

Sunnyside Adventist Church Communiqué

News & Announcements

Sabbath, April 30, 2022



Greetings Church Family!

GOD ENCOUNTERS

Many of you are aware of some of the challenges I have personally struggled with since joining Sunnyside Church. The first week we were here in Oregon January 1, 2019, my father-in-law and uncle died the same day as movers were ready to bring in our belongings. Three months later my dad died on

March 3, 2019. These losses were crushing as I started my work at the Oregon Conference office.

In early 2020 the CDC started talking about this crazy virus called COVID-19 and soon it was a full-blown pandemic. Churches and businesses closed, and we began a time of incredible isolation. The hard part for me personally, was that I was unable for about eight months, to visit my mom in British Columbia, Canada. All borders were closed to out-of-country traffic. My mom was still reeling from the loss of my dad. Fortunately, my brother was able to provide caregiving for my mom since her health was not good. Those who know me, know that my mom was my best friend and even though we called daily it wasn't the same. Finally, in September 2020 I was able to start my visits to see my mom which came with a lot of red tape to get into my home country because of COVID-19 restrictions.

In August 2020, the Conference office was reconfiguring and laying off many of its workers or reassigning them. They knew of my love for Pastoral work, and I was thankful that they placed me at Sunnyside to work alongside Mark. The challenge was being hired as a family/children's pastor when there are no people at church including children. I was at a loss of what my role was in this unknown territory and felt like I was floundering. Not sure if my ministry was benefiting anyone or how to navigate this new challenge.

On August 13, 2021, my family got the gut-wrenching news that my mother's cancer had relapsed for the third time, and would be terminal. She would have four to five months to live if she was lucky. I took a family leave to be a caregiver for my mom during that time. Finally, we had to bring her to hospice where more intensive care could be done. Those times were precious with my godly, amazing mom. She passed away on December 10, 2021. I tell you all this not to feel sorry for me, but to understand that I was grieving so much and feeling lost in this calling of God, yet feeling useless like I had lost my way. My mom could tell I was struggling and I can still hear her prayer for me.

On March 16, Mark and I left to lead two groups in the Holy Land which included Israel, Jordan, and Egypt. God must have known that I needed this trip. He did something for me for which I will forever be grateful. My turning point was in Nazareth. We went to the village there to learn about first-century Nazareth — the way it would have been when Jesus was growing up there. We saw shepherds tending their flock, a potter, and a carpenter or stone builder. We also saw a farmer sowing his field. Among those Palestinian Christian actors was a woman named Hannah who was demonstrating weaving.

After her demonstration when most had moved on to the next station, I asked her if she would get a picture with me.

Her reaction was one I was not prepared for. She gripped my hands and with tears forming in her eyes she said to me. "I see the Holy Spirit in you." The impact of those words had me thinking, "Is she talking to me? The one who is grieving and lost? I'm broken and isolated and have been struggling with my wilderness experience

questioning life, my calling, everything." Then she said, "Can I hug you?" We fell into each other's arms; two women on opposite sides of the world, but what brought us together was the love of God. In that embrace, I felt the amazing gracious love of my God wash over me. I felt so unworthy of this love but so grateful. It was like God was reassuring me of his love and He understood my grieving and floundering heart and He wouldn't give up on me. That is all I needed and I have returned feeling renewed, alive again, and with a purpose to share this love of our incredibly gracious God.



I don't know what you have been going through but I know for many these last few years have brought untold heartache and challenges. I want to let you know that your Father in heaven understands and He still has you. He still loves you even if you have floundered a bit. He is there for you and you can come alive again in Him to face whatever the next chapter brings. My prayer is that we shed our worries and cares leaving them with Him and take on His life of purpose to change the world around us with His love.

