

CENTRAL NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2021

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Did you know that God has an assignment for your life? And, you are God's "masterpiece" – just the right person to accomplish the assignment He has for you.

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago" (Ephesians 2:10, NLT).

God created you and re-creates you so that you can do the good things He has planned for your life. You're not here just to consume resources – to eat, breathe, and take up space. God designed you to make a difference with your life and to add value to the lives of others.

The fact that you are designed to make a difference should give you courage and hope and real purpose for living. Why? Because God created you. Jesus re-creates you. The Holy Spirit equips you to do God's work when you accept His assignment for your life.

Starting Sabbath, September 11, during the 11:00 a.m. worship hour, I'll share with you how you can know and accept God's assignment for your life. By accepting His assignment you can make a huge difference in the lives of others. By accepting His assignment God will continue His masterful work in your life! Love Always, Pastor Randy Mills

Pastor Mills will be the speaker
September 11, 18, 25, and
October 9, 16, 23, 30.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

Divine worship each Sabbath begins at approximately 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. The service is live-streamed on YouTube. The link for the live stream will be posted each Sabbath on the church website just prior to the service. https://www.hsvcentralsda.org/ Request an email reminder: huntsvillecentralav at gmail.com Some music selections are muted due to copyright restrictions.

SABBATH BIBLE STUDY

Ed Toth's adult Sabbath School class meets in the small room behind the sanctuary piano.

Chuck Kittleson's adult Sabbath School class meets in the sanctuary.

Don Evans' adult Sabbath School class meets in Central Hall.

Junior and Earliteen Sabbath School classes are meeting in the Junior chapel.

Kindergarten and Primary Sabbath School classes are meeting together in the Primary classroom upstairs in Central Hall.

Beginners Sabbath School class is meeting in their classroom upstairs in Central Hall.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORSHIP

We are concluding "Connect with God Through Prayer," a 5-part series by John Bradshaw, president of It Is Written. If you missed any or all of "Connect," you can view all of the presentations here: https://itiswritten.tv/

CENTRAL THIS 'N' THAT

Nominating Committee has begun their work of selecting willing volunteers to fill all the church offices. Please pray for God's guidance for this committee.

If they contact you to ask you to fill a particular role in the church, please consider prayerfully what God would have you do.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 25, Communion Service at Central Church.

September 25, 13th Sabbath Offering for the North American Division. Give during worship service or with your online giving. See what will be accomplished with this offering. https://am.adventistmission.org/resources-for-sabbath-school-leaders#current

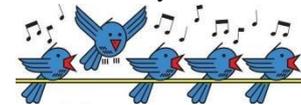
September 26, BCCA Yard Sale (See info under BCCA News, page 2.)

September 26, Gulf States Conference Constituency Meeting, information for delegates: https://gcsda.org/session Also delegates, if you want to carpool let Pastor Mills or Josh Broussard know.

September 29 through October 3, Adventist Community Services disaster response training and certification, www.gcsda.org/acstraining

October 17, Central's Health Ministries Cooking Class, 1:00 p.m. in Central Hall. Come learn how to prepare (and sample) healthful dishes!

Join Central Church Choir! If you enjoy praising God in music, and would like to join the choir, please contact Malinda McCleary to learn what the weekly rehearsal schedule is.



ADD YOUR VOICE!

OUR EVANGELISM JOURNEY

Huntsville Central has partnered with It Is Written television ministry in a 16-month Virtual Evangelism Journey called ACTS 20:21. The purpose of this project is to "turn people to God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ," Acts 20:21.

Previous series are: "Answers in Prophecy," "No Limits," and "Next Level Health." They may be viewed at https://itiswritten.tv/

The next series in our Acts 20:21 Evangelism Journey will be "Revelation Today: The Great Reset," which will begin October 8.

DEDICATION

On Sabbath, August 7, all students and teachers in the congregation were asked to come to the front of the sanctuary for a prayer of dedication.

