



July 2020

NEWS 'n VIEWS

from the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist Church

Pastor: Charles Byrd

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OPEN DOORS

Were you present for the “reopening” of the Grants Pass Seventh-day Adventist Church on June 13? If you were, you undoubtedly noticed some changes. You were greeted at the door by volunteers wearing masks. You were “checked in” and quickly led to an assigned seat. (Did you remember to sign up online?) You probably noticed that every other pew remained empty, to maintain physical distancing (“Angel Seating”). From your assigned seat, members and guests from different households were distanced. Pencils, hymnals, tithe envelopes, and Bibles were not directly available in the pew racks. You may have observed these things as a reminder that our world is not safe. Safety, in this world surrounded by sin, is a “calculated risk.”

Pastor Charles Byrd spoke that Sabbath on where we are indeed “Safe and Sound.” He noted that it was a calculated risk to reopen the church doors. In the decision to return to church, “We choose to take a certain amount of risk.” The Father made a calculated risk with man when He “chose to let us choose sin and death.” Not every case of COVID-19 results in death, but every case of sin does.

“For twelve weeks, I’ve had to preach to an empty room,” Pastor Byrd said to a congregation of about



70. For twelve weeks, Sabbath services were only available online. He wanted to know, “What brought you back to church today?” Was it to participate in worship music? The congregation did not sing together, per current reopening guidelines. Was it to receive hugs? That was also a disappointment. Were you surprised to learn that deacons would usher you out of the sanctuary after the service? Pastor Byrd noted that whatever the reason for returning to church, God is “happy you are here.” The church should be about coming to be with the Father. Our presence with the Father is a “gift.”

He advised those listening to, “Let God be God.” He is in control of this current situation. He is “big enough to work it all out.” In this world that has spiraled out of control, where are we truly safe and sound? “The only time you will be safe and sound is when you’re in the arms of the Father, and when you recognize who He is—Love.” Are you taking shelter in the Father’s arms?

The doors to the church may have been closed, but the heart of the church was not. Ministries such as Dorcas continued to provide limited services following CDC guidelines. Brown bag lunches were provided,

rather than the “regular” soup kitchen. Bible studies continued, only online. Church business was conducted via Zoom meetings and will be for a while. The church office provided access to such items as Sabbath School quarterlies and tithe envelopes. A drop-off location remains available at the church for tithes and offerings.

For the most current information about Sabbath services, Sabbath School classes, and various meetings and Bible studies during the week, please visit our website, www.grantspasschurch.com.

~Jennifer Burkes

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The Good News About Fresh Herbs

If you wanted a summer garden, it is probably too late. But it is not too late to grow some culinary herbs. One of the nice things about growing your own herbs is that you don't need a lot of space. If you don't have room for even a small plot, you can grow them successfully in small pots and keep them on a balcony, deck or even a window sill.

The most popular food flavorings in America are sugar, salt, ketchup and mustard, and the closest thing resembling an herb on most plates is a sprig of parsley for eye appeal. But, if we would add some culinary herbs to some of our main dishes we would increase their nutritional value substantially.

Researchers with the U.S. Department of Agriculture have found that herbs, in addition to making food tastier, are an abundant source of antioxidants and could provide potential health benefits when supplementing a balanced diet. Herbs have higher antioxidant activity by weight than fruits and vegetables, including garlic.

The abundance of antioxidants help neutralize the damaging effects of free radicals in our bodies. Free radicals are dangerous electrically charged atoms and molecules that can destroy cells. They are produced by environmental and internal pollutants such as cigarette smoking, herbicides, excessive exercise, stress, radiation, car exhaust fumes

and even natural metabolic processes in our bodies. Free radical damage can lead to the onset of various diseases, as well as premature aging and cognitive impairment.

A USDA study compared the antioxidant activity of 39 commonly used herbs grown in the same location and conditions. On a per gram fresh weight basis, oregano and other herbs ranked even higher in antioxidant activity than fruits and vegetables. Oregano was found to have 42 times more antioxidant activity than apples, and 4 times more than blueberries.

A salad enhancement study was done at the Università di Urbino in Italy. With the understanding that it's the antioxidants that give fruits and vegetables their anticancer, antiviral, and anti-inflammation properties, scientists experimented with adding different fresh herbs to salads and measuring their resultant total antioxidant content. They found that adding just a single sprig of fresh herbs (the weight of 3 paper clips worth of thyme, sage or marjoram - a kissing cousin of oregano) literally doubles the antioxidant power of a bowl of salad. It's almost like eating two salads for the price of one! The researchers conclude: "We stress the need to introduce aromatic herbs as a seasoning supplement in the diet of every age group."

Since many antioxidants found in

herbs are oil soluble, they are best absorbed when eaten with foods containing healthy, natural oils as found in olives and avocados. Researchers at Ohio State University paid about a dozen people to eat salads with or without avocado, one of the healthiest sources of fat, and then measured the amount of carotenoids that made it into everyone's bloodstream. Those eating a salad including half an avocado absorbed about 10 times more carotenoids than those eating the fat-free salad.

Although herbs with the highest antioxidant activity belonged to the oregano family, other herbs such as rosemary, basil, thyme, cilantro, dill and parsley are also high in antioxidants. All can be purchased at local nurseries here in Grants Pass, or most can be easily started from seeds.

Rosemary, a perennial herb that grows well in southern Oregon, has been found to enhance memory. Even the aroma of rosemary has this memory boosting effect. A study on rosemary at Northumbria University in England found that just exposure to rosemary can boost memory. The researchers found that students working in a room that contained the aroma of rosemary - in the form of an essential oil - achieved between five and seven percent better results in memory tests.

The ancient Greeks claimed that rosemary "comforts the brain,...sharpens understanding, restores lost memory, [and] awakens the mind". Greek scholars wound rosemary sprigs in their hair when studying for exams to help them remember what they learned. When harvesting herbs in your own garden or herb pots, the ideal time for

continued on next page



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Women's Study Group is meeting each Tuesday at 2 pm in the Junior / Earliteen Room.

