

News Notes

July 2020



July Calendar

July 1	Staff Meeting
July 1	Communications Team
July 4	Speaker: Dan Martella
July 7	No Finance Committee
July 8	Staff Meeting
July 8	Communications Team
July 9	No Church Board
July 11	Speaker: Garrison Chaffee
July 15	Staff Meeting
July 15	Communications Team
July 18	Speaker: Steve Hamilton
July 22	Staff Meeting
July 25	Speaker: Steve Hamilton
July 29	Staff Meeting
July 29	Communications Team

By God's design, fish swim in schools, wolves roam in packs, bees fly in swarms. Quail covey, cattle herd, geese gaggle. What do people do when they gather to support, nourish, and protect each other in appropriate and godly groupings? In a word, they *church!*

James Hinkle and Tim Woodroof

Church in the Woods



New PAC Office



On June 16 and 17 our church staff and volunteers (Wayne Faura, Loren Sutherland, Tony

Gerrick, Bob Carli, Monte Nystrom, Linda Martella, Matt Carlson, Kaitlyn Horning, and the Chinnock kids) moved our PAC office from Chico to Paradise. During the month of July our staff will settle the office. Please no drop-ins during this time. To make an appointment call 530/877-4454.

You are invited to a worship service on Lake Almanor in Almanor West Campground, August 8 at 11:00 am! Directions will be made available soon. Bring your own chair and a packed lunch for your family. There will be a Notluck (a time of fellowship without shared food) after our worship service! For those who wish to camp for the weekend, please make your own reservations. Contact Devon or Dawn Horning for more details (530.354.6407 or 530.762.9519). In addition to our "church in the woods" service, an online worship service will be streamed on Facebook and the later archived on paradiseadventist.org. No services will be held on the PAC campus on August 8.

Church Under the Oaks



The Paradise Adventist Church is now gathering together for in-person worship. Our worship service is at 9:30 am outdoors on the east side of the church campus at 5720 Academy Drive in Paradise. This area is relatively untouched from the Camp Fire and the trees frame a suitable space for allowing appropriate social distancing while we worship together.

The service is earlier in the morning, to take advantage of the coolness of the morning. Sabbath School classes continue to be held via Zoom and start at 11:30 am. This allows for Sabbath School teachers to participate with the worship services as they choose and still have time to return to locations where they can participate with the online Sabbath Schools.

Areas are spacious so that families can sit together and safely social distance from other family groups. Those who choose to remain in their vehicles will be allowed to park near to that area. Masks are encouraged to be worn as family groups find their locations but are not required for the entire service. Bring your own chairs and blankets for seating. The area is shaded in the morning, and services will be kept to approximately one hour.

We strongly encourage those of our church family who are at higher risk for contracting COVID-19 as well as those who are experiencing any illness of any kind to continue to stay home.

We ask that personal greetings to each other be completed with respect to social distancing requirements. Air hugs and other non-physical, friendly gestures are encouraged. Let your creativity flow as you find ways to share Christian greetings with each other while practicing social distancing!

Emailed bulletins will contain necessary information for worship services, including any lyrics for congregational singing. Participants will be asked to bring their own "printed" bulletin from the email, or to use their devices to reference the bulletin during the service. No printed materials will be shared. No offering will be taken; church members are encouraged to continue to use the

online giving options or to mail their tithes and offerings to the church office.

All worship service leaders will be separated from the congregation by at least 13 feet, and a single use microphone process helps to reduce possible risk of sharing germs by service participants. The service is amplified by a sound system.

Hand sanitizer is available, and an emergency porta-potty is on site. Users will be asked to clean it after use so that it is sanitized for the next user.

Online services will continue to be provided, as we know that some members of our church family will still be hoping to connect with us online for a time. As those details are clarified, we will share those aspects with you. However, it will likely be a video component with some basic worship elements, then switch to a Facebook Live option for the sermon only.

We recognize that as a church family we are all at different stages of opinions about this situation. However, we believe that we are best serving our church by taking the necessary steps to find ways to



come together again in a safe and responsible manner. We have spent many hours in conducting research, listening to church members' concerns and assessing local, state and national requirements, along with NAD and NCC guidelines. In addition, we have participated in several meetings and multiple seasons of prayer in the development of this plan. We want you to know that we have very carefully and prayerfully created this plan.

