



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



July 11, 2014

Dear Garden Grove!

As the Sabbath slides into our part of the world, the Sabbath has already been going for 15 hours where we were only two days ago. And I have already received an email from the Mission president that he personally baptized a young lady Sabbath morning that some of us poured our hearts into. She Facebooked me, so excited! Even though we baptized almost 1600 last Sabbath, and 2400 all over the Mission--somehow this one was just as thrilling as all of them. Jesus died for her, and she heard something over the last two weeks, she was around the group, and made her decision! Wow.

We will do our best to share some of our pictures tomorrow, and there will certainly some stories that are at least thrilling to those of us who were there--we hope that your heart will be lit up as you hear them and see the pictures. With all the hard work and heat and hours on a plane, somehow what you remember are seeing the new sign go up, the smiles on the faces as they came up out of the water, the constant picture-taking. It was a blessed and anointed trip, and we thank all of you who slipped a few dollars to one of the young people or one of the Filipino group who got to go home and be part of a mission trip right where they grew up. Pray for those still traveling back over the next few days.

POTLUCK: Our regular monthly potluck for the first Sabbath of the month was held back a week so that all our pastors and the Mission trip team could be here. All are welcome, especially all visitors, to join us upstairs in the Fellowship Hall right after lunch. Watch great pictures of our fantastic mission trip while you eat! The Hope Channel young people put together really an outstanding 17-minute video that I think you will very much enjoy!

SAVE THE DATE: "HE'S THE ONE" Weekend--August 1-2. For all of you who have ever seen the bumper sticker, "After Religion, Try Jesus"--this is for you. If you've ever thought or said--"I love Jesus, but I'm not sure about the Church"--this is for you. If you've ever been judged, criticized, or put down over some church standard or felt your soul crushed with legalism--this weekend is for you! It will be Jesus. Jesus. Jesus. 20-minute messages, then round-table discussions. Lifting Up Jesus. Asking, "What does all this have to do with Jesus, anyway?" "What would Jesus say?" Jesus said, "if I am lifted up, I will draw everyone to Me." We're going to go for it!

Friday night upstairs, SANCTUARY upstairs, DIVINE WORSHIP downstairs, white-tablecloth dinner upstairs, and the Grand Finale! Done by 4 pm. Great music, great questions, great Gospel!

THE WAY TONIGHT: 8 pm in the Youth Chapel.

SANCTUARY (9:30am): Here is Pastor Tony's note about the message: "This week we will dig deep in Galatians 5:1-11. We'll uncover what it means to truly live out gospel lives, how to handle guilt and shame, and how God views us even when our perception of ourselves seems to negative. I can't wait to see all of you this Sabbath at 9:30!"

SECOND SERVICE (11:30am): Obviously our main feature will be a short mission report of our Philippine Mission Trip. We had 58 go, sponsored by our church, by Quiet Hour Ministries, and by many individuals. We preached at 16 sites, and all together across the Mission they baptized nearly 2400 this last Sabbath. We'll show some highlights during church, and then more during the Potluck upstairs.

The message is a phrase that every mission tripper with me knows: "**THICK or THIN?!!**" You can live like thin, or you can live life thick. All from the story of Philip being moved around the country by angels and the Holy Spirit, Acts 8:26-40.

FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP: 2:30 after the Potluck upstairs.

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: Welcome Pastor Toan back at 4 pm in the Youth Chapel. Your young pastor was a terrific missionary over there!

WOMEN'S BRUNCH: Sunday, 10 am, Fellowship Hall. Elizabeth Rodarte and the Women's Ministry team have planned a special brunch for this Sunday morning, potluck but drink and bagels will be provided. Linda Penick, who has been a major Women's Ministry leader at all levels of the church for many years, will give the devotional, and there will be a chance to make suggestions for the Ministry for the rest of the year. A great chance to meet and greet other women searching how to balance God and spirituality with all the rest of life!

God bless you all!
Pastor Dan