We are currently finishing up the book *Early Writings* and will begin a new study using Pastor Marvin Clark's study from prayer meeting many years ago on End Time Events. If you are interested in joining this new study, please contact Donna Griffith.



Dr. Hurd broke his leg and is in Regency Room 11. He would love visitors! Although you can't go inside, window visits can be arranged.

Good News About Fresh Herbs, cont. from page 2

picking is in the morning after the dew has dried but before the sun gets hot. This helps ensure the best flavor and storage quality. Freshly picked herbs can be stored in an open or a perforated plastic bag in your refrigerator crisper drawer for a few days.

A tossed salad of dark green or red tipped lettuce, tomatoes, celery, olives, avocado, grated beets and carrots, a sprig of parsley, basil or oregano and some lemon juice, and you have a most healthful yet tasty antipasto. Or for weight watchers, it could be a light meal in itself -- packed full of phytochemicals, vitamins, minerals and fiber; yet low in calories, bad fats and free oils.

"God has caused to grow out of the ground herbs for the use of man, and if we understand the nature of these roots and herbs, and make a right use of them, there would not be a necessity of running for the doctor so frequently, and people would be in much better health than they are today." -Letter 35, 1890. {Medical Ministry 230.3} ~ John Mauro

Prayer Ministry

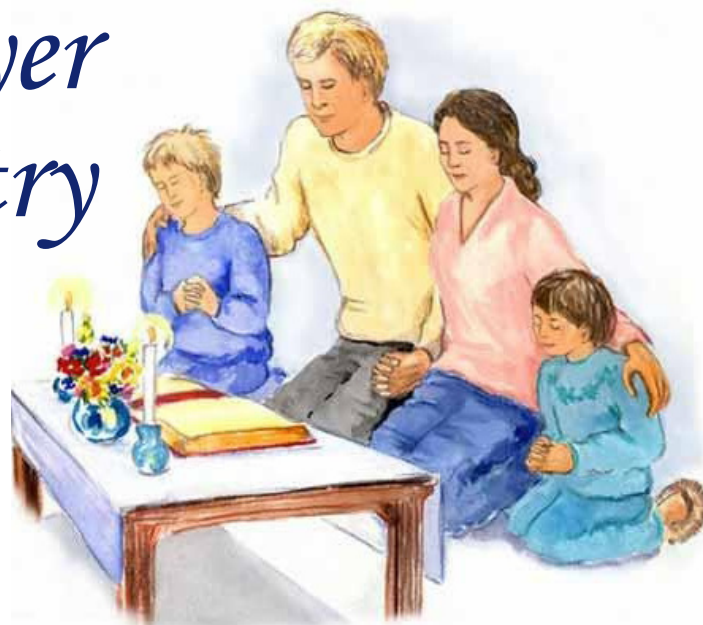
"The Scriptures admonish us to 'pray without ceasing.' This does not mean that we are to spend all of our time on our knees in formal

prayer. It does mean that we must live and serve our Lord in the atmosphere of prayer."

"We have come to serious times. Events in our world call upon every follower of Christ to be totally in earnest in our relationship with God. To strengthen this relationship and satisfy our emotional and spiritual needs, we must learn the power of prayer."

Very serious words taken from the book **Prayer** by Ellen White. The times we are living are far more serious than any of us realize. The forces behind the scenes are organizing for the final events foretold in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. Are you watching? Are you awake to what is taking place?

I try to keep aware of events that could have an impact on us as God's people. Just a few of the Adventist videos I watch on YouTube to keep aware of what is happening are: Walter Veith: 'What's Up Prof? (A continuing series with 1 – 17 videos so far) / The Grand Deception: A Plan for Global Unity - Amazing Discoveries (this one will really open your eyes!) / Pastor John



Lomacang (weekly sermons) / Doug Batchelor (weekly sermons) and I am sure there are many more.

Although it is important to know the times, it is more important to know the God of the times. And that is where prayer and Bible promises come in. So here are two of my favorite Bible promises from the book of Isaiah: "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." Is. 41:10 and another, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You are Mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flames scorch you for I am the Lord your God. Is. 43:1-2. No matter what the future holds we have nothing to fear if we remember how He has led and protected us in the past.

~Donna Griffith

Prayer Ministry

All Because You Prayed

"Call upon me and I will show you great and mighty things ye know not of." Jer. 33:3

IT'S A MIRACLE AND ALL BECAUSE YOU PRAYED!!!

I got a phone call from Joan Peterson yesterday with the exciting news that God has answered our prayers in a mighty way for our church. Our budget is now totally caught up and the various departments were even able to get their budgeted amounts. **We had been in the red \$18,458** and now we are in the black! The departments do not get any funds unless we are totally caught up with our budget as all the funds are needed just to make ends meet. Let's keep praying and giving so we can keep current. God must have big plans for our church and that's why Satan is keeping us shut down - but the bigger they are,

the harder they fall!! Using Moses' words at the Red Sea, "Stand back and see what the Lord will provide."

Make no mistake, God would not have been successful in impressing people to give extra if we had not been praying. It is united prayer that gives God evidence to show the onlooking universes and both good and bad angels that He is abiding by the rules of engagement of His war against evil. His degree of involvement is directly proportionate to the intensity of desire on our part. Prayer indicates our intensity of desire.

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW! Be sure to kneel and thank God right now for granting our request. Without slowing our giving for church budget, let us now all focus on praying for our school indebtedness of \$30,000+. I know



a couple people have given their stimulus checks to the school, but we still have a long ways to go. Ask God how much He will provide you above your normal giving to meet this need. I see Miracle #2 on the horizon for our school. Join the excitement by being part of God's miracle for our school. Miracles 3, 4 and 5 are starting slow, but that's okay. Rome wasn't built in a day.

