

YUCAIPA

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

4th QUARTER 2016

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 3

CALENDAR

Wednesdays	Bible Study 10:30 am Prayer Meeting – 6 pm
December 11	Pathfinder multi-club activity
December 12	MGA Christmas Concert - Academy
December 14	MGA Christmas Concert – Elementary
December 14	Adventurer/Pathfinder Club Meeting
December 17	Senior Potluck
December 17	Pathfinder Meeting – After Church
December 17	Adventurer Meeting 4 pm
December 17	Social for church sponsored by Youth—6:30 pm
December 18	Pathfinder Christmas Party
December 19	Senior Trip to Mission Inn
December 24	Christmas Program
December 30	Agape Feast
January 4	Adventurer/Pathfinder Club Meetings
January 5	Outreach Committee 6:30pm
January 7	Church Potluck
January 17	Finance Committee Meeting
January 18	Adventurer/Pathfinder Meetings
January 19	School Board
January 21	Pathfinder Sabbath
January 22	Pathfinder Teen Swim Check
January 24	Church Board Meeting
January 28	Church Leadership Conference
January 28	Calimesa Women's Retreat

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor Elijah Grekov

909-795-6965

Pictures are from the church directory, Google or as submitted. See the current church bulletin and inserts or visit the church website at www.yucaipasda.com for updated calendar events, announcements and news.

PASTOR'S NOTE *By Pastor Elijah Grekov*

"Two are better than one," states the wise Preacher, "because they have a good return for their work." Ecclesiastes 4:9

We have partnered with the "Full Circle" Ministry in our Outreach effort. Adrian and Andrea, the two Bible Workers joined us in October, for six months, offering spiritual support to the Community on our behalf. In January, two additional Bible Workers, Jefferd and Alvin will come to our aid, for 3 months, to apply their knowledge and skills learned in Pacific Union School of Evangelism, in preparation for the "Revelation of Love" Bible Prophecy Seminar that will take place in February 5-25, 2017. The spiritual encouragement will be led by the young Speaker, Evangelist David Machado. The nightly meetings will include, Bible topics for adults, program for children, live music by Benjamin Jenkins and Vanessa Rocha and time for fellowship and sharing meals together. These exciting events give us an opportunity to refresh our knowledge of Scripture and put it to practice by getting involved in engaging our Community in an important matters of spiritual growth. For that reason we have dedicated our 2016 Christmas Offering to the cause of Evangelism/ Outreach Project. But in addition to our financial support, our open mind and friendly effort to meet, get to know and embrace the new people who expressed an interest in learning more about God, will help them to connect with God's people on more comfortable level. I invite you to take an active part in this Outreach Project, by sharing the load of visiting, inviting people to our church activities, giving Bible Studies, supporting financially, and with your presence and prayers. "Two are better than one," and soon we will get to see "a good return for our work," rejoicing along with the Heavenly hosts over the souls saved into God's Kingdom. May this special time of the year, give you opportunities to become more intimate with God and your loved ones.



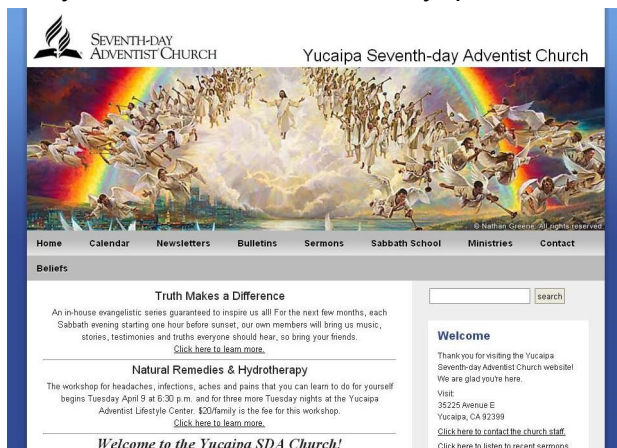
CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH WEBSITE

Now is the time to visit the church website at www.yucaipasda.com

The church website is constantly updated with activities, news and bulletins. Now, audio of the sermons are available. Check out the Ministries tab as well to get a peek at the various areas our church is meeting the needs of members and the community.