Jim Bishop took a picture of the group. Thanks, Jim, for sharing the picture with us!



MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS

The following people have chosen to join Huntsville Central Church.

Wilguens Gustave from Margate Church, Pompano Beach, Florida.

Ellen Graves from Grace Fellowship, Madison, Alabama.

Michael and Becky Kelsey from Grace Fellowship, Madison, Alabama.

Ruth Upham from Little Creek Adventist Fellowship, Clayton, North Carolina.

Welcome to the family!

BIG COVE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

BCCA offers a safe,

personalized, and quality Christian education. If someone you know has a child or children who should be attending BCCA, or if you would like your child or children to attend but you believe your family cannot afford Christian education or you believe that you will need financial assistance, please contact either Pastor Mills; Jeff Green, school board chairman, [jeff.green at gatech.edu](mailto:jeff.green@gatech.edu); or the principal Cassie Fristoe, at [c.fristoe at bigcovesda.net](mailto:c.fristoe@bigcovesda.net); or Lisa Schmitt, Christian Education Secretary, at [l.schmitt at bigcovesda.net](mailto:l.schmitt@bigcovesda.net)



Support BCCA financially – It is the goal of Huntsville Central that all the children in our church family receive an Adventist education. To help make this possible, monthly donations are always needed for the assistance of worthy students. Why not make it a monthly habit to give to this project?

Donate online at Adventist Giving (<https://adventistgiving.org/#/org/ANTG/G1/envelope/start>), or use the link on the church website at <https://www.hsvcentralsda.org/> or place your donation in a tithe envelope marked accordingly. Memorial funds for BCCA are in the names of Jack Nelson and Victor Christensen. You will be making an investment in eternity when you support BCCA financially.



Student transportation to/from BCCA may be available if you need it, on a weekly or monthly basis, at \$20 per month. Please contact Lisa Schmitt at [l.schmitt at bigcovesda.net](mailto:l.schmitt@bigcovesda.net)

It's Yard Sale Time! Start cleaning out your closets and garage! Big Cove Christian Academy is hosting a fall yard sale fundraiser at the school on September 26 (Sunday), from 7:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.



For those interested in getting a table to sell your items, there will be a small donation amount of \$5 per small table, \$10 per large table.

If you have items you would like to donate to the BCCA school table, please contact Lisa Schmitt at [contactlisa99 at gmail.com](mailto:contactlisa99@gmail.com) to make arrangements. We will start collecting 2 weeks before the event, unless you need to schedule sooner.

All proceeds go toward BCCA's renovation project.

Don't forget to mark your calendar!
(Lisa Schmitt, Christian Education Secretary)



Music Lessons – We are happy to announce that Jodi Perkins is offering 30-minute private piano or other instrumental lessons every Friday during school hours. The monthly rate is \$105. Students will provide their own instrument (other than piano), as well as obtaining music books.

Please let Mrs. Fristoe know if you are interested. Spots are limited, and lessons will be scheduled on a first-come basis!
(Lisa Schmitt, Christian Education Secretary)

Pavilion update – I am excited to inform you that our Outdoor Pavilion



Fundraiser has been completed! The teachers and kids are enjoying the shade and opportunities to learn outdoors all year round. Thank you to all who donated to this special project. The next phase is to lay down concrete. Please keep this endeavor in your prayers.
(Lisa Schmitt, Christian Education Secretary)

BCCA FUNDRAISERS



SaveAround coupon book fundraiser!

September 8-24.

The Huntsville book and free mobile app are only \$20 and offer thousands of dollars in savings from local and national merchants! You can save lots of money while helping our school!

The best part is, it's online and easy! You even get to see what's in the book before you buy.

Friends/Family can also order books from their specific state by clicking the drop down box under the heading "state."

Please use this link to purchase a book from our fundraising page and books will be safely shipped to the address you enter at checkout.

