



The Vision

a NEWSLETTER of the Garden Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church

Vol. 8 No. 7

Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

Fall 2007

NEW WORSHIP SERIES FOR THE SEASON OF INCARNATION

For ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, and EPIPHANY, our pastors will present a series entitled "And You Shall Call Him".

From the beginning, Christians have continually mined the sacred scripture of the Jewish community, our Old Testament, to help them understand, and enter the meaning of Jesus' birth, life and passion. In this season of the Incarnation, we shall reflect on some of the names and titles from Old Testament prophecy and witness to which believers found a special attachment. From Isaiah 9, we taste again those felicitous phrases that Handel catches up in his glorious Messiah, "Wonderful Counselor", "Mighty God", "Everlasting Father", "Prince of Peace." From Isaiah 7, reflected through the Angel's announcement to Joseph, we thrill again to the promise of Immanuel, "God with us". And, finally, from Micah 5, in connection to those strange visitors from the East, the Magi, we ponder the meaning of that King and his kingdom.

Each week a family from our congregation will read scripture, light candles on the Advent wreath, and lead us in a responsive litany. On two Sabbaths, our choir will help us praise God and His Messiah with inspiring seasonal music. On December 15, our worship will conclude with a service of Lessons and Carols, interspersed with choruses from Handel's Messiah, sung by our Sanctuary Choir.

So often, Christmas begins for the consumer world around us before Thanksgiving! By the time we actually reach the festival day itself, we are all weary of Christmas music in the mall. Sometimes, the church also rushes to celebrate too soon, and the whole spirit of Advent as a time of waiting and watching, of preparing and anticipating, gets lost. This year, in our worship, we will move slowly, reflectively; considering the meaning of Jesus for our lives, before we pull out all the stops, and sing the Angel alleluias with resounding joy.

--- Pastor Andy

Series outline:

December 1: ADVENT "Jesus is Our Wonderful Counselor" - Pastor Rudy Torres
December 8: ADVENT "Jesus is Our Mighty God"- Pastor Andy McRae
December 15: ADVENT "Jesus is Our Everlasting Father"- Pastor Rudy Torres
December 22: ADVENT "Jesus is Our Prince of Peace"- Pastor Andy McRae
December 29: CHRISTMAS "Jesus is Our Immanuel"- Pastor Rudy Torres
January 5: EPIPHANY "Jesus is Our King"- Pastor Rudy Torres





Charades - Name the movie

Saturday night, 11/3 found the Youth, Women's Ministries, and Social Committee coming together for a fundraising Spaghetti Feed for Cruise with a Mission. Despite it being an incredibly busy day for the church family, all-you-can-eat spaghetti, salad and garlic bread ensured everyone involved had lots of energy for the games and contests. The great activities planned by Steve Rivera, Lizz Randall, and Leslieli and Josh Tameifuna kept everyone hopping, either mentally or physically.



Pop the balloon

Triple eX

In case you've forgotten, or never known, Triple eX stands for Exist, Experience, and Express; as our collegiate/young adult group explores the love of God with each other and for others. Although we don't see them in the main church service all that often, this group is extremely active.

Friday Night Live

One Friday night a month, the Triple eX group puts on an energy- and spirit-filled worship program. On 11/2, Steve and Moenau Rivera led the worship team, exploring God's gifts to us, without price. A special bonus that evening was Moenau's teaching the group a hymn in Tahitian.

The next FNL is on 12/7, at 7:30 pm, presenting CHRISTmiss? This will be a night of worship to think about the true meaning of Christmas. If you think you're "too old" (or too young) to attend FNL, think again. It is truly a night of God-filled music, thought, and fellowship, and a wonderful way to start Sabbath.

Mission Dedication and Holiday Luncheon

On Sabbath, 12/8, during Church Life, there will be special dedication to all those who are or have donated time to mission work. This is especially important for those participating in Cruise with a Mission. Following divine worship, Triple eX will be having its annual Holiday Luncheon, enjoying an afternoon of fun, laughter and giving.

