

**December 27 Communiqué**

Hi Sunnyside Family,

When was the last time you lived between a high ending and an uncertain beginning?

That's how I feel during the time between Christmas and New Year's – the liminal space partially filled with internal chaotic energy fueled by the euphoria of “new” New Year's resolutions (read “unaccomplished resolutions in 2025”) and an ambient peace knowing that my life is under the lordship of Jesus.

I'm spending Christmas and New Year's with my in-laws in Riverside, California, this weekend. This will be the first Christmas without my abuela and abuelita – the grandparents of my wife – whose funerals I conducted this year. As I walk around mom and dad's house, and have arros y frijoles, with Cuban flan at the dinner table, I'm reminded of the people who should have been here but aren't. The liminal space is a hard place, forcing me to confront the fear of grief and the uncertainties of a future without them.

But the days after the birth of Jesus reminds me that though the path ahead is jagged, scary, and overwhelming, God's purposes will prevail. The plans of God speak louder than the fears of my life. That although suffering may endure through the night, joy comes in the morning.

That's probably why C.S Lewis in “A Grief Observed” penned these words after the death of his wife: “My idea of God is not a divine idea. It has to be shattered time after time. He shatters it Himself. The Incarnation is the supreme example; it leaves all previous ideas of the Messiah in ruins. And most are “ffended” by the iconoclasm; and blessed are those who are not.”

Jesus, we believe, is the reason for the season. And for Lewis, and to us we allow it to be; the days following Christmas can be a season in which the reasons for why we orient our lives towards God can be reexamined and revisited.

Here's to more clarity amidst confusion, and hope amidst despair, in our own liminal spaces.

Cheers,

Pastor Kevin Wilson

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome to Sunnyside! We are happy you are here to worship with us. Let us know who you are by filling out one of the Connect Cards and handing it to the deacons or place it in the box in the foyer before you leave.



Next Sabbath, January 3, we will enjoy our monthly church potluck immediately after our worship service. Bring enough food for your family plus more for our guests. Everyone is welcome and invited to join in eating together



Please pray for Pam Bullock's family. She passed away December 1, 2025. A memorial service for her is being planned for January 25, 2026.



As you plan your year-end giving, please note that all funds to be receipted in 2025 must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2025. If it is received after that, it will be recorded for the year 2026.



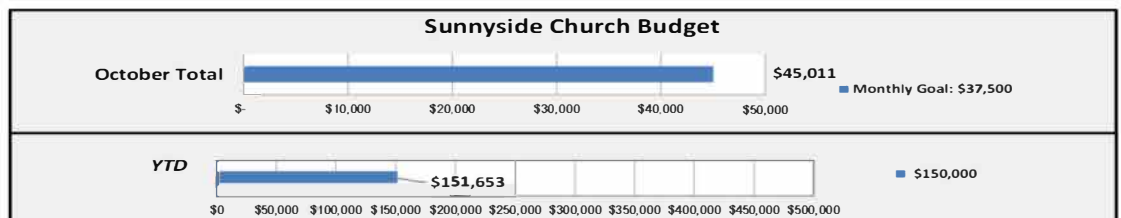
Sunnyside Church office will be closed for the holidays from December 18-January 5. If you have something urgent during this time, please contact us via text at 971-238-9680.



We are blessed with some very strong prayer warriors. If you have a special request, please contact the church office at 503-252-8080 or info@sunnysideadventist.org to submit your request. There is power in prayer, and it truly makes a difference.



Give online: orad.us/Give2Sunnyside





There are some of our family that need help with transportation in order to attend church. If any of you would be willing to help with this need, please contact the office for specific information
503-252-8080 or via email at Info@SunnysideAdventist.org.



If you live at CherryWood Retirement, our bus stops there to pick up anyone who would like to attend church. Please be ready, we stop by at 10:45 am for our church service at 11:15 am. This transportation is free, but if you'd like to contribute, you may mark it to "Bus."



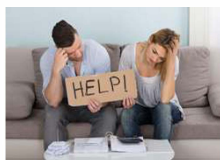
Currently, we are seeking volunteers to help us with video, audio, and the children's division. Please call 503-252-8080 if you would like to get involved.



Would you like to hear the service more clearly? Sunnyside Church provides assistive hearing devices you may borrow. They are located in the Deacons' office. Just let a deacon know of your need and they will be happy to help you.



We would like to publicly recognize special milestones in your life. Please take a moment to share with us special birthdays, anniversaries, or any other celebrations. We are family and we would like to share with each other. Also, please let us know when you are sick or need other prayers. We want to be a part of your life and pray together with you. Send an email to info@SunnysideAdventist.org or call the office at 503-252-8080 and let us know the latest with your family!



During this difficult time, if you are in need of financial help, let us know. Call the church office at 503-252-8080 or send an email to info@SunnysideAdventist.org.



