

Pastor Dan's Newsletter



garden grove seventh-day adventist church 12702 ninth street garden grove, california

pastordan@gardengrovesda.com
951-236-7262

January 27, 2017

Happy Sabbath to you all!

One week. The new government has made headlines every day, around the world. The stock market went over for 20,000 for the first time. The two oldest women still playing professional tennis are playing each other for the championship this weekend. And--what has happened in your life? Where was God for you this week?

I took the World Religions honors class to the Muslim mosque last week. It is really something, for 500 men and some women to bow down in unison, your forehead to the ground, as we all "submitted" to the One God of all--we seeing through the eyes of Jesus Christ, and they through the prophet Muhammad. But it has to have an effect on you, to bow down to God five times a day--to remember who God is, to give thanks to Him, and to vow to honor Him in all.

A quick summary of the weekend:

FIRST SERVICE: 9:25am now, with our amazing worship band, and then I have the message, working with the old question about Rewards--Does God want people to come to Him for the Rewards? From the stories of Simon and Philip in Acts 8.

SECOND SERVICE: 11:30am--praise and worship leading all the way til the sermon, which is by Pastor Tony, on the promise in Jeremiah 29:11 "I have plans for you for good, and not for evil."

FILIPINO FELLOWSHIP: 2:45 pm, Youth Chapel, with Pastor Ed back from the Philippines for the first time in many years, and well again after coming back sick.

VIETNAMESE FELLOWSHIP: 4:30 pm, Youth Chapel. Their New Year service, and I have the message again, with Pastor Toan still in Vietnam for a few more days.

SKIING: The snow day is on for Sunday, after being postponed last week over the weather. Nearly 30 are going.

MEXICO TRIP: March 26-29, 3 days from Sunday noon to Wednesday noon. \$380 a person, but let us know if you would like to go and can't quite do all of it, and we will pray and hunt around and try to get you there. It's the cheapest most local mission trip we can do, and it is really a great experience. No power tools, everybody can do it, and in 3 days we hand people a house!

VIETNAM, PHILIPPINES, BRAZIL: Rather than one huge mission trip, we have several smaller groups going out. Vietnam has about 20 going March 6 for 3 short crusades, and Philippines April 16 about 23, one large and several smaller campaigns in Manila, along with several church projects and dedications. Pastor Sara-May is leading a more youth and collegiate trip of about 30 to Brazil and the Amazon August 3-16--details will come out shortly. Let us know if you are still interested in one of these! Panama summer of 2018!

VALENTINE PATHFINDER FUNDRAISER: Saturday night, February 11, 6:30 pm. We hope that many of you have signed up for your \$10 ticket. It is for a fantastic cause--giving our kids God and skills and knowledge and unparalleled life experiences. I wish you could see the room full of kids in orange shirts every other Sabbath afternoon! It costs a lot to take them all camping and all the other activities, and this fundraiser, while fun all by itself, doubles up by giving many of those kids the chance to do something that otherwise they could not afford. No child should miss out on this because of finances!

There will be a silent auction. If you can donate something to be put up for auction, that would just be terrific. At the Vietnam Fellowship auction the other night, one man took off his watch and auctioned that off on the spot, and someone bought it for \$350!

This one family of three brothers raised a great deal of money to help our crusade in their home town in Vietnam in March. May we do the same for our kids right here!

Note: There will be free child care--but we need \$5 for the child's meal!

DANIEL 21-DAY FAST: "Dear Saints: Happy Sabbath! I am so happy our 21-day Daniel Fast is ending tomorrow. I can't wait to have some sweet tea Sunday morning and some bread and some dessert! Boy, it's been a journey. I appreciate some of you who shared your experiences from your fast last Sabbath. It refreshes me to hear your story of how you struggle in giving up meat or dessert or whatever your chose to let go, but your were determined to persevere, and then to hear of the blessings you have reaped already with your family.

One shared that they were fasting from television sports for God's Word and quality time with God! Another shared losing 8 lbs. already after only 10 days. One shared giving up caffeine for 21 days. One was a cancer survivor doing the fast. Others were fasting Facebook! Thanks to everyone for sharing!

Amazing, isn't it? Simply by missing some meals and setting your heart on understanding by studying God's Word, you please God. You release beauty for ashes and joy for mourning, and the garment of praise defeats the spirit of heaviness. And you receive courage to do what is right and a heart to love and accept people.

Daniel humbled himself before the Lord. He fasted and prayed for three weeks (21 days), and an angel came to him and said, "Daniel, since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them." (Daniel 10:12).

May God continue to break through the strongholds in our lives and in the church and in our nation as we stand united as God's children declaring His Word, for He sharpens our mouth with His Word. And continue to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in our lives that we may worship Him in spirit and truth. Amen.

Thank you journeying the 21-Day Daniel fasting with us. Blessings! Lesieli and the Prayer Ministry"

God bless you all!
Pastor Dan