



The Central Messenger

Volume 300, Issue 6

June, 2008

San Jose Central
Seventh-Day
Adventist Church

Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr.

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Some years back Christians all over this country were in an uproar because the ten commandments were being taken out of the court system, basically out of government. Liberals making claims of the necessity to make sure that the lines of church and state do not cross, mingle or even touch elbows. You watch politicians on television fielding questions that as never before include the candidate's faith and understanding of morality. Since when are faith and morality issues to be considering in deciding who we vote for? Although that would sound like common sense, it's not. Although we live in a Christian country, Washington remains largely secular, or is it?

Fast forward to 2008 and as if a whirlwind came through town, there's a push for all Christians to unite in efforts to keep the ten commandments. I can see how some in our country would object to having the ten commandments in our courts and government buildings. But I guess then it would be hard

to make moral decisions if the divine tool that shows what in actuality is moral is removed. Here's what's really interesting about this unification among Christians to uphold the commandments, their gatherings do not occur on the Sabbath (Saturday) nor do they teach that it should be kept biblically.

In certain Christian circles the talk is "what's the big fuss about a single day?". You see, when we keep the Sabbath we follow God's will. Failing to do so results in sin. It would be the same as saying, that's just another woman even if she's married. The commandment is to maintain sexual purity, married or unmarried. Failing to keep this commandment has the same result, sin. If God said Sabbath (Shabbat) then who are we to say that it doesn't make a difference what day we worship? Did God say that? I can't find it in my Bible and I have a hunch it's not in yours either.

Others say "you are just trying to get to heaven

through works". Since when did keeping the Sabbath become something that we shouldn't do? Should we have other god's? No. Should we take God's name in vain? No. Should we worship idols? No. Should we steal? No. Should we kill? No. Should we covet? No. Should we commit adultery? No. Should we lie? Should we honor our parents? Yes. Should we keep the Sabbath? Yes. Would you say that it's a good thing to keep the commandments that talk about not doing certain things? I think we agree. Then why wouldn't we do the commandments that talk about doing positive things?

Washington is not as secular as some would like to think it is. Church and State are doing a whole lot more than rubbing elbows. The commandments are still what show us what morality is. Don't be fooled into thinking that we "Christians" can decide what to change about God's law for His ways are still His ways. But you already know all this.



Bible Study

Last month we saw that salvation involved a new creation through the power of God's word, and in particular, "the word of the cross." (I Corinthians 1:18, literal translation). Thus, in a sense, we might say that the death of Jesus to save sinners was a creative act.

On which day of creation week did God create man? Genesis 1: 26, 27, 31. What did God do the very next day? Genesis 2:1-3 (compare Exodus 20:8-11).

On which day of the week did Jesus die on the cross? John 19:30,31 (Compare also Mark 15:42 and Luke 23:54-56). We therefore see that man's creation and his re-creation were both accomplished on day 6. And just as God rested on day seven from His original work of creation, establishing the Sabbath, we see Jesus resting in Joseph's new tomb from His work of re-creation of man, also on day seven. This is evidence that, not only did the Sabbath not end at the cross, but that it is a memorial of redemption as well as creation. (See also Ezekiel 20:12).

- *Timber Zwonkin*



June 14 Women's Ministries Day

Seventh-day Adventist Church leaders hope this year's Women's Ministries Emphasis Day will motivate local churches to involve more women in worship services.

The June 14 Sabbath celebration of women is also a chance for churches worldwide to honor the accomplishments of women in their churches and communities.

"It's an opportunity for women to lead out in worship, to show their service and a chance to educate the congregation about Women's Ministries in our churches," said Raquel Arrais, associate Women's Ministries director for the Adventist world church.

This year's resource packet includes a suggested worship service outline, sermon and a PowerPoint presentation on past and present women church leaders.

The Adventist Church has marked this awareness day every year on the second Sabbath of June since 1990. The Women's Ministries department also sponsors an annual International Day of Prayer in the spring and an Abuse Prevention

S a b b a t h e a c h A u g u s t .

For more information, visit wm.gc.adventist.org.

June Birthday Celebrants

- 1 Carmen San Miguel
Alex Oehing
- 4 Fred Koch
- 5 Arthur San Miguel
- 7 Candida Valdez
- 9 Carol Contreras
- 12 Jean Christian
- 15 Cora Millena
Tina Linhsamout
- 16 Josie Martinez
- 18 Giovanni Lacayo
- 19 Davelyn Miguel
- 22 Mary Reyes
- 23 Alex Marin
Toyia Greene



- 24 Doreen Aronson
- 26 Tony Linhsamout
- 29 Matija Benko
- 30 Anita Hermosillo

Health Nugget

March 10, 1900

Animals are becoming more and more diseased, and it will not be long until animal food will be discarded by many besides Seventh-Day Adventists. Foods that are healthful and life sustaining are to be prepared, so that men and women will not need to eat meat.



The Lord will teach many in all parts of the world to combine fruits, grains, and vegetables into foods that will sustain life and will not bring disease.

God is working in behalf of His people. He does not desire them to be without resources. He is bringing them back to the diet originally given to man. Their diet is to consist of the foods made from the materials He has provided, principally fruits and grains and nuts, but various roots will also be used.

