

December 28, Communiqué

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Hi Sunnyside Family,

“Where is home for you?”

At first glance, that may seem like an innocuous question. But depending on who, where, and why someone asks this, a variety of responses are possible. As a Third-Culture-Kid (TCK) who's lived in 3 countries by the age of 19, and had 10 different Amazon shipping addresses by 34, this is a particularly challenging question for me to answer. So I usually follow up their question by asking whether they want the long version or the short version 😊

Christmas is a “messy” season for TCKs like me who have homes in multiple places. Like some, I don't have the luxury of having all my family or my loved ones near me during this time. When we see empty chairs around our dinner tables, or don't see gifts from people who should've still been, Christmas brings with it mixed feelings of joy and pain, suffering and hope. It's complicated.

Of all of its different definitions, I've recently found my “home” in this definition of home by Egyptian Nobel Prize winner, Naquib Mahfouz: “Home is not where you are born. Home is where all your attempts to escape cease.” In other words, home is where I find the most safety, comfort, and a sense of belonging. This space changes seasonally based on who I am with. And that's why home, for me, is not so much in places as much as they are in people.

Because of this relational scaffolding, what makes Christmas complicated is precisely what makes it accessible.

Jesus was born in the complicated space between the public and the palace. Mary and Joseph had to make their homes in multiple places as they escaped infanticide and political turmoil. The Magi from the East mostly likely traveled for months, periodically pitching their tents in uncharted territory and eventually reaching the manger of the infant King. Jesus can relate to both the shepherd and the prince.

So during this season, whether we celebrated with our Sunnyside youth and young adults at our Christmas gatherings, visited with families who are experiencing heartache and pain, participated in our various Christmas programs, I'm reminded that no matter who we are, and where we find ourselves, Christmas tells a story of a “God With Us.”

God with us in our joy.

God with us in our place-lessness.

God with us in our brokenness.

God with us right now..

...In whom all my attempts to escape cease.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Kevin Wilson

The Pastors' Spotlight

From the desk of Pastor Seth

Happy Holidays!

Our family was blessed to be able to visit grandparents in Texas for a few days for Christmas. It was a special time and I hope you were able to experience the presence of loved ones too.

This week I am excited to teach SS for Stefan Muller's class. I hope to see you there if you attend that class or are looking for a SS class!

I am also looking forward to beginning a new mini series next Sabbath exploring stewardship. We will look at a few interesting (and hopefully actual things) as well as what is considered the hardest parable of Jesus' to interpret.

Have a wonderful week and we will see you Sabbath!

From the desk of Pastor Violeta

I hope your celebration of Christmas was peacefully delightful. Even in seasons of grief, there is a special joy in knowing that we have Emmanuel—God with us, one of us, and in us forever. I'm grateful that no noise, hassle, or hardship can separate us from God's love in Christ. Seeing signs of the divine in the beauty of nature, culture, and the kindness of people always brightens our hope and brings a deep sense of satisfaction.

Andre Wang will be preaching at Sunnyside this Sabbath, while I will be at Healing Hope to crown the passing year with a communion service. See you in 2025!

From the desk of Pastor Rose

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to last week's kid's program! Special gratitude goes to Kimberly and Karl Helton, who were instrumental in making Manger Moments a success. To our musicians, actors, adult helpers, amazing behind-the-scenes crew, parents, and kids —thank you! From ensuring we were well-fed, costumed perfectly, equipped with working microphones, and prepared with our lines, all your efforts were invaluable.

Thank you, Sunnyside family, for giving our kids the chance to step out of their comfort zones and shine during the worship service. Moments like these create lasting memories. I still remember similar experiences from my own childhood, and they played a huge role in building my confidence. Your love and support provide a safe and nurturing space for our kids to grow, and I am so grateful for that.

I'm writing this note a little early (on Dec 15), so I'm not entirely sure what my plans will be for Christmas just yet. Like many others, I'll be spending the holidays away from my loved ones, but that's okay! I'm likely heading up to Port Townsend to visit some family friends. Since it's not too far from Victoria, BC, I'm thinking about taking a boat trip to see the Christmas lights—I've heard they're absolutely beautiful! By the time you read this, Christmas will have come and gone, so feel free to ask me how I ended up spending it 😊

See you next year, Sunnyside family! 🎄

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.

