respect to all of you who sacrificed and stretched to make sure God and church were first in your life. Now the challenge is to continue the upward graph for 2011, because all this energy going into the church has costs with it!

SEARCH COMMITTEE: The Committee had its first meeting with SECC representation, outlining the job description for the new Youth/Young Adult Pastor. This coming Monday night we will get down to looking at actual names of potential pastors and their resumes, and choosing the top few to put on a "short list" to begin calling, checking references, and scheduling interviews. Please, please pray for this, and for the Committee, and for that pastor out there, that this will be a match that will be a great blessing to the Next Generation of our young people at GGSDA and in Orange County, and even at Orangewood Academy.

SUNDAY WORKBEE: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Sunday morning, Orangewood Academy. We need everybody! Deacons, youth who want service credit, everybody! I'll be there. We are cleaning up, painting, raking, something for everybody. Great snacks beforehand to get you started, lunch by the Home and School afterwards. No football playoff games are on, come and bless this school with a burst of energy to make the school pristine!

REVELATION SEMINAR: Two Tracks, One is Thursday night, 7:00 pm, Fellowship Hall, Supper at 6:30 pm. The Second Track is Saturday morning, 10:00 am to 10:45 am, Fellowship Hall. This will be an entirely fresh, contemporary reinterpretation of the book of Revelation, blending the traditional with some of the latest new insights and ways of looking at it, Christ-centered, character of God-focused, verse-by-verse through the entire book in 12 nights. Hope you can come to one of them! One of the best options to invite somebody to.

WEEKEND EVENTS:

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE: 7:30 pm Tonight, Youth Chapel, with Pastor Iki Taimi, always a favorite. Please encourage your young people to get there, bring them if they need a ride. FNL is going back into high gear, and starting out with the very best we can ever get. Pastor Iki can speak to this generation in a way that is awfully rare, every church I know, including us, has tried to get him to come be their youth or young adult pastor, he is just an awesome preacher.

SABBATH SCHOOL: 9:30 am--Youth, Young Adults, Children's Divisions, North Room, Vietnamese Group, Filipino Class, Lopez Landing Class--be in one of them, somewhere, to study and grow.

Pastor's "ISSUES" Class--Tomorrow, we finish the 28 Fundamental Beliefs--"INVESTIGATIVE JUDGMENT"--looking at all the questions that have come up over the last 30 years.

DIVINE WORSHIP: 11:00 am, with Praise at 10:50 am, a highlight special music, a little drama, and then:

MESSAGE: "FROM GOODNESS TO GREATNESS!"--Matt. 5:13-20.

How could Jesus say that people's righteousness would have to be even better than that of the Pharisees and the religious leaders, if they wanted to have any hope in getting into heaven? Hopeless?

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE / ELDERS BOARD: Potluck after church, Fellowship Hall

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: No meeting here tomorrow, everybody is joining Arlington: 6:00 pm, Saturday night, Arlington Church, 8778 Magnolia Avenue in Riverside--91, N Van Buren, E Magnolia, on right. Bands, dinner, and I have the message for this joining meeting. The Church Board voted this week that from Feb. 5 on, the Vietnamese Fellowship will meet Every Sabbath afternoon, from 4:00 – 6:00, Fellowship Hall

WORKBEE: Sunday, 8:00 – 12:00 pm, Orangewood Academy. Lunch provided.

OA Basketball: Girls Varsity game 6:00 pm Saturday night, Boys Varsity, 7:30 pm.

TAMEIFUNA LUAU: Lesieli and Setaita are putting on a great luau at their place, 4:00 pm Sunday, to raise money for their trip to Thailand. But you will get far more than you will give! Two for one, great food, great people, and help a great cause! Lesieli will be leading out in holding a VBS for the elementary kids, every night, at our Academy in Thailand, so we desperately need her to go! Setaita will be an anchor voice for the Praise Team for the evangelistic meetings over there in June.

MOVIE NIGHT: Moved from January 29 to February 5. Toy Story at 6:00 pm, Despicable Me at 8:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. This is a fundraiser for the Young Adults who are going to Thailand, \$1 per person, \$5 for a family, sit and watch these classics on a huge screen, great snacks, and for a great cause.

THURSDAY NIGHT: REVELATION SEMINAR, 7:00 pm, dinner 6:30 pm.

SABBATH, FEBRUARY 5: POTLUCK--Plan to come to the Church-wide Potluck, bring a dish that would cover the size of your own family, and one more, for our guests that join us.

MINIATURE GOLF: Saturday night, February 12, 6:00 pm. Sponsored by Family Life Ministry. And Laser Tag. Brochures will be at the kiosk tomorrow.

PATHFINDERS/ADVENTURERS: 6:30 pm Saturday night Feb. 5. Skiing and snowboarding, Sunday, Feb. 13, leave at 6:00 am from the church.

Got to get to the baptism at Orangewood! God bless you all!
Pastor Dan