<https://www.sapaynow.com/180254>

If you have any questions, please contact Maggie Navarro.

[mnavarro.vazquez at gmail.com](mailto:mnavarro.vazquez@gmail.com)

Thank you for your support,
(Lisa Schmitt, Christian Education Secretary)

◆ **Shop with Amazon Smile.** BCCA will automatically receive .5% from your eligible purchases when you shop on Amazon Smile at <http://smile.amazon.com>. Log in with your Amazon ID and password, and on the next screen enter Big Cove Christian Academy in the box under “Or pick your own charitable organization.” On the next screen select BCCA.



◆ **Box Top\$ for Education Fundraiser** – Download the Box Top\$ app and shop as you normally would, then scan your store receipts. The app will automatically credit the amount under BCCA earnings online. boxtops4education.com/



◆ **Publix Partners** – Sign up at Publix.com for an account, select BCCA, then enter your phone number at checkout. A percentage of each eligible transaction made using your Publix Partners account is allocated to BCCA. <https://corporate.publix.com/community/corporate-campaigns/publix-partners>



BCCA website is here:

<https://www.bigcovesda.net/>



PATHFINDER RAMBLINGS

Huntsville SpaceWalkers Pathfinder Club has resumed meetings which take place on Thursday evenings 6:00 p.m. at BCCA or online depending on the circumstances.

In August some of the staff and TLTs (Teen Leadership Trainees) attended the virtual Leadership Conference and took workshops for Basic Staff Training and Master Guide.

The club has fun outings planned for this year, starting with a Camping Skills campout at Lake Guntersville this month.

The club is open to children in grades 5-12 who are willing to abide by the Pathfinder Pledge and Law. Please contact Rick or Kelly Riley at [RKAARiley at aol.com](mailto:RKAARiley@aol.com) or (256) 566-2181 for more information and a calendar.

For more about the Pathfinder Club go to <https://www.clubministries.org/pathfinder/s/>

FOCUS ON YOUTH

Young adults continue to meet on the fourth Sabbath of the month after church for a potluck lunch. The group had lunch outside on the church lawn this past month. A couple of young people visiting from Oakwood University joined the group for lunch and for the study afterwards. Joenid Acevedo led the group in a fun ice-breaker activity and Joel Sanchez led the interactive book discussion. They are continuing to study the book *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing* by E. G. White.

They welcome any other young adults that would like to join them for Sabbath School and for their monthly potlucks.

(Evelyn Green)

FAMILY BOOST

Life is tough! Living in today’s world is extremely stressful for everyone. We are constantly bombarded with the news of worldwide political unrest, strife and war, dreadful natural disasters, persecutions of minorities, abuse of children, crime, violence, bloodshed and death, diseases of all sorts, and of course the lurking COVID with its lockdowns and restrictions – all of this is enough to drive the sanest of persons to despondency. How do people cope without the hope of our soon-coming Savior? No wonder many end it all in suicide! They have nothing to look forward to but troubles!

Children and youth are affected more than we probably realize. How do we, as parents, grandparents, teachers, and others who love our kids, help them cope in this world which seems to be spinning out of control?

Thankfully, Adventist Family Ministries has resources for us.

<https://family.adventist.org/>

Family Togetherness Week of Prayer “Living Fruitful Love” is September 5-11. There are devotional readings and family activities for each day. <https://family.adventist.org/resources/2021wop/> Though this week of prayer is ending, there is never a bad time to use this resource!

The 2021 Resource Book is available for free download.

<https://family.adventist.org/resources/resource-book/2021rb/>

“How to Improve the Mental Health of Your Children” is a Power Point presentation designed for a seminar. Go to <https://family.adventist.org/resources/resource-book/2021rb/> Scroll to the bottom and click on “Additional Resources Independently.” In the drop-down list find the title of the presentation.

PRAYER REQUESTS

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6, NKJV).

Editor’s note: Please let me know of any changes needed.