Membership Transfers – First Reading

Joining:

Gabrielle Hernandez from Meadow Glade SDA Church
Elizabeth Lopez from Meadow Glade SDA Church
Daniel Bulengela from Tanzania (via Profession of Faith)
Andrae & Kiana Patterson from Arlington SDA Church, Texas

Leaving:

Miroslav and Angelina Sidorenko to Port Charlotte SDA Church, Florida
Jane Nelson to Estacada SDA Church
Jenny Smith to Gladstone Park SDA Church



Next Sabbath, January 4, 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.

As you plan your year-end giving, please note that all funds to be receipted in 2024 must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2024. If it is received after that, it will be recorded for the year 2025.



Sunnyside Church office will be closed for the holidays from December 20-January 2. If you have something urgent during this time, please contact us via text at 971-238-9680.



Mission to Palawan Island, Philippines

March 19 – April 2, 2025

We invite you to partner with Sunnyside to reach the people of Palawan Island with the love of Jesus. We are working closely with the Palawan SDA Mission to hold reaping evangelism services across the island as well as help with a medical clinic providing necessary care to the people.

Palawan is the westernmost island of the Philippines, the largest by area, and a sought-after natural wonder. The island is home to 87 different cultural groups. About three-fourths of the population is Roman Catholic, 10% is Muslim, and 3.4% are Seventh-day Adventist. The major languages are English, Tagalog, and Ilonggo, alongside the native languages of Cuyonon and Palawanon.



In the summer of 2023, Executive Secretary of the Palawan SDA Mission Pastor Eliezer Barrientos visited Sunnyside Church by invitation of the Oregon and Washington Adventist Filipino Fellowship (OWAFF). That Sabbath afternoon he shared with us his vision to hold multiple evangelism series across the island of Palawan, all at the same time! We provide the evangelists for 11 different preaching sites going for eight nights, followed by a mass gathering on Sabbath, March 29, and baptism.

Also, we will participate in a comprehensive medical clinic, providing checkups, medicines, vision and dental care, health lectures, and spiritual counseling. The organization of the clinic will be under the leadership of the Health Director of Palawan Mission. Licenses will not be required from us since we will be working alongside their health professionals.

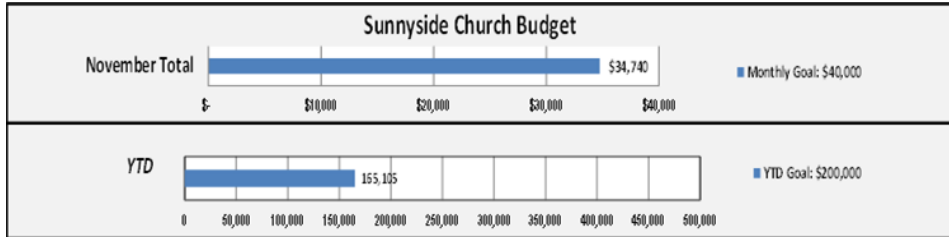
Please consider participating in this mission project with your prayers, support, and hopefully participation! We need preachers and medical volunteers. The cost per participant is \$3,000. This includes airfare, board, and expenses of the medical clinic, Bible workers, etc. With God's help, this will be a bigger success than anyone can imagine. Also, we will of course spend a day or two exploring God's beautiful creation on Palawan Island! Contact Paul Dragulin (pauldragulin@yahoo.com) to get involved. Donations to the Palawan Mission Project (F490) will help tremendously, too.

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! Save your Loma Linda Labels and turn them in here at the church! We received more labels last week. 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.



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.



Sunday: Vanessa Crawley, Benny Hull; **Monday:** Robert Boyd, David Eichner, Josie Petersen; **Tuesday:** Debbt Delaney, Donna Evando, Robert Mark, Melissa Reynolds; **Wednesday:** Priselle Alimosi, Brooke Benfield, Lydia Delgado, Delton Holcombe II, Larry Miller, Judy Mosoti, Ruth Wilcox; **Thursday:** James Delaney; **Friday:** William Judd, Stanley Kirk, Tom Kramer, Vasile Siminel

ADVENTIST EDUCATION



Portland Adventist Elementary School

<http://www.paes.com>

Accountant Needed at PAES

Portland Adventist Elementary School is looking for a part-time accountant (about 10 hours a month) who will do month-end closing, reconciliation, and reports. CPA is preferred, but not required if the level of experience would suffice. Please reach out to principal@paes.com and treasurer@paes.com to apply.

