

Sunnyside Adventist Church Communiqué

News & Announcements

Sabbath, January 23, 2021



Greetings church family,

Jesus is standing in front of the governor of Palestine. He's already been physically mauled and mentally drained by his accusers. They are out for blood. His blood. They want nothing more than to see the would-be Messiah executed. They claim not to have the authority to carry out such a desire, so they try to get someone else to do their dirty work.

Romans were good at executing "justice" so they attempt to incite Rome to do their dirty work.

Anytime the Kingdom tries to get the empire to do their bidding, it's not good for the church nor is it good for the empire.

Pilate didn't get to his position in the Roman Empire because he was dull. He's intrigued by Jesus. He's so intrigued that he questions Him personally. There is Jesus, standing quietly before Pilate. The Kingdom in the presence of the authoritarian empire leader.

"Is it true that you are the king of the Jews?"

Somehow, Pilate had heard something about this new Kingdom that Jesus was wanting to usher into the Roman Empire.

He didn't look like much of a king. He looked poor. Wasn't much to look at. What kind of a king would allow himself to be arrested and beat up? And where were his subjects?

Jesus answers, "Is it your idea that I'm a king or did somebody put that in your head?"

Pilate reminds Jesus that it was His own people that turned him over and accused him of sedition.

Then Jesus says something that is worth taking note of. He says, "My Kingdom is not of this world and my subjects don't fight empire battles." (MRV—Mark's Revised Version)

Jesus reminds all of His followers that even though we all live in the empire, our Kingdom is not of this world. The Empire is not what we are to be invested in. The Kingdom is what it's all about. Jesus' Kingdom, the earth as He sees it becoming, is the business we are to all be about.

I have a dear friend from childhood that I talked to yesterday. He's in his early 60s. When I called him, he texted me, "I'm not feeling great today, we can talk later."

I didn't leave well enough alone, so I called again. He finally answered. In a nutshell, he's so upset about the politics in the US and how the election went, and how dishonest the media is about it all, it's literally made him sick in mind and body. The Empire is literally driving him nuts.

In recent weeks we've seen elections, riots, strife, and an inauguration (or as a young friend called it the other day—eggnog nation). These things are all news worthy. Lots of pictures and videos. Conspiracies and behind the scenes shenanigans. And it's all about the empire.

We are not about the business of the empire. We are about the business of the Kingdom. Let's keep our focus. In the words of the author of the book of Hebrews, let's, "Fix our eyes upon Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith."

Pastor Mark Witas



Shout-Out

Send your "shout-outs" to 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.

Special shout out to Marlan Glovatsky for being a host at each "Habits" series online interactive event. Thank you, Marlan!

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, so we can keep you informed of our activities.

THIS WEEKEND

Welcome to our worship service via streaming video at 11:15 AM. Pastor Wendy Witas will present our worship service titled "Renew Your Mind by the Mastermind."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for the family of Marti Wofford who passed away this passed week, January 19, 2021.

There will be a "hangout" for Portland Adventist Academy students with Pastor Billy Hungate Friday, January 29, 6:00 PM.



Sunday, February 28, 4:00 PM, there will be a Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra concert via livestream — use this link to view :

<http://www.sunnysidesymphony.org>

Our new Sabbath School quarterlies are here! If you would like a new quarterly contact the church office and we will make sure you get what you need: 503-252-8080, text 971-238-9680, or email info@SunnysideAdventist.org. Or you may get it online at <https://absq.adventist.org/nextquarter#lessons>.

The January/February Children's Sabbath Packets are available from the information desk in the church foyer. If you do not have a code to get into the church, contact Rosie at the church office, 503-252-8080. Packets contain lesson stories, memory verses, crafts and activities for each Sabbath in January and February. We have packets for Beginners, Kindergarten/1st grade, Primary 4th/5th grades, and Junior High.

Several of our classes are meeting during this challenging time via Zoom. We want to share these with you — if you see one that you would like to join, send your contact information to info@SunnysideAdventist.org or call 503-252-8080, and we will make sure you receive a Zoom invitation to join. Here is a list of Sabbath School classes: Santiam class (Gingrich, Fenn, Hill, Martin & Westermeyer); the Reboot Bible study group (Glovatsky, Kielman, Dickerson, and Dragulin); Steffen Moller and his team of teachers, and **a new class lead by Tom Stafford, Raymond Baker, and Dean Browning**; the Faith Time group; and the Romanian group. On Wednesday morning there is Women's FaithLift prayer ministry group; and a men's Bible study group. Let us know if you would like to join in!



Church Photo Directory 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. 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.

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.



ADVENTIST EDUCATION
Portland Adventist Elementary School

<http://www.paes.com>

Portland Adventist Academy

<https://paasda.org/>

If you're an Amazon shopper, you can add Portland Adventist Academy as your **AmazonSmile** 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/>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND AREA EVENTS

Saturday, January 23, 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM: Crosswalk Portland is conducting a drive-thru "Sock Drive" for our neighbors without houses. It will be held in the PAA parking lot. Come anytime, drop off socks and listen to some live worship music.



February 13, 6:00 to 7:00 Sabbath evening. Please use a red Crayon to circle this date on your calendar. Bright red! **Giving For Our Kids** will be a one-hour celebration of Oregon Conference education – the students, teachers and

staff who are living God's miracles every day. We'll take you inside classrooms so you can see how students are learning during Covid. You'll hear from students, teachers, administrators, staff, and alumni – and you'll be the first to hear an incredibly beautiful musical piece sung by our kids! Online at www.facebook.com/OregonAdventists/ and www.youtube.com/oregonadventists.

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. 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/pacsthritstore

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!