

# Sunnyside Adventist Church Communiqué

## News & Announcements

Sabbath, August 22, 2020



### Hello church family!

I am going to follow Pastor Wendy's lead and tell you my personal story to help all of you get to know me a little better. If you would have told me even five years ago that I would be your new associate pastor I would have not believed you.

It was July 9, 2016, and I was sinking deeper into the water and the pressure

began to build around me. If any of you have gone deep under water you know the immense pressure and silence that accompanies you at these depths. With my eyes open I looked up and thought, this is it, this is where I am going to die. In fact, it was where I died. It was my baptism! My pastor dunked me deep under water and held me there for a while because both he and I knew with my past I needed it. I died to Christ that day and became forever His and since then have been living my life, with tons of mistakes, and to the best I can to follow His lead and example.

I do not come from a Christian home. In fact, when I first heard that my now wife was an Adventist, I had to Google what that even meant! Growing up I was really good at one thing, throwing a baseball. It was my dream to be a professional baseball player and I got very close. With a full-ride scholarship to play baseball as a pitcher, I put every single ounce of what I had into achieving that dream. One day, as I was playing ultimate frisbee with friends, I landed awkwardly on my knee and tore my ACL and MCL. I was hoping to correct it with rehab and get back into playing again, and the exact day I was cleared for full activities I tore my other ACL and MCL sledding in one of my home towns of Jackson Hole, Wyoming. That was the end of my career as a baseball player, as I began to take the hint that I should try to live my life a little different now.

When I left baseball, I now had this enormous gap in my life that I tried to fill with everything I possibly could (I often think of Ecclesiastes 1:14 here). This led me to many addictions in my life and a pursuit of finding that one thing that would satisfy my soul and make my life worth living. I became an accountant obtaining my Bachelor's degree in Accounting at Colorado State University and began my work up the corporate ladder at Centura Health in Denver, Colorado. Finishing school didn't save me, the title of accountant didn't save me, the money sure didn't help me out either. It only got worse.

That was until the day I met this sweet beautiful blonde girl named Chelsea. She called me Ben the first time we met and accused me of stealing candy from the ladies who worked with us (ask her about that story when you meet her). Even with that traumatic beginning we both knew that this was the person we were supposed to be with.

Going on walks with Chelsea was, and still is to this day, the thing that continually centers me. When we first started going on walks we talked about Adventism and topics such as this weird word for Saturday, and how everyone sleeps when they die, and how they don't eat meat! (I used to eat 4 pieces of bacon, two eggs, and sourdough toast every morning when I met her). She left on vacation and gave me the name of a speaker that I should listen to. When she came back from her vacation I had an entire legal pad full of notes that I wanted to ask her. Being overwhelmed with the amount, and enormity, of the questions she sent me to my pastor who is the one that held me under the water as deep as he could on July 9.

After my baptism I struggled deeply because I thought my baptism and being an Adventist would fill that hole that baseball left. Again on another walk with Chelsea she asked me what I was missing in life and what I wish I had. I spouted off about 5 things that included meaning, purpose, and direction in life. She told me I needed to pray for God's will in these things and that I should seek Him to find what I needed in my life. That very night I was praying and reading an ESV study bible I had received from my in-laws, Rob and Lisa Foster. Reading the introduction to Romans a scholar of the Apostle Paul wrote that not only did Paul find reconciliation for his sins in Christ, he also found meaning, purpose, and direction in his life through preaching the resurrection of Christ. It was that moment that my hole was filled in following Christ with all of my heart, while continually stumbling, and telling others about His love for them.

My wife Chelsea and I have recently added to our family a cute Golden Doodle puppy named Dunder who is full of love for other dogs and people. Personally, I enjoy cooking, eating, hiking, triathlons, fishing, golf, rock climbing, and basically anything outdoors. Please contact me if you would like to be outside and meet as in these rare times I would love to meet my new church family anywhere I can!



Coming to you as a new pastor in this role God has gifted me with an administrative background working in finance for a few years in the corporate world. He has also blessed me with an Apostolic compass, and a passion on how to live life abundantly (John 10:10) here on this earth. Everything I do I try to incorporate how it can reach those that are not in the church, and how we can be a church on mission together in our beautiful city of Portland, Oregon. My prayer for this calling from God is that, as James 1 in the Message translation states, I will "lead with my ears." Listening to your amazing ideas for how you can see Sunnyside be a blessing to those inside the church and outside as well. I am looking forward to

meeting and getting to know all I can in any way that we are allowed. Working collaboratively, and with much innovation, to reach as many as we can.

