



Garden Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church

Pastor Dan's Newsletter



September 12, 2015

Dear GGSDA / OC GRACE!

Happy Sabbath / Good morning to you all! I'm sorry that the Newsletter didn't come out yesterday, I had three sermons to get ready for the weekend, with powerpoint, and then had to drive to the hotel where I am speaking for the weekend.

But here is what is happening today and then for next weekend again, and a few other highlights:

FIRST SERVICE: 9:30am, Pastor Sara-May is giving the message on "Experiencing Jesus," the story of Mephibosheth in the Bible, mixing in some of her personal testimony and relationship with God. I think I can guarantee a pretty special message!

SABBATH SCHOOL: 10:30am, in every room of the Church—Filipino, Portuguese, Spanish. Lopez class in Pastor Tony's office, Arthur Kiziak's in my office, Tom Neslund in the North Room, Pastor Penick in my class in the Pathfinder Room.

SECOND SERVICE: 11:30am, in the Sanctuary, with Pastor Penick giving the message, leading up to the Colon Community Urban Ministry Weekend next weekend. I heard the Praise team practicing—just great stuff for today!

FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP early Sabbath afternoon in their rooms.

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: 4:30pm, Youth Chapel.

COLON COMMUNITY URBAN MINISTRY WEEKEND: September 18-20

Friday night, 7:30-9:00, Fellowship Hall

Sabbath School, 10:30-11:25, Pathfinder Room

Many Sabbath Schools closing to join us

Church: Interview during my message

Haystack Lunch by Refreshment Stand/Elevenses

Afternoon Session: 2:45-4:30 Fellowship Hall

Sunday morning Pancake Breakfast 8am-10:30am

Bring \$5 as a fundraiser for Pathfinders for breakfast

This special weekend is a treat. Many of us want to experience more of the sheer pleasure of giving back to our community, but in real, tangible ways that make a difference. We want to impact real people with real needs, and use our few discretionary hours of volunteer time to make a maximum impact. And we want to do it with the coolest and most fun people in the world! The Colon's are going to show us how to do all that!

Yes, it's a time commitment to spend these 6 hours together this weekend, but we think it will be fun, they are world-class presenters, they have been doing this for years all over the world, they love our church—you will get a whole notebook of their best material—and you'll get a Certificate!

UPDATES:

1. **Budget**--The Church Board has voted a revised budget for the rest of the year—if everybody gives as they gave last year, we will balance by the end of the year! We can only ask that all of you who consider Garden Grove / OC GRACE your spiritual home and church family, do your part by paying a faithful 10% tithe and 3-4% Church Budget. If there are other projects or mission trips you can be part of, or contribute to a mission project or tuition aid, that is fantastic. But we hope that you will see the base of all your giving Tithe and Church Budget. We try very, very hard to be accountable for every single dollar, we are audited every year down to the penny!
2. **Lighting Project**—we are down to the last steps in getting lights for our Sanctuary that will bring us into the Modern Era! The money was raised years ago, but we are trying to get it right and spend the money in the most effective and efficient way. They are going to be fantastic when they get here—soon!
3. **Video Project**—Tyler Riddle and John Krell have been working hard to get all the wiring and cabling in place to take all of our video ministry to a quantum leap ahead. It will greatly enhance all of our live streaming.
4. **Studio Project**—Tom Neslund and team are remodeling the Library into a mini-studio, which will allow us to have 3 sets and can be used to tape programs in every language represented on our pastoral staff and send them by Internet all over the world—Vietnam, Spanish, Filipino, and of course English (youth, young adult, and senior!). The Portuguese Class will still meet in there, but the Library is going to be set up with lights, "Green Room," and 3 sets to be used. At very low cost.
5. **Basketball Court**—We are deep into research on how to build a basketball/volleyball court into our back packing lot. We won't give up parking spaces, but we hope to be able to afford a cement court with good lights, that will allow us to have events for our own groups, but also for the community—hundreds of young people pass through our parking lot every day, and we want to have a place where they will want to stop, play in night tournaments, we bring food trucks and music and have community happenings regularly. We have received one major donation already, and are trying to figure out how we can get this done soon. Some fantastic lay people who are experts in cement work are helping us, a civil engineer is close to helping us get a plan together, and we hope that this project can get the lift into reality soon!
6. **Community Ministry**—And of course we hope, again, that this next weekend will lead us to many new ideas, led by the Holy Spirit, in how GGSDA / OC GRACE can do more powerful ministries into our community like the Backpack Project (where we raised over \$1500 to help families get their kids ready for school), Dirty Hands Summit, etc.
7. **Miscellaneous**—And of course Pathfinders and Adventurers are gearing up, The Nominating Committee Report will be voted on over the next two Sabbaths, we will have an orientation and dedication for the new officers the weekend of September 26-27, big plans are already underway for Christmas week. It's a special church.
8. **Mission Trips:** 9 have signed up and are locking in tickets for the India trip January 19-February 5, several are considering the small Philippines trip April 2, but nearly 80 have signed up (from all over) for the major Thailand trip June 19-July 6. At GGSDA we take Acts 1:8 seriously, start with Jerusalem, then go to Judea, Samaria, AND to the ends of the earth!

Pray for our weekend here, pray for some families that are going through some "stuff" this week, pray for JoAnne's sister in Portland—and pray that our Church does God's will in our own generation, as God said about King David in the Bible!

Got to go preach God bless you all, we'll miss you this Sabbath, but then won't miss any more until January and India!

Pastor Dan