



Garden Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church Pastor Dan's Communique



May 23, 2014

Dear Friends of GGSDA--

Thank you, so many of you, who have been gracious to me, and to the picture of God we try to stand for at Garden Grove, this week. The hard copy of the *Adventist Review* came today that has the original article that was written about the particular view of God that an expanding circle of in the Adventist Church have come to. The two of us have connected by email now, and had respectful emails back and forth, and we'll see where that dialogue goes. We're told that the last great message that will go around the world, the light that will light up the whole world (Rev. 18:1-4)--will be about God's great love and mercy. At Garden Grove we don't want to waste time with the next-to-last message. We hate sitting through all the trailers--we want the Final Movie to start!

This weekend is Memorial Day, and we will do our best to memorialize our own veterans and all those who have gone out into battlefields for us in the past. We have set aside several minutes to give our deepest respects to all of them--those in our church, those who have had people in their family who have gone, and those who have a little white cross with their name on it in a grassy field somewhere, and others who are buried in unmarked graves, waiting for the day when all wars will be over, the greatest Great Controversy will be over, and God will honor each one with the ultimate Medal of Honor.

Services this Weekend:

THE WAY: 7:00 and 8:00 tonight, Youth Chapel. Pastor Sara-May is taking a super-deserved break to be with her brother and her little niece in Hawaii for a few days, but there is still a terrific THE WAY planned for tonight. The note from Pastor Sara-May: **"Friday Night at The Way**, Mu will be speaking and music will be lead out by Pr. Brett from Orange! We are discussing the theme "Storm Dances" and how even when the storms of life shake our world, there is a way to find peace and resilience by learning how to Dance in the storm! I hope that you can come out for food and friends at 7 p.m."

SANCTUARY / FIRST SERVICE: 9:30 am: "This verse by verse study in Galatians has opened up awesome dialogue within our church community. Questions of how we interact with one another, how to live grace and law in transformative ways, and how we as a community of faith can begin to show the OC area what God's love and acceptance looks and feels like. This week we will discuss Galatians 2:15-21 titled, "Santa Claus, Negotiators, and a God that Teaches Dance."

To prepare for this teaching, please read Galatians 2:15-21 and ask yourself a couple questions:

1. What did the Jews believe would bring them righteousness?
2. What did the Gentiles believe in regards to gaining righteousness?
3. What does verse 17 mean when it says, "Christ has led us into sin?"

DIVINE WORSHIP / SECOND SERVICE: 11:30 am: We will honor our veterans, and all veterans, and all families who have lost someone this year. A great praise set, drama, and then take the Character-of-God theme to the next level--"FEARLESS!" What took a group from huddling in the Upper Room scared to death, to a group that Stormed the World for Christ 50 days later?

PASTOR'S CLASS: 10:30 am: If you would like to hear more and wrestle more on these issues on the character of God, we are going to segue into those in the SS Class for the next few weeks. Bring your questions. Nothing off limits. God is honored when we come searching to get past the fog that the Other Side has spread over what God is really like.

FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP: Potluck and fellowship after church!

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: 4 pm, Youth Chapel

MEMORIAL SERVICE: A truly, tragic story is about the loss to the Burn family. Patrick Burn's nephew was killed a few days ago, and there will be a memorial service for Sergeant Dwight Burn tomorrow May 24 at the Riverside National Cemetery at 12:45PM. "Some of you knew Dwight Burn, nephew of Pat and LaVern Burn, because he grew up with some of the kids of this congregation who are now themselves all grown up. Dwight joined the US Army and trained hard to earn the position of Crew Chief aboard the giant heavy-lift CH-47 Chinook military helicopter. He was helping to train some soldiers in high altitude landings and takeoffs in mountains in a remote section of an Army post in New Mexico when the Chinook crashed. Dwight was injured in the wreck and fire prevented others from rescuing him, and he passed away. He is survived by two young daughters, and the rest of his family who miss him profoundly."

If you would come to support Pat and LaVern and family, these are the particulars: *Riverside National Cemetery*. Event #1230 Venue: At Stage 9 In memory of: Sergeant Dwight W. Burn, 22495 Van Buren Boulevard, *Riverside, CA 92518*. Phone: (951) 653-8417. Date: May 24, 2014 Time of service: 12:45pm. Directions: Rt 22 east to Rt 215 south; exit Van Buren Blvd.; turn right on Van Buren, then left on Harmon St. into the cemetery. (Pastor Dan: I am not sure where these directions are starting from. I'll share the way I go: 22east, 55N, 91E, Van Buren. Van Buren south (R) 20 minutes, Cemetery is on the right just before I215.)

Upcoming Events:

1. Graduations: Orangewood 8th grade, Thursday night, June 5. High school--Consecration Friday night, June 6, Anaheim Sunkist. Commencement Sunday June 8, 3 pm. Class Night Saturday night.

2. GGSDA Graduation: Sabbath morning, 2nd Service, 11:30, June 7. If you have someone graduating and haven't let us know, please call the Office Tuesday or email me! 714-534-1987

We will take a major offering for Tuition Aid that Sabbath, so begin to put something special aside, we will need several thousand dollars to make sure we clear every single of the 25+ kids we have sponsored this year!

3. La Sierra University: Sunday, June 15, 8 am.

4. Mission Trip Dedication, June 21, 2nd Service. The Mission Trip is June 23 to July 9. We have 58 going now, holding meetings at 15 sites and doing construction at four sites. Pray for the visitation teams that are working all over the city and countryside as we speak, that every single person hungry to know God more will be found and invited to the meetings. Pray for the 15 pastors and lay people who will be doing the speaking, 8 from our own church. And set aside something for that offering that day too!

Last--Thanks to Josh Tameifuna, the Perez sisters, and the whole Social Committee and Pathfinder Club who put together a wonderful Mexican Fiesta last Sunday night, with almost 200 people there, and they raised nearly \$1000 for the Oshkosh group!

God bless you all, have a great Sabbath!

Pastor Dan