Joan Andrews (Pastor Mills’ aunt), Tim Baker, Chuck Barnes, Chris and Valerie Barr, Ben Bishop, Sherry Bray and sister Barbara, Steve Brown (Michael Brown’s brother), Lyonel Browning family, Don Buchholz;

Kathy Campbell’s brothers, Asia and Esther Cockfield, Tonette Comber (Delores Cochren’s granddaughter, and other family members), Jim and Laurie Cooper (Jenna Dow’s parents), Deckers’ relatives, Mirna DeWitt;

Sheila Evans, Barbara Frazier, Cassie Hamer, Norma Harrison, Rick Hendel, Kathy Kittleson’s siblings, Shirley Holstein (and her relatives Brian and Pam Robinson and Robbie), Roger Hunter, Jeff and John Irwin;

Linda Jackson and son Timothy, Wanda Johnson, Kaitlynn, Kimberly Kirton (Delores Cochren’s daughter), Ko family, Zipporah Krishnasami (Nellie Smith’s sister), Sherrie Landis, Thomas and Joanne Lang, Andy and Karla Lowe family, Josh and Stephanie Lewis;

Chuck and Christine May, McClearys’ grandson Weston, Penny Miller, Pam Mills’ brother, George Navarro, Betty Nelson, Dorothy Oliver, Morris and Jennifer Olmsteads’ relatives, Gloria Radke, Wilton Satterthwaite (Gloria’s brother), Rick and Deborah, Rita and Adelle, Charles Payne;

Dorothy Salhany, Deb Saylor, Fran Scheidt, Sledge family, Jeff Smith, Dee Theiss and extended family, Andrea White (David and Jennifer Reyes’ daughter), Ryan White, Noel Whitehead, Ricky Williams, Hugh Wilson, Pearl Wise, Ron Wise (Jennifer Reyes’ brother-in-law).

Our families and children; shut-ins; BCCA and other Adventist schools and students; disinterested or unsaved loved ones; the grieving; Central’s Acts 20:21 project; those suffering from injury, disease, disaster, strife and persecution; our pastors and their families; SDA leadership; and world leaders.

*Prayer is the key
in the
hand of faith
to unlock
heaven’s
storehouse.*



(E. G. White, Steps to Christ, page 94)

“With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world!” (E. G. White, Education, page 271).

TO YOUR HEALTH

Staying well – Remember the 8 Laws of Health which was featured in August Central News? Let's review the acronym N E W S T A R T :



Nutrition,
Exercise,
Water,
Sunshine,
Temperance,
Rest,
Air,
Trust in God.

<http://8lawsofhealth.org/>

Because we are all sinners, we all fail at times to take care of ourselves as God would have us do. And because we live in a world of sin where the enemy of God is continually sowing the seeds of disease and death, we sometimes succumb to illness.

If we have a strong innate immune system, we are better able to cope with any illness which might come our way. Rather than jumping quickly to the use of drugs to alleviate symptoms, we can often overcome illness by bolstering our immunity with the use of specific herbs and supplements, and home remedies and simple treatments.

Strategies to restore health when ill – Irrespective of vaccine status or opinions, people are being affected by the Delta variant and are wondering what they can do to help themselves and their loved ones to prevent or overcome this illness. We need practical information.

As early as spring 2020 it was determined that the COVID illness has three phases: viral replication, inflammatory response, and thrombosis (blood clotting). Doctors agree that the goal is to arrest the illness at its beginning stage before it escalates into the inflammatory stage. Doing so can keep people out of the hospital – and save lives.

Our own non-profit lifestyle center, [Uchee Pines Institute](http://UcheePinesInstitute.org) located in Seale, Alabama, has been successfully treating people with COVID since the beginning of the pandemic. The medical director of Uchee Pines is Dr. Mark Sandoval, an emergency medicine and urgent care physician, and a graduate of Loma Linda University School of Medicine.

