

GARDEN GROVE SDA CHURCH

Pastor's Newsletter

February 2, 2011

My Friends!

For a number of reasons I need to send this out much earlier than usual this week, so that you can make plans for everything coming up! Please read it all the way down, because there are important items all through this Newsletter!

1. **REVELATION SEMINAR:** We start tomorrow night, Thursday night. Potluck Supper, 6:30 pm, Seminar 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm.

(1) It will be in the Fellowship Hall, with tables, notebooks, etc. Bring your Bible!

(2) Verse-by-verse, Christ-centered, future-focused!

(3) Fresh, contemporary. Opportunity for Q & A, Discussion throughout.

(4) Parallel Seminar Saturday mornings, 10:00 am to 10:50 am, Fellowship Hall

2. **POTLUCK:** We will be having our monthly Potluck this Sabbath, so we wanted you to have plenty of time to plan! In order to give our guests and those checking out our church the very best GGSDA has to offer, we would be thankful if many of you could bring a dish that could cover your own family, AND one more! It is my favorite event of the month, so please come, it's a great chance to "be" the church. Several of our groups will have their meetings during and afterwards. A couple small notes: Those of you with young children, we need to keep them eating and drinking inside the Fellowship Hall. Everywhere else is brand-new carpet! Plus the next Church is having their worship service, and we want to respect their space.

3. **2011 CHURCH BUDGET:** As we reported last week, Garden Grove had a wonderful year financially last year, thanks to all of you! But putting a budget together for 2011 was still a great challenge. As you all know we have to rent out our church facilities to four separate congregations, and that brings in nearly half of all our GGSDA income, in order to fund all that we are trying to do at Garden Grove--primarily to keep our maintenance up, and to help with the people we have on our staff--maintenance, children's choir, choir director, etc. Because one of the churches will be moving to their own facility this summer, we will lose about \$21,000 of income. The Pacific Chorale also moved into their own quarters a few weeks ago, and we lost another \$7,000. AND, because our subsidy for Orangewood Academy is 12% of our tithe, having an increase like we had last year means we get to give \$1,000 more a month to bless Orangewood! And so essentially we had to find a way to bridge almost \$40,000.

The Budget, the Board and Budget and Finance Committees have voted is balanced. It is based on \$15,000 a month Church Budget from our own members, up from \$14,000 a month the last half of 2010. It is about a 7% gain over last year. It took many hours of work to trim the budget down to that level! We hope it strikes the right balance between being "faith-based," stretching our church to do more for God in our community and for Orangewood, maintaining our facility in excellent condition--and being "prudent," living within our means.

We know that not many of us are getting a 7% pay increase this year! And so this will mean many of us will need to stretch more in faith, others who haven't been fully participating will need to step up, and we

will need to keep growing! And we would want to do all 3 whether we needed to or not, so that is no problem for GGSDA!

For those of you who don't really know what all the money goes for and how it all goes together: Last year we received \$200,000 in Church Budget. We are budgeting \$180,000 for this year, with the difference hopefully adding to our Reserves and helping with some major capital improvements we need to do this year with the AV system that is 25 years old! We should have \$165,000 in rental income, and about \$5000 interest income, making \$350,000 total income.

On the expense side: This Church Budget covers our subsidy to Orangewood Academy, more than \$45,000 a year. It covers all of our utilities and maintenance costs, which are very heavy for an older set of buildings. It covers our staff: Office Administrator, Treasurer (about 1/3 time), Facilities Manager (modest stipend), Outreach Assistant (Children's Choir, etc.), Choir Director, and Pianist. It covers all of the Sabbath School supplies. It gives a modest amount to many of our ministries--youth, young adults, women's ministry, Family Ministry, etc. etc. Everybody still has to raise money to do what they feel God wants them to do, but at least they have something to start with!

Anyway, please know that the committees met for many hours trying to make this Budget as streamlined as possible, but still with enough in it to support a thriving and flourishing and growing church, and to maintain our church as well as we can. If everybody now attending GGSDA contributes a faithful tithe, and puts in at least 3-4% of income to Church Budget, we can do this, and Garden Grove will continue to lead the ministry of the Adventist church in Orange County!

WEEKEND EVENTS:

SABBATH SCHOOL: 9:30 am, All regular SS Classes.

REVELATION SEMINAR: 10:00 am -10:50 am, Fellowship Hall

DIVINE WORSHIP: 11:00 am - 12:15 pm, Praise Songs begin, 10:50 am!! Really terrific guest singers coming this week.

MESSAGE: "GUARD YOUR HEART!", Matt. 5 and 6 in the Sermon on the Mount.

POTLUCK: Fellowship Hall.

Various Committees: SS Council, etc.

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: Now meeting weekly. 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall
TET (New Year's) Celebration and karaoke, Youth Chapel, 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm!

MOVIE NIGHT: 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall, see a classic like Toy Story 1 on a big screen, comfortable on the floor, bring a bean bag, chair, whatever you want, snacks--and help a good cause--helping some of our terrific Young Adults go to Thailand! The price is right, it starts at about \$1 per person!