Pastor Wendy Witas

News & Notes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership Transfers — Second Reading:

Joining: Mildred Solstad from Menomonie SDA Church,
Menomonie, Wisconsin
Leaving: Michael Hamilton to Grand Junction SDA Church,
Colorado
Linda Marshall to Adventist Worship Center SDA Church,
Phoenix, Arizona

Partial Nominating Committee Report — Second Reading:

Co-head Librarian: Darilynne Allen
Deaconess: Jackee Duvall
Music Committee Member: Barbara Plubell
Alternate PAES Constituency Delegates: Scott and Dorothy
LeMert

This afternoon, April 30, at 5:00 PM, “Church Family Planting Day!” It's Spring! We are calling it “Church Family Planting Day,” and we are asking that you not only attend but that you invite your friends to attend as well! These past couple of years have been a tremendous challenge for all of us as we have continued to navigate through the difficulties presented by a Global Pandemic and other issues as well. One of these issues has been the inability to get together and have fun as a church family! Come prepare for Spring! We plan to come together as a church family, have worship, plant some seeds and flowers, and of course, have food with everyone! It is all free of charge! We hope you join us!



Sunday, May 1, at 4:00 PM, Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra will present a concert here at Sunnyside Church.

Beginning next Wednesday, May 4, at 7:00 PM, we will begin a mid-week service in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited! The title is “*Into the Word*” facilitated by Pastor Mark Witas. We will meet weekly, except on the third Wednesday of the month which will be the Church Board meeting. Come, join in, and receive your mid-week blessing by studying the Word of God.

Friday, May 13, at 7:30 PM, Southern Adventist University Wind Symphony will provide a concert here at Sunnyside Church. Their concert is titled “How Deep the Father's Love For Us.” You will not want to miss out on this exceptional concert. Save the date.



Sabbath, May 14, at 6:00 PM, there will be a vespers featuring photos and events that took place when our mission team took over \$30,000 of funds and food to the Ukrainian refugees.

Sunnyside Choir is looking for additional singers for their upcoming June 4th performance. If you are interested in singing with the choir contact pollyannamoody@gmail.com.



Sabbath, May 21, at 3:30 PM, and 7:00 PM, the Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus will present their Spring Festival at

Sunnyside Adventist Church. Tickets are required, but they are FREE! Reserve your tickets early to make sure you get a space. Below are the links:

[OAMC Spring Festival 3:30 PM](#) | [OAMC Spring Festival 7:00 PM](#)

Our flower calendar is posted in the hallway and [online](#). (Website: www.SunnysideAdventist.org, 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.



The Family Resource Network is helping several families. They currently have a need for all household items, queen bed, bedding, and winter clothes. Contact Marie Pierre for more information 503-998-3754.

The Church Library is open! The library will be open on the 1st and 3rd Sabbaths of the month. Hours are 10:45-11:15 AM, and 12:30-1:00 PM. The church library has a wide selection of books available for our members to borrow, so please stop by.

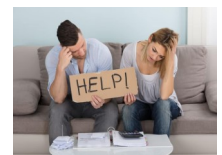
We would like to publicly recognize special milestones in your life. Please take a moment to share with us special birthdays, anniversaries, or any other celebrations. We are family and we would like to share with each other. Also, please let us know when you are sick or need other prayers. We want to 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 for you

to the directory. Thank you.

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.



Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 1, 4:00 PM: Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra Concert
Friday, May 13, 7:00 PM: Southern Adventist University Wind Symphony Vespers
Sabbath, May 21, 3:30 & 7:00 PM: Oregon Adventist Men's Chorus Festival
Sunday, May 22, 3:00 PM: The Oregon Sinfonietta Concert
Sabbath, June 11, 7:00 PM: Strawberry Vespers

LIFE AT SUNNYSIDE



Today: Janene Benfield, Alex Tapu; **Sunday:** Daniel Bradley, Eileen Emori, Miroslav Sidorenko, Melody Spiker; **Monday:** Nikola Boscanin, Hunter Clark, Samuel Siminel; **Tuesday:** Judy Denis, James Johnstone, Judy Kramer; **Wednesday:** Mimi Jones, Janna Lian; **Thursday:** Taina Allen, Herb Hanson, Tracey Krueger, Alan Mason, Rachel Stout

AREA EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, May 1, 2022, Disc Golf Tournament at the Gladstone campgrounds, benefitting Livingstone Adventist Academy after-school programs. Tee off time: 1:00 PM. Lunch 12:00 PM (donations). Practice 10:30 AM. Singles tournament, \$30 per player. The players' pack includes a custom disc. Players can register at <https://tinyurl.com/GladstoneOpen>. Donations accepted.