You are welcome to give your donations online by debit card or transfer from your checking account. Sign in on our website to give your tithe and offerings this way. Contact Linda Hill with any questions.



INTERNET PRAYER TEAM

The Yucaipa SDA Church Internet prayer team is willing to pray for both short and long term requests. If you ever have a request or a praise, please place it in the prayer request box in the church foyer, or e-mail it directly to Deanne Joseph djoseph400@yahoo.com. Note that that all requests are handled confidentially. On all requests, please keep Deanne updated on any progress, changes, and answers to prayer.

SOWING SEEDS OF KINDNESS

Meet every other Tuesday from 9 am – 1 pm. We are going to step out in faith and pray that many more of our members will be willing to help those who need someone to shop for them, pick up medications or take them to a doctor's appointment. It is a chance to make a new friend and lead someone to Jesus. Please call us at 951-381-0913 to volunteer.

TREASURER'S CORNER

By Linda Hill

The Church Board approved a budget for 2017 of \$15,000 per month. Our expenses have gone up so we have had to increase the budget by \$500 per month. This next year has many possibilities with our Evangelistic Series coming up and the hope of a new associate pastor coming on board. We need to be ready to step forward for our Lord.

Our Christmas Offering this year is to support Evangelism. Advertising, food, workers, Children's Program supplies, Bibles and books, etc. will all come from the Evangelism account. This is your time to help spread the Word of God to our neighbors and those in Yucaipa looking for a connection with Jesus and a church home. You can give your donation in a tithe envelope and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office.

At the end of November we are on track to make our yearly budget for 2016. Thank you all for your donations that have made this possible. Please remember that all offerings must be postmarked or better yet, turned in by December 31 to be able to claim them on your 2016 tax returns. December 31 is a Sabbath. Your continued support is so needed.

Our support of Mesa Grande Academy and the students needing tuition assistance is still a continuing need. We have 18 students that we are helping financially so that they can attend one of our Adventist Schools. Our young people are so important, not only to our church family but also to our world church. They are our future. Thank you for making it possible for them to have a Christian, Adventist, education.

SABBATH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN

Beginning January 7, 2017, Sabbath School leaders will register their students. The completed forms will help the church to provide a safer and healthier place for your children. We will ask that parents and guardians identify food allergies and preferred ways to address health issues. Please take a few minutes to complete a registration for each child the first Sabbath of the New Year. Thank you so much!!

CHARITABLE IRA

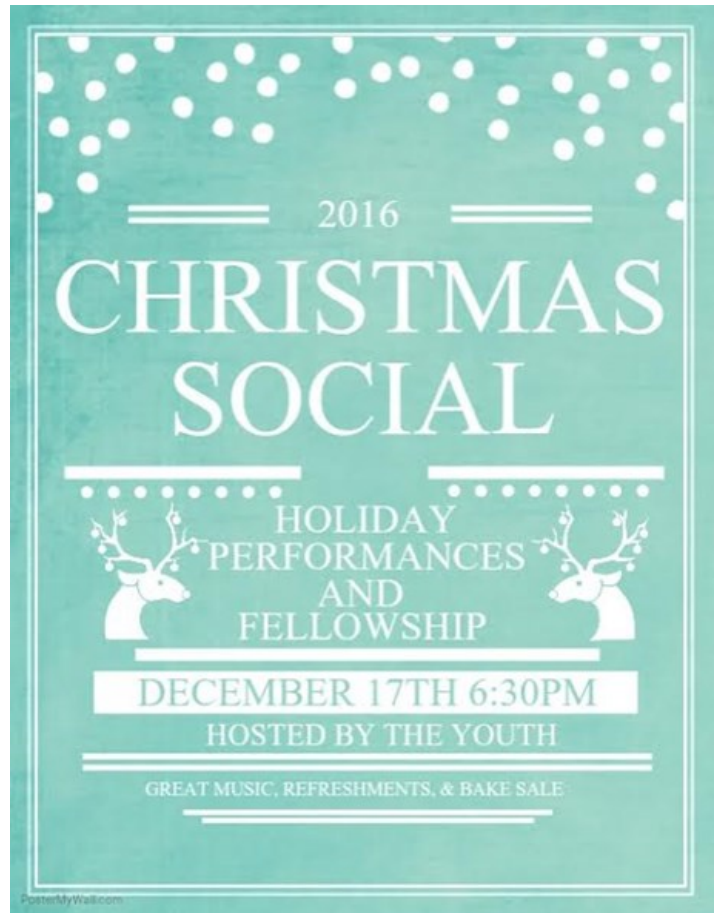
In 2016 Congress has made permanent with The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 the Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from individual retirement accounts. This gives those at least 70 ½ the opportunity to help overcome tax liability challenges by making tax-free charitable gifts. Making gifts from IRA funds that would be subject to tax if withdrawn voluntarily or under mandatory withdrawal requirements may be of help to you. Example: Mark, age 72, lives comfortably on his pension, savings, and Social Security. He is required to take minimum withdrawals from his IRA and is taxed on those funds. This distribution also causes more of his Social Security income to be taxed. However, by directing part of his mandatory IRA withdrawal to charity, he avoids reporting that amount as income and does not pay taxes on those funds nor will it increase what he may have to pay for Medicare insurance. He also prevents additional tax on his Social Security benefits. To enjoy the full benefit of this, you must complete each year's transfer prior to December 31 of that year and the funds given directly to the charity not to you and then to charity.