Cruise with a Mission

The church family has been generous with its prayers and finances as this group has prepared for and worked toward their goal. While you have helped a great deal, funds to pay for the participants' airfare are still not complete. Please continue to keep them in your prayers and donations, as they go out to share God's love with others, strengthen their faith, and network with other youth and young adults who share their love for God. Watch for their report in the next Newsletter and at Family Movie Night 1/12/08!



Breakfast Bowl - LinBrook Lanes

Breakfast Bowl

Breakfast Bowl on Sunday, 10/21 missed some usual players, but welcomed other new players to the team. Overall, almost everyone did themselves proud. Linda Jolly was our quiet storm, with a great third game that included 3 spares and a strike. Our new BB members, the Grahams, proved their skill, with Sean consistently throwing spares and strikes, for high scores. Weston Dick displayed his usual quiet mastery, even after a slip, and consoled the lowest-scoring member with the succinct thought "It's better to be lucky than good." Unfortunately, even luck didn't help that day. Regardless, fun was had by all involved. Mark your calendars for the next BB outing on 2/24/08!

- First Quarter 2008 Social Committee Events**
Saturday, 1/12 – Family Movie Night (church)
Sunday, 2/3 – Superbowl Party (church)
Sunday, 2/24 – Breakfast Bowl (offsite)



On Sunday, 11/11 several of our church members went to the San Diego Museum of Natural History to see the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibition. At 2:00 pm that afternoon they listened to an organ concert at the Spreckels Organ at Balboa Park.

Coordinated by John Koch, Wayman Nelson, and Tom Neslund's Sabbath School class, thirty people, three vans, and several cars caravanned to San Diego, enjoying their day, despite sprinkles of rain, which thankfully cleared up for the concert "A Gift to America" on the historic Spreckels Organ.

Community Services

The Community Services team would like to thank you for your generosity this Thanksgiving season, and would be grateful for your continued donations as they prepare for Christmas baskets. Food - mashed potatoes, canned yams, green beans, corn, cranberry sauce or jelly, and canned fruit; as well, monetary donations are much appreciated, as prices, like everywhere else, have gone up both at the Second Harvest and Action foodbanks. On-going weekly needs include canned fruit, peanut butter, and canned tomato products.

If you cannot give food or money, but have a few hours a week, please consider donating time on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings. Community Services helps 40-60 families, individuals and homeless each week, and performs miracles of assistance with a very small team. Call Linda Jolly for more information on how to help.

<p>Community Services Church line - 714.534.4376 Linda Jolly - 714.554.8632</p>	<p>Women's Ministries Lizz Randal - 714.931.5499 Anna Cantos - 714.588.9901</p>
--	--



Did you pick up your little Gingerbread boy or girl yet?

Each gingerbread tag has the name, age and gift request for a child who is part of CASA. CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocates of Orange County, and is a non-profit organization that trains community volunteers to serve as powerful mentors and advocates for our community's most severely abused, abandoned, and neglected children.

This year, Women's Ministries is seeking your help to buy a Christmas gift for one of these children. Remember, your gift must be at the church by Sabbath, 12/8!

Women's Ministries

There's still time! The annual Women's Ministries Holiday Tea will be held the afternoon of Saturday, 12/1. Special guests include speaker Linda Nelson-Torres and musician Charlene Gibbs. Tickets are \$10, and will be available until 11/24. Call Anna Cantos or Lizz Randall for more information or for late registration.

There's still one more Women Out Walking excursion in 2007. Sunday morning, 12/16 in Laguna Beach. Meet at the Randall Beach House, 1260 Cliff Drive, Laguna, at 8:45 am for a walk followed by a holiday brunch. See the insert in your weekly bulletin for complete information.

**THE VISION
NEWSLETTER**

Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Santa Ana, CA
Permit # 1550

Garden Grove
Seventh-day Adventist Church
12702 Ninth Street, Garden Grove, CA 92840