One day soon we will be able to get together and throw a big multi-miracle celebration party!! Until then, may the Lord richly bless you abundantly more than you could ever ask or think.

~Gloria Wilson



Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, calls and many messages of love and support. Your caring made the load lighter and the days brighter.

In His Love,
The Family of Glen Chinn: Sandra, Guy, Sonya, Nolan, Jesse and Weldon

We want to thank all the dedicated members who continued giving us a special Sabbath service, playing to an empty sanctuary while we were stuck at home. The song service, children's story, special music and sermons made us feel as if we were there with you. We're looking forward to the day when we can ALL be back to normal. God's blessing to all.

- Edd and Elsie Cape.

KIDS CORNER

Jesus Teaches About Prayer

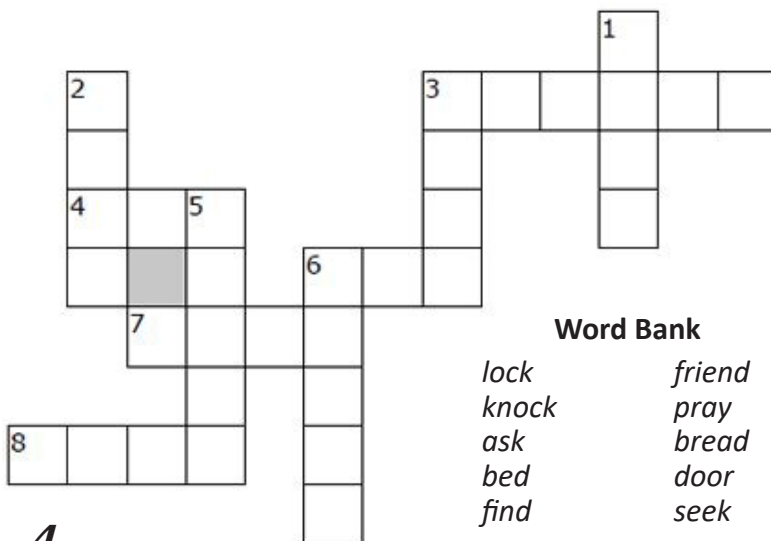
"So I say unto you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

ACROSS

3. A person you know, like, and trust
4. To make a request for something
6. A piece of furniture for sleeping
7. A movable structure used to close off an entrance to a room
8. A device operated by a key and used to keep a door from being opened

DOWN

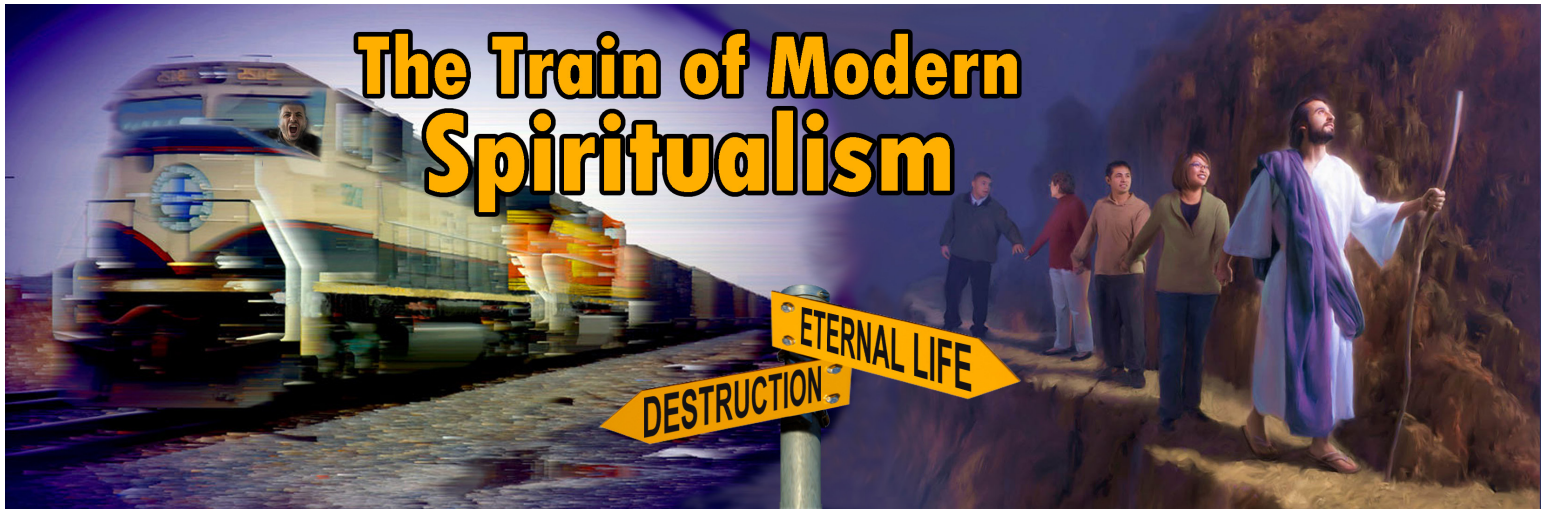
1. To look for something
2. To talk to God
3. To locate something by searching for it
5. To strike a series of blows with your fist, as on a door
6. A food made from flour mixed water and other ingredients, then baked in an oven



Word Bank

lock	friend
knock	pray
ask	bread
bed	door
find	seek

The Train of Modern Spiritualism



In 1850, Ellen White had a vision of the deceptions of spiritualism, by which Satan, she saw, would deceive the world. At this time, spiritualism had just arisen and it was small, with few mediums. But Ellen White was shown its rapid progress and how the whole world would be deceived. She wrote of her vision in the book *Early Writings*, on pages 88-89, and repeated on pgs 262-263.