Our Family Resource Network has been privileged to assist many of our members when things have been challenging for them or they have experienced unexpected expenses. We have helped with rent, utilities, food, gas, car repairs, and more. We would like you to be aware of what we do and give you an opportunity to contribute to the fund being used to assist our family. Mark your tithe envelope or check for Family Resource Network, and you will know that you have had the privilege of helping one of our members who doesn't even want to ask for help! We are here to help each other. Thank you for helping us build the fund used for these expenses.



Happy Birthday



Birthdays for this upcoming week.

Lillian Erich, Robert Boyd, David Eichner, Josie Petersen; Debby Delaney, James Delaney, Donna Evando, Robert Mark, Melissa Reynolds, Priselle Alimosi, Brooke Benfield, Benjamin Bisore, Judith Bundi, George Cardona, Ron Cardona, Carol Easter, Canisius Gafishi, Delton Holcombe, Charlotte Kanyange, Larry Miller, Ndasyisaba Mugwaneza, Alice Muziranenge, Innocent Ndayambaje, Fidel Nganizi, Olive Nyirabwiza, Felicite Nyirakaratwa, Russann Royce, Goitom Siyoum, Ruth Wilcox.



Portland Adventist Elementary School

<http://www.paes.com>

Full-Time Treasurer Needed at PAES! Portland Adventist Elementary School is seeking a full-time treasurer to join our PK-8 campus. This role requires good communication, flexibility, and skills in bookkeeping/accounting (QuickBooks experience preferred; training available). Responsibilities include billing, payroll, reconciliations, A/R and A/P, 1099 filing, budgeting, and monthly/year-end closing, with occasional reports to the school board. Interested candidates can send their resume to principal@paes.com.

Substitute Teachers Needed at PAES! Portland Adventist Elementary School is in need of substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year! We are looking for dedicated and compassionate individuals who enjoy being around children and in the school environment. Requirements: Age 21+, college degree preferred, and experience teaching and/or supervising children ages 5-13. If you are interested and would like more information, please reach out to admin@paes.com to apply.

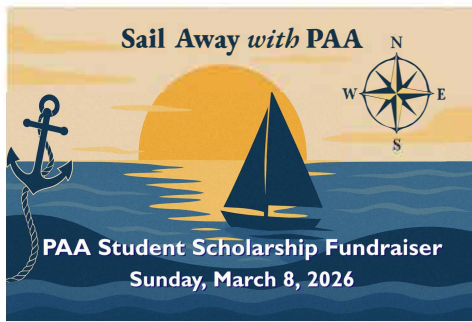


Portland Adventist Academy

<https://paasda.org>

Scholarship Funding

At Portland Adventist Academy, our purpose is to provide a Christ-centered, character-driven education to all students. However, many families face financial challenges that can make it difficult for their children to attend. We are reaching out to ask for your support in funding scholarships that will help make this life-changing education accessible to more students. Your generous donation can directly impact a student's ability to attend and thrive at Portland Adventist Academy. To make either a recurring or one-time contribution, please visit www.paasda.org or contact me at ubrown@paasda.org at 971-351-9028 for more details. As [students share in this video](#), thank you for your support in shaping the future of our students and helping them grow in faith and character.



ALUMNI WEEKEND

May 1-2, 2026



HONOR CLASSES

1951 (75-year), 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971,
1976 (50-year), 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, 2001
(25-year), 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021 (5-year)

PAA & Fred Meyer. You may support PAA through the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program. Just connect a Fred Meyer digital account and connect it to your Shopper's Card, and designate Portland Adventist Academy as the organization you wish to support. You can get it all done on the Fred Meyer website here:

<https://www.fredmeyer.com/i/community/community-rewards>



Rivergate Adventist Elementary School

<https://www.rgsda.org/>



Hood View Adventist School

<https://www.hvja.org/>





Walla Walla University

<https://wallawalla.edu>

Visit: jobs.wallawalla.edu.

AREA EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

comfort SHAWLS

Do you knit or crochet?
Adventist Health Portland needs your
help making comfort shawls.

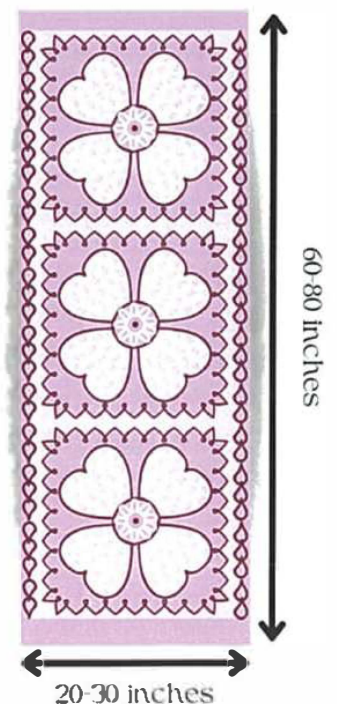
What is a comfort shawl?

