

Pastor Dan's Newsletter



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Dear Church Family,
VIETNAM MISSION TRIP UPDATE:

It's 11:00 pm Friday night here in Saigon (8:00am PST Friday in Garden Grove), so I hope you will understand if I just share a short paragraph. We all arrived here fine. Our plane was late into Seoul, and so we missed a flight, but they switched us onto a later Vietnam Airlines flight, and we got to Saigon in time for the first evening meeting. We were able to buy a suitcase and repackage the felts, and avoid \$400 in fees for that.

We have had the first three nights here in the Saigon Central Church, which is really quite a developed church, with wonderful music, good organization in the service, good sound, etc. The church is fairly full every night, including a balcony, but bringing in 70 of their pastors and Bible workers from upcountry helped with that! There have been 6 Bible workers working for the last several months, and there will be several baptisms tomorrow from them. They don't allow anyone who just came to these meetings to be baptized so quickly, but they tell us about 50 interests have been coming every night.

We are in a modest hotel about 15 minutes walk from the Church and Mission. They feed us at the mission. I spoke for the 70 pastors this morning and answered questions, and then we toured the other two small churches in Saigon. It's a little bit sad, to be a city of 12 million and just have these three churches, but remember that virtually all the church leadership was taken out in 1975 to avoid mass retribution, so the church was in a tough situation for a long time--no salaries, virtually no trained pastors, all the schools were taken, our hospital was taken, etc. There are still no schools, and all children are required to go to school on Sabbath, so taking a stand for the Sabbath and church when children are young is a challenge. But there are quite a number of fantastic young adults at the Central church, and the leadership of the Mission are outstanding people.

Tomorrow, Sabbath am, we have church at 9. I have to cut the sermon down, due to translation, and then there will be a baptism, then a meeting with the volunteers, and then a nice Saturday night has been planned. Sunday morning we fly to the second location, which will be a large church we have helped build in the mountainous area near the city of Dalat. The water filters and one set of felts will be our gifts there.

God bless, pray for us and the work here!
Pastor Dan and team

OC Grace | GGSDA
THIS WEEKEND:
FRIDAY March 10, 2017

7:30PM OC Gathering: Youth Vespers for ALL Churches @ Orangewood Academy Tolan Auditorium

SABBATH March 11, 2017

9:25AM SERVICE: Pastor Tony will be speaking on "*The Back of the Hand and A Bigger Picture*." How are we called to respond when we face injustice at work, with family, as a nation? Most of the time we'll choose to respond with vengeance or choose to not respond at all. But what if there is a better way? What did Christ teach the early church about how to respond to evil? How did Paul live this out in his last days?

10:30AM SABBATH SCHOOL CLASS: Drop or join us at one of our Sabbath School Classes in the Children's Wing including a Youth Class. Multiple Adult classes to choose from including a Young Adult or a class in Spanish, Vietnamese, Filipino or Brazilian (Portuguese).

11:30AM SERVICE: Pastor Tony is speaking on "*Choosing to Sing When You're Given the Back of the Hand*." How should Christ followers respond to injustice? How are we called to live during times of pain and persecution?

11:30AM OC GRACE KIDS CHURCH: "*Pass the Fruit*" all children are invited, in the Youth Chapel.

2:30PM FILIPINO SERVICE. Pastor Ed and team will meet in the Youth Chapel.

4:30PM VIETNAMESE SERVICE: Meeting in the Youth Chapel.

If you would like to be added to Pastor Dan's weekly email newsletter list, submit your request to: pastordan@gardengrovesda.com