If you would like to hear more about my story or my passions I have a podcast called Life Project Podcast which is all about living life abundantly. The podcast can be found on iTunes, Spotify, or any other podcast app. You can also find it on [www.lifeprojectionline.com](http://www.lifeprojectionline.com).

Blessings, hope, courage, and peace in Christ through these difficult times!

### **Pastor Billy Hungate**



#### **Shout-Out**

Send your "shout-outs" to [info@SunnysideAdventist.org](mailto:info@SunnysideAdventist.org) so we can include them in next week's Communiqué. This is a place you can recognize someone for doing well or going beyond expectations.

*Shout out to Gary and Kathy Kramer. It has been rumored they have been dropping flowering plants and cards by many of our members' homes! Thank you for your love and thoughtfulness, Gary & Kathy! We miss seeing you on a weekly basis!*

## **News & Notes**

**Due to the Coronavirus pandemic all services and meetings at the church have been canceled until further notice. Stay connected! Check out our Facebook page and website. If you are not receiving our emails, please forward your email address to [info@SunnysideAdventist.org](mailto:info@SunnysideAdventist.org), so we can keep you informed of our activities.**

### **THIS WEEKEND**

Welcome to our worship service via streaming video at 11:15 AM. Pastor Mark Witas will present our Bible message titled "The Most Powerful Muscle."

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Next Wednesday, August 26, between 4:00-6:00 PM**, there will be a drive-by celebration of Lorrie Wescott's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, at the corner of NE Davis and 104th Streets. Take a minute to celebrate with Lorrie on this very exciting date! Happy birthday, Lorrie!

A virtual Board meeting is scheduled via Zoom Wednesday, August 26, at 7:00 PM. If you are a Board member, watch your email for an invitation.

**Sabbath, August 29, between 5:00-7:00 PM**, we will welcome our new pastors with a drive-by welcome here in the church parking lot. Pastors Wendy Witas and Billy Hungate along with their families will be eager to greet you. Line up for the drive-by in the back parking lot along the CherryWood side, then you will exit through the front parking lot to Market Street.

**Parents with children between the ages** of Beginners through Juniors, if you would like a Sabbath School Activity Packet, please RSVP to Jackee Duvall 503-309-9400 your interest and child's age. These will be available at the drive-through.

**Ray and Marion Betz invite you** to a reception for their son Raymond Betz and Seikosha Llanos on August 30. Drop by between 11:00 AM-3:00 PM for light refreshments and to visit with the newlyweds. Don't forget to bring your mask! The reception is located at 14140 SE Rhone St. Portland, OR 97236. RSVP is appreciated. Visit [www.theknot.com/raymondandseikosha](http://www.theknot.com/raymondandseikosha) and use password *JoinRayKosha0730* to do so.

**Renewed Sanctuary — Almost there!** The ReNew Committee has been very active in planning ahead for the next steps of the refurbishment of our sanctuary. Platform concrete is in place and tiling will be done soon. These next steps include carpeting, choir chair upgrade, and pew reupholstering. Most of the funds are in place. We are about \$7,000 short of what is needed for these next steps. Please consider contributing to making this happen. *Thank you!*

**During this difficult time**, if you are in need of financial help for rent, utilities, or other needs, the Family Resource Network stands by to help. Or if you know of a fellow church member that may need help and is hesitant to ask, let us know. Call the church office at 503-252-8080 or send an email to [info@SunnysideAdventist.org](mailto:info@SunnysideAdventist.org).

**Directory Update — Thank you to all of those who have forwarded a recent photo for the directory — however, we are still missing many photos!** We would love to have your photo in our directory. If you haven't given us one, please upload a photo through your Elexio app or send a snapshot to [info@SunnysideAdventist.org](mailto:info@SunnysideAdventist.org). If you can't email it, mail it; we'll scan it, and return it to you. It does not have to be one that is professionally taken. We just want to be able to identify you with a photo! Thank you for your help with this.

