

GARDEN GROVE SDA CHURCH

Pastor's Newsletter

April 1, 2011

My friends--

How can we top last Sabbath, receiving and announcing this incredible gift of adding two new pastors to our pastoral staff?!! What an electric day. I still have a hard time believing and trusting it! Maybe I'll fully believe it, like Thomas, when I can see them walk through the front door next time, and know that they have graduated and are here to stay! Next week we're going to put them on the back cover of our bulletin as part of our staff--because even while they are finishing up school, they are ours, and they are thinking and dreaming and planning and preparing for the beginning of their ministry at Garden Grove. I received a lovely email from Pastor Shiphrah's father, who is a pastor in our Conference, thanking us for hiring their daughter. What good, kind people--it is obvious where she has inherited some of the grace that she exudes. They will be here when the two pastors are officially installed into the ministry of our church.

THAILAND: The Church Board voted Tuesday night to see if our congregation could stretch and help these two pastors join our group in going to Thailand. They both said they would love to go, and begin their ministry here by connecting with all of our youth and young adults on the trip. They would also do the speaking for a Week of Prayer at the Academy. They have offered to try to raise half the fare on their own, and so we would need to raise the other half--about \$2370 as of now. We already have pledges of \$600, so we need almost \$1800 more. We don't need the actual cash until April 20, but we need to have the pledges, so we can let them know whether they can go or not. If you have some extra "mission" money on top of your regular tithe and offerings, this is a great project! Mark it "Thailand tickets" and hand it to me or to Michele Lopez, so we will know where to put it, or put a note in with it that you would like to help the pastors.

BASKETBALL GAME: 8:00 pm Saturday night: Tomorrow night is the Big Game! Our GGSDA team of has-been's and geezers and other castoffs have challenged the Orangewood varsity basketball team to a championship game! Doors open at 7:30, \$5 per person, and the game will be at 8:00 pm. Come and cheer everybody on, especially those of us who are older than the whole varsity team put together! Their coach is also playing with us! There will also be terrific food.

All the money is going to help each of our youth and young adults who are going. We'd love to add \$100 to each of their funds, so we need everybody to come tomorrow night! There will be time for everybody who wants to, to play in the gym after the big game.

CARNIVAL SUNDAY FUNDAY: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Sunday at Orangewood. Many of our Orange County churches have teams coming to Orangewood to play in a fun basketball, volleyball, and soccer tournament Sunday morning. It is just a FUNDAY to connect churches with each other and with the Academy. We have 3 basketball teams entered, and one volleyball team at least. If you want to play and can put another team together, let us know! All free this time!

There will also be food for sale, by the various churches, and our church is serving waffles early and other Spanish food (Huaraches) later, by some of the best cooks in our church! All the money goes for Tuition Aid, at each church.

There will also be a place for kids to play--a jumper/slide, mini-soccer field, and other games with Teacher Lesieli.

Come play, come watch, come eat!

IF any of you can still bring a case of drinks for the booth to sell, that would help a lot--a few have already brought some.

PREACHING CLASS: 7:30 pm, Tuesday night, Board Room. This is our second session, but newcomers are welcome. We will go to the next level in discussing How to preach (Homiletics). 3 of our group will present 10-minute sermons. Love to have you join! This can help in preaching, teaching SS, giving a worship, speaking overseas next year when we go to the Philippines, or just help you know how to get truth out of the Bible better.

BENEFIT VESPERS CONCERT: 6:30 pm next Saturday night, there will be a great Vespers Concert, with praise worship music, guest music groups. An offering will be taken, to support those young adults putting on the music program. A great, great way to close the Sabbath, AND bless these young people.

WEEKEND SERVICES:

9:30 am - SABBATH SCHOOLS in every room of the church. Listed on the back of the bulletin, with a map.

REVELATION REVEALING--Revelation 13 this week, dealing with the two great "beasts" of Revelation!

11:00 am - DIVINE WORSHIP: Praise with an All-star group singing the best Second Coming songs we know, starts at 10:50 am. We have drama, something for children--
MESSAGE: "APOCALYPSE NOW?"--looking at the Signs of the Times chapters, Matthew 24-25. The focus is on answering the questions in the hugely controversial book that has come out in the last two weeks *Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the fate of every person who ever lived*", by Pastor Rob Bell. The debate is going all over the Internet as pastors and theologians and bloggers have all taken up the challenge against the traditional view of hell, and heaven. He is also being accused of *Universalism*. I will do my best to sort it out during the message tomorrow.

CALENDAR:

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall.

BASKETBALL CHALLENGE GAME: 7:30 pm, Orangewood Academy Gym

SUNDAY FUNDAY: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, Orangewood Academy

PREACHING CLASS: Tuesday night, 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Board Room

REVELATION: Thursday night, 7:00 pm, Revelation 13 and 14, Mark of the Beast, and the Three Angels' Messages, from a Grace perspective

SABBATH: Dr. Hans Diehl, Health Lecturer, and his wife, Lily, a world-class concert pianist, will be here.

POTLUCK NEXT SABBATH, APRIL 9

plus--CONCERT, Lily Diehl, 2:30 pm to 3:00 pm. HEALTH LECTURE, Dr. Diehl, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

BENEFIT CONCERT: 6:30 pm April 9.

MOVIE NIGHT: 8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall, "WALL-E"

SAVE THE DATE:

CHIP Training and potluck, April 16, Potluck, then Session will be at 2 pm.

Christian Edition vespers, April 16

Easter Sabbath, April 23--invite somebody to this once a year highlight Sabbath!

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