



The Vision

a NEWSLETTER of the Garden Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church

Vol. 9 No. 1

Lifting Up Christ . . . Building Up People

Spring 2008

Pastors Plan a Worship Series Exploring Our Spiritual Heritage

Worship Services at Garden Grove will take a fresh look at our spiritual heritage in a series entitled "Who Are We?" The series will begin June 21st and continue through November 22nd.

"Who Are We?" will unfold in three parts. Part one will focus on our Christian heritage of faith: What we share with others who claim Jesus as Lord and Savior. Part two will look at unique aspects of our Seventh-day Adventist beliefs. And finally, in part three, we will briefly explore our Garden Grove congregation's faith story.

Other special services will include a Missions Sabbath on October 18th, with our church choir presenting a worship program entitled "Missionary Journeys With Jesus". And the following week, October 25th, is designated as Adventist Heritage Sabbath. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated on August 23rd and November 22nd.

Pastor Andy and Pastor Norman invite you to join your church family in a celebration of remembering, rejoicing, learning, and looking forward. Watch the church website and the weekly worship bulletin for details.



The Garden Grove Church Board voted in its most recent board meeting to explore several key questions over the next three months, in preparation for its search for a new Senior Pastor.

Our Interim Pastor, Norman Yergen, has suggested the best metaphor for understanding the church may be the family. Like any family going through a major transition, processing the past helps us to move into the future with better success.

The Board, Elders, and search committee will plan to meet about six times over the next three months. If you would like to participate in these conversations, please contact the church office or the Pastors to make arrangements.

If you have any questions, please call Pastor Yergen at 301-717-7638.

Women's Ministries

Thirty-nine women from Garden Grove, Long Beach, and several other churches came together at Camp Cedar Falls April 25 - 27, 2008 for the annual Women's Retreat. Special guest speaker Lourdes Morales-Gudmundsson of La Sierra University shared many insights on the subject of forgiveness, with valuable examples of when you can and can't forgive, then how to reach that place within yourself to let go, and let God. The participants truly felt God speaking to them through her words. Many people contributed to the success of this weekend, with special thanks going to Lizz Randall, Anna Cantos, the Meckstroths, Mary, Michele, Sheri Sinaga, Kath, Nesa, Ana, Noelle, Christina, Yvonne Holstein, Yvonne's cousin Dr. Gil, Pako, all the Taula ladies (and Christian), the Roca family, Lisa Ann, Patty, Zelda, Dori, Debbie, and Odie Vargas, who make a special trip down from Salins, rather than miss having fun with the crew!

Summer Chick Flick Night RETURNS! Mark your calendar for the first movie night, June 28, 2008. Vespers at 6:30 p.m., followed by a potluck international meal, and the foreign film "Babette's Feast" (with subtitles). Watch the bulletin for more details, or contact Lizz Randall or Anna Cantos for more details.

Social Committee Events

Sunday, 6/29 - Church Picnic (offsite)

Weekend 7/19 - Luau - The Social Committee will be working with the Youth/Young Adults on their fund-raising Luau. Save the date now for this awesome event! If you've been in the past, you know you don't want to miss this year's production!

Saturday, 8/23 - Ice Cream Social - We will be conducting a "Taste-Off" of your church family members' favorite home made ice creams! Plan to bring a batch of you favorite homemade recipe, and enjoy the chance to be designated "Grand Favorite"!

Saturday, 9/20 - Beach Vespers (offsite)

Community Services

Please keep community services in your thoughts and prayers. Each week, up to 65 families and/or individuals are served. The rising cost of food you have noticed at the grocery store each week has also affected both the supply and price at our local food bank. Please check your pantries. They need soup, tomatoes, canned fruits & vegetables, pasta. Call Linda Jolly for information on how you can help.

Community Services

Church line - 714.534.4376
Linda Jolly - 714.554.8632

Women's Ministries

Lizz Randal - 714.931.5499
Anna Cantos - 714.588.9901

Follow-up Report on the Bosnia Mission Project for 2007

Bob Maukovich left for his mission trip on September 12, 2007, and returned home on October 10, 2007. He took with him seven pieces of luggage containing clothing, and one bicycle, which he distributed to needy persons.

He also took \$8,400 which had been raised during his fundraising project. This money was used for the following projects:

1. Purchased one outfit of clothing for each member of 15 different families.
2. Purchased CDs for Children's Ministries.
3. Purchased a VW Station Wagon to be used for a Slovakian Mission Project.
4. Assisted a paraplegic who was having financial problems resulting from his disability.
5. Gave tuition assistance to students at the Belgrade Theological Seminary and the Novisad Adventist Academy.

He spoke at the Belgrade Theological Seminary, and at a different church each week. He was also able to visit with church members, friends and family members.

The humanitarian needs in this area seem to grow each year, and people continue to ask him for assistance with their special needs on his next trip. He received a request this time from a family to add two rooms to their house because they have inadequate space, and are without indoor plumbing.

I want to thank Bob for his dedicated service to those in need. Bob did overspend what had been raised by approximately \$4,800. The church cannot make this up to Bob, but if anyone would like to contribute on their own, they can donate to the Bosnia Mission and receive tax credit for it.

Barbara Peck
Chair of the Mission Projects Committee



Friday Night Live!

Presented by Triple eX Ministries

Music * Praise and Worship * Food

Mark your calendar for a joint Orangewood Academy/FNL Beach Vespers on May 30. Friday Night Live will then take a short break this summer in order to prepare for the Luau and support other functions. The next FNL meeting will be in August.



PLAN TO ATTEND the Triple-X Luau the weekend of July 19, 2008. This will be a fund-raising event, to help defray costs of this year's mission trip to Fiji. Moenau Rivera is originally from Fiji, and is working with friends and family to coordinate the work planned for this year's mission. Watch and Listen for more details!

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