July 8-10, 2022 — SAVE THE DATE!! for Impact Your Health Portland 2022 free clinics (dental, vision, medical) at Portland Adventist Academy, at 1500 SE 96th Ave. Clinic set-up will be on Thursday, July 7, and Volunteer Orientation Thursday evening, July 7 at 6 PM. Volunteers are needed for this community Ministry Outreach. Tell your friends and neighbors! Find more details and registration at the website www.ImpactYourHealthPDX.com.



Camp Meeting needs you! We could not run without you! With not having Camp Meeting for a couple years, it may have fallen off your radar for summer planning. This ministry largely happens because of the nearly 500-dedicated volunteers that give of their time to this ministry. Please sign up now by going to <https://www.oregonadventist.org/gladstone-camp-meetings-volunteers>. Questions? Don't hesitate to contact Kerry at 503-850-3350 or cm.reservations@oc.npuc.org. Thank you for your willingness to help make Camp Meeting happen!

We are planning an in-person 2022 Gladstone Camp Meeting! This year, Spanish language meetings will happen July 14-16, English July 19-23. What makes camp meeting work though is the volunteers! Children's ministries, hospitality, InfoBooth, blood drive, kitchen/dining room, media center, safety, and many other places will need volunteers to make camp meeting happen! Learn about the positions available, what type of job you might have, and how to sign up at <https://bit.ly/campmeetingvolunteering>. The summer maintenance crew is also being hired. (Summer maintenance crew positions are paid.) If you are interested, please mail athena.gray@oc.npuc.org or matthew.ballard@oc.npuc.org. Thank you for helping to make camp meeting happen this year!

His Praise Men's Chorus is looking to continue praising the Lord through music and fellowship. We invite all men in the Portland/Vancouver area to come and join us! We practice weekly, and sing for churches in the region once a month or so. For more information, contact Charlie Drury at cd88sings@gmail.com, or 503-935-7995, or Jerry Irvine at jerrygirvine@gmail.com, or 206-261-6452.

ADVENTIST EDUCATION



Portland Adventist Elementary School

<http://www.paes.com>

New Student registration for 2022-2023 is now open! Registration fee: \$50. Apply at PAES.com.



Portland Adventist Academy

<https://paasda.org/>

PAA REGISTRATION: Portland Adventist Academy is accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. Save \$125 with an Early Bird Discount!

PAA / PUA ALUMNI WEEKEND — SAVE THE DATE— May 7, 2022

PAA is pleased to welcome Karl Haffner, well-known speaker, author, and Vice President for Student Services at Loma Linda University, as the 2022 PAA Alumni Reunion speaker for the Sabbath worship service. We are planning an in-person alumni reunion morning worship service at Sunnyside Church for Sabbath, May 7, 2022. Registration opens at 10:30 AM, with worship at 11:15 AM. Honor class reunions may meet on campus in the afternoon. There will also be a retirement reception for long-time math teacher, Bob Johnson, who retired at the end of last year after a 39-year teaching career and 32 years at PAA. The honor classes are: 1942 (80th Year), 1952, 1962, 1972 (50th Year), 1982, 1992, 1997 (25th Year), 2002, 2012, 2017 (5th Year — Why wait 10 years?)

Portland Union Academy Class of 1972 50th Year Reunion will be May 6 and 7, 2022, at Sunnyside Adventist Church, 10501 SE Market St, Portland, Oregon 97216. To attend phone/text or email Richard (Dick) Sanders (310) 721-1101 richardwsanders@hotmail.com.

