

GARDEN GROVE SDA CHURCH

Pastor's Newsletter

September 2, 2011

Dear Saints!

We pray that all of you will have a wonderful end of summer Labor Day weekend--AND that if you are in town you will come to GGSDA! This Sabbath is our first totally Young Adult Sabbath, with Pastor Shiphrah giving her inaugural address, and the entire service planned and presented by our terrific young adults. It's going to be a gift to sit and watch and be blessed by the spiritual and musical energy coming from a group that is coming alive with Pastor Shiphrah here.

There are many other things happening:

We have chosen TWO new Choir Directors: Duff Gorle will lead a new Praise Choir and a Children's Choir, and Nancy Beach, a wonderful lady who is new to most of us but just gave us a very special interview and trial rehearsal, will direct our main choir. The choirs should start rehearsing by mid-September. The decision was made jointly by an elected Search Committee and the entire Choir.

We have an Ad Hoc Committee that is wrestling with the terrible burden of what to do with our overflowing sanctuary attendance and parking lot capacity! All options were on the board Thursday night, and hopefully we will narrow them down to one or two options to discuss with the Church Board by Tuesday night, September 13. We are looking at solutions for our parking, having an overflow worship option, multiple worship services, or some combination of all the options!

CHIP--we already have over 40 who have signed up and paid to be part of CHIP. Technically that is the group, but I believe there will be a table after Church where you can still sign up, and then make holy and sacred promises to pay the \$250 to the Church Office during the week. Everybody needs to have paid before the health testing early Sunday morning, 9/11 (on an empty stomach!), followed by a free breakfast. The first CHIP meeting will be Sunday night, also 9/11. I know it's a lot of money, but you get all this health testing, a big stack of books, and a number of meals as part of the cost. We could not find one dollar we could chop out! Vote for your own life and health and come be a part of a group trying to just get healthier. If you don't want to do it for yourself, do it for your family who wants you around as long as they can! And do it for the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31!)

TUITION AID--We are now up to 27 students that we are helping at Orangewood Academy. The congregation has stepped up to the plate beautifully to get everyone in, and we thank you all. But to get #27 in we will need about another \$1300 in either cash or pledges. Another parking lot sale will be Sunday, 9/11.

BALKAN MINISTRY--Bob and Marianna Maukovich have been supporting a ministry to their home country for many years--helping worthy students in the school there, helping build homes for new, destitute Adventists, and a van literature ministry where a volunteer drives all over selling and loaning and giving away literature out of the van that our ministry purchased and maintains. Their budget is \$10,000 this year, due to the costs of building a new home for this family, but they will be thankful for whatever anyone can give. Mark it "Balkans Ministry". Bob will be going over to do the project Sept. 26/27.

WEEKEND SERVICES:

SABBATH SCHOOL:

9:40 am--Youth and Young Adults are still meeting together this week, in the Youth Chapel, before splitting up into their own places and separate programs next week. We will get all kinds of messages to everybody about the details next week. I wish you could have heard the reports from both pastors at the Church Board about all the plans for these two ministries! We voted to add some very cool lighting and better sound options for the Youth Chapel, and eventually the Youth Chapel and the Fellowship Hall (Young Adults) are going to be incredible places for all the youth and young adults from GG and Orange County.

9:30 am--DANIEL SEMINAR--My Pastor's Class will continue this week in the Fellowship Hall--Daniel 2.

DIVINE WORSHIP: 10:50 am. Young Adult Praise Team and Choir. Video on all the questions young people are asking. Pastor Shiphrah's first sermon, on the first set of questions: "But, I Can't Stop Loving You"

SABBATH AFTERNOON: POTLUCK--Combination Pathfinders / Adventurers, and Evangelism Committee.

EVANGELISM: We are 6 weeks away from THE SEARCH III, and have a lot to discuss. 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. We really need every single person who loves and cares about Outreach to stay by for this short but absolutely essential meeting and prayer time.

No Vietnamese meeting this week, many are away at the Vietnamese Campmeeting at Soquel.

COMMUNITY SERVICES / FOOD BANK: The food supplies are running low. If anybody can bring a bag of non-perishable food, we would really, really appreciate it. Here is a list of what they could use: Stews, canned vegetables, canned fruit, pasta noodles, canned tomatoes, rice, beans, macaroni & Cheese, boxed potatoes, refried beans, soups, chili, juice, puddings, peanut butter, granola bars, cup of noodles, chips, cold cereal and milk. Bring a bag to church and help some people out.

PATHFINDERS / ADVENTURERS: "Dear Pathfinder and Adventurer family, friends, and staff: This Sabbath, September 3, will be our first Pathfinder and Adventurer meeting! Adventurers will have a very important parent meeting, and Pathfinders will review the rules, calendar, order uniforms, receive assigned work books, and learn/review basic drilling and marching commands. Lunch will be served immediately following the church service. We will be serving spaghetti, garlic bread, and salad. You are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert if you wish to contribute to our luncheon. Our meeting starts at 1:30 p.m. Please be on time, as we have many things to cover. There will be registration forms available for those who have not completed one yet. If you have any questions or need additional information, please e-mail us. We are looking forward to a great Pathfinder and Adventurer year! Sandra Caldwell, Moenau Rivera, and the staff team

God bless you all, and pray for our Backpacking trip Sunday night! And for Pastor Garrett as he does his first wedding! And for Pastor Shiphrah who preaches her first sermon here!
Pastor Dan