"A train of cars was shown me, going with the speed of lightning. The angel bade me look carefully. I fixed my eyes upon the train. It seemed that the whole world was on board, that there could not be one left. Said the angel, 'They are binding in bundles ready to burn.' Then he showed me the conductor, who appeared like a stately, fair person, whom all the passengers looked up to and revered. I was perplexed and asked my attending angel who it was. He said, 'It is Satan. He is the conductor in the form of an angel of light. He has taken the world captive. They are given over to strong delusions, to believe a lie, that they may be damned. This agent, the next highest in order to him, is the engineer, and other of his agents are employed in different offices as he may need them, and they are all going with lightning speed to perdition.'"

I asked the angel if there were none left. He bade me look in an opposite direction, and I saw a little company traveling a narrow pathway. All seemed to be firmly united, bound together by the truth, in bundles, or companies. Said the angel, 'The third angel is binding, or sealing, them in bundles for the heavenly garner.' This little company looked careworn, as if they had passed through severe trials and conflicts. And it appeared as if the sun had just risen from behind a cloud and shone upon their countenances, causing them to look triumphant, as if their victories were nearly won."

Many think of spiritualism as a dark art with Ouija boards shadowy séances. But Satan is far too clever to confine his deceptions to things that Christians will immediately recognize as belonging to him. How will he work in the last days? Revelation 16:13, 14 speaks of *"three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them together to the battle of that great day of God Almighty."*

We are told that *"through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former*

lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience."

"As spiritualism more closely imitates the nominal Christianity of the day, it has greater power to deceive and ensnare. Satan himself is converted, after the modern order of things. He will appear as an angel of light. Through the agency of spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be

performed. And as the spirits will profess faith in the Bible, and manifest respect for the institutions of the church, their work will be accepted as a

“A BELIEF IN SPIRITUAL MANIFESTATIONS OPENS THE DOOR TO SEDUCING SPIRITS.”

manifestation of divine power.” GC 588

Speaking of apostate Protestantism, the various organizations which constitute Babylon, she writes, *"As the teachings of spiritualism are accepted by the churches, the restraint upon the carnal heart is removed, and the profession of religion will become a cloak to conceal the basest iniquity. A belief in spiritual manifestations opens the door to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, and thus the influence of evil spirits will be felt in the churches."*

GC 603-604 (italics supplied)

Satan, we are told, will make *"the world believe that the Bible is a mere fiction, or at least a book suited to the infancy of the race, but now to be lightly regarded, or cast aside as obsolete. And to take the place of the word of God he holds out spiritual manifestations. Here is a channel wholly under his control; by this means he can make the world believe what he will."* GC 557 (italics supplied)

What is a "spiritual manifestation"? According to vocabulary.com, "if something spiritual becomes real, it is said to be a manifestation." So here we see that Satan will cause people to experience things that seem real to them, and they will accept these manifestations instead of the truth. *"...when brought face to face with manifestations which they cannot but regard as supernatural, they will be*

deceived, and will be led to accept them continued on page 6

as the great power of God.” GC 553

Notice that in order to do this, he must first get people to set aside the word of God. We noted in the first article of this series, that for Sarah Young, who authored the Jesus Calling books, that the Bible was “not enough”, and she yearned for “more”; and the mystic “listeners” who authored the God Calling books expressed gratitude for the revelations they received when so many others had to be “content” with “guidance from the Bible”, etc.

What kind of “supernatural manifestations” might we as Christians encounter?

1. Mystical books

New Age books like Kellogg’s *Living Temple*, which contain pantheistic theories, lead to theories that do away with the atonement. Regarding this book, Ellen White wrote, “We need not the mysticism that is in this book. Those who entertain these sophistries will soon find themselves in a position where the enemy can talk with them, and lead them away from God.” 1 SM 202 “Be not deceived”, she wrote, “many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature.” *ibid* 197 “In the book *Living Temple* there is presented the alpha of deadly heresies. The omega will follow, and will be received by those who are not willing to heed the warning God has given.” *ibid* 200 “In *Living Temple* the assertion is made that God is in the flower, in the leaf, in the sinner. But God does not live in the sinner. The Word of God declares that He abides only in the hearts of those who love Him and do righteousness. God does not abide in the heart of the sinner; it is the enemy who abides there.” E G White, *Sermons and Talks*, vol 1, p 343 “The theory that God is an essence pervading all nature is one of Satan’s most subtle devices. It misrepresents God and is a dishonor to His greatness and majesty...If God is an essence pervading all nature, then He dwells in all men; and in order to attain holiness, man has only to develop the power that is within him. These theories, followed to their logical conclusion, sweep away the whole Christian economy. They do away with the necessity for the atonement and make man his own savior.” 8T 291

2. False forms of prayer

Contemplative prayer is to spiritual formation what speaking in tongues is to Pentecostalism. Contemplative prayer is rooted in Catholic mysticism. Spiritual formation is a Roman Catholic teaching based on the supernatural revelations of Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits. One of these writers, Thomas Merton, wrote that the Christian of tomorrow will be a mystic, someone who had experienced something. This, of course, opens the way for “spiritual manifestations.”

