

ELMIRA
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2015



FROM THE PASTOR'S CORNER

WHITE AS SNOW

I can't tell you how many times I have come home, only to realize that the entire day I walked around with a stain on my shirt or pants. Sometimes I realize it and other times people around me point out the smudge that dyed my fabric. To my surprise, it seems as though my wife is able to take out any stain that I so happen to tarnish myself with, without ruining any of my clothes!

In this jocular analogy, we can find a spiritual lesson. The Bible tells us that our souls are tarnished and therefore bent toward evil. "There is certainly no righteous man on the earth who does good and never sins." {Ecclesiastes 7:20} In Jeremiah 17:9 the Bible also says, "The heart is more deceitful than anything else, and incurable — Who can understand it?" Can you believe it? Our heart is more wicked than anything else in this world! The Bible goes on to say in Jeremiah 13:23, that there is absolutely nothing we can do, in our own power, to change this condition. Therefore, the only thing it seems we can do is cry out with Paul, "Who will deliver me from this body of death?" Maybe we gave someone a wrong look at the store. Maybe we have not forgiven that one family

member who has hurt us, or maybe, just maybe, we have sinned against the Lord with that secret sin that is so difficult to escape from. Whatever the case, we can find hope. In Isaiah 1:18 the Bible says, "'Come now, and let us reason together,' says the Lord, 'Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.'"

God is saying to us today: Though you may have been walking around your entire life with this "stain," I will make you clean. Although other people have constantly discouraged you by constantly revealing your sin to you, God has bleach that's the color blood that can remove any stain that can ever tarnish your clothes. The only question is, have you reasoned with the Lord? Better translation is, have you *discussed* this particular situation, without sugar coating it, with God? I plead with you today. Speak to Him from the very bottom of your heart; He will cleanse you and make you white as snow.

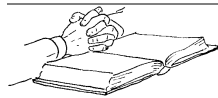
Pastor Christian Bull



CHURCH NEWS



BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study is held Tuesday evenings, 6:30 p.m. at the church. We are currently studying the "Prophecies of Hope" series.

WOODBROOK

We will be singing Christmas carols for the residents at Woodbrook, Sabbath, December 12, following the luncheon. Everyone is invited to come sing with us.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



During December, we will be remembering our Savior's birth with music and scripture. Date to be announced.

BIBLE WORKER

Our new Bible worker, Kevin Wahl, will be arriving about December 1, coming to us from the Brocton area. Please keep him in your prayers as he moves to our area and joins us as we work together to reach souls in the Elmira area.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS

Fellowship luncheons continue on the second and fourth Sabbaths of each month, following the worship service. Please bring a dish to share – soup, sandwiches or salad. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. All are invited. Please be sure your foods are cooked/prepared when you bring them so our helpers don't have to spend extra time in the kitchen.



Please label nuts and mushrooms in your food items, for those who are allergic.

ALL DEACONS' MEETING

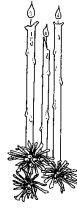
A meeting is scheduled for all deacons, December 20, 9:00A.M. at church. Deacons, please plan ahead to attend.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

The Elmira Church will be hosting the New York Conference Singles for a New Year's Event, December 31 beginning at 5:00 P.M. until January 1 at 12:00 Noon. Meetings and games are open to all – single or not! See Debby Montopoli for more information.

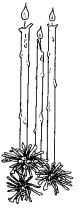
CONGRATULATIONS!

... to Ramon and Pamela Polanco on the birth of their son, Josias, ... *Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD... Psalm 127:3*



HOLIDAY DINNER

This year's Holiday Dinner will be Sabbath, December 26 following the worship service. This is a planned meal for our fellowship luncheon. You will be contacted as to what you are to bring. Everyone is invited.



2016 INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS



Devotionals for children, youth, and adults are available from the Adventist Book Center. See the bulletin board for descriptions and sign-up sheets. Order now to be ready for the new year in your family worship and personal devotions. Sharing books are also available

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



17 units were collected at our last drive, Tuesday November 24. Each unit can help up to three people,.



VISIT A SHUT-IN

Let us remember to send a card or letter, or stop by and visit our sick and shut-in members, not only in this holiday season, but throughout the whole year: Alice Congdon, Lorraine Parker.

OUR SYMPATHY

... is extended to the family of Frances Prins who passed away Wednesday, October 28.



PASTOR'S SCHEDULE

Beginning in January, Pastor Bull will be here for one Sabbath per month, on the third Sabbath of the month. He plans to be here for Sabbath School and the worship service.

Also, beginning in January, Church Board Meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m., remaining on the second Monday of each month.



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 to Joyce Cmelko. Thank you for your help.

PRAYER LIST

Alice Congdon
Patty Greenleaf
Linda Probst
Earle Stewart



Harold Washburn, Jr.
Ongoing Bible Studies
Our Shut-ins
Outreach in Elmira

And He that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because He maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:27, 28

If you have someone to be added to our prayer list, please let us know.

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

Downloadable sermons are available at this site.



SABBATH SCHOOL

Our study during the Sabbath School class time during December will continue in the book of *Jeremiah*. In January, we will begin a study of *Rebellion and Redemption*.

Please join us each Sabbath morning. Song service begins at 9:20. Classes are provided for adults and children.

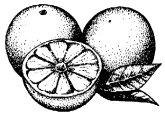


Mission DVDs are shown each month, usually the last Sabbath of the month. This quarter they are from the *Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division*. December will be from *Gweru Adventist Clinic*.

INVESTMENT



Thank you for saving cans and bottles, and health food labels for Investment. Please be sure the UPC symbol is on the food labels. Labels that are accepted are Worthington, Loma Linda, Morningstar Farms, Morningstar Farms Organic, and Natural Touch. Labels not accepted are: Cedar Lake and Vibrant Life.



CITRUS FRUIT SALE

Our fruit shipment dates are scheduled for December 13, January 17, February 14, and March 13 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 P.M. in the Nature’s Garden building. Oranges and Pink Grapefruit are available by the full case, half, or quarter. To order fruit or to offer your help, contact Malcolm Dwyer, 739-7748.

The Elmira Youth Group will hold a Bake Sale during the Fruit Sale. Our customers always look forward to your baked goods, especially during the holiday season. Thank you for your support of our youth.



NATURE’S GARDEN STORE HOURS

Thursday, 4:00-6:00 p.m., OR by appointment,
Call Harold Washburn, Jr. – 733-6367, Or Mac Dwyer – 739-7748.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – January 20 – 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: shareyn@gmail.com





*Heaven and earth are no wider apart today
than when shepherds listened to the angel’s song.
Humanity is still as much the object of heaven’s
solicitude*



*as when common men of common occupations
met angels at noonday, and talked with the heavenly messengers
in the vineyards and the fields.*

*To us in the common walks of life,
heaven may be very near.*

*Angels from the courts above will attend the steps
of those who come and go at God’s command.*

The Desire of Ages, p. 48





For unto us a Child is born,
unto us a Son is given:
and the government shall be upon His shoulder:
and His name shall be called
Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church

c/o Jim & Sharon Reynolds
813 Maple Avenue
Elmira, NY 14904

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

