

Connections



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

April 2015 Week 3

Declaring to each individual their eternal value in Jesus and preparing them for His soon-return!

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Connect Online:

1. anderson.adventistfaith.org

2. [Facebook.com/andersonadventist.church](https://www.facebook.com/andersonadventist.church)

andersonadventist.church

Submit a Prayer Request

227-6829 (Andrew LiVolsi) for

9am Saturday prayer group

357-4401 (Evelyn Baxter): for

church prayer chain

Conference Office:

925-685-4300

www.nccsda.com

Pastor's Greeting: Baptismal Sabbath

Dear Anderson Church Family,

What does it mean to be “born again” (John 3)? In the original language it can also mean to be “born from above” - to be like Jesus and follow in His Steps. He was born from above, came into this world and yet stayed connected to His Father all through His experience.

If I chose to follow In His Steps, then what would that look like? How would I spend my time? Who would have my best energies? My most joyful thoughts? If I was born “from above”, then my thoughts and corresponding actions would be of heavenly origin. I would walk as Jesus walked (united to His Father and keeping ALL of His ways/ commandments). Maybe you have not experienced this yet, or have but needed a friendly reminder today—this is definitely something we will be referring to in the future.

What is an outward expression of this inner desire to be God's child (to be born from above?” Well, the Bible describes a death to self and a resurrection. Paul makes this clear in Ephesians 4 that there is “one baptism”. So, this is an outward expression of this inner change.

Over the last few months (since the Landmarks meetings in October) I have been studying and praying with some dear children of God who wish to re-dedicate or dedicate their hearts to Jesus through baptism. This Sabbath, April 18 will be our first baptismal Sabbath in what will hopefully become a regular practice here at Anderson: celebrating an eternal commitment to our heavenly Father through Baptism.

Join us April 18 for this special Sabbath as a group of individuals make this commitment and encourage us to Stay Connected / Committed to Jesus as well!

Staying Connected—Christ in Our Relationships

You have prayerfully followed the first steps of the Matthew 18 process but it is still not resolved –what do you do? At this point you TRUST: it is out of your hands and now in the hands of the Church. Here is the rest of the process outlined by Jesus and fleshed out by John Sweigart:

Matthew 18:17 17If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector."

1. Prayerfully lay the issue before the Lord.
 2. When the Lord impresses you to speak to the person
 3. When you meet, pray for the Holy Spirit's to guide your meeting.
 4. Find an elder of the church and explain the issue to them
 5. Ask the elder to arrange a meeting
 6. Ask the Holy Spirit to be present
 7. If at the end of that time the progress or solution is not evident to you and the elder who met with you, have the elder notify the pastor. Ask the elder to have the pastor arrange a meeting with the person to address the issue. The pastor should inform the elder of the date and result of the meeting and any follow-up actions. If no resolution is achieved, the matter may need to be presented to the church. The Church Manual explains the policy that governs that process. At tis point all you can do is TRUST: trust the Lord to lead the rest of the process and the outcome.
- *Whatever you do: do not voice discontent abroad or make a verbal slander campaign against the person. Otherwise you may be guilty of engaging in a "divisive" action and subject to Church discipline. Watch & PRAY!

Anderson Connections (please see your bulletin for more announcements)

Small Groups- One of our 5 year goals is to start small groups in our communities. Those who are interested in an orientation to Discipleship Groups (more information on what elder Del Dunavant talked about), please contact Pastor Miller. This helps anyone host or conduct a group in their homes (and I do mean anyone!)

Roof/Solar—We have raised over \$12,000 so far! Work may possibly begin by the end of April. Mark your tithe envelope "Roof/Solar".

Adventist Book Center Bookmobile: April 28 from 1:30-2:15pm (be on time, they left promptly last time:). Other location: Redding Academy 3-4:15pm.

Mission Trips—May 10-21 at Camp MiVoden in Idaho. Milo—To Be Determined

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#

Men's Retreat—May 1-2 at Leoni Meadows. Contact Randi Wilson 925-603-5097 or randi.wilson@nccsda.com.

Redding Church: 5:30pm—Adventurers (1st & 3rd Wed.) with Pathfinders (each Wed.)