

Sunnyside Adventist Church Communiqué

News & Announcements

March 11, 2023



Hello Church Family!

It's easy to fall into routines. This is no less true in spiritual matters than mundane. Most of us have fallen into a pattern of spiritual disciplines of prayer and Bible study. These two disciplines are foundational and enriching, but they are not all the Bible teaches about how we can connect better to God.

I believe that if we're willing to explore a little deeper into the Bible's teachings on spiritual practices, we will find ourselves in much closer communion with our God. As a result, I've started using this space to share a few disciplines that I've found in the words of God. The last time, we talked about celebration of the good and the great in our lives.

This week, celebration even through the bad and the horrible.

You might wonder what place celebration has in evil. This is a fair question, and it is worth noting that we should never celebrate in evil. But the Bible does call us to celebrate through evil, for three particular reasons.

First, we have reason to celebrate because there's a better place coming (e.g., Matthew 5:11-12). Jesus promised that eventually, He will return and rebuild the world in such a way that evil no longer has a place. That's good news, and the goodness of that news only grows as the badness around us grows.

The second is best illustrated by taking a detour to my favorite comic strip: Calvin & Hobbes. In the strip, whenever the little boy, Calvin, has to do something he doesn't like, his dad says, "It builds character!" This, of course, only makes Calvin grumpier. But if we can learn to view our troubles and tribulations as opportunities rather than inconveniences, we suddenly find that they are a whole lot lighter. So yes; we can celebrate because it builds character (e.g., Romans 5:1-5).

And finally, my favorite cause for rejoicing even when everything around is terrible. Habakkuk 3:16-19 goes like this:

*I heard and my inner parts trembled;
At the sound, my lips quivered.
Decay enters my bones,
And in my place I tremble;
Because I must wait quietly
For the day of distress,
For our attackers to arise.*

*Even if the fig tree does not blossom,
And there is no fruit on the vine,
If the yield of the olive fails,
And the fields produce no food,
Even if the flock disappears from the fold,
And there are no cattle in the stalls,*

*Even still I will triumph in the Lord,
I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.
The Lord God is my strength,
And He has made my feet like those of a deer,
And has me walk on my high places.*

The reality is, even when God doesn't fix things, even if all our prayers, pleas, and petitions are met with silence, God is still our salvation, God is still strengthening and supporting us, and most importantly, God is still with us.

So celebrate. Rejoice not in, but beyond suffering. And find that your burden is lightened, just a little.

And if you are one of those for whom this lesson rings hollow, for whom the darkness looms so large you cannot see through, no matter how hard you try, know that you, too, are a child of God. Your inability to see past the pain doesn't in the least lessen the love God has for you. The next in this series deals with the darkness directly, but until then, please don't suffer alone. Please reach out to a friend or family member, to myself, or to one of the other members of the pastoral staff. Let us lift you and love you.

Pastor Jonathan Stephan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Sunnyside today. Thank you for joining us for worship today. During most of our service, the Pathfinders will be leading out. We pray for God's special blessing on you as we worship together.

Nominating Committee New Members — First Reading: Margie Allen, Amy Cafferky, Paul Dragulin, Tim Hill (Chair), Kathy Kramer (Secretary), Beverly Merino, Isaac Nziacharo, Brenda Siaw, Marie Pierre, Liesl Vistaunet, One-year term: Marcia Dunham. Alternates: Lorrie Wescott and Tom Kramer.



Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra will present its concert on Sunday, March 12, at 4:00 PM, with guest conductor Mark Perlman. The concert will include "The Moldau from Mein Vaterland" by Smetana, "Finale Allegretto from Petite Symphonie" by Gounod, "O Magnum Mysterium" arranged for Brass by Lauridsen, "Sibelius" by Festivo, and the "Symphony No. 2" by Brahms. This will be an exceptional concert. Join us Sunnyside Adventist Church!



Sunnyside choir is recruiting singers for the Easter Program with the orchestra. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Please contact pollyhan@aol.com if you are interested in singing with us.

The Nominating Committee is about to convene. This is the group that is responsible for selecting people to volunteer in the church. Sunnyside is so successful because of you and how much you care for your church. Each one of you are asked to consider and pray about where you would like to serve in Sunnyside's community. We are family and we need each other. Please take this seriously and let us know in what group you would like to serve. Please volunteer and when you are contacted consider it a privilege. Send your area of interest to info@SunnysideAdventist.org.

Saturday night, March 18, at 5:00 PM, everyone is invited and encouraged to bring their friends to a Sunnyside Community Night for a free veggie big frank supper followed by a show presented by the Oregon Reptile Man. There will be an opportunity after the show to handle some of the safe animals. All ages are welcome!



Gene Lysinger, a former member, has passed away. Many of you will remember him as a choir director here at Sunnyside. There will be a memorial service for him on March 26, 2023, at 2:00 PM. A choir has been formed and will be singing in memory of him, and a potluck reception will follow the service.

The class on the book of Daniel meets on Tuesday at 3:00 pm, in the Bridal Room. This class is led by Conrad Gren and will be something you will really enjoy. Take time to come and join in.



Tuesday evenings are known as "Bread Nights" when we feed the WWU nursing students a meal once a week. We need more helpers — please consider joining us.

Contact David Duffield, 901-481-7875.

Wednesday mornings at 10:00, FaithLift, a group for ladies, meets here at the church to study the Bible, share their stories, and pray together over many needs as well as for those that need extra prayers. If this sounds like something you would enjoy attending, please come and join us. If you cannot be here in person, there is a Zoom link available to be able to join remotely.