There are many other provisions of this Pension Protection Act that might help even those under 70 ½ years of age. Check with your advisors about the best ways to take advantage of these new giving opportunities. Keep in mind that everyone's circumstances are different, and state as well as federal tax laws may affect your plans.

The Yucaipa Seventh-day Adventist Church is considered one of the charities that can receive these funds. If you have questions, talk with Linda Hill the treasurer. We have others at our church using this means of making their contributions to the church.

BIBLE WORKERS

Adrian Rosales and Andrea Batista are Bible workers here at the Yucaipa SDA church. They will be with us for a six month term. They are excited to be working with the established ministries of the church with the goal in mind of bringing people to Christ. Adrian and Andrea have been working closely with the ministries and going into the community to give Bible studies to those hungry for the word of God. All of this will be leading up to an evangelistic campaign that will be held in February. They would like to extend an invitation to all of those who have a burden or want to learn how they can be part of this evangelistic movement. Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they continue to co-labor with the church in their efforts to seek and save the lost.



DIG OUT YOUR BEST RECIPES

By Christine Neish

February will be a busy month for our cooks. We will be hosting guests who attend our evangelistic series and will be expanding our fellowship dinners to include EVERY SABBATH in February, 2017. It will be a wonderful time to make new friends and show them Adventist hospitality.

It will also be an opportunity to share our favorite gourmet recipes and enjoy plenty of food supplied by all who attend. Get ready to bring a vegetarian or vegan entrée, salad, fruit/vegetable plate, or dessert. PLEASE BRING ENOUGH for yourself and our visitors.

February 4 – All-church potluck
February 11 – All-church potluck
February 18 – Senior potluck
February 25 – All-church potluck



YUCAIPA CHURCH LIBRARY

By Ruth Moses

The church library is open every Sabbath from 9:00 to 9:30 am and 10:20 to 10:45 am. There are books, DVDs, and CDs available for check-out to our church members. All items may be borrowed for 2 weeks and can be renewed.

Marjorie Brito, Trish Chapman, and Cinnia Easley join the librarian team this year along with Esther Lo, Traudy McLarty, and Ruth Moses. They are happy to help you find just the right item for your needs.

Thanks to the many generous donors who have given books to our library. There are now 60 new books available for check-out. They are in the categories: Cookbooks, Health, "for Women", Prayer, Witnessing, Biography, Grace and Salvation, Jesus, and General Reading. More books will be added in 2017. Come in and ask to see our new additions.



SENIOR'S TRIP TO HUNTINGTON LIBRARY

By Tom Miller

Where to go? That was the question facing the leadership of the Seniors, a demanding group who expected and received the best from its intrepid leadership. A host of suggestions were put forward. Should we break new ground or select the tried and true. The latter was the winner so we went to Huntington Gardens. Did I say gardens? It is true there are some gardens there. Excellent gardens at that. In fact world famous, but only part of the attraction and well worth going to, if only for that. We decided to spend two hours there so most of our number (about a dozen) spent most of their valuable time there, but it would require far more to taste all the delights of Huntington.

