

# Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church Newsletter Special Weekly Edition May 24, 2020



PASTOR'S CORNER

## "Judgment Day Is Here"

Scripture Reading: Revelation 14:6-12

King Jesus is coming back! So don't allow any pandemic or any epidemic of fear, to get in your way of preparing for Christ's second coming. Now, I know it takes a lot to process COVID- 19 and make sense of all its ramifications. But focus on God. God has greatly blessed you. So seek God's seal now. The Mark of the Beast is on the horizon. But be warned. Whatever you do, don't take that mark. "Judgment Day Is Here!"

Now is your moment to fully surrender to God. Delay no longer. You must now move with urgency. God is calling you now to take cover under His wings. God wants you to be ready for any eventuality. This cold world is filled with sin, shame and disgrace. There are viruses, diseases, and death. There are evil angels and evil men, evil plots and evil in high places. But God has a permanent fix for them all! "Judgment Day Is Here!"

Now is your time to exercise faith in God. This lockdown has forced you to live with yourself. While you prepare to be impacted by COVID-19 related economic downturns I hope that above all, you are prepared to meet your God. God is ready for whatever this world throws at you. So take your stand for Him now. To the working class among us, you may need to revisit, review, and rework your resume. Now is a good time to brush up on those additional skills you possess. Even if you should lose your job, you may find that you are qualified for a better job. God often allows something good to be taken away from you, just so He can give you something better. So never allow good things to stand in the way of better things.

Trust God now.

Now, If you have never heard of it, if you have not been practicing 10/15, now is the time. 10/15 is your commitment to personally spend a daily minimum of 10 minutes in prayer to God and 15 minutes studying the word of God. Go over God's promises. Read those faith-building stories of the Bible. Read how God walked with His people through various crises and fallouts back in Bible times. Get to know the One, True God of the Bible. Get a good hang of the Bible Read 3 chapters of the Bible each day and 5 chapters on each Sabbath. In one year you would have read the entire Bible through. So start now.

Isaiah 40:29 "He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength."

As the saying goes, you can take that promise to the bank. So, are you feeling weak? Then flee to Jesus Christ. Don't trust in your strength. You will fail. But turn to God now. If you let Him, God will lead you to greener grass and purer pastures. God will give you real success. He promises to walk with you through your trials. God promises to give you real prosperity, the kind which reproduces Christ's character in you. This is your only hope for Glory Land. Let God prepare you for Judgment Day. Already, the Investigative phase of God's Judgment Day is here. On May 21, 1863, God's last day, remnant church of Bible prophecy was formally incorporated as it positioned itself to take on God's global mandate. God commissioned the Seventh-day Adventist Church to proclaim the Three Angels Messages of Revelation

14:6-12.

News about God's Judgment Day is good news. Let us be clear! God's Judgment Day Is Here!

Would you be upset if you went to the hospital to get your problem addressed and they end up discharging you without ever finding or fixing your problem? I would be!

God's Investigative Judgment Day began on October 22, 1844 as far as we understand from sacred history of the Bible itself. According to Daniel 8:14, Daniel 9:24-27, Ezra 6 and 7, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement as explained in Leviticus 16, fell on October 22, 1844. We have been able to trace that date with the help of the Jewish Karaite calendar. Now, with that said: Judgment is in favour of the saints. Whenever God judges, it is well-done. God will punish the wicked and exonerate the righteous. Proverbs 14:34 "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."

By the way, I John 3:4 is clear: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law."

John 14:15 is clear: "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

Now, I joined the SDA Church in 1996. Right away we formed the Chronicles, a local, organic missionary wing of the church. It is what was called Cottage ministry, or Cell Group. Because of a bad association of the term cell group, we use the term small group now. So yes, we immediately created a small group when we just joined the SDA Church. We had a special, largely unspoken rule. You cannot be my real friend if you see me living in sin and say nothing about it. The second unspoken rule was like it. We did not expect any group member to be abrasive. We did not expect any to shame or embarrass others. Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ says in Matthew 10:.16, 'Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

Proverbs 11:30: "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise." It is not harmless if sin is allowed to thrive in church I have heard the

view that the church is a hospital for sin. If that is the case, is it not usually the purpose of a hospital to treat, address, and fix a person's problems and send them home?

Well my friends, God's Judgment Day is a sobering thought. Read Leviticus 16. It talks about "Yom Kippur." I read somewhere that even habitual drunkards sobered up on that day. Do you think we should sober up now?

America is now struggling with flattening the COVID-19 curve while at the same time trying to salvage the economy. It is a delicate act to balance. But there seems to be two very distinct camps, mainly divided along party lines. The one camp posit itself as wanting to save lives while the other posits itself as wanting to save the economy. But time will tell.

But don't be so caught up in those affairs that you leave out the most urgent of all your needs. That need is to be ready for Judgement Day. Matthew 24:44. "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Now, Judgment Day is here!

We must be ready now. Now is the time to rise up and call Jesus blessed. Now is the time to give up our worries, fears, anxieties, faults, and especially our sins to Christ. He is seated on the right hand of power as the Majesty of the heavens. He is our High Priest in Glory Land. He is in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly temple — the heavenly sanctuary. There is no sin problem you have that He can not remedy. He only asks for your cooperation and willingness.

