

March 29, Communiqué

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Greetings church family,

Last Thursday, on our way home, we drove through the vast and little-visited Barbilla National Park in Costa Rica—29,500 acres of dense, mountainous rainforest. I was captivated by something our

our driver shared: it took more than ten years to build a road through the park. Even now, large areas remain untouched and entirely inaccessible to modern humans. It's quite possible that these remote regions still harbor species yet to be discovered by science.

I felt an intriguing mix of emotions—a tension between wonder and unease, a sense of reverence, and an irresistible desire to pause, to breathe, and listen. What surprised me most was how familiar those feelings felt. Then it struck me: I've experienced something similar many times as a chaplain.

When you meet someone new, your mind instinctively forms a rough sketch of who they are. But as their story unfolds, and you begin to enter the sacred, unexplored territory of their inner world, you feel that same overwhelming mix of mystery, awe, and unease. You begin to sense the profound holiness of the moment.

In an age when humanity can peer into the furthest corners of the universe, view unborn children in the womb, examine the intricate workings of our intestines, and even study the strange little creatures populating our microbiomes, we often lose sight of this truth: each human being—regardless of how visible they are on social media or how physically close they are to us—contains vast inner landscapes waiting to be discovered.

May God sensitize our hearts to the miracle of human connection, and grant us the curiosity and courage to step toward the unseen beauty of the human spirit.

Pastor Violeta Bilan

The Pastors' Spotlight

From the desk of Pastor Seth

Hello Sunnyside,

We have been enjoying some beautiful weather this week! I have also enjoyed getting together with several of our wonderful members to meet and plan, as well as starting the process of the Nominating Committee. Thank you to all who faithfully serve in our community!

Next week we have our symposium featuring several respected experts. They will be talking about issues related to immigration and the church which will be helpful. Please watch for announcements and plan to attend! Also, please bring an extra potluck dish as we will have more people than usual in attendance.

Have a great week!

From the desk of Pastor Rose

We'd love for all parents and guardians to take part in our Children's Ministry Survey. Your feedback will help us understand the **needs** of our community and **shape** our children's ministry. Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback as we work together to help our kids grow closer to Jesus and one another. https://tinyurl.com/SSKidMin032025

Blessings

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, April 5, we will enjoy our monthly church potluck immediately after our worship service. Bring enough food for your family plus plenty of extra for our guests. We should have a large group with the Sunnyside Symposium taking place next week.

Everyone is welcome and invited to join in eating together.



Membership Transfers – First Reading:

Joining: Alice Ingabire from SDA international Church of Brussels, Belgium Jini O'Flynn by profession of faith

Leaving: Ross and Kassy Eichele to Whipple Creek SDA Church, Ridgefield, WA



On Thursday, April 3, we will enjoy our quarterly Senior Tea with the Senior Pastor at 1:30 pm. This is our opportunity for seniors to visit with Pastor Seth and get to know him. (FYI: this is for women and men.) Feel free to invite your friends, too. We will serve light refreshments. Hope you can join us in the fireside room.



On Sabbath, April 5, here at Sunnyside, you are invited to a special one-day symposium titled: Together at the Table: The Church and Immigration. In recent days, churches and their members have found themselves struggling to understand how to uphold the law while practicing justice and mercy. We will hear from Dr. John McVay, Dr. Terrie Aamodt, Dr. Kessia Reyne Bennett, and Dr. Erika Puni as we discuss the dynamics of creating a welcoming space for those who join our communities through immigration. We will begin the day with Dr. John McVay presenting our morning service, lunch will be a potluck, and the afternoon will continue with presentations and discussion.



Evensong on April 12, at 4:00 pm, here at Sunnyside Church, will feature Dan Miller on the organ and Jim Robertson will present the spoken word. This is a very special time to come together and renew your spirit after such a busy week.



Our next annual Ladies' Spring Tea is on April 13 at 1:00 pm, in the fellowship hall with our guest speaker Dr. Kara Johnsson. A donation will be collected to help support Portland Adventist Community Services (PACS). Come enjoy good food and great conversation. Spread the word and bring a friend. Please RSVP by April 6 to Kathy Kramer 360-553-8464 or Dianne Glovatsky 503-706-5611.



Happy Easter on Sabbath, April 19 — Join us as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection with our choir and orchestra in concert. This will be an exceptional service you won't want to miss.



Our history class meets each Tuesday at 7:00 pm, in the Youth Room. This week on Tuesday, 26, we will study about the "The Jews in 1215 and Beyond" and "Francis of Assisi."





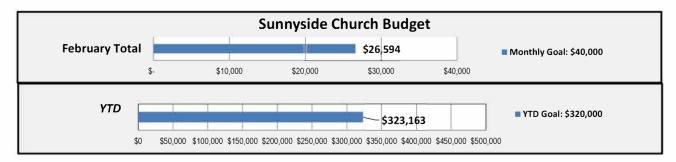
There is a flower calendar posted in the hallway and <u>online</u>. (Go to our website, <u>www.SunnysideAdventist.org</u>, click on "Our Ministries.") Please choose a date to share flowers with your Sunnyside family for worship services and place your name on it. As the date gets closer, we will contact you to see what you would like in the bulletin about the flowers.



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.



Dollars for Missions! Labels keep trickling in and we are quickly reaching another goal. We have received a second check in response to our turning in labels! What a lovely way to give to missions! Continue to save your Loma Linda Labels and turn them in here at the church. There is a box in the Narthex for them. In the "old" days, we received 1¢ per label. Now they give us 25¢ per label. It's well worth saving and receiving "free" dollars for missions! Continue to save and turn in your labels.





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 lnfo@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.



Currently, we are seeking volunteers to help us with video and audio. 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!



Directory photos — **just a reminder.** We have a photo directory, but we are missing many photos or several need to be updated. Please help us know who you are by picture. Send a snapshot or professional picture and we will upload it to the directory for you. Thank you.

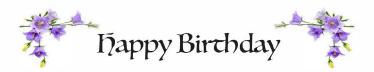


During this difficult time, if you are in need of financial help let us know. Call the church office at 503-252-8080 or send an email to info@SunnysideAdventist.org.



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 for 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.



Monday: Lily Baraka, Maygene Wesslen; **Tuesday:** Maureen Munene; **Wednesday:** Jayden Byram, Glen Heagy, Cassandra Renk, Luz Tulipat; **Thursday:** Jeanne Fleming; **Friday:** Lindsay Espinor

ADVENTIST EDUCATION



Portland Adventist Elementary School

http://www.paes.com

Substitute Teachers Needed at PAES

Portland Adventist Elementary School is in need of substitute teachers! We are looking for dedicated and compassionate individuals who enjoy being around children and in the school environment. If you are interested, please reach out to admin@paes.com to apply or call 503-665-4102.



Portland Adventist Academy

https://paasda.org

Portland Adventist Academy's annual Alumni Reunion is taking place at PAA May 2-3, 2025!

All current and former PAA students, staff and friends are enthusiastically invited to come together. This year's honor classes are: '45, '50 (75-year), '55, '65, '75 (50-year), '85, '95, '00 (25-year), '05, '15, '20 (5-year). The weekend's activities include:

- Friday, May 2, 6 pm Golden Agers & Friends Dinner, Library Welcoming alumni from the '50s, '60s and '70s For details, contact: Bob Winter '53 at (503) 784-2614
- Sabbath, May 3, 10 am, Registration Opens; 10:30 am, Worship Service, including Roll Call, PAA Gym Speaker: Dr
 Terry Johnsson '85
- Sabbath Lunch Following the worship service in the Cafe/Gym for PAA Alumni & Friends (Lunch is free; donations appreciated)
- Sabbath, May 3, 2 pm Class Reunion Meetings classrooms and as planned

Reunion planning assistance: We can help! Contact Communications and Development Director U'Lee Brown class of '89 at 971-351-9028 or ubrown@paasda.org for more information.

Check for updates: Alumni Reunion information on the PAA Alumni webpage at https://paasda.org/alumni
Our Special guest for the worship service is, Dr Terry Johnsson. An alumni from the class of 1985. Upon leaving PAA,

Terry joined the Air Force and served as White House honor guard under 3 presidents. Terry now serves (and for the past 11 years) as the VP for Mission Integration at Adventist Health (Pacific Northwest Region).

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 <u>students share in this video</u>, thank you for your support in shaping the future of our students and helping them grow in faith and character.