3. Speaking in tongues

“Some of these persons have exercises which they call gifts and say that the Lord has placed them in the church. They have an unmeaning gibberish which they call the unknown tongue, which is unknown not only by man but by the Lord and all heaven.” 1T 412 “They give themselves up to wild, ecstatic feelings and make unintelligible sounds which they call the gift of tongues, and a certain class seem to be charmed with these strange manifestations....God’s spirit is not in this work....They have another spirit.” *ibid* 414

4. Visions and dreams

“The multitude of dreams arise from the common things

of life, with which the Spirit of God has nothing to do. There are also false dreams, as well as false visions, which are inspired by the spirit of Satan.” 1T 569

5. Healings

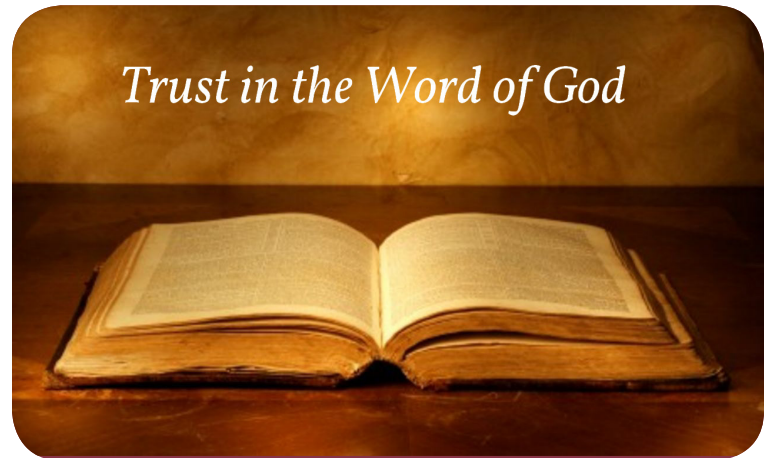
Satan pretends to be “the great medical missionary”. MM 88 “God’s word declares that Satan will work miracles. He will make people sick, and then will suddenly remove from them his satanic power. They will then be regarded as healed. These works of apparent healing will bring Seventh-day Adventists to the test.” 2SM 53 “The apostles of nearly all forms of spiritism claim to have the power to cure the diseased...And there are not a few, even in this Christian age, who go to these healers, instead of trusting in the power of the living God and the skill of well-qualified Christian physicians.” EV 606 A desperate mother who is told of the wonderful cures of one of these satanic healers “trusts her dear one to his charge, placing it as verily in the hand of Satan as if he were standing by her side. In many instances the future life of the child is controlled by a satanic power, which it seems impossible to break.” *ibid*

6. Miracles

“He doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do.” Rev 13:13. No mere impostures are here foretold. Men are deceived by the miracles which Satan’s agents have power to do, not which they pretend to do.” GC 553

7. Impersonation of the dead

“Many will be confronted by the spirits of devils personating beloved relatives or friends and declaring the most dangerous heresies. These visitants will appeal to our tenderest sympathies and will work miracles to sustain their pretensions. We must be prepared to withstand them with the Bible truth that the dead know not anything and that they who thus appear are the spirits of devils.” GC 560



With God’s help, we will not be deceived by ANY of Satan’s delusions! We will compare everything with the Word of God. “... God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms”. GC 595 “It is the first and highest duty of every rational being to learn from the Scriptures what is truth, and then to walk in the light and encourage others to follow his example. We should day by day study the Bible diligently, weighing every thought and comparing scripture with scripture. With divine help, we are to form our opinions for ourselves as we are to answer for ourselves before God”. *ibid* 598 ~Melissa Derfler



Exercise for Health & Longevity

From the beginning, man was made to be physically active. “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.” *Genesis 2:15* It seems that after the Fall, the need for exercise, and exercise itself grew more intense. “*By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food...*” *Genesis 3:19*.

“Action is a law of our being. Every organ of the body has its appointed work, upon the performance of which its development and strength depend. The normal action of all the organs gives strength and vigor, while the tendency of disuse is toward decay and death.....Those whose habits are sedentary should, when and weather will permit, exercise in the open air every day, summer or winter. Walking is preferable.....The lungs are forced into healthy action, since it is impossible to walk briskly without inflating them. Such exercise would in many cases be better for health than medicine” Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, pgs 237, 240.

BENEFITS OF EXERCISE:

- Increased air flow through nasal passages (a blessing for hay fever sufferers)
- Lowered resting heart rate and blood pressure
- Increased circulation and oxygen intake, thus better nourishment of nerves and body tissue
- Lowered cholesterol and lipids (fats) in the blood
- Better appetite control, as the brain “appetate” operates more effectively
- Unwanted fat burned, so you look

and feel better

- Improved muscle tone and elasticity of blood vessels; weak, flabby tissue transformed into strong, firm tissue
- Reduced stiffness in joints

Regular exercise is highly effective in combating degenerative diseases. Like any other potent therapeutic agent, exercise must be taken in proper dosage for each individual. Otherwise ineffective or damaging results may occur. Scientific studies in exercise physiology in the past several years have brought to light specific requirements and guidelines for initiating an effective and safe program.

- Joint Preparation and Stretching: Prepare your muscles and joints with simple stretching.
- Warm-up: Allows the heart rate to gradually increase to accommodate increased blood flow.
- Aerobic Exercise: Most beneficial program for developing cardiovascular fitness.
- Cool Down: Walk slowly to decrease your heart rate.
- Post Stretching: Repeat stretches performed in the preparation especially stretching leg muscles

SPECIFIC EXERCISES

Walking

Nearly everyone agrees that exercise is good for you, but few people realize that walking is one of the most efficient forms of exercise and one that you can safely continue through the later years of life. Because it is so simple and fits into virtually any lifestyle, walking has become the

primary means of staying in shape for many busy individuals.

Benefits of Walking:

Aerobic Fitness for Heart and Lungs
Weight Loss and Control
Bones Strengthened
Decreased Risk of Osteoporosis
Decreased Stress and Depression
Increased Mental Alertness

Running

Running continues to be one of the most popular forms of staying fit.

Cycling

An excellent cardiovascular conditioner as well as an effective way to control weight and is an ideal aerobic activity.

Swimming

Excellent for weight control, muscular function, and flexibility.

Gardening

The benefits of gardening are many! In addition to exercise, there is also free Vitamin D from the sun, fresh air, tranquility, relaxation, a time to touch nature closely, and food from the harvest. Studies reveal that digging, planting, and harvesting relieve the stresses of everyday living.