If you're an Amazon shopper, you can add Portland Adventist Academy as your [AmazonSmile](https://www.smile.amazon.com) charitable organization. Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchases to PAA. You can feel good knowing that you're helping our students receive a Christ-centered and character-driven education! Create your account at www.smile.amazon.com. Search charitable organizations

for Portland Adventist Academy. Link: <https://paasda.org/news/amazon-smiles-at-portland-adventist-academy/>.



Walla Walla University

Bright Future Scholarship is available! If you are graduating from a non-Adventist high school or transferring from a non-Adventist college/university for either this year or the next academic year, and reside in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, or Alaska contact the WWU Student Financial Services at 509-527-2815 to see if you are eligible. Scholarships range up to \$6,000 and are based on need and will be renewable up to four years of the student's attendance.



PACS UPDATE

PACS Food Pantry Drive-thru OPEN Mon-Fri from 9:00–11:00 AM, with an after-work option once a month from 5:00–7:00 PM, every third Thursday of the month. 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. Located at 11020 NE Halsey St, Portland OR 97220.

PACS Thrift Store is OPEN Sun 11 AM–4 PM, Mon–Wed 9:00 AM–5:00 PM, Thurs 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, & Friday 9:00 AM–2:30 PM. Our donation drop-off center is open and needs your donations! Mon–Thurs 9:00–1:00 PM, and Sun 11:00 AM–2:00 PM. If you have any questions about what items we accept, please give us a call at 503-252-8500.

Depending on volunteer availability, we offer pick-up service for a small fee. If you have furniture or larger items and no way to get rid of them, give us a call and we'll do our best to help you out! Located at 11020 NE Halsey St, Portland OR 97220.

Gateway Grace Dental Clinic at PACS is OPEN

Gateway Grace Clinic at PACS is open and accepting uninsured patients for low-cost preventative dental care. If you or someone you know needs to schedule an appointment with us, please call 503-907-6768 or email dental@pacsonline.org.

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 Gerelisa at gerelisa.eisele@pacsonline.org or call 503-252-8500 x1130. Thanks!

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!

PACS Thrift Store - At Home Shopping:

www.facebook.com/groups/pacsthiftstore.



PACS Job Openings!

Portland Adventist Community Services is hiring! We have two crucial part-time positions available and are looking to interview immediately. If you or someone you know is interested in either of these part-time jobs, please email laura.pascoe@pacsonline.org. You can also visit www.pacsonline.org/jobs to learn more about the positions.

Thrift Store Assistant Manager: \$18.50/hour, two days a week to start with, training available as long as you are a kind and organized person and a strong communicator. Your primary responsibility is to help the store manager support our volunteers as they are the engine behind everything PACS does.

Donor Experience Specialist: \$17.50/hour, 12 hours/week to start with, training also available as long as you have excellent customer service skills. This person will be the face of PACS to those who come to donate their items. You'll accept their donations, and work in the back of the store sorting, organizing, pricing, and supervising small teams of volunteers as they stock the store with the items we receive.

Big Lake Youth Camp has an opening for a Head Chef for their 2022 summer. If you are interested, please send a résumé and cover letter to: Big Lake 19800 Oatfield Rd, Gladstone, OR 97027. "Level Up" by working at Big Lake Youth Camp! Big Lake is now taking applications for a variety of summer staff positions at <https://biglake.org/employment/apply/> (or scan the QR code). Make a difference in the life of a child and make memories that will last your lifetime! Apply today!

Pacific Press Publishing Association (PPPA) is the official publishing and printing ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. PPPA is based in beautiful Nampa, Idaho, in the Boise metro area, which is home to Gem State Academy, three Adventist elementary schools, and nearly a dozen churches. We have a wide variety of jobs available for mission-minded church members. Come build your career in the publishing industry while sharing the good news of Jesus! Learn more at PacificPress.com/jobs.

Last Sabbath's Worship Service in Photos



Feeding the WWU Nursing Students

