

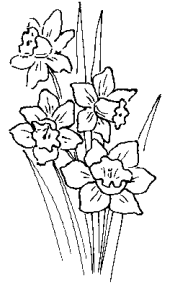


Elmira

Seventh-day Adventist Church

Newsletter

APRIL 2012



FROM THE PASTOR



Probably the most important question an individual can ask himself is this: "By what authority am I going to live my life?" Think about it. Every one of us lives under a combination of governing influences – authorities – we rely on to direct our lives from moment to moment.

What do I mean by "authority"? A good dictionary definition of "authority" is "the right to command and to enforce obedience." (The Reader's Digest Great Encyclopedic Dictionary, 1966, p. 97) The authorities in my life include such institutions as the government, my employer, my church organization, my family, etc. Of course, each of these authorities only has authority in a limited way, insomuch as I allow those authorities to govern in my life. (Of the alternative to allowing them to govern can be painful, but that's another subject.)

How do we relate to the idea of God being in

authority? He never forces us to obey. In fact, if there is one thing that God reverences as much as His own holy name, it is the ability He has given us to make our own choices. He has created us with the capacity to choose right or wrong; ultimately to choose for Him or against Him. Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth." (Matthew 28:18 NKJV) "All authority," and yet limited by His refusal to enforce His will on us. His is the authority of love. "The LORD has appeared of old to me saying: 'Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.'" (Jeremiah 31:3) Unlike the authority wielded by human institutions, enforced with threats and punishments, God's authority is based upon the appeal of love. He desires above all to redeem us from the wages of our sins, and to have us spend forever with Him in a universe governed by the authority of love. What a life that will be!

Pastor Dunn

CHURCH NEWS

BIBLE STUDY



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105. Bible Study is held each Tuesday evening, 7:00 PM at the church with Pastor Brutus. Be sure to be here each week as we gain spiritual food and guidance for our lives.

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Pastor Kevin Dunn is now scheduled to be in the Elmira church the third Sabbath of each month. The Wayland Church has been added to the Southern Tier District and James Webber, from Niagara Falls, has been added to the pastoral staff of the district.



Bible Seminar with Pastor Jenks Brutus



Church Fellowship Hall
813 Maple Avenue
Elmira, NY 14904

April 27 - May 12, 2012, 7:00 PM

Friday, April 27 - Revelation of Jesus Christ

Sabbath, April 28 - Revelation of a Saviour's Love

Sunday, April 29 - Revelation of a Father's Love

Tuesday, May 1 - Faith is the Victory

Wednesday, May 2 - Someone Is Knocking at Your Door, Part 1

Friday, May 4 - Somebody Is Knocking at Your Door, Part 2

Sabbath, May 5 - Revelation's Answer to "Who Is Going to Stand?"

Sunday, May 6 - Revelation of the Mind of Christ

Tuesday, May 8 - Revelation's Seal

Wednesday, May 9 - Revelation's New Beginning

Friday, May 11 - Revelation's Great City of the Millennium

Sabbath, May 12 - Revelation for the Thirsty

Plan to come each evening and bring your friends.



CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING

. . . will be held Monday, April 9, 6:30 P.M. at the church.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



34 units (28 whole blood and 3 donations Double Red Cells = 6 units) were collected at our drive Wednesday, March 14.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS

Sabbath luncheon dates are as follows: April 14 will be Soup & Sandwiches and April 21 will be a regular luncheon. May 5 will be Soup & Sandwiches, May 19 will be a regular luncheon. Please mark your calendars accordingly. All are invited to join us for lunch and fellowship. **Please bring a dish to pass.**



PATHFINDERS

The Pathfinders are doing a fundraiser selling flowers. Ask a Pathfinder about the Flower Power Sales. Sales for flowers continue until April 24.

Pathfinder Sabbath is scheduled for April 14, with Pastor Dan Whitlow as our speaker.

COMMUNION SERVICE

Sabbath, April 28 is our next service of foot washing and the Lord's Supper. *Every disciple is called upon to participate publicly, and thus bear witness that he accepts Christ as a personal Saviour. It is at these, His own appointments, that Christ meets His people, and energizes them by His presence....All who come with their faith fixed upon Him will be greatly blessed.* The Desire of Ages, p. 656.