Benefits of Gardening:

Heart Muscles Strengthened
Lowered Cholesterol
Digestion Aided
Decreased Appetite
Relieved Tension & Stress
Improved Posture
Increased Endurance

God linked exercise with lifestyle and nutrition. Movement creates positive changes in physical, mental, and emotional states. We are thankful for the mental and physical blessing of movement!
 ~Bill Pirelli

FAMILY PORTRAITS:

CARRIE HISE

BY GINNY FROST



Carrie Hise made her way into the world on June 20, 1960, so it was just a short time ago that she celebrated a special birthday (you can do the math). She was born to a young teenager in Stockton, California, and placed for adoption when she was six months old. Unfortunately, by the time she was two years old her parents had divorced.

Carrie and her mother moved to Sonora, California, and even though at the time her mother was not an Adventist, when Carrie began second grade her mother enrolled her in the little Adventist school where Carrie spent the rest of her elementary years. At the age of ten she decided to be baptized. She was involved in church activities, singing in the choir, and participating in Pathfinders. She also recalls many happy times spent during the summer at Camp Wawona in beautiful Yosemite National Park. It sounds like an almost ideal life for a child, but as is sometimes the case, appearances were not always what they seemed. Carrie's mother had been baptized but she was leading a far different life privately than what she was publicly, and Carrie became confused and disillusioned with

Christianity and Adventism in particular.

Carrie had started smoking at about the age of 11 or 12 and remembers taking her first drink at 12 years of age. Smoking at school got her into trouble and her mother thought a move to Paradise, California, would help. It didn't. By the time Carrie was 16, she was drinking every day and she ran away from home, vowing that she would never go back to a Seventh-day Adventist church!

Carrie ended up in a group home in Redding, California, and managed to graduate from high school with straight A's. She eventually earned an AA degree in Liberal Arts. But when she left Stepping Stones (the group home program) she dove into the party scene with everything that included and the only thing that mattered to her was having "fun".

She thought that moving to Phoenix, Arizona, to live with her mother again might be a good change for her, but the partying just got worse. Tiring of the desert and cactus, she moved back to California where she met her future husband in a bar. After they married, they pursued their separate careers while still heavily involved in the party lifestyle and almost around-the-clock drinking.

Carrie started

8

working at a

rental car agency as a counter agent and after moving to National Car Rental she worked her way up to senior management as the Regional Training Manager. For the next couple of years she traveled almost constantly around the U.S., training other managers and teaching several management courses. During that time she practically lived out of hotels and airplanes. After a move to Colorado she was able to use her creative ability to design training programs that made her one of the most sought after trainers in the company.

In the meantime her husband, Tom, was on his way to becoming a millionaire as an entrepreneur. They began building their "dream house", sparing no expenses. A cancer diagnosis that eventually took Tom's life ended their relationship of 16 years, but not before Tom made his million, which was left to Carrie.

Carrie felt the need for a little time to herself after Tom died so she went on a two week "spiritual journey", traveling across the U.S. to try and figure things out. When she returned to work she discovered that her job

continued on page 10

Thoughts & Prayers

Catherine Bell
BLBN
Stan Bishop
Cathy Bovee
Joyce Casper
Mildred Chaney
Larry Day
Artur & Tulia De
Carvalho
Patty Esquivel
Todd & Connie Frye
Tom Fuller
Dennis Gallegos
Beth Greer
Ingrid Gruenheid
Betty Hamblin
David Hamblin
Joney & Dahn
Haning
Harry Hansen
Butch & Pam Helwig
Fran Holder
Virginia Hume
Gary Jones

Dennis Kamberg
Sharon Karen
Steve King
Delbert & Alice Lewis
Jerry & Zola Lewis
Darlene Loewen
Henry Martin
Cathy McGinnis
Marvin McKillip
Rita McMullen
Molly Mourning
Our School
Chuck Painter
Melvin Partin
Jessica Rae
Ron Rau
Israel Rush
Lance Schmidt
Mel Smith
Joy Stewart
Yvonne Tooley
Rinann Uteg
Ethel Watts

Family Portraits, cont. from page 8

had been abolished in a corporate take-over. Deciding that she was not going to stay with the company any longer she quit her job and poured her energy into finishing the house that she and Tom had begun. With the stress of the loss of her husband and her job, her alcoholism became even worse and she managed to blow through her million in two and a half years.

Once again she went on a “spiritual journey”, this one lasting about a month. A friend of hers who had been into the party lifestyle with her decided to make a drastic change in his life and went to a detox program. After he finished the program he started going to Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and he told Carrie that she needed to get “The Big Book” (the 12 step program of AA) and read it. She took the book with her on her second spiritual journey and after partying all night she would read the book during the day. After reading it through once she decided that she needed to read it again. It was on the second reading that she suddenly realized that she was an alcoholic. That thought also made her realize that she would not be able to drink any

longer. She made the decision that she would have two drinks the next morning and that would be the last time. She did exactly that and then called her housemate and told him to get all the liquor out of the house before she returned. Once she had made the decision to get rid of all her alcohol she got down on her knees, for the first time in 50 years, and surrendered herself to God. She prayed the Step 3 prayer which starts off with: God, I offer myself to thee to build with me and do with me as Thou wilt. She joined AA and became involved in the different programs and started sponsoring others. (At this point, she has recently celebrated 17 years of sobriety, and counting.)

A big part of AA is realizing that one is powerless to change themselves and accepting the need to turn one’s life over to a “Higher Power”. Carrie had no problem with that as she had never doubted that there is a God. The problem that she had with it was that she thought it was just too easy. She thought that there must be something more that she needed to do or find and she thought she should explore other forms of religion or other types of “God”. But God had a different plan for her.

She decided to go visit a friend who lived in Medford and she ended up moving there, landing a job as a seasonal Christmas employee with Harry & David, and eventually working her way up to a position in corporate sales. On a weekend trip to the coast, another friend asked her to attend church with her. It turned out to be an Adventist church and the sermon was on Jeremiah 29:13; “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” That verse stayed with Carrie and she contemplated what it would mean for her life.

