

message

welcome message from pastor dan



WELCOME TO OUR SECOND CHRISTMAS SABBATH! Last week was our first Christmas Sabbath with a fantastic Christmas Breakfast Banquet and Cantata! More than 700 of us enjoyed those glorious events at GGSDA, and then large groups continued the Christmas celebration at our Vietnamese and Filipino Fellowships

parties Saturday night! And now, since Christmas was in the middle of the week, we really have the gift of a second Christmas Sabbath celebration . . . you will love our second Christmas service today.

I was talking with a man connected to our church who has a mix of Islam and Christianity in his beliefs, who was making a case for Islam and the Prophet Muhammad. Out of the blue a thought came to me and I said to him: "We can respect the Prophet, and I am sure he wrote things from which we can learn, but if I have to choose between a man telling me *about* God, and God *Himself* coming down to tell us about God . . . I choose God Himself!

That is what we believe, and it is at the core of our faith: Jesus is God, and our God is *like* Jesus. We can learn from all religions . . . but we will die for our Jesus, who is the Greatest Picture of God this world has ever seen! To be a Christian means we prefer the Jesus picture of God. He alone is the *Good News* of great joy for all people . . . today a Savior has been born to you!

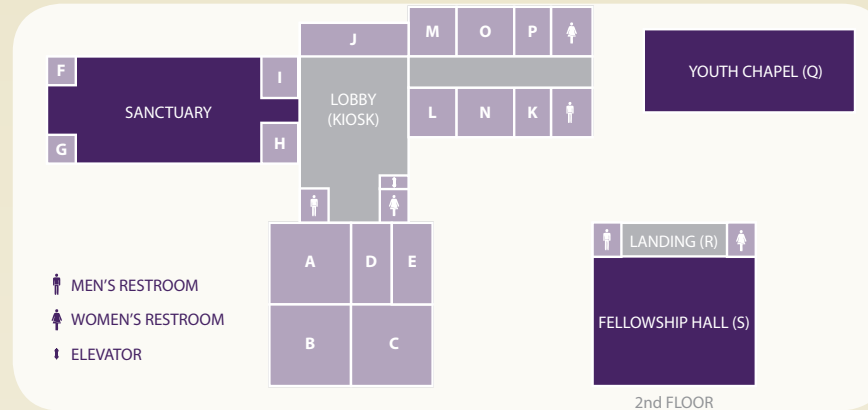
We welcome you to both services. May God continue to give you a great sense of grace, good news, and Jesus as your absolute Savior in your soul! And may *you* bless each person God puts into your life this Christmas with that same love and grace!

YEAR-END GIVING You know as the year draws to a close, that it is the time each year when we give our final gift of the year to God. Five people are getting baptized today as their gift back to God. The rest of us can give our hearts too . . . but a very powerful way the Bible says to give to God is to through our gifts of tithes and offerings. The wise men gave their very best, and traveled a thousand miles or more to give them. We encourage you to make it crystal clear to God Himself where He stands with you through your giving. Do not give to the Church, or to Orangewood, or to some project. Give it to God Himself . . . *your heart to His heart.*

Merry Christmas and God's blessings to you all!

Pastor Dan

general information



loc	name	sabbath school (10:30am - 11:25am)
A	Pastor Dan's Office	Arthur Kiziak, Contemporary Bible Principles
B	Community Service Room	Filipino Class
C	Pathfinder Room	Pastor Dan's Class
D	Board Room	Spanish Class
E	Library	Brazilian Fellowship
F	Choir Room	
H	Mother's Room	Friends in Prayer (Adult Class)
I	Deacon's Room	
J	North Room	Tom Neslund's Adult Class
L	Cradle Roll Room	Cradle Roll Class
M	Kindergarten Room	Kindergarten Class
N	Primary Room	Primary Class
O	Junior Room	Junior Class
P	Earliteens Room	Earliteen Class
Q	Youth Chapel	Youth Class
S	Fellowship Hall	<i>the Sanctuary Study</i> (Young Adults Class)
	Sanctuary	

how to connect with GGSDA

Dan Smith Senior Pastor	pastordan@gardengrovesda.com 951.359.4634 H 951.236.7262 M
Gerald Penick Execulve Pastor	executivepastor@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 108
Tony Wuerfel Young Adult Pastor	youngadultpastor@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 109
Sara-May Colón Youth Pastor	youthpastor@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 110
Ed Carceler Filipino Ministry	filipinofellowship@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 113
Michelle Kiziak Family/Children's Ministry	familylifeminister@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 111
Toan Quach Vietnamese Ministry	vietnamesefellowship@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 112
Helen Sneed Bible Instructor	bibleinstructor@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 105
Silvino J. Briceno Office Administrator	office@gardengrovesda.com 714.534.1987 ext. 103 714.534.3877 Fax

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00am to 4:00pm, Closed Friday - Sunday
12702 9th st • garden grove ca 92840 • www.gardengrovesda.com

welcome to
garden grove
seventh-day adventist church

December 27, 2014



grace | everyone | everywhere | every time

grace | everyone | everywhere | every time

grace | everyone | everywhere | every time

announcements and church news

prayer requests

Bravo-Escalante, Alicia	Jolly, Linda
Carriger, Brian	Krell, Bertie
Cutchlow-Brooks, Pam	Nation, DeNyse
Edberg, Ed	Ruiz, Ethel (M. Kiziak's mother)
Evens, Ryan (Bob Evens' Nephew)	Smith, Ruth
Gibbs, Julia	Sneed, Carol
Harman, Judy	Storment, Michelle
Haskins, Dolores	Von Freya Aesir, Thorbalduria

upcoming events

Dates	Events
Today	Grace University and Contagious Christianity Luncheon Meeting @ 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall
	Filipino Fellowship @ 1:00pm in the Community Service Room
	Vietnamese Fellowship Christmas Program @ 4:00pm in the Youth Chapel
12/28 sun	Youth and Young Adult Ski Trip (See Pastor Sara-May for more details)
1/1 thu	New Year's Day
12/29-1/2	Office hours will vary. Please call to make sure the office is open before visiting.
1/3 sat	Communion Sabbath
1/10 sat	First Service Relaunch @ 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall
1/17 sat	Fellowship Dinner @ 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Portuguese, Korean, Spanish, or Vietnamese Translation Is Available.