Prevention and treatment protocols used at Uchee Pines are summarized by the 8 Laws of Health, and include a plant-based diet, supplements and other natural remedies, hydrotherapy, contrast showers, and so on, which can be done in the home.

<https://www.uchepines.org/covid19/>

Dr. Roger Seheult, cofounder and lead Medcram professor, is a pulmonologist and Associate Professor at the University of California Riverside School of Medicine, Assistant Professor at Loma Linda University School of Medicine, Quadruple Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Pulmonary Disease, Critical Care, and Sleep Medicine.

Dr. Seheult also advises the principles in the 8 Laws of Health as he explains COVID in simple terms, as well as how to help yourself get well, and how to not pass it on. See the video and scroll down the page for additional information.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vN30emwNS4>

Dr. Seheult and many other doctors recommend that COVID-positive people at high risk should obtain a monoclonal antibody infusion (mAb) as soon as possible after becoming ill. This treatment may reduce the viral load and may prevent hospitalization. Where to get the free monoclonal antibody infusion locally?

<https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/i-have-covid-19-now/monoclonal-antibodies-high-risk-covid-19-positive-patients>

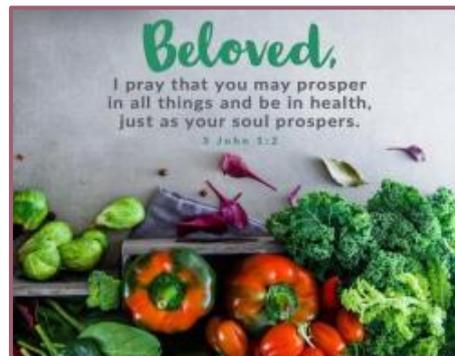
An easy preventative to add to the ones we already know all too well: Step up our oral and nasal hygiene to cut down the viral load in the nose and mouth by using one of the following:

- ❖ Sodium Hypochlorite (bleach), dilute 1/4 teaspoon bleach in 16 ounces of water.
- ❖ Betadine or providone iodine, a few drops in water to achieve a brown color (or use a Betadine mouthwash).
- ❖ 3% hydrogen peroxide, diluted 50/50 with water.
- ❖ Old-fashioned brown Listerine will do.

Swish for 30 seconds and spit, and use Q-Tips to treat the nose as well. Do this at least twice a day and after any possible exposure.

Good Food, Good Health, Good Ailment Treatments – Walter Veith and Martin Smith in discussion on this topic.

<https://www.brighteon.com/234c0e85-6091-46de-834b-85521b653454>



EVAPORATING FREEDOMS

Pro choice, or no choice? On August 23 the FDA granted full approval to the COVID-19 mRNA injection developed by Pfizer/BioNTech, *sold under the brand name Comirnaty* and approved in record-breaking time. Public health officials expressed hope that this approval will persuade the hesitants and facilitate the issuing of mandates. Because of this announcement people are being deceived into giving up their right to refuse, and capitulating under the assumption that they have no choice.

Actually, *Comirnaty does not exist and is not even in production! All existing vaccines and the boosters in the U.S. remain under the federal Emergency Use Authorization (EUA), and thus people have the option to accept or refuse them.*

Even after an FDA approved COVID shot does become available, individuals are protected by federal law and many states laws from being forced to get the vaccine based on their sincere religious beliefs or conscience rights.

Despite these protections, there definitely is widespread discrimination based on vaccination status. Liberty Counsel (<https://lc.org/>) has received more than 10,000 requests from individuals who are losing their jobs, educational opportunities, and so on, because of rejecting the injections.

Medical tyranny is motivating concerned citizens all across the globe to resist and protest vaccine mandates and passports, masking, lockdowns, arrests, etc. <https://sociable.co/government-and-policy/citizens-against-vaccine-passports-lockdowns-medical-apartheid/>

Religious exemptions – If you have a religious objection to vaccines, masks, or tests, and are being pressured to comply, what can you do? First, learn about your religious rights and the laws that protect them. Then learn the proper ways to exercise your rights.