My friends, the warnings of Revelation 14:6-12 are real. Read over those verses. They constitute the most fearful warnings in the entire Bible. They constitute the final message of salvation to be given to the world. It is God's last call. Now is the time to live out the meaning of those messages. Now is the time to seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Now is the time to seek the seal of the Living God. It can be found only in the fourth one of the Ten Commandments. Do you know what the 4th commandment requires? Exodus 20:8-11 describes it. Like the ancient seal it is, it is expected to bear the name, title, and territory of the One affixing His seal to the document. Only the Sabbath commandment bears this. Have you ever

wondered why most Christian denominations and most religions of the world omit God's seventh-day Sabbath from any of their teachings? It is because a clever devil is behind the attack on God's seal. If all human beings kept God's seventh day Sabbath, there could never be an atheist, agnostic or evolutionist. People are clamoring for a vaccination for this pandemic causing virus. But did you realize that the Sabbath is the expressed seal of the Living God? Yes. In a general way, the seal of God is settling into God's present truth. In particular, God's seal is expressed in His Sabbath. Keeping God's Sabbath holy is your only vaccination shot against the coming mark of the Beast pandemic! Revelation 14:7 is quoted directly from the Sabbath commandment in Exodus 20:11. God has called His remnant Seventh-day Adventist Church into existence to make present truth clear. At

the heart of what we preach is Christ as our High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary. That is where the seat of Judgment is. James 2:12 makes it clear that we will be judged by the God's Ten Commandments called there "the law of liberty." Revelation 11:19 disclosed that at the time of Judgment, the Ark of His Testament, the Ark of God's covenant was seen in God's throne room. That is the sacred chest containing the Ten Commandments!

It is clearly shown from scripture that God's Judgment Day Is Here! God started the Investigative phase of His Judgment Day on Oct. 22, 1844. Since then, we have been living on borrowed time. I close by inviting you to flee to Jesus now. Judgment Day Is Here!

Elder Waren Muir



# **CHURCH NEWS**

## **CHURCH SERVICES**

Join us on Facebook at 11:30 AM Sabbath mornings for livestreaming of the church service. https://www.facebook.com/vhsda

#### MAY & JUNE OFFERING SCHEDULE

May 30	New York Conference Evangelism	June 20	Local Church Budget
June 6	Local Church Budget	June 27	New York Excel
June 13	Local Church Budget		

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You may donate via www.adventistgiving.org.

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering this quarter is for the Trans-European Division



#### SUNSET SCHEDULE

Friday, May 29 - 8:34 PM Sabbath, May 30 - 8:35 PM

#### **CAMP CHEROKEE**

At this time, we still plan to run camps: Teen Camp – July 5-12; Junior/Tween Camp – July 12-19; Adventure Camp July 19-26. Additional health screening is planned for the arrival at camp, including temperature checks. The registration process will be different this year. If the camp is limited on how many children may attend each camp, admission will be by pre-registration based on the order the applications are received. Check the Conference website (www.nyconf.org) or the Camp Cherokee/New York Conference Facebook pages for updated information.

#### VISION 2020: EACH ONE REACH ONE FOR CHRIST

Let us, each one, make it our goal to be used of God to lead at least one person to surrender their lives to Jesus Christ in the coming year.



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Guard jealously your hours for prayer, Bible study, and self-examination.

Set aside a portion of each day for a study of the Scriptures and communion with God.

Thus you will obtain spiritual strength, and will grow in favor with God.

He alone can give you noble aspirations; He alone can fashion the character after the divine similitude.

Draw near to Him in earnest prayer, and He will fill your hearts with high and holy purposes,

and with deep, earnest longings for purity and clearness of thought.

Gospel Workers, p. 100

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### TEN-FIFTEEN



Remember to spend **at least** ten minutes praying and fifteen minutes studying God's word each day. As we are living in earth's last days, how much more we need to be in prayer and in the Word.

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Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day. Psalm 25:5

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#### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



A blood drive is scheduled for Friday, May 29 from 11:30 AM until 4:30 PM. Donation Types: Double Red Cell and Whole Blood. With elective surgeries beginning in the area, there is a critical need for blood supplies at this time. Future blood drive dates are: June 9, August 4, October 13, December 15.

#### VEGETARIAN NON-VIRTUAL FOOD SALE



Pick-up Locations:

Sunday, June 14, 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM – New York Conference Office Sunday, June 14, 7:00 PM –8:30 PM – Union Springs Academy Monday, June 15, 11:00 AM – Noon – Bay Knoll Church, Rochester

Derek will be transporting items from Union Springs to our area Monday morning or midday, meeting at the Cornerstone Church.

Order deadline is June 4. To order, contact Ami Wells: 518-638-6150 or <a href="mailto:amimarsa@yahoo.com">amimarsa@yahoo.com</a> Accepted payment: Cash, Check or Credit Card.

## SABBATH SCHOOL

During the second quarter, our Sabbath School lessons are "How to Study Scripture." Be sure to continue your study at home while we are not able to meet together. This week's study (Lesson 8) is entitled "Creation: Genesis as Foundation – Part 2."

Memory text: The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handywork. Psalm 19:1

Texts for this week: Job 26:7-10; Genesis 1; Genesis 2; Genesis 11; 1 Chronicles 1:18-27; Matthew 19:4, 5; John 1:1-3.

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CONTACT Sharon and Jim Reynolds at 734-1560 with newsletter information. You may also send your articles to: 813 Maple Avenue, Elmira, NY 14904, or e-mail us at newsletter@elmirasda.com. Please limit your articles to approximately one half to one full page. Please take note of the season, if your article is seasonal. All articles should properly acknowledge the author and include permission to print.



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Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, 0 Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14 He hath shewed thee, 0 man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

Micah 6:8

# Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED