



Garden Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church

Pastor Dan's Newsletter



December 18, 2015

Merry Christmas to you tonight!

As we move into Christmas week, we pray for its blessings to fill your home, apartment, trailer, room, or wherever you are tonight.

Christmas Giving: As you wrap up your Christmas giving this week, we hope and pray that you will do something special for God and the church. If you know that maybe you haven't exactly put Him first all year—pray about putting it right this week. The leaders of our church work so hard to make every dollar stretch to cover as much ministry as possible. Every dollar is audited. Orangewood Academy is doing fantastic with what we send there—upgrading their chapel as we speak, setting the standard academically among other academies, great sports program, two great Christmas music programs this week. We hope the church “deserves” your support! Give a **faithful tithe** (10%), which helps support our four Conference pastors and the work of the church all over the world, and give **Church Budget (3-4%)** which is the only way Garden Grove does what we do here!

Three ways to give: (1) A check or cash in an envelope at church; (2) Online Giving, www.gardengrovesda.com; and (3) Pushpay. “gardengrovesda,” “77977” when you need to type in a number.

Thank you for whatever you can do, from all of us who work here and those who serve on the committees and boards!

Our two big events for the week:

CHRISTMAS BANQUET: Our big Christmas celebration is here! Tomorrow, Sabbath morning, from 8:30-10:30 am upstairs in the Fellowship Hall. It is decorated to the hilt. It is “come and go”, but obviously it fills up as the morning goes along. Then slip downstairs to get a good seat for the 11:00-12:30 Christmas Divine Worship service in the Sanctuary.

Sabbath Schools: There are no Sabbath Schools tomorrow!

Dishes: If you are bringing a dish, please bring it warmed if possible. **Children's Processional:** If you would like to have your children included in the grand Christmas Processional with the choir, pastoral staff and families, and all the children, they need to be in the line in the Narthex by 10:45am! It will be a great photo op for your family album!

CHRISTMAS EVE: Start your Christmas off with Jesus Himself! 6-7pm Thursday, in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is model trains, everywhere—it will be unforgettable! Reception will be 7-8pm right there—soup, desserts, and all the decorations!

**If you can bring your favorite dessert, a plate of cookies, we'd love to have it!

YOUTH: THE WAY is on tonight—great food, music, video, discussion, hanging out!

VIETNAMESE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE: 4:30 pm, in the Youth Chapel. Vietnamese TV called today and asked to video their service—how about that?!

FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS PARTY: 6:00 and on, in the Fellowship Hall. Great music, food, and traditional dance—including certain non-Filipino people!

WAYS TO GIVE/SERVE:

1. **Thanks** for all the help with the lap blankets—they loved them. And all the children needing presents were covered except two—let us know if you would like to bless one of those.

2. **BASKETBALL COURT**—we were all thrilled this week when the structural engineer “Colin” actually went out and chalked out where the court might go. So we're getting close! We have a few bricks left if you would like to be included for posterity, but more important be a part of making this fantastic project happen. We are down to about the last \$2000 to make this \$34,000 project take off. It would also be a very cool Christmas gift to somebody!

3. **WEDNESDAY 8-10am: FEEDING OUR FOOD BANK CUSTOMERS**--The pastors and a whole group of us are planning to serve them all, personally, a great breakfast with fruit, sweet breads, orange juice and hot drink, etc., with music and trimmings—8-10 am this coming Wednesday.

RAY & CHRIS CASON will be feeding the homeless again on Christmas Day, a fantastic ministry. If you can contribute or come, let them know!

BIG BEAR TRIP: The Youth and Young Adults are planning a skiing/snowboarding trip to Big Bear **Monday, DECEMBER 28.** Reserve a spot with Pastor Sara-May or Pastor Tony. Adults \$59 or \$84 with rental and lesson. Youth: \$50, \$78 with rental and lesson. Transportation and food extra! Come enjoy one of the best pleasures this world has!

God bless, and have an absolutely lovely Christmas!

Pastor Dan