The following organizations provide information on obtaining religious exemptions:

Liberty Counsel, <https://lc.org/exempt>

The Healthy American, <https://www.thehealthyamerican.org/religious-exemption-letter>

Liberty and Health, <https://libertyandhealth.org/exemption-resources/>

MAY INTEREST YOU

“Canceling the Right to Choose,” an August 8 panel discussion on the pandemic. Some of the topics discussed were Science and COVID vaccines, Ellen White and vaccines, God’s prevention and treatment, financial disclosures, and immune risks from variants.

The individual presentations are available on Scott Ritsema’s Rumble page: <https://rumble.com/user/ScottRitsema>

“The Surge, Early Treatment, & Religious Exemptions,” presented online by Liberty and Health Alliance on August 15 (<https://libertyandhealth.org/>) featured a lineup of experts with the latest information on COVID (including very helpful information by Dr. Mark Sandoval). Professionals discussed the threats to our liberty to exercise personal convictions.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xn-nMEYmh_I

“COVID, Coercion, and Conscience” – The Village SDA Church in Berrien Springs, Michigan, held a symposium on August 20 and 21 which was designed as an open and honest evaluation of the data available, and to discuss freedom of conscience, freedom of speech, and freedom to be informed.

Some of the presentations were:

- ❖ “The COVID-19 Vaccination: Concerns, Challenges, and Questions.”
- ❖ An introduction to “Liberty and Health Alliance.”
- ❖ “Unthinkable,” a discussion of the what-if – what if our churches are shut down and we must form “house churches.”
- ❖ “Optimizing the Immune System with Lifestyle Medicine.”
- ❖ “Legal Issues Relating to Employer Mandates and Religious Exemptions.”

All of the presentations are available here: <https://libertyandhealth.org/covidsymposium/>

SOMETHING TO CONSIDER

Questions to ask ourselves – Is it possible that we, the public, have been afflicted with a deplorable case of myopia? Are we being willfully ignorant when we accept the illusion that “normal” will return soon if only we will jump through another hoop (and then another)? Isn’t it about time we acknowledge that quite possibly we are continually being deceived by the corrupt rulers of this world? Isn’t it about time to consider the probability that they are motivated by greed rather than benevolence? Are we becoming conditioned to accept whatever is imposed upon us, no matter our convictions? Serious thoughts.

DISCERNING THE TIMES

The G7 Summit Through a Prophetic Lens – Did you know that recently there was an important meeting between world leaders and the Pope?

What was on the agenda at the 2021 G7 Summit and who guided it from behind the scenes? How will discussions at G7 impact decisions to be made at COP 27 – decisions that will affect our lives?

Find out how these movements confirm the prophecy of Daniel 2, where you’ll find a description of the new world order in the Bible. Catch a glimpse of how the move toward a universal Sunday law is taking shape. Get a peek at what the future holds!

By Truth Matters – TM Bytes, Episode 1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1FWtOtk7-c>

“The World Wonders After The Beast, The Path To A Sunday Law” – In this 20 minute video you will see what is taking place, calling all nations to come together, in preparation for the United Nations’ COP26 in November. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXtmnaQWXr8>

“Season of Creation” – Editor’s note: The following thoughts are excerpts from a post by Pastor Hal Mayer, Keep the Faith Ministry, <https://us7.campaign-archive.com/?e=ab53b658e9&u=9a5aeddeeda26437824286281&id=fd97cf094a>

The “Season of Creation” will run from September 1 until the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4.

Heavily inspired by Pope Francis’s ecological encyclical Laudato Si, the ecumenical movement appears to equate union with God and union with the earth.

The month-long ecumenical event is a precursor to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) that will take place November 1-12 in Glasgow, Scotland. Leaders from around the world will attend.

