

FREE
DENTAL/
VISION
CLINIC &
HEALTH EXPO
sponsored by the Illinois Seventh-day Adventist Church



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT
RON AGUILERA

FYI (For Your Information...)

A weekly e-newsletter for employees and friends of the
Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists



April 17, 2019



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

1 Corinthians 15:55-58

55 *“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”*

56 *The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.*

57 *But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

58 *Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

Resurrection Sunday is a season of great joy for those who know Jesus. But for those who are without “the light of the knowledge of God’s glory” (2 Corinthians 4:6), there is nothing to rejoice over.

As resurrection Sunday approaches, I want to remind us that Jesus left each of us with the great hope and the certainty that He is going to return, “I will come back,” he said, to bring a new Heaven and a new earth. We are also told, there will be no more sorrow, trouble, or death for those who believe and follow Him. There will be trouble, sorrow, and suffering for those who have rejected Him.

Our great task, as Seventh-day Adventist Christians, is to obey the command to tell the whole world about Christ crucified, buried, yet risen again...and to extend invitations to those who need to draw nearer to Him.

My prayer for you during this season of the year, when we meditate on our Savior’s great sacrifice for us on the cross, is that you will be filled with great peace and hope, because “He is risen!” That is the Good News.

As you follow Christ, are you obeying His command to tell others that He is risen indeed?



Seventh-day
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I KNOW SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT . . .

...Carolina Villegas. Carolina is Pastor Juan Daniel Villegas' wife. She led out in an Adventurer Day celebration for 180 of our Adventurer children in Illinois. Check out the video at: <https://tinyurl.com/yxqega2d> Thank you, Carolina!



...Melissa Murrill. Melissa, a parent of students at Hinsdale Adventist Academy, led an “extreme makeover” of the Academy library. Check out the article at: <https://tinyurl.com/y3dmgvm6> Thank you, Melissa!

NEWS

☞ One of the areas I have asked our ministerial director to focus on is leadership development of our members, and to have Lay Ministry Training events all over our Conference.

This past Sunday, April 14th, a lay training event was held in Marion, IL. About 50 attended the various training modules: Pastor Joshua Voigt (Preaching), Pastor Glenn Aguirre (Deacon and Deaconesses), Pastor Gabriel Bardan (Relational Evangelism), John Grys (Elders), Pete Braman (church growth), Jamie Daum (Conference membership clerks) and Mike Daum (Conference Treasurers)



Stay tuned for the next training event in your area!

☞ The Second Annual Dental/Vision Clinic and Health Expo was held in April in Glendale Heights, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. Three of our churches in the Chicago area teamed up with the Illinois Conference, Lake Union Conference, and AMITA Health, the largest health system in Illinois, to provide free eye and dental care. The all-day expo, held at the Glendale Heights Sports Hub, also featured free health screenings, food and recipes, haircuts and health literature.

“It was fantastic event — we provided more than 200 dental and vision exams,” said Jason Goliath, M.D., head elder at Hinsdale Filipino-American (Fil-Am) Church, and general surgeon at AMITA Health Adventist medical centers. “As Christians, we serve people. That’s how we change lives.”

Illinois-licensed professionals offered free mobile dental and vision services, including cleanings, fillings, extractions and eye exams. Glasses were offered for \$10. Griffin will return to Chicago in four to five weeks to deliver the glasses. AMITA Health community relations nurses provided free screenings for cholesterol and glucose levels, bone density and cardiac-risk assessments. Other volunteers performed screenings for blood pressure, height and weight, body-mass index, flexibility, muscular strength/conditioning, and computer health-age assessments with printed recommendations for improvements. The expo also offered a physical therapy booth, chair massages and chiropractic adjustments.

The weekend before the Expo, about 100 people from the three participating churches conducted a prayer walk through the community. About 20 different groups marched through Glendale Heights, passing out fliers and praying for each home. Before church members could ask the Village for permission to distribute fliers, a Village board member contacted the church and gave suggestions on blanketing fliers in neighborhoods that would benefit most. Afterwards, the volunteers congregated at the Glen Ellyn church for a meal and closing of the Sabbath.

Why sponsor a health fair? Goliath cited a passage by Ellen G. White, one of the founders of the SDA Church: “The health message is the right arm of the gospel.” Many thanks to all involved!

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☞ I am happy to report that Del Jean Murray-Dickens is our new teacher at our Marion SDA school. Del Jean has many years of experience and will be a great blessing to the Marion School and church.

Retirement: This opening occurred due to the retirement of Cindy Ferguson. I want to acknowledge and say a word of appreciation to Cindy as she enters into a new phase of her life.

May God bless you and keep you, Cindy! Thank you for your service!

☞ I am happy to report that Shiela Marie (Grace) Viclar is our new 5-8th grade teacher at our Gurnee school. Gurnee is our second largest school in Illinois and continues to grow. Thank you to Principal Katrina Baum and her team for the great work and dedication!

RESOURCES

Check out the article, ADVENTIST LA GRANGE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL: How to Boost Your Social Health. This article was in the West Cook News. Check it out at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2r7uz2r>

DID YOU KNOW . . .

...Plant-based diets are associated with lower body mass index (BMI) among Hispanic members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, according to a new study published in the journal *Frontiers in Nutrition*. For more information, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/y2kkc28h>

“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.”

– C.S. Lewis



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