ORANGEWOOD BASKETBALL: 6:30 pm Girls Varsity, vs. Newbury Park Academy, 8:00 pm, Boys Varsity, Senior Night.

PATHFINDERS / ADVENTURERS: 6:30 pm, Pathfinder Room.

TUESDAY NIGHT: COUNCIL, Long Range Planning for GGSDA, 7:30 pm, North Room.

THURSDAY NIGHT: REVELATION REVEALING, 7:00 pm, 6:30 pm Potluck Supper

SAVE THE DATE:

1. **Job Readiness Workshops**, Saturday nights 6:00 pm, March. Do you know anyone who needs a job? Our own Paula Hollmon has given these workshops numerous times all over Orange County, and now is offering to do them here. For more information call Paula: 714-534-1987; 888/527-1870. We hope this workshop will be a truly practical resource to anybody trying to find a job, or a better job. Please spread the word, give someone a brochure, or come yourself if you could use this help. Paula has been networking all over Orange County, and finding a lot of interest and support for this type of resource.

2. **Religious Liberty**: "Faith & Freedom of Conscience in an Age of Terrorism"--Sabbath, Feb. 5, 3:00 pm, Wong Kerlee Conference Center between Loma Linda University Medical Center and the University Church. General Brahm, staff Judge Advocate for the Commandment of the Marine Corps, and Dr. Roy Branson, Associate Dean of the LLU School of Religion, will dialogue about the connection between human rights, terrorism, and Adventism. I do not know the Judge Advocate, but I know Roy Branson, and this should be very interesting!

3. **MINIATURE GOLF / FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY**: Saturday night, February 12, 6:00 pm! Details will be announced next week. I'm coming, I'll buy ice cream for anybody who beats me, without cheating! (1 small scoop!)

4. **RUMMAGE SALE**: Sunday morning, February 20. Josh Tameifuna and the Young Adults are working together to have another rummage sale, this time to help our young adults get to Thailand. They just took some things from our house here in Riverside for the sale, and Randy Ito had Josh and Jim pick up some great items from a friend of his who was moving out. Donate what you can, AND plan to come by and find something you can use, and bless these young people who want a chance to go do evangelism, Week of Prayer, VBS, and construction in Thailand in June. Call the office if you need help transporting it to the church--714-534-1987.

MERCY HOUSE: A group of our members, many from YAM (Young Adults Ministry, have been volunteering to help at a homeless shelter in an armory. I will be going this coming Tuesday night, for the first time. They need 10 every time, and didn't have enough last night, so everybody had to work extra hard. If you can sign up for one of these nights, please let us know, email me, or Noemi Decena, or sign up Sabbath at the kiosk. It is 5:00 – 8:00 pm each time. Primarily you help set out the mats they sleep on, help serve food, etc. A great ministry. People are always asking me, What can they do to do some service for the community--this is as about a clear-cut option as I have ever heard of. I have been to Mercy House, it is a very impressive, comprehensive ministry to help the homeless in this area get taken care of, but then try to transition them out of that to a healthy, productive life.

Here are the nights:

Tuesday, Feb. 8 (10 needed, still need 7)

Tuesday, March 1 (10 needed, still need 7)

Tuesday, March 8 (10 needed, still need 8)

Saturday, April 2 (5 needed, still need 8)

Tuesday, April 5 (10 needed, still need 7)

PATHFINDERS ADVENTURERS:

(1) **Special Person's Day Flowers**--Be sure to stop by the Pathfinder table in the church foyer to pick up flowers or roses for your special person!!! We will be taking orders this Saturday, February 5, 2011, and distributing them next Saturday, February 12, 2011. If you are unable to place an order this Saturday, we may have a few extras you can pick up on February 12. Please place all donations for flowers in an offering envelope marked "Pathfinders" and place it in the offering plate during the offertory. Thanks!!!

(2) **Skiing/Snowboarding Trip**--Our annual skiing/snowboarding trip is right around the corner!

We will be leaving on Sunday, February 13, 2011 at 6:00 am, and returning on the same day at 6pm. Please contact Alex or Sandra Caldwell for trip details, including cost. Everyone is welcome, including non-Pathfinders, however. costs will be \$10 more for those who are not club members and a waiver must be signed.

(3) **Next Meeting:** Our next Pathfinder/Adventurer meeting is tonight, February 5, 2011 in the Pathfinder room from 6:30pm-8:30pm. We will be finishing up the Fossils Honor and preparing for our upcoming Kite Day Camping Trip, which is on the first weekend in March. We look forward to seeing you all Saturday night!

(4) **Contact Information:** Alex Caldwell: Phone-(562) 899-1925, [Email-Acwaverun@MSN.com](mailto:Acwaverun@MSN.com); Sandra Caldwell: Phone-(562) 773-9450, Email-scaldwell262@YAHOO.com

If you're still reading, I salute you! It's a lot, I know! But it's a sign of a thriving and flourishing church!

God bless you all!

Pastor Dan

If you would like to be added to Pastor Dan's weekly email newsletter list, submit your request to: pastordan@gardengrovesda.com