The fact is it is one of the world's great cultural, research and educational centers. There is a magnificent library of rare books and manuscripts. There are about six million items. The art collections are distinguished by their specialized character and elegant settings.

All this magnificence is made available by Henry and Arabella Huntington (hence the name) early last century and we are able to enjoy and appreciate the presentations which often take place. The two hours we spent there were no-where near enough to plumb the depths of what the institution has to offer. Neither would two days or two weeks, months or years. Probably not even two life times would suffice so we will undoubtedly go again in the future.

So much to see. So much to appreciate. I can't wait to get to heaven where the magnificence is even greater and I have an eternity to appreciate it. I hope to see you there also, dear reader.

This true presentation is not complete without acknowledging and thanking Doug Lafferty, the leader of the Seniors for his kindness in providing a delicious sack lunch for those fortunate in responding to the invitation. Thank you, Doug and may the Lord bless you!!!

JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*



WISHING YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR!!!

WHAT ABOUT THOSE BATHROOMS?

By Christine Neish

After two unexpected delays, the bathroom renovation committee has made terrific progress toward updating our main-floor bathrooms. Members of the committee (*Elizabeth De La Ossa, Ralph De La Ossa, Linda Hill, Elijah Grekov, Christine Neish, Ron Neish, Dave Rodman, Deborah Rodman, and Robert Usery*) are pleased to report the following information.

Decisions

Our decisions considered minimizing costs while updating our facilities to include a handicapped-accessible bathroom.

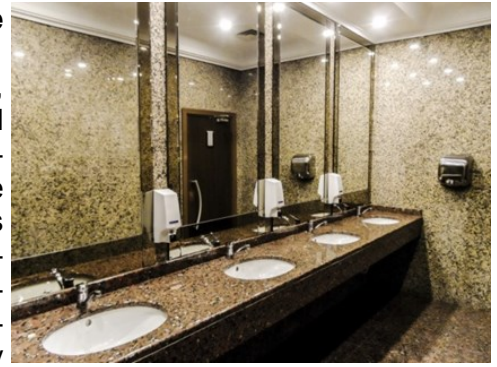
1. Existing men's and women's bathrooms off the foyer and patio areas will not be reconfigured. They will be renovated using existing footprints. This may cut costs by eliminating the need to make major changes in plumbing. Due to the age of the facility and unknown construction decisions in the past, we may have unanticipated plumbing expenses which are impossible to calculate at this time.
2. We will develop a "family" bathroom that meets ADA specifications for handicapped individuals. It will be located in the current Deacons' Room enlarged by an extension of the south wall into the Mother's Room. The Mothers' Room may be affected slightly but there will still be plenty of room.
3. We will build a new Deacon's Room in the southwest corner of the foyer. This will involve enlarging the closet that currently houses books. The books will be relocated into the closet adjacent to the new Deacon's Room.

What we are doing now?

1. We are identifying an architect to develop floor plans and elevations following an assessment of costs for this service.
2. We are seeking bids for the project from one "inside" and two "outside" contractors.
3. We will obtain permits from the city of Yucaipa and appoint the Overseer for the Project (Project Manager).
4. We will work toward finalizing our materials list.
5. We will develop a budget that includes labor, materials, and a contingency budget for unforeseen expenses such as plumbing and electrical "surprises."
6. The project budget will be submitted to the Finance Committee for approval and, then, to the Church Board. Once approved, we will move forward with construction.

What can we expect?

As you know, bathroom and kitchen renovations can be costly. That is why the committee has taken time to consider every



possible way (believe me, it is true) to update the existing bathrooms. It became clear that we needed an ADA-approved handicapped bathroom near the sanctuary. Rather than rip out, enlarge, and lose stalls in both the men's and women's bathrooms, we have designed a family handicapped bathroom and will leave all other stall locations intact.

We have also become friends with Home Depot and Lowe's. They have high-quality materials that, when put together just right, will look very nice. Another cost-saving approach is to use the same types of materials (stalls, toilets, sinks, faucets, flooring, and lighting) in both the men's and women's bathrooms. Buying in larger quantities should make it easier to negotiate "deals" and minimize costs. We are also looking for sales and specials that appear prior to construction so that we can purchase items at the best price.

