



# The Central Messenger

Volume 300, Issue 4

April, 2008

San Jose Central  
Seventh-Day  
Adventist Church

## Pastor's Corner

### by Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr.

#### Inside this issue:

Bible Study	2
Events	2
Health Nugget	2
Thirteenth Sabbath Offering	3
Church Calendar	4

There sure isn't anything like spring. You look outside and the sun is shining, the birds are singing, the flowers are blooming and trees are budding. And God takes care of this all by Himself, He really doesn't need our help. I think it says somewhere that there is nothing impossible for God? That happens to be true.

As much as I appreciate nature and seeing God's creative works grow, that's not enough. I want to see our church grow. It's not that everything outside grows and we stay at the current state, we need to grow. And just as things grow by God making them grow, we need to allow Him to do it. What is it that nature needs? Water and sunshine.

There are moments in which we think that the sun is not there, but the moment you cruise at an altitude of

30,000 ft. it becomes apparent that indeed the sun is there. No matter if it's cloudy, raining or snowing the sun is still there. In our lives it is easy to think that maybe the Son is not there, but He is. I don't know about you, but I could use more *Sonlight* in my life. The Son makes us grow. Jesus makes us grow. Is Jesus causing you to grow?

But if we have no water, no matter how much Son we have it won't grow either. It will simply dry out. Sometimes our Christian walk can become pretty dry if there's no water, if the rain of the Holy Spirit is not upon us. Scripture says that the fruit of the Spirit is: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness. Are these the fruits that we are seeing in our lives? Are these the fruits that I'm seeing in my own life?

If plants require sunshine and water, if our Christian walk requires it, would we actually attempt to think that it wouldn't be required in our church?

Here's a great truth: I cannot change the church. I cannot change San Jose Central SDA Church. Nor do I attempt to. Do I desire that this church grow? Absolutely, but without *Sonshine* and *Water*, this is mission impossible. God changes the church. God moves the Church. He does it through us as Christ lives in us. He does it as we allow His Spirit to rain on us.

Friends, it's time we put on our sunglasses and yet use our umbrella for it's time for our church to grow. Is God going to make our church grow? If He can make everything else grow, then I believe making our church grow is a piece of cake.



## Bible Study

Read through the first chapter of Genesis. What appears to be God's method of creating things? Look especially at verses 3, 6, 7, 11, 14, 15, 20, and 24. Where else in scripture does it tell us God's method of creation? Psalm 33:6,9, Hebrews 11:3.

What else does God's word accomplish? Isaiah 55:10, 11. What does all this have to do with salvation? Wasn't that accomplished at the cross? (See study in the next issue of the newsletter).

- Timber Zwonkin

The beauty  
of creation  
Praises  
God's name!!!  
Psalm 148



*Thought for today:*

*"This world has  
created many  
opportunities to give  
and receive—has our  
church?"*

- Martine Sabine Sylvain



## April Birthday Celebrants

- 3 Michael Manivanh
- 9 Ashley Hermsillo
- 13 Michael Greene
- 14 Carlos San Miguel II
- 19 Evelyn Hillsman
- 22 Angie Celaya
- 24 Charles Christian
- 25 Frederic Mora
- 27 Julian Truax
- 29 Nehemiah Lacayo



## Health Nugget

The relation that exists between the mind and the body is very intimate. When one is affected, the other sympathizes. The condition of the mind affects the health to a far greater degree than many realize.

Courage, hope, faith, sympathy and love promote health and prolong life.

Many of the diseases from which men suffer are the result of mental depression. Grief, anxiety, discontent, remorse, guilt, distrust, all tend to break down the life forces and to invite decay and death.

- Ministry of Healing, p. 241

## Spring Fling at Foothill

Foothill School's Annual Spring Fling is on Sunday, April 20 from 11am—3pm.

They will have:

- Farmers market
- Dunk booth
- Yard sale
- Silent auction
- Horse and Pony Rides
- Petting Zoo

- Games

Foothill School is

located at :

1991 Landess Ave.  
Milpitas, CA 95035  
(408)263-2568

You can also visit the school's website at:

[www.foothilladventistschool.org](http://www.foothilladventistschool.org)

## April means...

Did you know that April is one busy month? Here are some of the things that you will hear a lot of this whole month:

- Autism Awareness
- National Child Abuse Prevention
- Stress Awareness
- National Mathematics Education

## Vacation Bible School



The Children's Ministries Department is currently looking for volunteers for Vacation Bible School this summer. Please sign up and be a part of this wonderful ministry. Sign-up sheets are in front of the church foyer.