The COP26 meetings are to address the targets of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement, which, among other things, proposes gender ideology, abortion, and contraception.

Both the Season of Creation and the COP26 meetings note the recent U.N. climate report, which was described by U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres as a “code red for humanity.”

Vatican News echoed the U.N.’s sentiments by writing that the report “makes it clear that we are running out of time to avert the worst effects of the ecological crisis and the climate emergency.”

THE WIDER VIEW

Help relieve the suffering – Adventist Community Services (ACS) is responding to the needs of those affected by Hurricane Ida, and other domestic needs.

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has responded to the needs in Haiti, and other global issues.

ACS and ADRA both coordinate with local and federal agencies, along with other organizations responding in the region, to identify the greatest needs and how they can be met most effectively.

See their reports and donate here: www.communityservices.org, or here: <https://adra.org/>

Donate at church with a marked tithe envelope: ACS and/or ADRA. Or donate through Adventist Giving online just as you normally make gifts to the church.

Donate by phone:

1-800-381-7171 (ACS);

1-800-424-2372 (ADRA).

Or by mail:

Adventist Community Services, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904

ADRA, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904

LET’S RE-FOCUS ON JESUS

Parroting the pope? Pope Francis said in January, “I believe that morally everyone must take the vaccine. It is the moral choice because it is about your life but also the lives of others.”

Just recently he urged everyone to get vaccinated as a “gesture of love,” to promote the “common good” (a Catholic social doctrine). Some Adventist Church leaders seem to agree with Pope Francis.

Adventist Review of August 23 reposted an article from Lake Union Herald in which the author concludes: “This is not an argument for mandatory or coerced vaccination; our Constitution protects individual informed consent for adults in any medical treatment. But *your choice not to be vaccinated will appropriately come with limitations on community participation, work, and travel.* You cannot fairly decry these limits as violations of fundamental Protestant principles of freedom once you understand their true history and nature – *and the even more fundamental right of your neighbors and friends to stay alive.*” <https://www.adventistreview.org/the-pandemic-freedom-of-conscience-and-the-priesthood-of-all-believers>

So discrimination against the unvaccinated is seen as legitimate and appropriate – even in God’s church?

Yes, we might agree with the author that our neighbors and friends have the

right to stay alive, just as we believe that we do. But does *my* vaccination ensure that *they* will “stay alive?” It doesn’t even ensure that *I* will stay alive, or be free from COVID either, I might add. Vaxxed people everywhere are getting sick!

Why not tell our friends, neighbors, and loved ones about our tried-and-true life-saving “health message” so that they too can enjoy an improved lifestyle and a better chance of avoiding illnesses, including COVID? To omit this “gesture of love” is quite un-neighborly, un-loving, and un-Christlike! Apostle Paul tells us, “*For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself*” ([Galatians 5:14](#)).

The issue is not really about the safety and efficacy (or not) of the vaccines. We may be presented with many evidences for or against, but ultimately each of us must make a decision based on our own opinion or conviction. That is the issue at stake. Our freedom to choose is being vigorously challenged by worldly authorities who demand that we abide by their dictates.

The reasons people give for accepting or rejecting the vaccination are many and varied. It is evident that we will never all agree on this topic, but why do we feel the need to chastise, denigrate, disparage, silence, or prophesy adversity for, someone who chooses differently than we do? Why let it divide us?

Again, Apostle Paul: “*By love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*” Then with what seems to be a note of humor he added: “*But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another*” ([Galatians 5:13-15](#)).

It is our responsibility to open-mindedly study out the available information as best we can in order to make an informed decision. If we allow, Holy Spirit will impress us as to what is the right thing for us to do personally, and will guide us through the results of that decision.

To love and serve others is best accomplished by allowing them to do the same.

Increasingly we are made aware that Satan has dominion in this world at the present time, and he is as an evil roaring lion seeking to devour us all. We tremble before him because we realize that we are no match for him.