- *T. 7 pp. 124-126*

Aftershocks Rock Earthquake-Affected Region in China: ADRA Continues Response

Silver Spring, Maryland--As aftershocks from the deadly May 12 earthquake continue to spread fear among survivors in the affected Sichuan Province in southwestern China, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is assisting survivors with food, mosquito nets, shelter materials, medical aid, and much needed counseling services.

ADRA emergency personnel working in the Sichuan Province have already distributed 7,500 tents, a donation worth \$213,200 made by the Xiamen Golden Triangle Company Ltd., a manufacturer of cooling towers, to assist with the shelter needs of 29,500 survivors. Xiamen Golden Triangle employees also donated 20 tons of rice and 3.33 tons of mung beans in food aid for the targeted survivors, which, combined with donations from ADRA International, the ADRA Asia regional office, ADRA China, and private donations, provided food for 12,000 survivors. Each basket contains food supplies including rice, mung beans, peanuts, oatmeal, and bottled water. ADRA network funding is also procuring and transporting bedding kits, mattresses, and blankets.

ADRA has also received a donation of ten large tents, which are currently being used as a tent school in Yinghua Township, in Shifang City, in the Sichuan Province. The tents will be used by student volunteers from Chi-

nese universities offering counseling and hygiene classes for 600 primary school students in the region. The tents are valued at \$170,000.

On May 27, an 18-member health team of physicians, nurses, and a counselor arrived from the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital and began work in Aba Tibetan and Qiang Prefecture, Sichuan Province. The team is providing first-aid, infection control, and psychological support to survivors, and is expected to remain on site for nine days. During this time the team will distribute 1.5 tons of medicines worth US\$15,000. The total value of this medical intervention, supplied by the Hong Kong Adventist Hospital, is valued at US\$56,500.

On May 27, two aftershocks, measuring 5.4 and 5.7 on the Richter scale, shook the provinces of Sichuan and Shaanxi, injuring an additional 63 people and destroying 420,000 additional homes.

As the summer and rainy season draws near, survivors face the heightened risk of a full-blown epidemic. The World Health Organization (WHO) lists the following activities as health priorities in the quake region: treating the injured, monitoring and controlling the spread of infectious diseases, ensuring sufficient access to clean water and food, providing immediate and long-term mental

health and psychosocial support, and reconstructing the health care system in the affected areas.

The Government of China has indicated, according to United States Agency for International Development (USAID) reports, that the greatest needs are clean drinking water, food, medicines, medical equipment, psychosocial assistance, and protective items to prevent disease outbreaks.

The initial May 12 quake killed more than 67,000, left at least 20,000 missing, injured some 360,000, and displaced 5.47 million, according to recent government reports. The Sichuan earthquake struck southwestern China at 2:28 p.m. local time (6:28 a.m. GMT) and was felt as far as Beijing and Bangkok, Thailand. It is considered the worst earthquake since 1976 when more than 240,000 people died.

Rehabilitation efforts are expected to take at least three years, as several towns and villages will now have to be relocated.

To send your contribution to ADRA's emergency response effort, please contact ADRA at 1.800.424.ADRA (2372) or give to the China Earthquake Fund at www.adra.org.

Power Lab Vacation Bible School. We are very excited for this summer's Vacation Bible School! This year, our children will get to discover Jesus' miraculous power in the wacky world of the infamous Power Lab. Bring your children, your children's friends and their families. Participants should be between the ages of 5 and 12. Younger children are welcome as long as one parent stays with them. Older teens are welcome to help out with the program. Parents are encouraged to stay and enjoy the program as well.

Vacation Bible School starts on June 23 and ends June 28. Mark your calendars and be there!

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8	9 7pm—Busines Meeting	10 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	11 7pm Prayer Meeting	12	13 Sunset: 8:28	14 Sunset: 8:28 SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. Outreach Sabbath 5:45 Spirit of Prophecy Class 7pm Vespers
15 Father's Day	16	17 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	18 7pm Prayer Meeting	19	20 Sunset 8:30	21 Sunset 8:31 Summer Solstice SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 5:45 Spirit of Prophecy Class 7pm Vespers
22	23 Vacation Bible School	24 Vacation Bible School	25 Vacation Bible School	26 Vacation Bible School	27 Sunset 8:31 Vacation Bible School	28 Sunset 8:31 SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. Outreach Sabbath 5:45 Spirit of Prophecy Class 7pm Vespers
29	30	July 1 7pm—Merly Ortiz's Small Group	2 7pm Prayer Meeting	3	4 Sunset 8:31 Independence Day	5 Sunset 8:31 SP: TBA 5:45pm Spirit of Prophecy Class 7pm Vespers
6 7pm—Week of Prayer	7 7pm—Week of Prayer	8 7pm—Week of Prayer	9 7pm—Week of Prayer	10 7pm—Week of Prayer	11 Sunset 8:29 7pm—Week of Prayer	12 Sunset 8:29 SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. Outreach Sabbath 5:45 Spirit of Prophecy Class 7pm Vespers



San Jose Central Seventh-Day Adventist Church

San Jose Central
Seventh-Day Adventist Church
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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.

