



Garden Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church

Pastor Dan's Communiqué



August 29, 2014

Dear GGSDA People!

So how was your week?! Since I drove out of the parking lot last Sabbath--we had a beautiful baptism for Bob Evans in the ocean--did a wedding for Tommy Torres and Wilmary Hernandez, after being together 17 years--took 8 young adults up the mountain to a beautiful camping spot near Vivian Creek--17 hours with no cell phones, just hanging out and eating together!--then we had to do a funeral for Bob Evans' mother, in the same Forest Lawn in Hollywood where my grandparents are buried. As Bob said, the crazy irony of life, to get born again the same week that his mother passes away.

THE BIG EVENT this weekend is the Dedication for the Youth Chapel! There are some small items to finish, the new chairs have not come yet--but the carpet and tile are beautiful, the AC has been rerouted, the paint is perfect, the baseboards are done, the doors have been repainted--we think you will all be very happy with the new look! A deep bow to Pastor Sara-May who superintended the entire process, and to her young people and sponsors, for a terrific job!

The Dedication is in two parts: One with the Youth tonight at **THE WAY--food at 7:00**, Music with our new YA Assistant Jesse Churchill at 7:30, then the Dedication and Pastor Sara-May's message!

The second larger Dedication will be right after church tomorrow--we invite you all to come back, see the new look, and form a circle as we dedicate it to a great youth ministry for the next 20 years--or until Jesus comes, whichever is sooner.

BALKANS MISSION: Because of the wedding I could not come to what I hear was a great, great concert Saturday night. There is one more chance tomorrow to add your own offering to this great project--Marianna Maukovich is going to her home country Tuesday for the first time in 5 years, and will take these funds and help finish a church, continue the lending library that has won many people, and bring some relief to some of those devastated by the flood earlier this year, Put something into an envelope, mark it "Balkans Missions," \$10, anything, and we will get it to her and she will carry it over and guarantee that it goes to make a huge difference over there.

SANCTUARY: 9:30 am in the Sanctuary, join Pastor Tony as he inaugurates a new series, "Kingdom Now!" We are Adventists, yes, we look forward to the Second Coming which will solve all problems and take us to where we finally feel at home for the first home--BUT we also absolutely and totally believe God's Kingdom is NOW, Jesus died to give us much more than a mansion in the sky someday!--so don't miss this as Pastor Tony walks us into that message in the Bible.

DIVINE WORSHIP: 11:30 am, in the Sanctuary, with PraySing Hymn leading our campmeeting song service, Lemans Galbreath telling the Children's Story, and we will look at one last unbelievable miracle, Joshua stopping the sun so he could finish the battle!

SABBATH AFTERNOON:

FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP: Community Services Room. The great news is that our leader, Ed Carceler, received his Religious Worker visa, so can stay with us for at least two more years! But now pray for him as he applies for the next level, and eventually a green card! We are thrilled with the growth of the Fellowship, they are adding Mid-week and Friday night Bible studies now.

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: Their local meeting is cancelled this week, as most of the group is at a large Vietnamese campmeeting in the mountains, and I will drive up there Sabbath afternoon to speak Saturday night.

OTHER NEWS: We sent \$16,883 to the **Philippines** for the Phase Two of all our projects. Many of our team members have raised these funds from all over for the churches where they served. All together, by January, we will be helping remodel and upgrade over 30 churches--amazing!

We have a new **choir director, Valerie Tambaoan**, who has sung for us, and we are just thrilled to have her. She has been the director at the Glendale Filipino church in the past, she has degrees in music, and we believe she will be fantastic. Circle December 20 for her first big cantata! She comes on board officially Sept. 15, her first rehearsal will be that Thursday night, Sept. 18 and they will sing Sept. 20!

Our **lighting** proposals are going out to rebid, and we hope to have that project done in time for that Cantata! The **website** draft is in the final stages of being rewritten, so we hope that that project will finally become reality. We have added **hot water to our Community Services room**, thanks to Charlie Stein, Tom Neslund, Carl, Josh, and others. Josh, Carl, and Charlie have also been demolishing walls, etc., in the room behind the Community Services Room, and there should soon be a **second room for the Filipino Fellowship** to meet in for SS, potlucks, etc.

DIRTY HANDS SUMMIT--September 12-13--something new, something different, something very, very right and necessary--our young pastors have organized a Summit addressing the truly awful issue of human trafficking, focusing on what is happening right here in Orange County, and asking what Christians who care about social justice should do about it. Micah 6:8 asks, "What does God require, but that we **do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly.**" We cannot just talk about it--we need to do something, do whatever Jesus would do. Circle the weekend, save Friday night and all Sabbath afternoon. If you have wished for something to really sink your teeth into, try this weekend.

Have a great Sabbath with God, and your home church--GGSDA! Find a way to high-five Pastor Sara-May and her youth leaders--Cody and Courtney Leon, Bryce Kalmbach, and others-- for a terrific job they have done--and Bob Meckstroth, Bob Maukovich, Ralph Smith, and Josh Tameifuna!

God bless, everybody!
Pastor Dan