We can expect to have a fund-raising event next year. Your generous Christmas offering last year has given the church a healthy kick-start to the project but it will need to be heavily supplemented for us to begin construction.

Your prayers for members of the committee, the Finance Committee, and Church Board are important to us. We seek God's guidance for wisdom so that we can honor Him by keeping His house in order.

ASTRONOMER

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. — PSALM 19:1-2 NIV

SOWING SEEDS OF KINDNESS: 2016 YEAR-END REPORT

By Doug Lafferty

December 20 will be the last Tuesday for the Sowing Seeds of Kindness program for 2016 and also marks our one year anniversary. We began on January 4 and have missed only 1 week, for the June election, this year. It has been a blessing and a joy to serve and to make many new friends, not only us, but the church and especially our God. During the year we have served somewhere in the vicinity of 140 families representing more than 300 family members. There are a number of single clients, but also many with families as large as 7. Our clients start lining up at 8:00 on Tuesday morning and we often have as many as 30 families in line when we open at 9:00, waiting to receive food and clothes. More importantly, they are getting love, friendship, prayer and literature. We have many regular requests for prayer and have seen many of them answered....prayers for work, for healing, for housing, for mending family relationships and even one for a car. Requests for Bible studies are starting to come in and our Bible Workers are working on this with us, to meet they need.

It has been a blessing to have a faithful 12 volunteers on the team this year, with a total of about 90 hours being volunteered on a weekly basis. If we were to translate that into full time employees, it would be greater than 2 people full time, in service. We have also been greatly blessed by our church family. You have prayed for us, donated clothes until our storage is overflowing and made cash donations that have not only made it possible to purchase a new refrigerator and a new freezer, but also purchase the food and supplies that we need for our food distribution. We cannot adequately express our appreciation for your outpouring of love and support.

Pete and Linda Villareal have produced a video of our activities which we will show you early in the new year so that you can better experience what our ministry is all about. 2017 promises to be a great year for us and it is hoped that we can expand what we do to serve our community. Many thanks for your prayers and your support.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13

2016 Yucaipa SDA Youth Holiday Outreach

From the Sabbath of December 10th, until New Years, the Yucaipa SDA youth department will be collecting donations of such winter essentials as scarfs, beanies, gloves, socks, other warm apparel, and non-perishable food items to donate to the local Charity Ministries, for those who are in need this Holiday season.



Drop Off Location:

Yucaipa Seventh-Day Adventist Church
35525 Avenue E,
Yucaipa, CA 92399

On Sabbaths (Saturdays)

Youth Room at Yucaipa SDA Church during church and Sabbath School
Hours (9:30am until about 1pm)

On Weekdays

"Sowing Seeds of Kindness" Community Service room at Yucaipa SDA. Contact Sandy Bradford.

If you want to drop something off, the office is open Tuesday – Thursday from 9 am – 1 pm. If you need to come at another time, call the office at 909-797-1375 to see if someone is there.

Contact Info:

Please contact **Sierra Collins at (909) 705-6440** for any questions.

To drop off at "**Sowing Seeds of Kindness**" on weekdays **call Sandy Bradford at (951) 381-0913**

She will be there every **Monday from 10am - 1pm**

**Thank You For Your
Compassion!**



PAGEANT OF OUR LORD

We will, again, be going to the Pageant of our Lord - Living Art Experience in Rolling Hills Estates. Renowned works of religious art are depicted in a real life setting by people.....it is simply stunning and unbelievable. A full orchestra and choir will also play and sing. The date is Sunday, April 9, at 3:00. The cost is \$20 for adults and \$15 for kids 6-12. Please have your money in to the office by January 7. The bus will be available for 10 people and will leave the church at 12:30. Sign up in foyer or at church office.