Trying out different churches, she was encouraged by a friend to visit our Grants Pass church. She was

reluctant but decided that she could go once. In July of 2015, she walked through the doors of our church and felt like she had come home.

After a year of Bible studies and her rebaptism, she began to notice some others, who were newly baptized, quietly disappear. That got her to thinking about the years that she had spent in the business world and how every successful program had mentors for their new employees. The Lord inspired her thoughts and gave her an idea to do something similar for mentoring new believers. She presented a plan to the church board and in 2018 “Growing and Going” was implemented. It pairs up newly baptized members with more seasoned members who spend a year together in a mentor/mentee relationship. The idea is for the long-time members to help new members learn and grow, becoming involved and committed, and then to “go”, possibly becoming mentors themselves one day.

One of Carrie’s interests is in healthy vegan cooking and she has been working on developing some raw, vegan cheesecakes. She also enjoys the outdoors, swimming, music, especially playing the piano, and art; drawing and painting (she is taking watercolor classes).

As Carrie looks back on her journey so far she sees that the path she has taken has had many twists and turns in it, but it steadily kept leading her back to God. She especially feels that her memories of her early experience with Adventist education were of vital importance in making her decision to come back to the church. No, Carrie’s journey has definitely not been an easy one but she says she would not change a thing, because who she is today is a result of the many experiences that she has had along the way and God using them to work out His will for her life.

~Ginny Frost



GRANTS PASS SDA SCHOOL GRADUATIONS

Please join us in honoring the following eighth-grade graduates (*pictured above, left to right*): **Kayla Cousland, Peyton Oliver, Hosanna Roth-Bone, and Tyla Strong.** As you know, we were not able to provide an in-person graduation ceremony. The in-person service would have been held on June 4. Due to current COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, a creative approach was used to provide families with a graduation ceremony. Separate parts of the graduation ceremony were filmed with one student in the school building at a time. These segments were then combined so that an entire graduation ceremony can be viewed.

Mrs. Tanya Oliver interviewed the two kindergarten graduates, Max Grove and Isaiah Wells. Their in-person graduation ceremony would have been held on June 3.

(Max Grove)

"What is something you learned in kindergarten?"

"Math, how to make friends and learning how to read."

"What will you miss most about kindergarten?"

"My friends and Mrs. Oliver."

"What was your favorite field trip?"

"Rock Museum. The rocks were pretty."

"Who are your friends in kindergarten and what do you like about them?"

"Paxton, He is fast and makes up good ideas."

Isaiah is nice!"

"Who is your teacher and what do you like about her?"

"Mrs. Oliver. She is nice and waits for me to stop wiggling."

"How is your family special to you?"

"They do fun things and help me come to school here."

"What are you looking forward to doing in 1st grade?"

"More science."

"What do you want to be when you grow up?"

"A scientist."

(Isaiah Wells)

"What is something you learned in kindergarten?"

"I learned how to write my name."

"What will you miss most about kindergarten?"

"Math and playing in the gym and the playground."

"What was your favorite field trip?"

"The Fire Station. I liked to go into the fire truck."

"Who are your friends in kindergarten and what do you like about them?"

"Max. He is playful."

"Who is your teacher and what do you like about her?"

"Mrs. Oliver. She is a good teacher."

"How is your mom and your family special to you?"

"They love me and helped me in kindergarten."

"What are you looking forward to doing in 1st grade?"

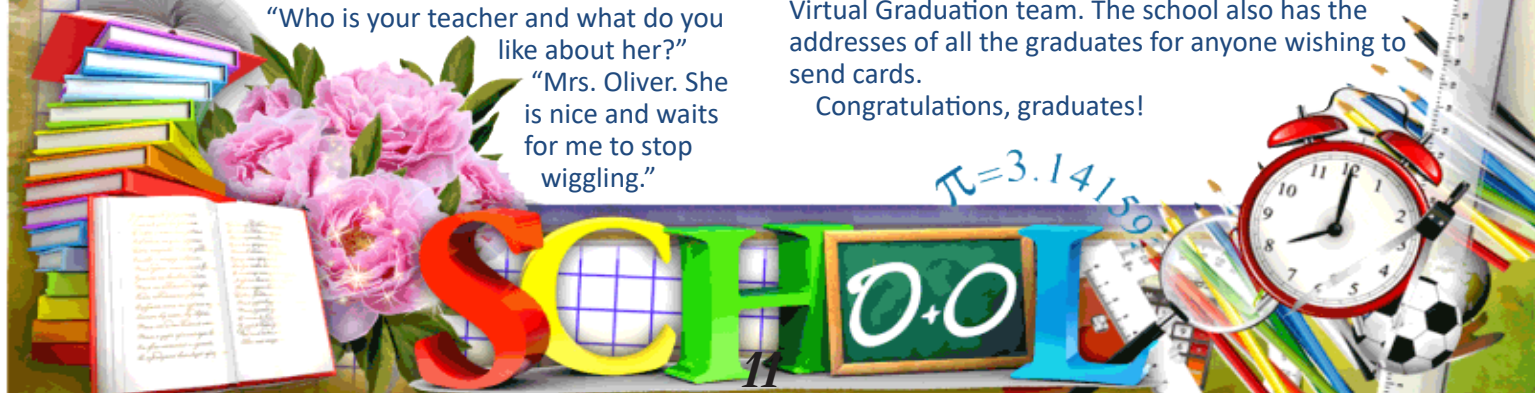
"I want to learn to read."

"What do you want to be when you grow up?"

"A police officer."

Please contact the school if you would like to view a video produced by August Hunicke of our 8th Grade Virtual Graduation team. The school also has the addresses of all the graduates for anyone wishing to send cards.

Congratulations, graduates!