Radios for Portuguese, Korean, Spanish, or Vietnamese translation are available at the Concierge Desk in the Lobby.

Volunteers Are Urgently Needed to Serve as Sabbath School Secretaries.

If you have felt the need to participate in our church activities lately, here is your chance! We need several more people to help drop off and pick up the Sabbath School offering envelopes in each class, and then count the offerings and tally the total on one Sabbath per month. Volunteers will be members of a team on a scheduled weekend. If you are interested in helping, please call Lizz Randall at 714 913-3903.

Children Will Create a Special Craft Today During the Worship Service to Present to Jesus!

Today the children will have a very special role in our worship service: completing a craft project and presenting it to Jesus at the front of the church as the offering is being taken. The materials will be passed out as the children enter the sanctuary so they can complete them in their seats before the offering and bring them forward when requested.

worship 9:30am and 11:30am



Contemporary Worship Service

9:30am

Message Series: *The Elephant in the Room*

Divine Worship

11:30am

SONG OF GATHERING GGSDA Praise Team
MORNING HYMN #125
Joy to the World!

WELCOME Sara-May Colon
LIGHTING OF
THE ADVENT CANDLE The Quach Family
WORSHIP IN THE ARTS GGSDA Drama Team
MORNING PRAYER Silvino Briceno
COMMITTING TO GOD Dan Smith
Gary Anderson and Daniel (Abdollah) Farzam
Violin: Christina Knudson

WORSHIP IN SONG David Kharns
WORSHIP IN GIVING Tim Parks
OFFERTORY Sheri Sinaga
PRAISE AND ADORATION GGSDA Praise Team
MORNING MESSAGE Dan Smith
Crossmas!

RESPONSE Kimber Parks
BENEDICTION Dan Smith
POSTLUDE Carol Meckstroth

Please remember to put your cellular phones and pagers on silent. Thank you!

Today's Worship Planner: Kimber Parks

Today's Deacons Are: Ricky Ambray (lead), Amando Miranda, Chito Montessa, Emo Taula, Eti Taula, and Gerry Zamisky.

Sabbath Rest Ends: 4:50pm Tonight
Sabbath Welcome Starts: 4:54pm Friday, January 3

announcements and church news

a special letter from pastor dan

Dear Church Family,

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR to you! As I sit here writing this, in the middle of writing a sermon about how the gift of Christmas is really the Cross—Jesus coming to die so we can be saved—I am asking myself "the question": *Where does the Cross rank, in my list of favorite gifts?* When the offensive linemen for the Green Bay Packers came to their lockers this week, there was a brand-new Samsung 55-inch TV, a tablet, and Beats headphones—a gift from their quarterback, Aaron Rodgers, for blocking for him and letting him be the star quarterback for one of the top teams in football. How does that feel? Whether you or I got a new computer or other tech gadget, a gift certificate for a trip to Hawaii or a massage . . . where does the Cross rank?

We ask my Business Ethics class's students: If your favorite dog fell into the ocean, and a stranger jumped in to save your dog, and both were drowning, and you could only save one . . . which one would you save? The discussion forces people to make choices: the pet you know versus the human you do not know? We all have to form our person *hierarchy of values*, to sort out the hundreds of ethical questions that come at us in a split second every day.

And that is the main reason we give tithes and offerings: **it helps us make a statement about where Jesus is in our hierarchy of values.**

We also give to:

- do our share of keeping up the Church and providing our children Sabbath School and Orangewood Academy.
- support our pastors which allows as pastors to work fulltime for God.
- fight our natural leaning towards selfishness and living for ourselves.
- live in solidarity with the rest of the world . . . every dollar goes everywhere.
- open our hearts and lives to receive God's incredible blessings.

But foremost:

- to make a statement of where Jesus ranks with us!

It sends a message straight to the heart of God: "There are no other gods in our lives . . .", we "seek first the Kingdom of God", and "he who has the Son has life." It helps Him to know the Cross was totally worth it!

You know where this discussion is going . . . there is one week left for your year-end giving. We hope you will reflect on where God has blessed you this year . . . starting with life itself, your family, Jesus, grace, forgiveness, guidance, heaven, eternity, seeing your family again after the end of this world! Just make sure Jesus is absolutely first . . . because "where your treasure is, there your heart is also"!

Do not give because we need it—although we do. It is not one more bill to pay. Use this opportunity to worship God . . . because He is worthy! You can give your gift: through the enclosed envelope postmarked by December 31, online at www.gardengrovesda.com, by bringing it to the Church by midnight, December 31, or you can call me and I will buy you Coldstone ice cream and come and pick it up!

Again, hope you have had a great Christmas and will have a very special and happy New Year! We love GGSDA / OC Grace, and each of our pastors, staff, and church leaders thank you for being part of our Church family!

God bless!

Pastor Dan