

# News Notes

March 2021



## March Calendar



- 2 | PAE Board Meeting
- 5 | Winter Vespers
- 6 | Worship Speaker: Steve Hamilton
- 9 | Finance Committee Meeting
- 11 | Church Board Meeting
- 13 | Worship Speaker: Dan Martella
- 14 | Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 17 | Communications Meeting
- 20 | Worship Speaker: Steve Hamilton
- 27 | Worship Speaker: Helen Cain



## Love & Giving

Love and giving go together. When you are in love with Jesus, you want to give Him everything. And as we give, the old selfish nature dies away, and we become more and more like Jesus--the greatest lover of all.

## Sabbath Worship Services



Sabbath worship times in Paradise during the pandemic create dynamics we could not have imagined a few years ago. When we worship *Under the Oaks*, the weather is sometimes hot, sometimes cold, and sometimes just-right. When we worship in the Gym, we enjoy protection from the rain, but cannot sing. When we worship online, the opportunities for fellowship are severely limited.

For the foreseeable future our worship venue will be chosen week-by-week, according to the weather forecast. As much as possible, we will worship *Under the Oaks*. Thank you for your flexibility in this matter.

We also plan to soon return to in-person Children's and Adult Sabbath School classes, with Zoom connections for friends and church family who are not able to be present. Stay tuned for details.

# Forever Paradise



Six years ago, when Linda and I moved to Paradise, I fell in love with the place, the people, and the ministries of the Paradise Adventist Church. I was tired of the drama associated with selling and buying homes. I was ready to sink my roots deep into the Paradise soil. I was ready to spend the rest of my life here. I told my kids that there were only two ways I'd leave this town: In a pine box, or up to glory. They would just roll their eyes and say, "Dad, don't talk like that."

In the weeks and months following the fire, we prayerfully sought God is leading for our lives and ministry. Should we stay, or should we move on? While enjoying morning devotions on a tropical island, the answer came from an unexpected place: Genesis 26:3 – *Stay in the land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you.*

So we have stayed. For a while. And we have been blessed by wonderful friendships, shared worship, meaningful ministries, and the companionship of Jesus in this amazing journey.

Soon the time will come for us to retire. At the end of May, we will move into our new home in Hanford, California. We will enjoy life in a community that has been home for the Martella family for six generations over the past 123 years. One set of kids and grandkids live there, and flights out of Fresno can quickly get us to our other set of kids and their little one in Washington. My parents also live there, along with aunts and uncles, and cousins.

What do we plan to do with our retirement years? Get settled into our new home. Plant and maintain an acre of yard, garden, and orchards. Heal from the fire. Play with grandkids. Enjoy time with parents. Pick up some college classes. Enjoy some new hobbies. Read and cook. Travel. Engage in the ministries of our local church and academy. Take speaking appointments in area

churches. Write a few books. Do neighborhood friendship evangelism.

We will always be grateful for our Paradise Adventist Church family. And we will always be grateful for the 10 congregations we have been privileged to serve in Northern California, Utah, and Massachusetts over the past 43 years. Our hearts are full of bright hope for happy retirement years, and beyond that, eternity with family and friends in our forever Paradise home.

--Pastor Dan and Linda Martella

## Disaster Relief & Development

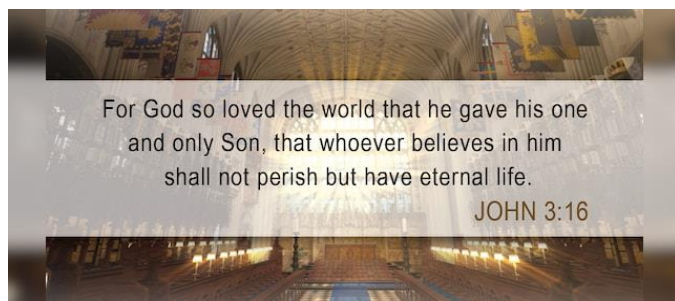


PAC's *Love Paradise* and the *Paradise Garden Club* were recently recognized by the Paradise Unified School District at their monthly board meeting in February with a Certificate of Appreciation for the donation of daffodils around their schools.

*Love Paradise* will have its Spring Fling Clean on April 30 and May 1. Save the date and plan to join us!

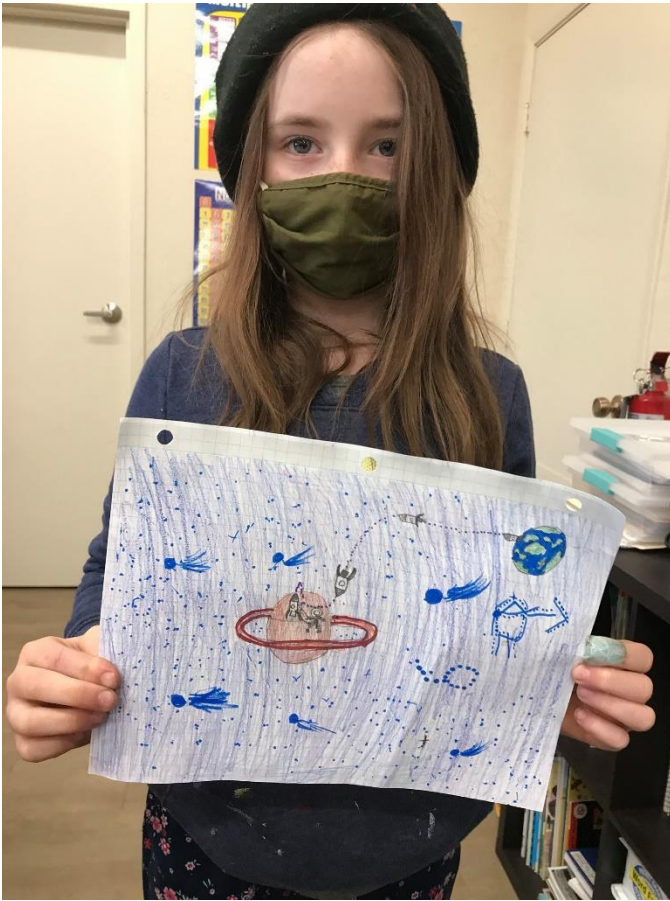
Weekly food boxes continue to be distributed, and we are now channeling much-needed food boxes to other food pantries and churches in the area. This has been a wonderful partnership working with other organizations to help people rebuild their lives on the Ridge

The Shed Project is virtually over with just a few more stragglers to take care of. Please pray for the next phase of rebuilding the Ridge that God would like our church to pursue. --Joelle Chinnock





## Paradise Adventist Elementary



Paradise Adventist Elementary is still holding in-person classes, and all our students are getting their education entirely on campus!

Students registering for the 2021/2022 school year **before March 31** will be given a **\$100** discount on their registration fees.

Our K – 2 students recently celebrated their 110<sup>th</sup> day of school by dressing up like grandmas and grandpas – they looked so cute! Each student also brought a zip lock bag holding 110 of something small. They brought balloons, Cheerios, Lego pieces, and marshmallows. Mrs. May brought their favorite candy Skittles (to share). When all 8 students and 1 teacher added up their 110 items together, it came to 990. Mrs. May brought over 10 more Skittles to bring the grand total to 1,000 and we were all impressed!"

All through the month of February the students have been learning about George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and African American history. Our students have also been having fun in the church volleyball pit getting their beach ball from one side of the net to the other.

## World Church News



The August 5-11, 2024 International Pathfinder Camporee is moving West to Gillette, Wyoming. Find out more at [www.camporee.org](http://www.camporee.org).

The City of Indianapolis recently informed the General Conference that they are no longer available to host the June 6-11, 2022 General Conference Session. The decision has been made to move the Session to St. Louis, Missouri for the same dates. Find out more at [Adventist Review Online | Adventist Church Moves General Conference Session to St. Louis, Missouri](#)



# My Sabbath Activities

## Idea Bank



1. Read or collect Bible Stories, Character Building Stories, Nature Stories.
  - a. Books.
  - b. Magazines.
  - c. Read aloud to a younger sibling or to your family; parents can also read.
2. Watch DVDs or listen to CDs about Nature, Missions, Bible Stories, Character Building Stories (ex. Uncle Dan and Aunt Sue CD's from Your Story Hour and Odyssey from Focus on the Family).
3. Friday night special drink – something new you have not tried before or hot chocolate, or special foods that you only serve on Friday nights or for Sabbath lunch.
4. Try a Jewish tradition such as a Sabbath blessing on Friday night or making a special traditional meal.
5. Sabbath Games – board, card or activity based.
6. Do a Bible Sword Drill where someone starts reading a Bible passage, tells where it is and the first one to find and begin reading gets the next turn to pick a text.
7. Play charades (Noah's Ark is a hit with pre-school children).
8. Put a puzzle together (fewer pieces for the younger set; more challenging for the older).
9. Parents set up a 10-clue hunt around the house that ends with finding a favorite family activity.
10. Do a scavenger hunt – look for things in nature, Bible story items, etc.
11. Make a nature craft (leaves, flowers, and sticks glued on a background) or illustrate a Bible story in the dirt using sticks, rocks, fallen leaves, pinecones etc.
12. Go on Hiking Trails or drives in nature.
13. Plan a weekend camping trip – sing around the campfire, share favorite scriptures, or favorite stories.
14. Canoe down a special river and have Sabbath School and Church in the canoe – everyone has a part (someone leads singing, someone tells a Bible, nature, or mission story, someone has a devotional thought, someone a prayer, etc.).
15. Sing to shut ins, grandparents, others or call them on the phone with facetime.
16. Memorize scripture; illustrate Scripture.
17. Make cards to encourage others and of course send them or give them away to someone.
18. Make bookmarks to give as gifts – use colored paper, pictures or stickers, laminate with clear contact paper or if you have a small laminating machine.
19. Work on Pathfinder honors which are appropriate for Sabbath.
20. Start up and run a Neighborhood Bible Club for the kids in your neighborhood.
21. Create a Bible replica like the ark or sanctuary – make your own or purchase a kit.
22. Help a neighbor in need.
23. Make cookies and pack them for shut ins, students away at college, or give some to the local fire department or emergency department.
24. Paint a picture that reminds you of a blessing God has given you that you can share with others.
25. Sit quietly outside and listen for sounds in nature. Record what you hear and share with your family or friends.

--Linda Martella





## Wednesday Night Shop Classes





## PAE Hundredth Day of School