Pastor's Page



Wanting Heaven! The Only Way

On Sunday, Karen and I got back from Lake Tahoe. We had a vacation with all three of our boys and six of our seven grandchildren. It was really nice to be together again. But as nice as it was, all it really accomplished was making me want to go home, to go to my heavenly home.

Did you know that Jesus has already told us when that will be? He has! In Matthew 24:14, He told us when He would return:

when "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations." Just think, if we get out there and preach and teach the good news, when we've lived our witness to the whole world, He will come back and take us to our heavenly home. That is our God-given responsibility.

"The church of Christ is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. Its mission is to carry the gospel to the world.

And the obligation rests upon all Christians. Everyone, to the extent of his talent and opportunity, is to fulfill the Saviour's commission." SC 81.2

This is not just an activity for the really talented people in church either. It is for everyone! And there are reasons why God gave each of us this shared responsibility. This is how God grows us in grace.

"The only way to grow in grace is to be disinterestedly doing the very

work which Christ has enjoined upon us – to engage, to the extent of our ability, in helping and the blessing those who need the help we can give them. Strength comes by exercise; activity is the very condition of life. Those who endeavor to maintain [their] Christian life by passively accepting the blessings that come through the means of grace, and doing nothing for Christ, are simply

and happiness would be a wonderful blessing!

And what I'm sharing with you right now is not simply a "if we do this now, we'll get that then," type of thing. You see, "The spirit of Christ's self-sacrificing love is the spirit that pervades heaven and is the very essence of its bliss. This is the spirit that Christ's followers will possess, the work that they will do."

SC 77.2

Living other centric lives is what makes heaven, well, heaven. It is the very essence of its bliss! So I'm calling on all our members to intentionally participate in getting the Gospel Word out there. We may do our part by helping those who are working in other lands with our prayers and our means. We can also actively share

the gospel with our families, friends or neighbors right here at home. This is how we'll prepare for heaven. I'm wanting heaven! And I hope you are too. ~Pastor Charles Byrd



"The love of Christ, revealed to us, makes us debtors to all who know Him not. God has given us light, not for ourselves alone, but to shed upon them." SC 81.2



trying to live by eating without working." SC 80.3

Another reason for us to engage with Christ in the work of saving others is what it does for our own character. "The spirit of unselfish labor for others gives depth, stability, and Christlike loveliness to the character, and brings peace and happiness to its possessor." SC 80.2 While we're waiting for Jesus to come, a ¹² good dose of peace



REVISED CALENDAR

2020



Happy Birthday

GEAN O'REILLY	02
ELLY BLECH	03
MYA JORGENSEN	03
MICHAEL RAE	04
ANASTASSYA BLURTON	05
SEAN MURPHY	06
DAWN BOYD	09

TOM SANTOS	09
SELENA FRANK	10
TOM DRIVER	11
ERNIE DAY	12
BERNIE HUKILL	13
DIANE DUNLOP	17
LARRY GREER	18
REANNA HULBERT	18
APRIL BRENNAN	19
GERI WYTCHERLEY	19
JOYCE CASPER	19
VITALY GRITSUK	20
DIANNA AUSTIN	22
JESSICA RAE	22
NEALY WHEELER	22
PAMELA HELWIG	23
BRIANNA FRANK	24
CATHE DRIVER	24
GLORIA WILSON	24
ASHLYNN DAVILA	25
DALE COTTRELL	25
MEGAN DRIGGERS	25
SUE RICHARDS	25
ANITA RAU	26
ROGER SURROZ	26
JAMIE WATSON	27
TERRY GUTHRIE	27
DANIEL HILL	28
EVELYN GADE	28
FRED RAMSEY	28
DAVID HALLMARK	29
LYNNE WOODWARD	29
ANDIE SPRINGER	30
MADISON DIETRICH	30
RON FITZPATRICK	30
KRIS CURRIER	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SABBATH
<p>Events may have been changed or added; please check:</p> <p>https://www.grantspass-church.com/calendar/ and ANNOUNCEMENT PAGE</p> 			1	2	3	4
			6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (YC/Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 8:54 pm 🌅	9:30 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children 4:00 pm Baptism at the Illinois River Sunset 8:54 pm 🌅
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 10:00 am Vets Helping Vets 6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP rm)	6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (YC/Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 8:52 pm 🌅	9:30 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Pastor Byrd 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children 4:00 pm Video Series (BLC) Sunset 8:51 pm 🌅
Lightbearers' Virtual Convocation July 7-11						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 10:00 am Walking & Hiking Club (Reinhart Park)	9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP rm) 6:30 pm Elder's Meeting	10:00 am Ted Perry 12:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive 12:00 pm Widows/Single Ladies Brunch: Elmer's 6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (YC/Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 8:48 pm 🌅	9:30 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Testimony Sabbath 12:30 pm Prayer for the Children Sunset 8:47 pm 🌅
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom)	9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 2:00 pm Women's Study 4:00 pm Romans Study (MP) 6:00 pm Finance Com (Zoom)	6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (YC/Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 8:42 pm 🌅	9:30 am Sab. Sch. (Zoom) (Les Derfler, Donna Griffith) 10:50 am Virtual OR Cmp Mtng 12:30 pm Prayer 4 Children 4:00 pm Video Series (BLC) Sunset 8:41 pm 🌅
Gladstone Virtual Campmeeting July 21-25						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 10:00 am Walking & Hiking Club (Reinhart Park)	9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 12-4:00 pm Veggie Food Store 4:00-6:00 pm ABC Food Del 2:00 pm Women's Study 4:00 pm Romans Study (YC)	6:30 pm Prayer Mtng (YC/Zoom)	7:00 am FIRST LIGHT (Zoom) 9:00 am-2:00 pm Dorcas 9:30 am-1:30 pm Thrift Store 3-6:00 pm Veggie Food Store 7:00 pm Final Events (Zoom)	6:30 pm AT REST (Zoom) Sunset 8:35 pm 🌅	