

Volume I, Number 26

Connections

A newsletter for the Anderson Seventh-day Adventist Church anderson.adventistfaith.org

September 2014 Week 3

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Connect Online:

 anderson.adventistfaith.org
Facebook.com/ andersonadventist.church

Submit a Prayer Request 227-6829 (Andrew LiVolsi) for 9am prayer group

357-4401 (Evelyn Baxter): for church prayer chain

Conference Office: 925-685-4300 www.nccsda.com

Pastor's Greeting: Prayer/Mission Focus

Dear Anderson Church Family,

By the time you read this, our 10 Days of Prayer focus will have ended and hopefully accomplished its purpose: to seek the Lord's guidance for the direction of our Church. Though the 10 Days of Prayer guides can be repeated daily (and you can find more online at www.tendaysofprayer.org), I am also going to provide a practical way for each one of us to keep our focus on Christ. In your bulletin this week (9/20/14) there will be an "Advent Prayer" sheet. I will talk more about it during the sermon time, but in short it is a way (and not the only way) to experience what the Lord did for His disciples when He was on Earth: He sent them out two-by-two (Mark 6:7). They did ministry, but they also prayed. May the prayer sheet be useful for both of these purposes. Also, there are other ideas that come to mind when I think of keeping the prayer focus going:

- 1. Why not join our Sabbath morning prayer group at 9am?
- 2. Why not join the weekly Conference prayer line (see the NCC Happenings section)?
- 3. Why not attend the prayer breakfast October 12 @ 10am?
- 4. Why not plan to attend our January 3 prayer service at 11am?
- 5. Why not plan to join us again for 10 days of prayer Jan. 7-17?

As we continue our prayer focus, we must keep in mind the reason stated above. We must also gain a focus on mission—reaching out. For the activity that consumed the disciples' focus after the 10 Days in the Upper room was sharing a message of salvation with the world. The elders and I met this last week to consider one possible way to add this element to our Church's focus. We are working on a proposal to host a NET meeting by Doug Batchelor that is set to begin October 31—just days after our Vision Quest ends. More details will be presented at our Business Meeting Sept. 25, but for now why not pray about this opportunity? See www.landmarksofprophecy.org

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Parts of a Winning Testimony (by Jac Colon & Elden Walter)

We have discovered that even though the sequence for a testimony should be; 1) My life before I became a Christian, 2) How I became a Christian, and 3) My Life After I became a Christian, it is usually easier to begin with the second part, How you became a Christian.

Begin by identifying the particular point and time in your life when Jesus became real and meaningful to you. It could have been: a dramatic conversion, an Evangelistic Meeting, a Week of Prayer, a Personal Bible Study, a particular Bible Text, maybe even a gradual realization of God's Love: What happened at that time and How?

What About Those Who Have Been Raised as Christians?

Those who have lived devoted Christian Lives since childhood will have to put more thought into the preparation of their testimony than one who had not been living a Christian Life. Pick a point at which you had spiritual growth, and build your testimony around that point.

Never assume that the testimony of a reformed, notorious sinner is more effective than that of a lifetime believer. . . Next week: Writing a Winning Testimony

Anderson Connections (please see your bulletin for more announcements)

FREE Health Assessment: We had 59 respondents! Thank you for each one who participated!

Vision Quest 2014: Sabbath afternoons @ 2pm (Sept. 20 & 27 and October 4 & 11).

Prayer Breakfast: Sunday, October 12 @ 10am. A great climax to our prayer season!

Roof / Solar: Mark your tithe envelope "Roof and Solar". We will have a Business Meeting where ALL members are invited to VOTE to recommend this project to the NCC Executive Committee for loan purposes. **Date/Time: Thurs. Sept. 25** @ 7pm in the Sanctuary.

Area & NCC Happenings

Northern California Conference call to prayer: each Thursday at 7:00am. Dial 424-203-8400 then put in the access code: 669648#

10+10 Local: If each one of us gave \$10/month can easily help us reach our goal of \$14,400 for Christian Education. Mark your envelope "Redding Adventist Academy".

Mad About Marriage Training: October 19 @ 10am at the NCC Conference office. If you want to learn how to bring this ministry to Anderson then contact the Pastor. Also, there will be a HUGE Marriage event in the Oakland area November 1 from 2pm onward.