



Our Little Messenger



September, 2020

Irrigon Seventh-day Adventist Church

#09-2020



It seems like forever ago now but it was only the end of March that churches went to live streaming, schools went to distance or online learning and the beginning of social distancing started. We originally shut the church doors a week before the regulations came down from the state and started live streaming from home the next week. I don't know what other people were thinking, but I thought we would be back in church together in maybe a month or so. Here we are more than five months later, we all know people who have passed away, and now masks are a requirement for stores, indoor gatherings and even outdoors gatherings where we can't social distance. If you are anything like me, you are ready for COVID 19 and this whole social distancing thing to be over.

The end of the last school year we were limping through school; neither I nor the school were ready for school at home. I breathed a sigh of relief when the summer finally hit because I thought for sure school would be back to normal after summer.

Simon gets bored being home and likes to be out and about interacting with his teachers and other students. While Leah can learn online, she would much prefer school as it was before. A month ago, when I heard that school wasn't going to be back on campus, I wouldn't say that was depressed, but I did breathe a big sigh of frustration because I knew it wasn't going to be ideal.

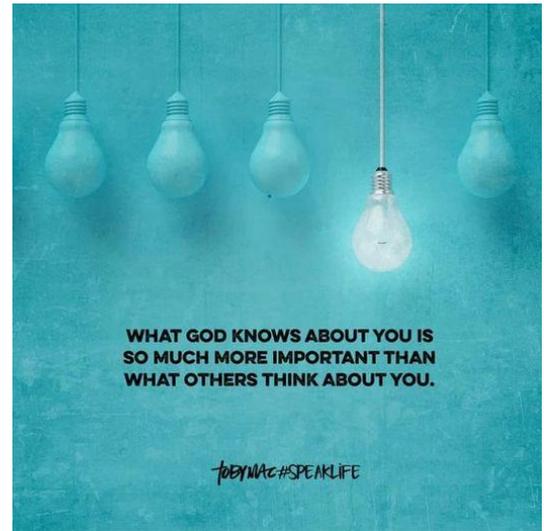
But then I remembered we aren't living in an ideal world. That world went away at the fall. So what do we do when we remember that this world isn't ideal? In Colossians 3:17 we are given the advice, **"¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."** The situation may not be ideal but our Savior is! If I can get past, "this stinks," "this is stupid," or "this is infuriating," and simply do the best that I can do in the situation that I'm in, I can be the Christian that God is calling me to be; lifting Him up in every situation and glorifying God, lifting up the cross, not just in word but in who I am when while the world continues to be unideal.

Pastor Brian, Terra, Simon, Leah & Mark

Sunset



Friday	Sunset	Sabbath	Sunset
Sept 04	7:26 pm	Sept 05	7:24 pm
Sept 11	7:13 pm	Sept 12	7:11 pm
Sept 18	6:59 pm	Sept 19	6:57 pm
Sept 25	6:45 pm	Sept 26	6:43 pm



Vespers

Friday's about 30 minutes before sundown
Join us via Facebook for singing & prayer



Anniversary Milestones

- 13 Ross & JoAnn Risley (32 years)
- 20 Cliff & Ruth Perkins (50 years)
- 24 Neal & Sandi Hinds (15 years)

Offering Schedule

- Sept 05- Church Budget
- Sept 12 - Fall Mission Appeal
- Sept 19- Church Budget
- Sept 26 - Share the Life



Birthday Blessings

- 04 Beth (Lancaster) Quaempt (OR)
- 04 Chealynn Terry
- 07 Steve Vohries
- 08 Tom Garza
- 09 Norma Stahl
- 09 Eldon Young (OR)
- 12 David Lancaster (ID)
- 26 JB Blank (OR)
- 28 Larry Hajek



UCC Fall Women's Retreat — Oct 24

Save the date for this year's virtual Fall Women's Retreat, planned for Sabbath, October 24, 2020. Keynote speaker Kara Johnsson's topic is "The Table." The main special feature spotlights "God's Gifts to Optimize Your Immunity" by dietitian Jeanne Ekvall and her delightful daughters. You will also discover unique ways of sharing God's love by presenters Debbie Nelson, Beth Moseanko and Sheryl Janke. Please join us!

It Is Written Invites Churches to Join New Virtual Evangelism Initiative

It Is Written invites churches to participate in ACTS 20:21, a new evangelistic initiative offering six virtual series over the next year. Churches that subscribe will receive direct social media advertising, Bible training, and resources. It Is Written evangelists will present the first five series online, with local pastors presenting the sixth series to connect viewers to their churches. The deadline to sign up for ACTS 20:21 is September 15, 2020. Churches may register at iiw.us/dynamic. Read more about this exciting initiative at www.nadadventist.org/news/it-written-invites-churches-join-acts-2021-six-series-virtual-evangelism-initiative.

