



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



July 3, 2019



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

I Corinthians 15:3-4 says, *“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures...”*

Tomorrow, July 4th, is Independence Day, and all across Chicagoland, Illinois, and the United States, people will celebrate the freedom we enjoy. We are blessed! Also, those of us who know Jesus as our Savior have another kind of freedom to celebrate. We can celebrate the truth that we are free from the bondage of our sin and death.

I Corinthians 15:1-4 gives us a clear picture of the freedom we have in Christ. First, *“Christ died for our sins...”* He died to pay the penalty necessary for our sins. He took our place. Because of His death, we are made free from the death penalty of sin and stand righteous before God.

Second, *“that He was buried.”* Romans 6 tells us that through faith we died with Him and were buried with Him and are now dead to the power of sin over us. Sin no longer has dominion over us, so we can choose to live righteous, holy lives. We are free from sin’s control over us!

Third, *“that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”* His death alone could not save us; it was the resurrection that showed God’s acceptance of Christ’s sacrifice, and that gives power unto salvation. In Colossians 3:1 we read that we are risen with Christ. His resurrection guarantees a future in Heaven for us where we will be free from the presence of sin. Now that’s cause for celebration—every day!

There will be no FYI next week, as Lori and I will be away on vacation. Look for the next FYI on July 17th. Have a wonderful 4th of July!



Seventh-day
Adventist® Church

ILLINOIS CONFERENCE

*Making healthy
disciple-making
churches*

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I KNOW SOMETHING GOOD ABOUT...

...Marvin Wray. Pastor Marvin Wray is currently serving as the interim senior pastor of the Hinsdale church. He recently retired after 43 years of pastoral ministry, but accepted this short-term assignment. Thank you, Marvin, for your willingness to serve!



SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION TRIP

The Illinois Conference is planning a Bible lands trip to Greece and Turkey to see the sites of the seven churches of Revelation. If you are interested in more information about this trip, go to the Conference website at: www.ilcsda.org

This is a fantastic trip, with amazing locations, at a very reasonable price, with fellow Adventist church members. Sign up while there is still room.

CHURCH VISIT

This past Sabbath, I had the privilege of being at the West Central church and to be part of a training event for our Hispanic church pastors and church leaders. This training event is the kick off of a second half of the year evangelistic thrust for our 24 Hispanic churches in the Illinois Conference.

NEWS

- ☞ Are you looking for a daily devotional? Every day, starting at 6am, you can listen to and watch a devotional by an Illinois Conference pastor or leader on our Facebook page. A new daily devotional is scheduled to be released at 6am each morning for the next month or so. I hope it will be a blessing as we continue to grow into the disciples Jesus calls us to be.
- ☞ I want to invite you to Family Camp Meeting at Camp Akita this summer. It runs from July 24-27. Our special guest speaker will be Elder Elden Ramirez, president of the Montana Conference. He and his family are very musical and will share a concert on Sabbath afternoon. If you cannot come for the whole time, I invite you to come for Sabbath and enjoy a day of worship, preaching, fellowship, and music. We will be meeting in our new Pathfinder Pavilion!

RESOURCES

- ☞ Here is an excellent evangelistic resource from Hamblin Hope Source. Free download. Your church can present health/wellness topics. 26 FREE colorful, high quality professional wellness video presentations, 5-7 minutes each. They are available at: www.lifestylematters.com
- ☞ Tips for Safe Travel to the Camporee
This webinar from Adventist Risk Management covers important safety tips for Pathfinder Clubs traveling to the camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Clubs will face many risk management issues such as child protection, supervision,

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and transportation. Learning about safety ahead of time is the best way to prepare for the camporee. Learn more at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2ssdz7p>

☞ The North American Division's Search Engine Optimization Guidebook is designed to help Seventh-day Adventist entities to evangelize online through effective content creation, website ranking, and reputation management. It's a step-by-step guide, that is easy to follow and implement. Direct download here: <https://sdadata.blog/SEOGuidebook>; landing page: <https://www.sdadata.org/seo.html>

DID YOU KNOW . . .

...Congress made Independence Day an official unpaid holiday for federal employees in 1870? In 1938, Congress changed Independence Day to a paid federal holiday.

*“Christian freedom does not mean being free to do as we like;
it means being free to do as we ought.”*



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