

The Central Messenger

Volume 300, Issue 10

October, 2008

Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr.

San Jose Central
Seventh-Day
Adventist Church

Inside this issue:

Health Nugget	2
Market Declines Won't Affect In- vestment Strategy	2
Implications of Same Sex Marriage	3
Church Calendar	4

This month we have a special treat that isn't reserved only for the month of October, but rather from here after as well. I wanted to take the time to formally welcome and introduce to you Sayuri Ruiz. Some of you have met her and others of you have not had this chance yet, but you will and you'll be blessed because you did. I can't keep my mouth shut about her at church and you may have even seen her a couple of times when she's been able to worship with us. She's the one who sits rather close to Pr. Tony and makes him smile a lot. Those smiles will be more frequent for she has moved and will be a part of our church family. She comes to us from Maryland where she served in the Office of Volunteer Ministries at the North American

Division. At least occupationally that's where she's come from, but I'll tell you where she's really come from, she's come from God.

She has a huge heart for serving the Lord and has not only come here to San Jose Central because she's my fiancé, but has also come here to serve you. I can truly say that she is a dedicated prayer warrior and has already been praying for you. Typically during the prayer and praise portion of our worship service you could find me writing things down. What was I writing? I was writing down the prayer requests that later Sabbath afternoon I would be sharing with her so that she in turn would take them into her prayer closet. I've told her many of your

names and pretty soon a face will be placed with a name, so go easy on her. She knows what messages have been preached here, she reads our newsletters and longs to be a part of what God will be doing here at Central. I encourage you to take the time to introduce yourself and come to know who she is for God has brought her here for such a time as this.

Even if you aren't really sure how to say her name it's ok, I can relate for I didn't know how to say her name either when we met. In the spring of 2009 her last name will be changing, amen! Of which you guys will hear more about that at the right time, but for now we celebrate her arrival.

Market Declines Won't Affect Adventist Church's Investment Strategy, leader says

But economy could affect tithes

Seventh-day Adventist Church finance officers say they are not currently considering a change in investment strategy in light of recent economic declines, a move they say is "prudent" considering their long-term focus.

As major U.S. investment banks fold during a global credit crunch resulting largely from a slump in the U.S. housing market, church officials plan to continue a 20- to 30-year outlook for managing the world church's retirement fund investments. The church's ministry and ability to launch new initiatives would be most affected by any decrease in tithes and offerings, said Roy Ryan, associate treasurer and investment manager for the Adventist world church.

"We're monitoring the situation," Ryan said. "While it is fair to say that the budget being prepared for recommendation to Annual Council next month is not aggressive, we do feel that it preserves the ability of the church to move forward with its mission."

He later told some 80 church leaders during a regularly scheduled leadership meeting at the world church's headquarters on September 18 that the economy could be in "uncharted territory." The U.S. government has spent about \$600 billion in the last few weeks to prop up financial institutions.

"A widely held view is that the housing market has to stabilize and that just hasn't happened at this point," Ryan told church leaders. Until then, he said the church would continue its current investment strategy.

"We feel the portfolios of the church's investments are prudently invested," Ryan said.

Church Treasurer Robert Lemon told church leaders he thought the market would recover as it has after previous downturns, albeit not as quickly.

"I'm fearful that after this particular drop -- because it has such wide underpinning on housing and the availability of credit -- the market will be slower to come back," Lemon said.

Church President Jan Paulsen encouraged church leaders, saying "None of us is a prophet ... but the Lord said, 'Do not worry about tomorrow.' That to me is a very fundamental statement. It's not light-hearted.

"We'll move forward in obedience to the Lord and do the best we can in mission," Paulsen said.

- source: Adventist News Network by Ansen Oliver (Sept. 2008)

Donations Needed!

We need used clothing in good condition; cans of beans, corn, green beans, spaghetti, tuna, and soup. Boxes of cereal, jars of peanut butter, jelly, loaves of bread, dry milk, packages of top ramen noodles, boxes of mac and cheese, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, toilet paper, sanitary napkins, used towels, linens, toys and whatever else you can give. We also need packages of new socks, and underwear for the San Jose Family Shelter. We want to help out the needy in our area and our own members. Let us come together as a church and share what we have in excess with our community. If you need someone to pick up the items, please call Mary Varela at (408)836-0448 or bring your donations to San Jose Central Church this Sabbath.

Health Nugget



Regularity should be the rule in all the habits of children. Mothers make a great mistake in permitting them to eat between meals. Two meals a day are better for them than three. If the parents set the example, and move from principle, the children will soon fall into line.