## 2nd Quarter World Mission: Inter-America Division

The Inter-America Division is the church's largest division with about 3 million members. The division stretches south from the southern border of the United States to include the northernmost countries of South America. It includes Central America, the northernmost countries of South America, and the islands of the Caribbean.

The church in Inter-America is vibrant and serious about evangelism. The well-established tradition of lay leadership allows congregations to grow and thrive without the constant presence of pastors, who may have six or eight churches. Lay members lead the church, give Bible studies, and hold evangelistic services.

The success of this method of church growth shows in the Adventist-per-population figures. The world church averages one Adventist for every 444 people (but many areas have a ratio of one Adventist for every 1,000 or even 10,000 people). The Inter-American division

averages one Adventist for every 95 people. The Caribbean Union averages one Adventist for every 18 people, and the Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Mission estimates one Adventist for every 205 people. However, believers there do not consider the work done. They focus on those not yet reached. With this attitude of evangelism, this division will continue to grow in size and strength.

Evangelism is not without its challenges, however. Some regions of Mexico are still resistant to the gospel. Mexico City and its surrounding regions average one Adventist for every 1,000 people. The church tends to grow fastest among the poorer people who have little hope for a better life on this earth. But these people can least afford to build a house of worship. For this reason, part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will help construct 28 churches in the Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Mission.

Maintaining a vibrant church means training lay leaders to teach others how to work for God. The Inter-Oceanic Mexican Union Mission has mounted an effort to upgrade its campgrounds to accommodate large lay training seminars. Part of this quarter's Thirteenth Sabbath offering will help facilitate this upgrade.

Trinidad is home to the University of Southern Caribbean (formerly Caribbean Union College). Since it became a university in 2006, its enrollment has doubled, putting stress on the school. Without a church on campus, students and staff must worship in the gymnasium. In order to offer a greater variety of worship opportunities for its student body, the university has asked that the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering help build worship halls in two new dormitory facilities under construction.

- Source: [www.adventistmission.org](http://www.adventistmission.org)

### Spring Volunteer Projects

Project #1: May 4-7, 2008 Camp Wawona

Skills Needed: Carpentry, Electrical, Painting, General, and lots of helpers.

Project #2: May 18-21 Soquel Camp Meeting

Skills Needed: Carpentry, Electrical, Painting, Plumbing, General, and lots of helpers.

For more information, contact Caron Oswald at [coswald@cccsda.org](mailto:coswald@cccsda.org) (559)347-3181

### San Jose Central Events:

**SS Council Meeting:** All members of the Sabbath School council are requested to attend the council meeting on April 12 (Sabbath) at 3pm.

**Week of Prayer:** Our church's week of prayer will begin on April 13 (Sunday) and will end with an Agape Feast and Communion on April 18 (Friday). Meetings will start at 7pm. Come and be blessed!

**Work Bee:** On April 20 (Sunday) starting at 9am, we will have our first ever Work Bee! Come and help out in spring cleaning our church!



# April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>6</b> 10 am Deacon and Deaconesses Potluck	<b>7</b> 7pm Prayer Meeting	<b>8</b> 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 6:30 pm Elder's Meeting	<b>11</b> Sunset:7:38pm	<b>12</b> Sunset: 7:39pm SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 3pm—SS Council Meeting 5pm—Vespers
<b>13</b> 7pm—Week of Prayer	<b>14</b> 7pm—Week of Prayer	<b>15</b> 7pm—Week of Prayer  <i>Income Tax Day</i>	<b>16</b> 7pm—Week of Prayer	<b>17</b> 7pm—Week of Prayer	<b>18</b> Sunset:7:44pm 7pm—Week of Prayer and Agape Feast	<b>19</b> Sunset: 7:45pm SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 5pm—Vespers
<b>20</b> 9am Work Bee	<b>21</b> 7pm Prayer Meeting	<b>22</b> <i>Earth Day</i> 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Sunset:7:51pm	<b>26</b> Sunset: 7:52pm SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 5pm—Vespers
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7pm Prayer Meeting	<b>29</b> 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	<b>30</b>	May 1	<b>2</b> Sunset: 7:57pm	<b>3</b> Sunset: 7:58pm SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 5pm—Vespers
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <i>Cinco de Mayo</i> 7pm Prayer Meeting	<b>6</b> 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Sunset: 8:03pm	<b>10</b> Sunset: 8:04pm SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 5pm—Vespers



# 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.sanjoseadventist.org>  
E-mail: [sanjosecentralsda@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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.