Our ultimate safety is in Jesus, the “Lion of the tribe of Judah” – of which tribe we are, as the spiritual children of Abraham ([Galatians 3:7-9](#))!

Satan would have us lose sight of Jesus the Lion while we worry and wrangle

about COVID. He would have us focus on our differences instead of rejoicing in our unity as brothers and sisters in the family of God. We need each other now more than we ever have! *Let’s re-focus on Jesus!*

So sing it with me: “*Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace!*”

Soon He will be here! Let’s be ready – together!
(Kathy Lamson)

KIDZ ZONE



This beautiful lady is in the back corner of my yard where there are tall plants. She is a Golden Orb Weaver spider. Isn’t she lovely? Now, I won’t say I love spiders, but they are OK

as long as they stay out of my house!

Golden Orb Weaver Spiders are part of a very large family of orb weavers – more than 2,800 species! The female Golden Orb Weaver is 1 ½ to 2 inches long, not counting her legs. The male is smaller.

How does the Golden Orb Weaver construct a web? First the spider secures a non-sticky line to a leaf or something similar, then it lets itself down on the line a ways and the breeze blows it about. When the spider makes contact with another something across from the first one, it fastens the line there. Now it has a straight but loose line from place to place. It goes back to the center of the line and fastens another line there, and drops straight down until it comes to another something and fastens the line there. Now there is a Y made of spider silk. The spider continues adding the lines in a pattern similar to the spokes of a wheel – going out from the center to an object on the “rim.” When the non-sticky framework is completed, the spider then adds the sticky silk round and round in a circular pattern.



The last part to be added is a crisscross band of silk on the center of the web. No one knows why this is added. It might be simply for decoration, or possibly a lure for prey, or a place of camouflage for the spider where it usually sits with head down, waiting for some luckless insect to fly into the web.

When that happens, instantly the spider is upon it, bites it to paralyze it, then eats it or wraps it in a silken pouch to be saved for a later meal.

Spider silk is reflective in ultraviolet light which we cannot see. Insects may be attracted to the spider webs because to their eyes the webs appear to glow.

Predators of this large juicy spider are birds and some kinds of wasps. So I might go out one day soon to find my lovely lady gone!

Did you ever see spider webs hanging from plants or branches, maybe in a field or the woods, or even in your own yard? Maybe you were walking or running about and not watching, when you ran into a spider web!

What happened? The sticky spider web got stuck onto you! You didn’t say, “No, Daddy (or Mommy), I’m OK! Just leave it stuck to me!” No! You wanted them to get it off of you as quickly as possible! They helped you clean up, and after that maybe you were more careful to avoid spider webs.

But sometimes a spider web might be hidden between plants, and you might not see it. Maybe someone says to you, “Watch out for the spider web!” You were glad they warned you, weren’t you?

Did you know that Satan has webs with which he hopes to catch us? On his web he puts “temptations” designed to make us get caught!

Temptations are anything which makes us want to disobey God’s laws, the Ten Commandments. We might be tempted to steal – to take something that does not belong to us. We might be tempted to tell a lie, or we might be tempted to be disrespectful to our parents. Sometimes temptations are “idols” – things like TV shows or games which we might like so much that we don’t want to listen to a Bible story or to pray.

When we give in to a temptation, we are letting Satan catch us in his web. But – and this is important – if you ask Jesus to go with you every day, He will warn you by speaking to your heart that if you do that thing, you will get into Satan’s web!

Sadly, sometimes we go ahead and do it anyway and get some of Satan’s web on us, which makes Jesus very sad. But – He is right there to help us get cleaned up if we ask Him to! Aren’t we happy for that!

Say this prayer with me: “Dear Jesus, Thank you for loving me! Please go with me all the time so I won’t get into Satan’s webs! Help me to listen to your voice when you warn me of danger. Help me to obey you! Thank you, Jesus!”

(Kathy Lamson)