Wednesday mornings at 10:00 our Men's Bible Study group meets to study the Bible together in the Columbia Room. Men, you are all invited to join us for this weekly study.

Handbells! Have you ever wanted to try ringing a handbell or a chime, or wondered what handbell music looks like? Every Thursday at 7:00 PM, you are invited to the choir room for an opportunity to look at music, try out the bells, meet our current members, and get more information about our Sunnyside Handbell



Choir. For more information, please contact Karl Helton at sunnysidebellchoir@gmail.com.



Our new flower calendar is now posted in the hallway and on our website. Please choose a date to share flowers with our Sunnyside family for our worship services and place your name on it. As the date gets closer, we will contact you to see what message you would like to put in the bulletin about the flowers.

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



Happy Birthday



Today: Konnie Geschke, Ted Mackett, Karen Petersen; **Sunday:** Amy Evangelista, Denis Heather; **Monday:** Sandra Swisher-Hoops, Richard Zavaersnake; **Tuesday:** David Drake, Vasile Pana, Vivian Robertson, William Wagner; **Wednesday:** Linda Zavernsuke, **Friday:** Julie Jones

Mark your calendar for the upcoming events here at Sunnyside Church:

- ◇ March 12, 4:00 PM, Sunnyside Symphony Orchestra
- ◇ March 18, 4:00 PM, Sunnyside Community Night
- ◇ March 19, 3:00 PM, The Oregon Sinfonietta Concert
- ◇ March 25, 11:15 PM, Communion



AREA EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Adventist Book Center's Spring Case Food & Book Sale is February 26 – March 12, 2023. Sale prices are also good for all delivery locations. You can also go to www.abcflyer.com and click the sale flyer link.



You are invited to **Oregon Family & Children's Ministries VBS Planning Day (formerly VBS Fun Day)**. It will be on March 12, 2023 from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM at the Holden Center. We will be featuring NAD's Fiercely Faithful and Group's Stellar & Pet's Unleashed (weekend VBS program). Please register at <http://bitly.ws/ySeZ> by February 20th. Hope to see you there!

We need prayer because prayer connects us with Christ and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Prayer is the only way we can accomplish what God has called us to do. It is through prayer that we will cooperate with angels and finish the last work. Join us at the Oregon Prayer Conference at Rockaway Beach on March 24-26th with guest speaker Pastor Rob Clouzet. His messages will be very eye-opening and inspiring. This will be a special time of prayer and learning about prayer. To learn more, or to register, visit: <https://www.oregonadventist.org/ministries/prayer-ministries>.



Gladstone Open — Singles and Double Disc Golf Tournament fundraiser May 7th at the Oregon campgrounds in Gladstone benefiting Livingstone

Adventist Academy after-school programs.
<http://tinyurl.com/gladstoneopen>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

HOMELESS FAMILY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Family Promise of Metro East is a new local community-based organization working to serve families experiencing homelessness in NE and SE Portland. Family Promise works in partnership with faith communities, volunteers, and community-based organizations to provide overnight shelter, hospitality, meals and support to 3-5 families at a time (up to 14 people) as they work to return to stable housing. During the day, families are served at the Family Day Center where they have access to showers, laundry, computers, case management and more. Family Promise of Metro East is looking for volunteers! They have a range of meaningful volunteer opportunities and invite you to be part of the solution to homelessness. There are three easy ways to learn more about volunteer opportunities: 1. Visit our [website](#) and fill out the short [volunteer interest form here](#). 2. Attend a volunteer training. We require all volunteers to attend a training - in person or online. Even if you are not sure you are going to volunteer, it is a great way to learn more about Family Promise. The next training is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14th - 6-8:30pm at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral (147 NW 19th Ave, Portland, OR 97209). Please RSVP to Beckie Lee -

beckie@familypromisemetroeast.org. 3. Call Family Promise Director Michele Veenker at (503) 349-7627 to learn more.

ADVENTIST EDUCATION



Attention Columbia Adventist Academy alumni:

Columbia Adventist Academy Alumni Reunion Weekend is happening March 31 – April 2, 2023!

This year's honor classes include the following years: '43, '48, '53, '63, '73, '83, '93, '98, '03, '13, and '23



Portland Adventist Elementary School

<http://www.paes.com>

Portland Adventist Elementary School (PAES) is seeking candidates for a 1st Grade long-term substitute teaching position for the remainder of this school year. Our school serves a diverse population and welcomes all students who desire an opportunity to learn more about Jesus. We are committed to being a light in our community and unlocking the potential of every child.



Portland Adventist Academy

<https://paasda.org/>

SAVE THE DATE - Alumni Weekend May 5-7, 2023

In-person, on the PAA Campus.

Honor Classes: '43, '48 (75-year), '53, '63, '73 (50-year), '83, '93, '98 (25-year), '03, '13, '18 (5-year)

[More info on the Alumni web page.](#)

PAA & AmazonSmile. You may have heard that Amazon.com is discontinuing the AmazonSmile charitable giving program. We thank you for choosing PAA for this program. PAA has received about \$900 through the Amazon program since 2018. Thank you!

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>



Walla Walla University — wallawalla.edu



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.

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 **PACS Office or Donation Receiving**. Thank you in advance!

PACS Thrift Store - At Home Shopping:

www.facebook.com/groups/pacsthiftstore.



PACS Job Openings!

Check PACS website at www.pacsonline.org/jobs

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 are 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.

Walla Walla University is hiring! If you or someone you know is looking to advance your career, please check out opportunities in Portland and College Place and apply at jobs.wallawalla.edu.