**Keeping the financial health of our church in mind
Giving Plan and Giving Options**

Like every family, the local church family has financial obligations to meet. Some are easy to see like power and heat, but many are not so obvious: children's magazines, Sabbath School Bible study guides, teaching supplies, staff salaries, cleaning services, church school operating expenses, property insurance, worthy student fund, and community outreach. These are but a few of the costs that must be met month after month as the local church seeks to be a light in the community. Because these expenses are constant, My Personal Giving Plan recommends that 3-5 percent of one's

- 01 Family Closet – CLOSED
- 02 Elder's Meeting, CANCELLED
- 04 Vespers via Facebook, watch for time
- 05 Sabbath School & Church, 9:30 am
- 05 Bring a Picnic & join us after church
- 08 Family Closet – CLOSED
- 09 Bible Study & Prayer, 6:50 pm
- 11 Vespers via Facebook, watch for time
- 12 Sabbath School & Church, 9:30 am
- 12 Bring a Picnic & join us after church
- 13 **Church Board, CANCELLED**
- 15 Family Closet – CLOSED
- 16 Bible Study & Prayer, 6:50 pm
- 18 Vespers via Facebook, watch for time
- 19 Sabbath School & Church, 9:30 am
- 19 Bring a Picnic & join us after church
- 22 Family Closet – CLOSED
- 23 Bible Study & Prayer, 7 pm
- 25 Vespers via Facebook, watch for time
- 26 Sabbath School & Church, 9:30 am
- 26 Bring a Picnic & join us after church
- 29 Family Closet – CLOSED
- 30 Bible Study & Prayer, 6:50 pm



income be set aside for the local church budget. This systematic giving ensures that all share both in the blessings and the responsibilities of the local congregation.

*Visit www.personalgivingplan.com to see a more extensive breakdown

The My Personal Giving Plan encourages each of us to renew our commitment to the principles of Christian stewardship. While it blesses the church as a whole, its real impact is on us as individuals in our faith-based covenant with God. Everything in God's creation is orderly and purposeful. The same can be said of My Personal Giving Plan. Like all plans, it requires thought and consideration. No great work can be built upon emotional or sporadic giving.



Sam the Skateboarding Dog
by Michelle Down

"Stop taking bribes," voices in the mob chanted.

"We want justice," yelled a man in the crowd as he waved his placard high above his head.

Angry voices joined him,

shouting loudly as the mob surged towards City Hall in the city of Odessa in the Ukraine.

The people were furious at the way the council was allowing only certain people to build a house.

"Looks like the council just favours the rich," one man hissed.

"Yeah," another chimed in angrily. "I heard it from my neighbor. He says the men in the council are getting rich from taking bribes. It's not fair because if you can't afford to pay them a hefty bribe, they just won't let you build."

The guards standing at the door of the council watched the mob nervously. There were only three of them on duty and they were no match for the seething crowd.

"I'm going to call the police," one of the guards muttered as he pulled out his cell phone.

"Good idea," another whispered. "I don't like the look of things. Those thugs look as if they are getting ready to bash down the door and mash us to a pulp, and we won't be able to stop them."

He was right. The crowd grew angrier by the minute, as they shouted and yelled and shoved to get closer to the door of the building.

Then something funny happened.

"Look out," someone on the edge of the crowd yelled as he saw a fat little bulldog hurtle towards them—on his skateboard! Sam was well known in Odessa for his love of skateboarding and he was often seen in the parks with his master.

He had been in a nearby park and hearing the shouts of the crowd had decided to skate over to see what was going on!

His tongue hung out in a big silly grin and he was panting like a steam train as he aimed his board straight at the crowd. Some of the men jumped out of the way while others grabbed their cell phones and started filming.

Sam surged through the crowd until he hit the sidewalk and flipped his board. Someone bent over to help him back onto his board but he needn't have bothered. Sam expertly tossed the board back onto its wheels, leapt onto it and sped back the way he had come. Back and forth he raced while people screamed and laughed and fell over themselves as they leapt out of his way.

Soon everyone was laughing and the fury had drained right out of the crowd. No one felt angry any more as they laughed and pointed at the playful doggy. They lowered their placards and wandered away one by one, laughing at the antics of Sam.

Great idea Sam. No one can be angry when they are laughing. Here's a crazy idea. Next time you feel like saying something nasty to your brother or sister, or someone says something mean to you, why don't you suggest singing your insults to each other. You'll both soon be laughing so hard you will have forgotten what your argument was about!