- Counsels on Diet and Foods pp. 242, 229



Bible Study

Read the first chapter of the book of Daniel. Who was it that purposed in his heart not to de-

file himself with the food or wine from the king's table? (verse 8). Did Daniel's three friends also purpose in their hearts not to defile themselves with the king's food and wine or does the chapter say?

Now read chapter 3. Why is Daniel not even mentioned in this chapter? Is there a connection between this lack of mention and what took place in chapter 1? How does this show God's purpose for us as individuals?

Pray for understanding, meditate on these things, and check out this feature in the Central Messenger next month.

-Timber Zwonkin

October Birthday Celebrants

- 12 Andre Tablang
- 18 Joaquin Barraza
- 19 Andrew Celaya
- 21 Faith Morgan San Miguel
- 22 Roy Nguyen



- Colleges will be required to conform not only hiring and admission policies, but curriculum and instruction, or lose accreditation and access to Cal Grants
- Property tax exemption will be challenged for institutions that hold onto "outmoded" notions of marriage and sexuality.
- Clergy may lose the right to perform state sanctioned weddings
- Students from Christian schools may be denied admission to public universities

There is remarkable consensus among scholars that same sex marriage poses a very grave threat to the future of religious freedom. Churches that refuse to change their doctrines and practices will likely become marginalized, forced to close their schools, hospitals and social service agencies, and stripped of property tax exemption, income tax exemption or other "benefits." Amending the state constitutions to define marriage as a man and a woman would interrupt the steady loss of religious freedom.

- Source: Alan J, Reinach, Esq. Recorder, October 2008

The Implications of Same Sex Marriage




The California Supreme Court recently held that same sex couples have a fundamental right to marry. In November, voters in Arizona and California will decide whether to amend their state constitution to restrict marriage to a man and a woman. Many mistakenly "ho hum" this issue, figuring that what gay couples do doesn't impact their lives. What many miss is that same sex marriage threatens the survival of religious institutions that refuse to compromise their beliefs.

The California Supreme Court now equates homosexuality with race. The same legal standard applies to both. Can you imagine a church school being permitted to exclude teachers or students because of their race? In the very near future, all church institutions can be expected to conform to the new ethic of non-discrimination against gays, or be sued and/or shuttered.

Already, Catholic adoption agencies in Boston and San Francisco have shut down because they refused to provide services to same sex couples, in violation of their beliefs. Who is next? Church legal experts have expressed various concerns:

- Churches that rent facilities for weddings or other groups to use will have to permit same sex weddings.
- Public school students will be taught from kindergarten on that same sex marriages and families are moral and good

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	1 7pm—Prayer Meeting	2	3 Sunset: 6:48pm	4 Sunset: 6:47pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 2pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class
5 Work Bee 	6 7pm—Elder's Meeting	7 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	8 7pm—Prayer Meeting	9	10 Sunset: 6:38pm Communion Practice	11 Sunset: 6:36pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Communion Service 2pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class
12	13	14 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	15 7pm—Prayer Meeting	16	17 Sunset: 6:28pm	18 Sunset: 6:27pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 2pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class
19	20	21 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	22 7pm—Prayer Meeting	23	24 Sunset: 6:19pm	25 Sunset: 6:18pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Helen Varela 2pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class
26	27	28 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	29 7pm—Prayer Meeting	30	31 Sunset: 6:11pm	November 1 Sunset: 6:10pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 2pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class



San Jose Central Seventh-Day Adventist Church

San Jose Central
Seventh-Day Adventist Church
2345 Alum Rock Ave.
San Jose, CA 95116

Church Pastor: Tony Rodriguez Jr.
Phone: (408) 923-8757
Fax: (408) 923-1242
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3216 San Jose, CA 95156
Website: <http://www.sanjotheadventist.org>
E-mail: sanjosecentralsda@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours: Tuesday—Thursday 10am—3pm
Wednesday 5pm—9pm

Sabbath Services: Sabbath School: 9:20 am
Divine Worship: 10:50am

Mission: Our mission is to spread the gospel message of Jesus Christ to our community through the power of the Holy Spirit and to provide an affectionate and welcoming place of worship in the unified and spiritual body of Christ through prayerful Bible study and involvement in soul winning and hospitable activities with the goal of preparing ourselves and the city of San Jose for the second advent of Jesus Christ.

Vision: We, the San Jose Central Church through the power of the Holy Spirit, strive for an environment filled with unified disciples who work diligently for the cause of advancing the Kingdom of God.

