



# Garden Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church

## Pastor Dan's Communiqué

September 27, 2013



My friends--

We are now back in California, missing have the waves right outside our balcony, but happy to be home and thrilled to get to see all of you at church again tomorrow!

I'm sure most of you know that this is a big weekend for us at GGSDA as we say goodbye to another young pastor. This is Pastor Shiphrah's last Sabbath with us, and we are determined to make it a high day, even as there is an ache in our hearts as we say goodbye! She will preach her last sermon for the SANCTUARY service at 9:30 in the Sanctuary, ending with a celebration of Communion in a way that has never been done anywhere--I think it will be very cool and holy and special! Come early and just spend the whole morning going to both services this one time.

We will say goodbye as an entire church during our DIVINE WORSHIP service at 11:30. We will have pictures, and have a holy time of prayer as we thank God for her ministry in building up our Young Adult Ministry for the last two years, and pray a great blessing upon her as she goes to her next place next week.

And then there will be a special Fellowship Dinner Farewell upstairs right after church. We truly encourage you all to come, and try to slip in your own goodbye to her. I can tell you what it means to a pastor who is leaving, to have those personal moments to thank and say goodbye to individual people. We were her first church, and she is having a very hard time with the knowledge that it just will not be the same the next day and the next week!

We have been very, very blessed to have her here. We called her out of Seminary in 2011. She had not always planned to go into pastoral ministry, but we called, and she felt led to accept. We took her right away to Thailand. She has done a lot to build up the Young Adult Ministry. There are 300 names on her email list. There is a new worship service that has great leadership, a band, and a worship director. She has studied with people, she has baptized people, she has married people. People will be in heaven because she was here. She was a gift from God in many, many ways. And she was just an absolutely delightful friend to many of us!

Yes, God will send us another young pastor. The Search Committee has been meeting already, and has several outstanding possibilities who will be coming in to preach for SANCTUARY in the next few weeks. Pastor Sara-May as our new Youth Pastor will be here next weekend Oct. 5, and will be officially installed and welcomed with a potluck on October 12. It may take us into December or early January to get a new Young Adult Pastor here. We have an outstanding Transition Team in place to nurture and build each ministry--Worship, SS, Social, Small Groups, etc.--in the interim. But we will get a great new pastor here as soon as we can, as God leads! But THIS weekend come and help us send Pastor Shiphrah away with as much love and grace as we can possibly give her.

**LUAU: Sunday night, 5 pm, Fellowship Hall. \$10.** Always a huge and wonderful event, there will be great food, drink, decorations, and incredible singing groups Josh is bringing in. This will be a highlight night!

### **THIS WEEKEND:**

**THE WAY:** Tonight, 7 pm, pizza and the rest, followed by praise and the message. Bring your young people down, the place has been rocking!

**THE SANCTUARY (9:30) / SABBATH SCHOOL (10:30) / DIVINE WORSHIP (11:30).**

**FELLOWSHIP DINNER FAREWELL--1:00 Fellowship Hall**

**VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP--4:00, Youth Chapel**

**FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP--**Go to the Fellowship Dinner, and then the group is going for one-night retreat in Temecula at one of our member's homes!

**Sundown Vespers:** No vespers this Sabbath because of the retreat.

**REVELATION: Monday night, 8 pm, FH--our last night, as we finish the Battle of Armageddon--and then the Millennium and the New Earth!**

**NEXT WEEK:** We will welcome Pastor Sara-May to THE WAY next Friday night, though she will not speak yet. We will also introduce to our worship services, and the Youth will have a special welcome dinner party for her in the Youth Chapel right after Church.

God bless you all!  
Pastor Dan