

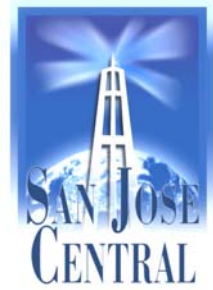
The Central Messenger



SAN JOSE CENTRAL SDA CHURCH

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The Pastor's Corner by Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr.

2008 is gone and hello 2009. What will 2009 have in store for us? What will it have in store for you? I don't necessarily have the specific answers to that question, but the Bible does. As we reflect back on this year what sticks out in our minds? The reason why I pose this question is because unless we are conscious of where we have come from then we won't know where we are going. Ellen White said: "We have nothing to fear for the future, except we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."

How has God lead you this past year? Did you follow Him as much as you would have liked or where there some opportunities that you

didn't quite take the advantage of? Are there some lessons that you know that God was trying to get across to you and it fell on deaf ears? Fear can be a beast of it's own. Not knowing the future is something that we've grown accustomed to, but being afraid of the future can be torture!! Praise God that we don't have to be afraid.

Where is it that God has brought you from? Where is it that God has brought me from? Where is it that God has brought our church here in San Jose from? When we take a look back and see where God has brought us from then we can praise the Lord not only for how He lead is in the past, but also for how we believe that He will lead us now! By faith we believe that He will

lead us **NOW** ! Jeremiah the prophet once said "This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope. The LORD'S loving kindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him." The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, To the person who seeks Him. It is good that he waits silently, For the salvation of the LORD." Lamentations 3:21-26.

We can have hope in God for this new year, why? Because His compassions **never fail**. The Bible doesn't say that God is simply faithful, but His faithfulness is great!! And if there is ever a time to put our trust in Him it is now. May 2009 be a year in which at it's close we can say: Great is Thy Faithfulness!!!



1st Quarter 2009 Mission : Southern-Asia Pacific Division

The Philippines is home to about 88.7 million people and more than 555,000 Adventists, making a ratio of one Adventist for every 160 people.

This is a mighty army for God. But armies need leaders, and leaders in the Philippines have chosen to focus on youth to receive the benefits of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

The island of Palawan lies to the west of the main islands that make up the Philippines. For more than 50 years, Palawan Adventist Academy has trained young people for Christian service. Recently a study revealed the need to increase the curriculum to include vocational and technical training-courses

such as auto mechanics and computer classes. Adding a block of classrooms to accommodate these additional classes will expand the outreach of this school and its mission to the community.

The church in the city of Dumaguete in the central Philippines has a thriving elementary school. But secondary students must either attend public schools with their conflicting moral standards or travel to another island to study in an Adventist school. Part of the 13th Sabbath Offering will help build a classroom block, the first step in completing an Adventist secondary school in that territory.

On the southwestern tip of Mindanao lies Zambales, a

large multi-ethnic and multi-religious city. The elementary school has long served people from every Christian faith as well as many non-Christian families. Recently they rebuilt their elementary school and started work on their secondary school so that students do not have to leave the Adventist school system in order to complete their secondary education. Part of this quarter's 13th Sabbath Offering will help complete that project.

The future may be tomorrow, but preparation for it must be done today. Prayerfully support the believers in the Philippines as they train their youth for leadership.

SOURCE: www.AdventistMission.org

Bible Study

What was the original diet God gave to man? Genesis 1:29. This would include fruits,



nuts, and grains. What was added to man’s diet after Adam had sinned? Genesis 3:18. Because of sin vegetables were added to man’s diet.

What was the test Daniel proposed concerning his diet and that of his three friends? Daniel 1:8-13. What was the result of the test? Verse 14-16. (Note: The Hebrew word translated “vegetables” or in the KJV, “pulse”, is basically the same

word translated “seed” in Genesis 1:29.) Was Daniel basing his choice of diet on Genesis 1:29?

For what period of time was the book of Daniel especially written? Daniel 12:4,9 (see also Daniel 8:14,26)

Now, consider the following Spirit of Prophecy quotes:

“Wherever an interest is awakened, the people are to be taught the principles of health reform. If this line of work is brought in, it will be the entering wedge for the work of presenting truth.” - *Counsels on Health p. 495*

“Medical missionary

work is the pioneer work of the gospel, the door through which the truth for this time is to find entrance to many homes...Many will be reached who otherwise never would have heard the gospel message. A demonstration of the principles of health reform will do much toward removing prejudice against our evangelical work. The Great Physician, the originator of medical missionary work, will bless all who thus seek to impart the truth for this time.” - *Counsels on Health p. 497*

Do these quotes throw some light as to why the book of Daniel begins with a message of temperance and health reform?