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



As the March 31 fundraising deadline for this year's Gladstone Camp Meeting quickly approaches, it's not too late to make your contribution! We're nearing \$150,000 of our \$390,000 goal! These final days are crucial to making this

fundraising campaign a success. Don't forget that thanks to a generous member, each dollar given right now will be doubled, up to \$150,000! Watch for a video during this week's service from VP of Finance Eric Davis with an update on where we stand and a preview of what comes next. Our deadline is March 31! Give online right now through AdventistGiving.org or write "Gladstone Camp Meeting" on your tithe envelope.



Oregon Conference Women's Ministry Training Day!

It's simple, really! Learning to do what you can, with what you have, where you're at. This ministry workshop is for ALL women. You don't have to be a women's ministry leader to attend. If you help or hope to one day, this is for you! Join us **Sunday, April 6** from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM at the Holden Convention Center in Gladstone, Oregon. Speakers will include Sue Clayville and Tawny Sportman. The registration fee is \$75.00, no refunds after March 21st. Register now at https://orad.us/WomensMinTraining2025.



Steve Darmody and Jenifer LaMountain will present a free concert, Saturday, **April 26 at 7:00 PM,** at the Gladstone Park Adventist Church at 8378 Cason Road in Gladstone. All are invited. Questions may be directed to 503-655-2614.



Join us for the Bloom in Marriage Cruise! A Christian marriage retreat at sea for couples of all ages, sailing roundtrip from Boston, October 17-24, 2025, on the Norwegian Gem. Hosted by Adventist marriage ministry leaders Rick and Cindy Mercer, this relationship-enriching cruise will take you to 6 ports of call throughout New England during the best month for fall colors. For more information and to register, visit www.bloominmarriage.com, or contact Heather Tourville at 503-329-6523.



Church Organist Needed: The Stone Tower Adventist Church Music Department is seeking a volunteer church organist to play the organ during our worship service for up to two Sabbaths a month. Please contact Jeanine Goodwin at (503) 381-5577 or womensministry@stonetowersda.org for more details and if you or an organist you know would be in



Pentecost 2025 is a massive mobilization of Seventh-day Adventist churches in North America:

- 1. To pray for the Holy Spirit's outpouring and power
- 2. To proclaim the Gospel with the Holy Spirit's power

We have been looking for revival in our church for a long time. This is our opportunity to seek it together and make it happen. As Ellen White wrote so eloquently, "revival need be expected only in answer to prayer."

In connection with Pentecost 2025, the NPUC is inviting everyone to pray both privately and corporately for the Holy Spirit during the month of October 2024. Here is a link with all the information you need to participate: https://nwadventists.com/news/2024/09/pentecost-2025-call-prayer

Just as a reminder, the Oregon Conference prayer ministries continue to hold ZOOM prayer meetings every third Tuesday at 7:30 pm. Everyone in the Oregon conference is invited to be part of this! We will be continuing this during the month of October. We are praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. https://orad.us/OCPrayerMeeting



Big Lake Youth Camp registration is now open for kid camps and family camps for our 2025 summer! Youth camps are for ages 7-17 with lots of fun activities kids do with their cabin groups. Family camps are for all ages with a lot of the same fun activities for families to do together – great for family reunions!

Visit www.biglake.org for more information or to register.



PACS UPDATE

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

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.

- * Director of Quality Management
- * Assistant Thrift Store Manager
- * Home Thrift Store Part-time Pricer

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!

Pricer in the PACS Home Goods Store — part-time Admin-Director of Quality Management — full time If interested or for more details go to jobs@pacsonline.org.

Come join our non-profit organization in the Portland area that serves the community with a Thrift Store, Food Pantry, and Dental Clinic.

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 (BLBN) is a network of more than 15 stations and translators serving over 60,000 square miles throughout southern Oregon, with satellite stations in northern California and Reno, Nevada. Better Life is currently seeking a broadcast engineer. The broadcast engineer position is responsible for assisting the executive director in maintaining, operating, and developing the technical systems that enable BLBN to fulfill its mission. This position is a full-time, regular-status position. Learn more about this position and how to apply at https://bit.ly/BLTVjob.



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.

Last Week's Service in Photos













Sunnyside News