A comfort shawl is a reminder of our love given to one in need of comfort and love. Comfort shawls comfort and bless those who are seriously ill, undergoing major medical treatment, in hospice, or those grieving the loss of a loved one.

How do I get involved?

You can bring comfort to these individuals by making a comfort shawl and delivering it to Adventist Health Portland's Spiritual Care Department (503) 251-6105. Use the guidelines below to make a shawl of the appropriate size. Many free patterns are available online. Beginner-friendly projects are welcome!

Get Involved! Call Spiritual Care at (503) 251-6105.



YOUR DONATION EQUIPS OUR MINISTRY

We are collecting gently used or new copies
of these essential books:



Please bring your donated copies to PACS
11020 NE Halsey St Portland, OR 97220

Help us share the life-changing message of faith with our community!



How do we serve?

Portland Adventist Community Services – PACS is a vibrant faith-based Community of Service with staff, volunteers, donors, and community partners who provide food, low-cost dental care, and low-cost clothing/household items to individuals and families.

Hours: Thrift Store, Sun | 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Mon – Thurs | 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Fri | 9:00 am – 2:30 pm / Sat | Closed

Donation Drop Sun | 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Mon – Thurs | 9:00 am – 1:00 pm / Fri – Sat | Closed

Dental Clinic:

Contact the Gateway Grace Dental Clinic to schedule an appointment 503-907-6768

Volunteers:

To volunteer at PACS, contact Jaclyn Russell at (503) 252-8500 ext. 1130

Donations:

From large to small, we take them all.

Money, clothing, even big and tall,

humble egg boxes, and home goods for all

If you are looking for an opportunity to serve in a missional environment focused on giving hope to those in need through Portland Adventist Community Services, then please go to: <https://www.pacsonline.org/job>
There are three postings available.

* Development & Planning Manager

* Thrift Store Assistant Manager (Part-time)

PACS Thrift Store has many shoppers. We need Steps to Christ, Bibles, and Guides to share with them. If you have some to share, please let us know or bring them to PACS and hand them in to the office.



PACS is Hiring!

Come join our non-profit organization in the Portland area that serves the community with a Thrift Store, Food Pantry, and Dental Clinic. **We are hiring a Director of Quality Management and a Thrift Store Part-time Assistant Manager.** If you are interested in these positions, please visit our website (pacsonline.org/jobs) for job descriptions or email jobs@pacsonline.org for more information.

PACS needs truck drivers. Why?

This year, so far, our truck drivers have brought 365,670 lbs.(Jan-Mar) in donated food to feed our diverse community. That represents a huge number of people being fed. What a difference PACS drivers make! If you have a heart for people and like to drive a truck, no CDL license is needed, don't hesitate to contact Jaclyn.

Hours: 7:30-11:00-ish

Telephone: Jaclyn Russell at (503)-252-4589

Email: Jaclyn.russell@pacsonline.org

Sign-up: <https://www.pacsonline.org/volunteer>

Better Life Television, a non-profit Christian (Seventh-day Adventist) broadcasting ministry comprising television, internet, radio, broadcasting, and evangelism, is seeking a Speaker/Executive Director of Operations to drive performance and operational excellence for our organization. Employment preference will be given to members of the Adventist church, as permitted under the EEOC's Title VII provision. This position is based in Grants Pass, Oregon. [Learn more about this position.](#)

NW Adventist Federal Credit Union is hiring a Member Solutions Specialist. Why Join Us? We are more than a credit union. We are a ministry of service to our community. When you join our team, you'll find a workplace that is kind, supportive, and mission-driven. If you have a heart for service and enjoy meaningful, detail-oriented work, we would love to meet you. Apply today! Send your resume to staff@mynwcu.com or visit www.mynwcu.com/careers.



Are you interested in becoming a hospital spiritual care volunteer? Adventist Health Portland Spiritual Care department invites individuals of all ages to apply. Volunteers will have the opportunity to offer pre-surgery support for patients and their families, ensure patients have access to spiritual resources, and more. If you feel called to be part of our team, take the first step by filling out our application form: <https://www.volgistics.com/appform/769001903>

Adventist Health Hospice is looking for compassionate volunteers to provide companionship to patients, provide a much-needed brief break for a tired caregiver, make phone calls on Thursdays to check on patient supplies, or assist with light housekeeping, errands, or pet support. Thorough training and support are provided by Adventist Health Hospice team members. If interested in learning more, contact Karen Hartmann, Bereavement/Volunteer Coordinator, at 503-251-6192 or email Hartmakl@ah.org. You can make a loving difference in someone's life at a challenging time.

Volunteers Needed at PACS

PACS' thrift store, food pantry, and dental clinic all need volunteers. We have lots of fun and exciting jobs ranging from customer-facing cashiers and greeters to pricers and truck drivers behind the scenes. No experience or age requirements to volunteer, we're happy to train you and welcome the entire family! If you're interested, please contact our volunteer manager, Jaclyn, at Jaclyn.russell@pacsonline.org or call 503-252-8500 x1130.