



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



September 18, 2015

DEAR GGSDA / OC GRACE, everywhere!

Colon Community Urban Ministry Seminar, 7:30 tonight, Fellowship Hall

We are just 3 hours away from the beginning of a weekend that we believe can be a landmark moment in the history of our church. We are already a great church, in many ways. We have 4 worship services every week., that over 500 people come to. We have programs and ministries happening all the time—people who visit us are shocked at all that is going on. Hundreds have gone on at least one mission trip somewhere on the other side of the world. We have people getting baptized in the church or in the ocean every 2 or 3 weeks.

BUT many of us have felt that, still, something was missing. There is a gap. The gap was and is our own local community. Is God wishing we would do more—for *them*? Would they miss us if we sold and moved away? Are there people living without something that God meant for us to be the ones to give it to them? Acts says David did the will of God in *his* generation—and God is calling us to do the Will of God in *our* generation.

And so we are having this special weekend—with Pastor Sara-May's parents—the **Doctors Gaspar and May-Ellen Colon**. They both work now at the General Conference headquarters. But their history has been in exactly this area—helping churches find their calling and mission in the local, urban community. He started the Urban Ministry program at one of our SDA colleges, that Sara-May herself took and graduated from. They hold seminars on this all over the world. They have been missionaries in Africa and Russia. Pastor Sara has started coffee shops and been involved in social justice programs for years, and longs to see GGSDA / OC GRACE step up and get our hands dirty in our community, much more than we have.

The schedule is:

1. **Friday night, 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall** (materials and light snacks)
2. **Sabbath morning, SS, 10:35-11:25 am, Pathfinder Room**
3. **Interview, Second Service, 11:30 am, leading to my Homily**
4. **Haystack Lunch outside, 1:00-2:30 pm**
5. **Afternoon Seminar, 2:45-4:30pm, Fellowship Hall**
6. **Sunday morning Pancake Breakfast, 8:00-8:45am, Seminar 8:45 to 10:30am, Fellowship Hall. (\$5 for Pathfinders, all goes to the club)**

THE WAY is on tonight, being the 3rd Friday night of the month—7:00 pm, Youth Chapel

OC GRACE FIRST: 9:30 am, Fellowship Hall, with Pastor Tony back after a very successful Week of Prayer, Georgia Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

DIVINE WORSHIP: 11:30am, Sanctuary. Drama, baptisms, Interview with the Colon's, and my homily—**"MAKING GOD SMELL GOOD!"**

ELDERS' LUNCHEON: 1:00-2:30, Fellowship Hall, Prayer Ministry—All elders and their families have been called and invited for this special luncheon and blessing upstairs.

HAYSTACKS LUNCH: Outside, 1:00-2:30, by the Refreshment Stand.

PATHFINDERS: 1:30 pm, Pathfinder Room, first meeting of the year!

VIETNAM FELLOWSHIP: 4:30, Youth Chapel

SUNDAY: PANCAKE BREAKFAST, 8:00 am, Seminar, 8:45-10:30.

Hope you can come to the Seminar! There is no feeling in the world, like knowing you are doing something to change the world, to give back, and doing exactly what God wanted you to do!

God bless—
Pastor Dan