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.



Portland Adventist Academy

<https://paasda.org>

Host an International Student: December 22 – February 24

PAA is excited to welcome five 9th-grade boys from Japan this December, and we're looking for local families to host them during their two-month stay. As a host, you will provide a welcoming home, meals, and transportation to and from school. In return, you'll receive a stipend of \$1,100 per month. These students are eager to practice their English and experience American culture firsthand. If you're interested in making a lasting impact and sharing your home with an international student, please reach out to Mary Sperrl for more information and a host family application: Email:

msperl@paasda.org Phone: 971-351-8984. Thank you for considering this opportunity to enrich both your life and the lives of these students!

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.

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

Learn more at
OregonAdventist.org.

**GLADSTONE
CAMP MEETING
NEEDS YOUR HELP
TO HAPPEN IN 2025!**

We need your help to make Gladstone Camp Meeting happen while the Oregon Conference gets back to a good financial footing.

The goal is to raise \$450,000 by March 31, 2025.

Give online at <https://orad.us/ORGiving> or write "Gladstone Camp Meeting" on your tithe envelope.

QR code: GIVE ONLINE

Gladstone Camp Meeting needs your help to happen in 2025! Camp meeting is important to our Oregon Conference family and we plan to keep hosting it for years to come. For 2025 we need your help to make Gladstone Camp Meeting happen while the Oregon Conference gets back to a good financial footing. The goal is to raise \$450,000 by March 31, 2025. Give online at <https://orad.us/ORGiving> or write "Gladstone Camp Meeting" on your tithe envelope. Learn more at OregonAdventist.org.

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 (starting now in 2024)
2. To proclaim the Gospel with the Holy Spirit's power (in 2025).

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>





Oregon Prayer Conference, March 21-23, 2025, at Twin Rocks Conference Center, Rockaway Beach, OR 97136. Click on the QR code for more information.

<https://www.oregonadventist.org/ministries/prayer-ministries>



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. **What We Did in 2023:** 569 Total Volunteers, 32,686 Volunteer Hours Given, 2.1 Million Pounds of Food Distributed. That's what the copper for 28 Statues of Liberty would weigh! 310,000 Clients Helped.

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.

* 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.



Northwest Adventist Federal Credit Union – Join Our Team as a Teller/Member Service Representative!

Are you someone who loves to help others and bring a smile to their face? Do you thrive in a fast-paced environment where no two days are the same? If so, we'd love to meet you! If you're ready to bring your passion for service to a place where it truly matters, email communication@mynwcu.com today! We can't wait to welcome you to the NWAFCU family.

Accountant Needed at PAES

PAES is looking for a part-time accountant (about 10 hours a month) who will do month-end closing, reconciliation, and reports.

CPA preferred, but not required if the level of experience would suffice. Please reach out to principal@paes.com to apply.

Hood View Adventist School is hiring for next school year!

Teacher's Aides – Up to 30 hours a week, depending on need and your availability. Multiple positions available.

Art Teacher – Approximately 12 hours/week teaching art classes to students at all grade levels.

Foreign Language Teacher – Any language (including sign language) to teach 2 hours/2 days per week.

Guest Teachers/Substitutes (On-Call) – Provide instruction in a classroom when the teacher must be absent. From 3.5 hours to 7 hours per assignment (willingness and flexibility to accept jobs both in advance and last minute is helpful).

Piano Teacher/Choir Accompanist – 2 hours/2 days per week to accompany the Intermediate and Advanced Choirs. Studio space is also available for a piano teacher who wishes to teach private lessons.

All part-time positions, with the exception of on-call positions, begin one week prior to the start of the school year and finish one week after the school year concludes. The positions require individuals who can keep confidentiality, have basic computer skills including working knowledge of office machines, computer software e.g. MS Office and Adobe products, and a cleared background check with the Oregon Conference of SDA. For all positions wages and benefits are based on the denominational wage scale and policy. Must have the legal right to work in the United States and be able to provide evidence of that right if employed. If interested, please email your resume and cover letter with three references to principal@hvja.org.

Job Opening: Adventist Book Center – Part-Time Customer Service. For full details, download the job description and application at oregonadventist.org/support/human-resources#job-opportunities.

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.volgstics.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.



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