Note to the whole church: the seniors are sponsoring this event, but would like to open it up to anyone in the church who would like to join us for a wonderful, memorable experience. Please consider joining us. Please see Karen or Doug Lafferty for more information on either or both of these events. 530-283-1937

From Trisha Chapman

Sunday, March 20, this past spring was a warm and sunny day when we drove up to Rolling Hills Estates to view the Pageant of Our Lord. We arrived just as the van from our church pulled up and greetings were shared. Karen Lafferty gathered her brood and directed us to the make-up area where we were able to see the actors being transformed into the characters they were to portray. The actor, Satan, looked particularly evil.

Once seated in the theater and the lights dimmed and the orchestra struck up its first note, we were treated to a wonderful series of biblical tableaux which were made up partly of sculpture and partly of live actors who were placed in situ. The entire program was threaded together with a beautiful narration replete with scripture and choir. It was a feast for the senses.

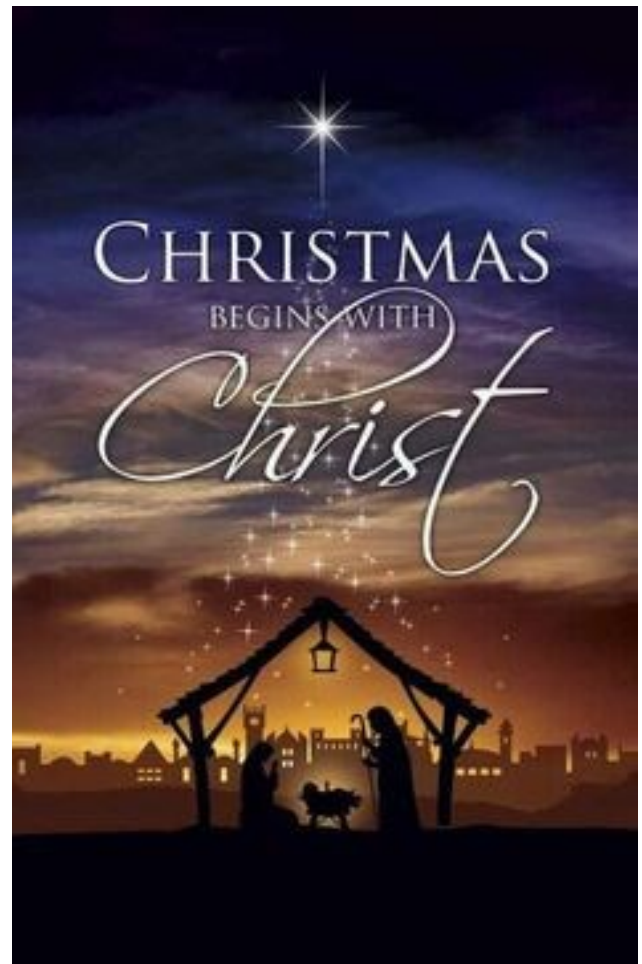
Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 9, and don't miss a very unique experience of watching familiar Bible scenes spring to life. You will be happy you did.

From Karen Lafferty

When I was 14 years old my aunt took me to see the Laguna Art show. I was so enthralled to see live works of art come to life with real people in the art works. When Doug and I lived in Bakersfield, CA one of his hospital lawyers gave us tickets to see the Pageant of our Lord, in Rolling Hills Estate. We went out of courtesy to this man not really knowing what we were going to. But when the curtains lifted I was astonished to see a replica of the Laguna Art



show in a religious theme. The orchestra was superb, the choir was magnificent, the pieces of art were exquisite, and realizing that some of the characters in the art pieces were actual people made this an event that I would certainly want to see again. Unfortunately, we moved far enough away that we never were able to attend another pageant. Moving back to this area we took advantage of being able to attend and we invited the Yucaipa seniors to go with us. I was not disappointed and we have decided to make this an annual pilgrimage and will continue to invite the Yucaipa seniors and their friends and relatives to join us.



PATHFINDER OUTREACH CORNER



This fall, Pathfinders have been busy with meetings, activities and most importantly, outreach projects. Community outreach is a foundation of Pathfinder curriculum. This quarter, the Yucaipa Eagles club has kept busy with various projects. Pathfinder members helped

with yardwork at an elderly church member's home. Also, Pathfinders hosted a picnic at the park for church members and their families. All the fixings were provided for hot dogs and Pathfinder members served their guests. For the holidays, Pathfinders delivered holiday baskets to families in need on December 4. Baskets were filled with food donations collected from the community. New Pathfinder members are always welcome (see Lisa Rader for info). Volunteers are appreciated for teaching classes and sharing their talents for Pathfinder honors.



WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

We would like to introduce you to the new members of 2016 at our church. As you get to know all of them you will find interesting stories they have to share.

There are a few whom we were not able to get their pictures but would like to recognize them also. Kristin Devine, Juanita Slough, Bart Van Kooten, and Lauren Tomas.



Sierra Collins



Kathleen Erb



Kathryn, Emma, Mark & Alicia Peabody



DeLora, Jayde & Jay Emery



Harry & Juanita Slough



Cherie & Richard Parker



Dolly Parker



Kodi Humpal



Kristine Devine



Jennifer Renaud



Valerie, Tristan, Nicholas & Orianna Allen



Mary & Jesse Bennett



Riane, Sabrina, Rich & Diane Ferras



Hildegard Kuerzinger

REVELATION of LOVE



Bible Prophecy Seminar

When:

February
3-25
@7PM
Every
Night
Except
Wed. &
Thurs.

Where:

Yucaipa
SDA
Church

What:

Revelation
of Love

We have some exciting upcoming news for this spring! A Bible Prophecy Seminar beginning February 3 at 7pm.

Our Speaker:

David Machado

Born and raised in California, David grew up in a Christian home. However, he got

disillusioned with church and religion and started down a path of partying and trouble-making. Around his freshman year of college, a friend invited him to hear a former rap artist speak. David attended, hoping to hear maybe some religious rap. The presenter was speaking about the gospel story and how Jesus changed his life. That message marked the turning point for David. He gave his life to Christ and started on a new journey. After attending Bible College and graduating with a degree in Theology, David committed himself to full-time evangelism. Although his focus is here in Southern California, he has traveled throughout the United States and even other countries such as India, Philippines, Mexico, Peru, Dominican Republic, and Hawaii, preaching Bible prophecy seminars and sharing the gospel with thousands. It is David's desire to use his new life to help others experience the love and joy he has found in God's Word and through the Gospel. He is accompanied in ministry by his beautiful wife Abigail. The Revelation of Love seminar is open to all classes of people – it is designed to meet their needs and time restraints. The relaxed setting is welcoming to both Christians and non-Christians alike. You are invited to come and experience for yourself what answers the Bible has for you and the challenges you may be facing today.





Our Revelation of Love Singers:

Ben and Vanessa

Ben and Vanessa have dedicated their gift of music to the Lord. Their uplifting, encouraging music will prepare our hearts every night.

Our SWAT Team:

Jefferd and Alvin

Jefferd and Alvin are currently attending the Pacific Union's two year School of Evangelism called Souls West, located in Arizona. They will be joining the Revelation of Love Team this January and will help in getting the church and community ready.



Our Bible Workers:

Adrian and Andrea

Adrian and Andrea have been working at the Yucaipa Seventh Day Adventist Church as Full Circle Coordinators (Bible Workers) since October and will continue to be there until the middle of April of 2017. They have been working with the different ministries of the church and the community in preparation for the Revelation of Love Bible prophecy seminar that begins in February.



'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE JESUS CAME

"T was the night before Jesus came and
all through the house
Not a creature was praying. Not one in the house.
Their Bibles were lain on the shelf without care
In hopes that Jesus would not come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head
And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap
Was watching a late show while I took a nap.

When out of the East there arose such a clatter
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a slash
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!

When what to my wondering eyes should appear
But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray
I knew in a moment this must be the DAY!

The light of His face made me cover my head.
It was Jesus! returning. just like He had said.
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,
I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the Book of Life which He held in His hand
was written, the name of every saved man.
He spoke not a word as He searched for my name;
When He said "Its not here" my head hung in
shame.

The people whose names had been written with love
He gathered to take to His father above
With those who were ready He rose without a sound
While all the rest were left standing around.

I fell to my knees, but it was too late;
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried and they rose out of sight.
OH, if only I had been ready tonight.

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear.
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
There is only one life and when comes the last call
We'll find that the Bible was true after all!
He's all the love you'll ever need.