## **ADVENTIST EDUCATION**

### **Portland Adventist Elementary School**

<http://www.paes.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/PAESPanthers/>

**School begins August 31.** For our re-entry plan in the fall, the school has chosen to open our classrooms without distance learning. We will continue developing our plan with all protocols as required by the Oregon Department of Education. Our final plan will be posted on our website and submitted to the Oregon Department of Education by August 15, 2020. The first day of classes is set for August 31, 2020.

### **Portland Adventist Academy**

**School begins August 26. Belonging & Learning From a Distance** PAA's academic, emotional, and spiritual support meant remarkable resilience last spring quarter. We're ready for in-person and distance learning but classes are capped so apply today!

PAA will not be able to meet for in-person learning for the first week of school. We will only meet for in-person instruction when Oregon's state coronavirus metrics are in compliance ([info to follow the metrics](#)). We will always provide a high-quality education whether online learning or in-person learning. To learn more visit our website at <https://paasda.org/>.

### **Substitute Teachers Needed!**

Please consider joining the PAA team as a Substitute Teacher. To apply, contact Shawna Irvine at [sirvine@paasda.org](mailto:sirvine@paasda.org) or 503.255.8372x214. Qualified applicants must be 26 or older or have a college degree. Qualified applicants must follow all safety protocols, including wearing a mask and maintaining physical distance when in-person. This job pays \$15.00 per hour (class time only). A resume is not required. Background checks are mandatory and paid by PAA.

### **Bus Driver needed for the Coming School Year!**

Portland Adventist Academy is looking for a bus driver for the coming school year. The qualified applicant should have or be able to obtain, a commercial driver's license to transport students to and from PAA and Tualatin Valley Academy. The job pays \$20 per hour. To apply, contact Darcie Hordofa at 503.255.8372 or [dhordofa@paasda.org](mailto:dhordofa@paasda.org). Learn more on the PAA website [HERE](#).

**Rivergate Adventist Elementary School** is looking for a qualified Lead Preschool and After School Care Teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. Must have a great love and patience for children. For information on qualifications and to submit a resume please contact School Principal Sharilyn Smith [sharilyn@rqsda.org](mailto:sharilyn@rqsda.org)

### **Walla Walla University**

**Students at Walla Walla University** will have three options for attending classes during fall quarter. The university announced on Aug. 11 that it will offer more than 100 online and dual-modality classes in addition to in-person classes. General registration will be on September 13; Freshman Jump-Start registration begins September 8.

**Walla Walla University has an open position for a full-time Power Plant Operator** in their Facility Services Department. They are having a challenging time finding applicants. With the continued changes to the workforce around the state and nation, there may be someone who might be looking for work and is qualified and interested in applying. Here's the link to the job description page. Power Plant Operator, Walla Walla University  
<https://www.wallawalla.edu/resources/human-resources-payroll/staff-employment/>

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND AREA EVENTS**

**PACS NEWS:** (Portland Adventist Community Service)

**PACS Food Pantry Drive-thru OPEN** Mon-Fri from 9:00-11:00 AM. We are still operating with social distancing and social responsibility. If you or someone you know needs food please tell them about us. If you cannot make it to PACS please send a note with someone and they can get you food. Any questions please call PACS at 503-252-8500 or email [pacsfood2020@gmail.com](mailto:pacsfood2020@gmail.com). Located at 11020 NE Halsey St, Portland OR 97220

**PACS Thrift Store is OPEN** - we have temporary hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00 AM-5:00 PM & Friday 9:00 AM-2:30 PM. Our donation drop off center is open and we value your donations but due to a high volume of donations please call ahead to see if we are accepting, 503-252-8500. Located at 11020 NE Halsey St, Portland OR 97220

**PACS Thrift Store - At Home Shopping:**

[www.facebook.com/groups/pacsthriftstore](https://www.facebook.com/groups/pacsthriftstore)

**Empty Egg Cartons? PACS Needs Them!**

If you have any 12-count empty egg cartons we would love to take them off your hands to use in our food pantry! Please drop them off at our Office or Donation Receiving. Thank You In Advance!

### **Job Openings at PACS**

**Full-time Development/Marketing Associate** - Seeking a candidate who can effectively communicate the PACS mission and vision to our community, constituents, volunteers, and donors. See full job description visit, <http://www.pacsonline.org/job-openings>