- Timber Zwonkin

January Birthday Celebrants



- 1 Rebecca Varsallona
- 1 Jeremiah Truax
- 9 Julie Cardenas
- 10 Sarahi Benko Sr.
- 11 Anna Fujimoto

- 14 Richard Anaya
- 17 Souang Athetsanathinp
- 19 Henry Logan
- 24 Cindy Logan
- 29 Greg Diaz

- 31 Marcela Gervacio

“Every time we think of you, we thank God, and pray for you with prayers of joy. For God began a good work in you, and will complete that work in years to come.”



Daniel also refused to worship other gods. One time he was arrested for praying and was thrown into a den of hungry lions. God protected Daniel and he was not hurt by the lions.

New Beginnings by Mark A. Finley

Most people like new things. There is something exciting about getting a new pair of shoes, a new suit or dress. At times we long to replace old, broken items with new, perfect ones. Each year God offers us the joy of considering new opportunities He opens before us.

1. What promise does God give each of us regarding our future? Read the text below and fill in the blanks.

“Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert” (Isa. 43:19).

God promises to do a _____ in our lives.

At times our lives are like a barren desert. There seems to be little real joy and peace; we seem to be wandering in the wilderness of discouragement. But God promises to do a new thing. Trusting in Him we find new direction and purpose.

2. How often will God send this newness into our lives? Circle the correct answer in the text below.

“Through the Lord’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness” (Lam. 3:22, 23).

Each day God provides us with new opportunities to know His love, experience His grace, and enjoy His goodness.

3. When we surrender our lives to Jesus, what amazing miracle does He work in us? Read the text below and explain on the lines provided what it means to be a new creature in Christ.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new” (2 Cor. 5:17).

To be a new creature in Christ means _____.

4. Throughout the Bible a name represents our identity or character. What does God give those who, through His grace, are overcomers? Read the passage below and write your answer in the blanks provided.

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes.... I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it” (Rev. 2:17).

Jesus will give to those who overcome a _____.

This is a wonderful promise. Jesus loves us so much and desires to have such a close relationship with us that He has a special name that He calls us when we fellowship together. It is a sign of the intimate relationship He has with each one of us.

5. In prophetic vision the apostle John heard heavenly beings singing. What were they singing?

“And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth’” (Rev. 5:9, 10).

John heard the angels sing a _____.

No wonder John’s heart was filled with joy! He heard the heavenly beings singing praises to Jesus in the form of a song of deliverance. Our voices can join in heaven’s chorus today. We have been redeemed. Through Jesus we are priests and kings of God. Praise His name.

6. When the Holy City descends, what divine proclamation does our Lord make? Circle your answer in the text below.

“Then He who sat on the throne said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’ And He said to me, ‘Write, for these words are true and faithful’” (Rev. 21:5).

7. How does the Bible describe the climax of all human history? Read each text and write the common answer these texts provide in the blanks below.

“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind” (Isa. 65:17).

“Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells” (2 Peter 3:13).

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away” (Rev. 21:1).

God promises to create a new _____ and a new _____.

The God we serve offers us newness in His love every day. His mercies are new every morning. He changes our lives and gives us a new heart. One day the age of sin and suffering will be over and He will create a new heaven and a new earth.

This new year let’s rejoice in the promises of all the new, wonderful things He does for us now, and what He will do for us in the future.

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7 7pm—Prayer Meeting	8	9 Sunset: 5:07pm	10 Sunset: 5:08pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 4:15pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class 5:30—Vespers
11	12 7pm—Board Meeting	13 7pm—Merly Ortiz’s Small Group	14 7pm—Prayer Meeting	15 7pm—Financial Peace University	16 Sunset: 5:14pm	17 Sunset: 5:15pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. Potluck Sabbath 2pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class 4:30pm—Seven-Up Vespers
18	19  Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 7pm—Merly Ortiz’s Small Group	21 7pm—Prayer Meeting	22 7pm—Financial Peace University	23 Sunset: 5:21pm	24 Sunset: 5:22pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. 4:15pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class 5:30—Vespers
25	26	27 7pm—Merly Ortiz’s Small Group	28 7pm—Prayer Meeting	29 7pm—Financial Peace University	30 Sunset: 5:29pm	31 Sunset: 5:30pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pamela Simpson 4:15pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class 5:30—Vespers
February 1	2	3 7pm—Merly Ortiz’s Small Group	4 7pm—Prayer Meeting	5 7pm—Financial Peace University	6 Sunset: 5:37pm	7 Sunset: 5:38pm 9am—Sabbath Morning Prayer SP: Pastor Tony Rodriguez Jr. Potluck Sabbath 2pm—Spirit of Prophecy Class 4:30pm—Seven-Up Vespers

Sunset times taken from <http://www.sunrisesunset.com> for location: San Jose, CA



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.