



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



March 18, 2016

Dear Saints of God!

Just take a minute and think about what this week means. It's March Madness. We're in the middle of a crazy election cycle. Our Adventist schools have finished test week and are now in spring break.

But for 2.3 billion Christians—this week is the week of all weeks. Passion Week, Easter, and Resurrection Weekend is coming. 2000 years ago Jesus told two of His disciples to go get a donkey, tell the owner, "The Master needs your donkey," and Jesus rode into Jerusalem, and thousands of kids and cheering Jews thought their time had finally come. But 5 days later they killed Him. But he was a King, and He did start a Kingdom, and we're a part of it. May the fullness of the power of His resurrection life pour into you as you go through Passion Week.

EASTER WEEKEND—Friday night, 7:30 to 9:00, Passover Seder Service upstairs—candles, the Cross, Messianic Jewish dance group from a nearby Temple, fruit and soup—come experience this powerful service which has been held every year for almost 4000 years.

EASTER BREAKFAST BANQUET—8:30-10:30 am, also in the Fellowship Hall.

EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE—11:00-12:30. (No SS, no First Service, all merged into one joint service, blending praise teams and speakers and music.

RESURRECTION CELEBRATION—5:30-6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall—great, great music, all heart-racing, soul-stirring Hallelujah happy music—and then come downstairs for a balloon release for everybody, and then an Ice Cream Festival with all the toppings!

Please think about someone who you would really miss if they don't make it to heaven, and invite them to one of these. These are going to be terrific programs!

TONIGHT: THE WAY, 7:00 pm, Youth Chapel. There will be a two-month hiatus, and then something new will relaunch for the summer!

TOMORROW: OC GRACE FIRST SERVICE and SECOND SERVICE, 9:30 and 11:30. Second Service will wrestle with the great question in the next to last chapter of Steps to Christ—"WHAT TO DO WITH DOUBT?" Everybody doubts sometime. Billy Graham doubted. Mother Teresa doubted. Ellen White doubted. Your pastor has had doubts! Are you lost when you've having doubts? Is it wrong to ask questions?

STUDIO DEDICATION: 6 months ago Elder Tom Neslund had a dream he shared with us—and tomorrow the dream comes into being! He and a great team of people have transformed our Library, which wasn't being used to its fullest capacity, into a terrific Media Center where we can tape programs and clips for social media and other media outlets all over the world, in all the languages of our church! Come right after church for a ten-minute dedication, ribbon-cutting,—it's pretty special!

MEMORIAL SERVICE: A woman who we only met a few times passed away a few weeks ago, and we were the only church that she had any sort of connection to. Her name was Doreen, and we offered her friend and partner John Cochrane a Christian service. Even if you didn't know them, we would love for you to take 30 minutes and come give your respects to a great lady who came over from England and was just a terrific, alive woman, until a terrible accident when someone ran a light gave her a brain injury. Youth Chapel, 3 pm, this Sabbath afternoon. In the Bible there were those who went to funerals, so that people had somebody who noticed their passing. It would be terrific if a group of our members could be that for John and her other friends who will come to an Adventist church for the first and only time.

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: 4:30 pm, Youth Chapel.

REPORT ON ROMANIA OFFERING: Our church contributed almost \$700 in a quick, loose offering appeal at the end of church Sabbath, and then someone else wrote a \$300 check, so she took almost \$1000 with her Tuesday night to her home church in Romania to build that Kindergarten Center. We are proud to be a church that supports mission appeals from all over the world, and are trusting that God will bless us for that and help us continue to grow so we can be a force locally and all over the world.

A group of 16 will be going to Mexico early Sunday morning to build a house with AMOR Ministries. Pray for us!

We will give a report next week on the whole Indian project which is essentially completed at this time.

APPEAL FROM COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Dear Church Family,
As you know, our Community Services ministry takes in surplus foods from stores and food banks here in Orange County, and distributes it to about 400 families per month (some homeless) who otherwise don't have enough to eat. The donations of food we receive each week do not include the canned and dry foods we need for distribution.

Would each of our families please go through your pantry and bring canned and dry foods that you have but don't use? When shopping, would you please toss some cans of beans and veggies and bags of dry beans and pasta in your cart? Would you do this each week as a regular thing? We have a collection box in the lobby each week.

Thank you!
Julie McCoubrey
Community Services Volunteer

God bless!
Pastor Dan