The Master ordained the service of foot washing to signify renewed cleansing, to express a willingness to serve one another in Christlike humility, and to unite our hearts in love. Fundamental Beliefs, 15.

DISTRICT ELDERS' MEETING

The next district elders' meeting will be May 6, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon at the church.

CAMP MEETING 2012



It is time to begin planning to attend Camp Meeting at Union Springs, NY, June 22 – 30, 2012. Speakers include: Dedrick Blue, Rick Kuntz, Bill Knott, and Dr. John Clark. For information on accommodations, contact Priscilla English at the New York Conference Office, 4930 W. Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse, NY 13215-4203, Phone: (315) 469-6921.

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of Frank Ziegler, Martha Pack, Theresa Kerr, Emerson Reynolds, and Jeanie Skinner who have passed away during the last month.



THE CHILDREN'S OFFERING



The children's offering taken during the worship service sponsors our children at Camp Cherokee next summer.

3ABN UPDATE

Equipment is being ordered. The digital upgrade for 3ABN in our area should be completed this summer. To support this project, mark your tithe envelope "3ABN Upgrade."



LABELS AND BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please continue to save your General Mills Boxtops and Campbell's UPC symbols for the Holbrook SDA Indian School in Arizona. Boxtops and UPC symbols can be given Joyce Cmelko.

Check out our Church website at: www.elmirasda.com

Downloadable sermons are available at this site.

You are now able to return the Lord's tithe and your offerings online at our website as well.



PRAYER LIST

Don & Alice Congdon
Ethan Curtis
Hilda Dwyer
Bill & Marie Kaiser
Frances Mc Millen
Ernie Miller
John Pack



Lorraine Parker
Stan Rouse
Doris Stewart
Cindy Taft
Harold Washburn, Sr.
Ongoing Bible Studies
Our Shut-ins

SABBATH SCHOOL

Our Adult Sabbath School lessons during the next quarter, entitled "Evangelism and Witnessing," focus on equipping members to reach others with the "everlasting gospel." All



are encouraged to study daily and join in for our class discussion on Sabbath morning.



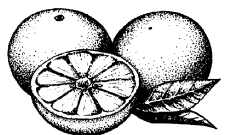
Please join us each Sabbath morning. Song service begins at 9:20. Classes are provided for adults and children. Mission DVDs are shown the first Sabbath of each month. This quarter they are from the Southern Asia Pacific Division. Projects include: enlarging the Manado Adventist Hospital in Eastern Indonesia; providing medical equipment for Medan Adventist Hospital in Western Indonesia; enlarging Yangon Adventist Seminary in Myanmar; and providing Bibles for children in an unnamed country in southeastern Asia.

INVESTMENT

Thank you for saving your newspapers, magazines, cans and bottles and health food labels for Investment. See Alvin Jackson, our Investment leader, to donate magazines and newspapers. Please be sure the UPC symbol is on the food labels. Labels that are accepted are: Worthington, Loma Linda, Morningstar Farms, Morningstar Farms Organic, Natural Touch. Labels not accepted are: Cedar Lake and Vibrant Life.



FRUIT SALES



A Special Thank You to all who have given of their time to help out with the fruit and bake sales this year. Our next citrus fruit sale is planned for December. We especially thank Mac Dwyer for all his work in organizing and overseeing our fruit program and Derek Colaw who leads out with our Pathfinders.



NATURE'S GARDEN

STORE HOURS Thursday, 4:00-6:00 p.m., OR by appointment,
Call Larry Taft – 732-0463, Or Mac & Hilda Dwyer – 739-7748.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – May 20 – CONTACT Sharon and Jim Reynolds at 732-9629 with newsletter information. You may also send your articles to: 813 Maple Avenue, Elmira, NY 14904 or e-mail us at: shareyn@gmail.com





*Let the soul be drawn out and upward,
that God may grant us a breath of the heavenly atmosphere.
We may keep so near to God that in every unexpected trial
our thoughts will turn to Him
as naturally as the flower turns to the sun.*



Steps to Christ, p. 100



*For I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that He shall stand
at the latter day upon the earth...
Proverbs 19:25*



**Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church
c/o Jim & Sharon Reynolds
813 Maple Avenue
Elmira, NY 14904**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED