



Sunnyside News is a weekly publication designed to inform members and subscribers of our current news and events

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 19, 2009

PASTOR'S NOTES

VALENTINE DINNER PICS

Pictures from last Saturday night's Valentine Dinner are up at <http://www.sunnysidesda.org/>. Thank you to the Social Committee for coordinating a fun evening, and to Cheryl Colombini and her crew for catering the scrumptious dinner.

PASSING OF TERRY MOSLEY'S MOTHER

Terry (Pfeiffer) Mosley's mother passed away last Thursday night in San Diego. She was only 72 years old. Services were held on Saturday.

NATIONAL PASTOR'S CONVENTION

Diane and I appreciate Sunnyside making it possible for us to attend the National Pastor's Convention last week in San Diego. We had a wonderful week and came away refreshed. Being around other pastors and hearing their stories was a reminder of just how fortunate we are to be at Sunnyside. Next week will mark our 9th anniversary of being here, and we can't think of any place that is a better fit for us. It is a privilege to pastor a church that is "low maintenance" and where we feel free to be ourselves.

BOOK RECOMMENDATION

I'm currently reading a book called, "The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible", by A.J. Jacobs. The author, a thoroughly secular New Yorker, decided to commit himself to following all the laws in the Bible for one year. The result is a funny and insightful spiritual journey. I was skeptical that the book would make a mockery of religion. Instead, I've enjoyed every page, partly of because of Jacob's humor and candor, and also because of his insightful observations. I give it 5 stars.

YOUTH PASTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

The search is on. We're officially accepting applications for people interested in the Youth Pastor position. The job description is posted at:

https://sunnyside.netadventist.org/local/showdocs/YP_JOB_DESCRIPTION_Rev_5.pdf

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WORSHIP CELEBRATION

**February 21, 2009
11:00 A.M.**

*"All Hail the Power of
Jesus' Name"*

Welcome
Pastor Dennis Ray

*"Here I Am to Worship"
"Blessed Be Your Name"*

Garden of Prayer
Marla Hartman

Children's Story
Clif van Putten

Offering

"Were It Not for Grace"
Joyce & Sydney Portela

Message
Dennis Ray

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Adventurer & Pathfinder Clubs –
Church 6:00 p.m.

"Prayer: Finding the Heart's True
Home" Class 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Deadline for Bulletin info: bulletin-
staff@sunnysidesda.org 6:00 p.m.

Women's Bible Study – Marsh home
6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Bible Study – Estassi home 6:30 p.m.

SABBATH, FEBRUARY 28

Meditative Service 8:30 a.m.

Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

PREACHING SCHEDULE

February 28 — Pastor Ray

March 7 — Steve Horton

March 14 — Pastor Ray

MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION SUMMARY

February Approved Budget	\$18,300.00
Amount Received	8,651.99
Over (<i>Short</i>)	(9,648.01)

YTD Approved Budget	\$36,600.00
Amount Received	24,903.57
Over (<i>Short</i>)	(11,696.43)

Youth Pastor Fund:	\$31,747.15
Children's Offering YTD:	\$943.68

This Week's Offering:

Local Church Budget

Sunset

Tonight
5:43p.m.

Next Friday
5:50 p.m.

YOUTH NEWS

COMING UP IN MARCH...

FRIDAY NIGHT VESPERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ATTENTION SINGERS!

Please meet at **10:15 a.m. this Sabbath** to rehearse and prepare with the choristers for the morning's service.

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER

Second Reading: Jason Messing from Unionville, Michigan. Caleb Foss & Calista Comstock to Summit Northwest Ministries Adventist Church.

PARENTS' POW-WOW - MARCH 7

Join moms & dads for our monthly discussion on issues relevant to parents with teens & pre-teens. Grab your plate at potluck & meet them in the conference room for a fun & meaningful discussion.

LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE POTLUCK COMMITTEE — MARCH 7

Our next potluck will feature homemade pizzas and lasagna provided by the Potluck Committee. There will be a donation basket for your contribution to the lunch.

A-M bring a salad; N-Z bring a dessert.

HEALTHY BYTES

Next time you have a meal, look at your plate - what colors do you see? If it's mostly white and brown then your diet might be colorblind!

In order to have a healthy diet you need foods from all the food groups and that means a colorful plate. Just eating meat and potatoes won't provide you with the essential vitamins and minerals you need to stay in your best health - you need to add in colorful fruits and vegetables!

If you want a good balanced diet, here's some colors you might want to see next time you look down at your plate: Green, Yellow, Blue, Purple, Red, and Orange. You should eat a whole rainbow of colors each day. One way to get a colorful plate at every meal is to try to fit in 5 servings of fruits and vegetables every day. Try to include food from all these color groups at least once during the day and you will be surprised at how much your health improves. Remember it is not ONE color that is better than the other, it is the variety eaten every day that give you the benefits.

For more info on healthy solutions contact Gale at 559-974-2459 or email at gale4health@comcast.net

FAA SPRING FLING

Join us for a great time while supporting Fresno Adventist Academy's 2nd Annual Spring Fling Hawaiian Luau. Sign up for the blood drive and get a free gift. Set up your appointment with Vicky 790-2333 or Sue 392-3817. Enjoy delicious international food options provided by our Fresno/Clovis Churches. Fun games hosted by K-12th grades, live auction and silent dessert auction! Ricchiuti Auditorium, **Sunday, March 15, 11:00-3:00.** Call Richelle (251-5548) for more information.



VOLUNTEER

FOR THE SPRING FLING

Volunteers are needed for the refreshment booth that Sunnyside will host at FAA's Spring Fling on March 15. If you would like to help sell drinks in the Sunnyside booth, please contact the church office, 229-5501.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR FRIENDS & FAMILY
Building Lives Through Relationships...

**Jason &
Michelle
Jaqueline,
Nicholas &
Katherine
Messing**



**Fran & Bill
Moseley**

THE LAST WORD

THREE DAYS OLD

The first time I held my little brother, Michael, he was only three days old. I was nine. It was the morning after he and my mom came home from the hospital. I woke up because I heard him crying from within my parents' bedroom. We lived in a pretty small apartment, and I could hear my parents awake and moving around in the kitchen. So, why didn't they hear him crying? I thought. I lay in bed waiting for someone to go to him. I decided that as soon as someone did, I would rush out of my bedroom to meet the baby. But Michael kept crying. Then I sensed an opportunity... should I go to him? Quickly, before anyone else could hear him, I crept toward my parents' room.

I had only seen him once before, at the hospital, when I looked through a big glass window into a nursery with a lot of babies lying in tiny plastic cribs. When my dad pointed to him and said, "Congratulations, new big sister, that's your new baby brother!" I secretly felt terribly disappointed. Michael was the ugliest baby in the whole place! His face was all red and blotchy, his nose was mashed down to one side, the top of his hairless, pointy head seemed kind of orange, and compared to the other newborns, he looked like a blimp! I imagined the kids in the neighborhood teasing me for having such an ugly brother. Well, I had thought to myself at the time, I still love him and at least he's mine. I've waited so, so long for him.

Now that I was inside my parents' room, I was nervous and excited as I did a fast tiptoe over to Michael. This was our chance to be alone with one another. To really meet for the first time. There in the crib, which used to be mine, lay the most beautiful baby in the world. (In my opinion, anyway.) Yes, it was the same baby from the hospital, all right. But he looked much better! He was still practically bald, but now there were little indications of reddish-blond hair. His skin looked smooth and soft. He had these big, blue eyes that so resembled marbles, I wondered if they actually were. I just stared at him for a second. Was he real?

Carefully, I picked him up. I made sure to place one hand under his head for support. I held him close to me, closer than I had ever held anyone before. "Hi," I whispered, "...hi." I wondered if he could understand hi.

I was in love -- love that I knew would never go away. Not the mushy kind of love like girl-boy love. Not like the way you love a friend. And not like loving a mother or father, either. It was special. I had been waiting for years to share it, because I had been an only child. I had always been lonely, especially when it rained and I had to play at home by myself. I felt empty when I watched my friends get hugs from their little sisters and brothers when we all arrived home from school. My parents were fun, loving and kind. Yet, I sensed a blank space in our family. An extra picture frame with no photo. Something missing. I felt it. And it made me feel alone. Finally, after all these years of waiting, I didn't have to feel that way anymore. "How come you took so long to get here?" I breathed.

I was finally a sister. Better yet, I was Mikey's big sister. And he was my little brother. My own brother. He was so small -- so dependent on me -- yet, I needed him, too. I whispered more secrets to him. I told him I would love him no matter what. Good or bad, together or apart, I would always have love for him in my heart for the rest of my life. I wished with all my soul that he could understand me, even though I knew he couldn't -- he was only three days old. Still, I wanted to tell him how lucky I felt. After nine years of growing up without him, I was old enough to realize something that most kids took for granted when their own brothers or sisters were born. Having a sibling in one's life is a gift straight from God.

I had friends, but my cousin had always told me, "Friends will come and go; family is forever." At the time, it seemed to be a weird thing to say. Holding Mikey now, I understood that special bond. Nothing could ever come between us. And, this very morning, I was given a chance to tell him that in private. I was smiling and sniffing all at the same time.

Mikey rested his little bald, orange head on my shoulder. He wasn't crying at all now. He closed his marbly eyes and fell fast asleep in my nine-year-old arms. Maybe, deep down, he had understood me after all.

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Website: www.sunnysidesda.org

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Malia Beckmann (2/22)
Beverly Edwardsen
(2/22)
Ethan Messing (2/22)
George Messing (2/22)
Carson Shimmin (2/22)
Larry Putz (2/23)
Erica Jones-Reed (2/24)
Venita Espinosa (2/25)
Brittne Brown (2/26)
Erbe Palafox (2/26)
Michelle Riley (2/26)
Judi Krogstad-Risner
(2/26)
Wil Barcoma (2/27)
Elga Boccardo (2/27)
Stephenie Hawkins
(2/27)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

David & Cheryl Crouch
(2/23)
Charles & Pat Lutz (2/27)