We understand that not everyone may be ready to join us just yet, and we recognize that this choice is not always an easy one. We miss each other as a church family, but it is very important that each one of you makes your own decision for your return to an in-person worship service based upon what is best for you and your family. **We support your personal choice in this matter.** We also want to be clear that individual choices for when someone returns in person as well as how they return is perfectly acceptable. We respectfully ask that you do not impose your own guidelines and perspectives about personal safety on others.

Tithes and Offerings

In these days of COVID-19, even when we worship together, it is still safest to give remotely. Here are our three options:



Give Online. Go to our website (paradiseadventist.org) and look for the Online Giving button in the top menus.

Give Through the Adventist Giving App. You can download this app to your phone or device from Apple or Android App Store and set up your own giving kiosk.

Mail Your Check. You can always mail your check to the church office – Paradise Adventist Church, PO Box 1266. Paradise CA 95967-1266.

PAA News

Paradise Adventist Academy is preparing to open its classrooms for in-person learning on August 19 on its Chico Campus located at 1877 Hooker Oak Avenue. Reopening plans are being prepared for review by the Northern California Conference Education Department and the Butte County Health Department. Please make this a matter of prayer for our school!



PAA/COAS Eighth Grade Graduation



Graduation for our PAA/COAS eighth graders was celebrated on May 27. If you would like to see the video, go to <https://youtu.be/5LbjayMARbE>.

PAE News



Our staff are working through the summer to be ready for our August 19 school opening. Our new K-2 teacher, Heather May, and her husband, Lance Millam, will arrive in Paradise very

early August.

Plans are being developed to open our school post COVID-19 quarantine. These plans will be submitted to the Northern California Conference Education Department and the Butte County Health Department. Please make this a matter of prayer for our school!

Enrollment is currently handled by Brenda Muth, 530-877-6540. Mrs. Muth can send you the forms by US mail, email, or personal pick up at the Paradise and Chico campus offices.

School Campus Recovery



The cement flooring for the gym was poured last week and the wood floor installation will be complete before school starts.

Hazardous trees around the elementary school playground were removed last week.

The kitchen appliances are fully installed, thus bringing the kitchen project to near completion.

Shed Project II



The Maranatha Shed Project II is scheduled for August 30 – September 18. 85 volunteers have registered so far. The Oroville Hope Center is also partnering with us in this important gift to Paradise families.

Love Paradise

By Caron Oswald



The Paradise, California community understands the long-lasting recovery of a catastrophic disaster. The November 8, 2018 Camp Fire burned ninety-five percent of the town.

“The church building burned down, but the church didn’t burn. Our members are still here,” said Steve Hamilton, senior pastor of the Paradise Adventist Church. “Our experience is that when we help the hurting, get involved and give back, our pain begins to heal. We survive together.”

The economic impact of COVID-19 sheltering-in-place is burning through checkbooks and savings. Millions are unemployed as too many businesses struggle to survive. It is unprecedented and it will be a long-lasting recovery. Without money, bills aren’t paid. Food insecurity is a harsh reality.

“We were looking for a way to help our community,” said Joelle Chinnock, Director of Development and Disaster Recovery and member of the Paradise Adventist Church. She connected with the North Valley Community Foundation in Chico and asked for a few ideas. The greatest need in the community was immediate grocery assistance.

She called several supermarkets and connected with Holiday Market. “They were willing to act as a ‘personal shopper’ for families needing groceries but had no way to deliver” shared Joelle. “We could deliver! And the Love Delivers program was born.”



The stories are heartbreaking. “My refrigerator is empty. I really need milk for my kids and meat for dinners. I have used all of my savings.” “Due to shelter-in-place, my husband isn’t working. We are struggling financially and it’s difficult to provide food and other basic needs.” “We are living on one salary. There are six of us and we are constantly in need of supplies. Mostly need eggs, oatmeal, bread, and butter. We also help feed other Camp Fire families several days a week. Fresh produce would be good, too.”

Church members delivered food to the door with masks and kept a six feet distance. In three weeks, 40 boxes have been delivered. But Chinnock figured that there must be a way to help more people.

It Takes A Community

Food pantries stock shelf-stable products and donations of the day from grocery stores and other sources. Perishable foods require cool storage when fresh produce is available.

Shortly after the shelter-in-place order, Glenna Eady, a case manager for Adventist Health, approached Chinnock with the desire to join forces to address food insecurity in the Paradise community. The goal was a fresh produce pantry. They contacted the four food pantries in Paradise to learn how they worked. Each is open one day a week and was operated by a community church. There were five essential resources to start a food pantry: money, reliable sources for food, a permanent location, a communication network, and committed volunteers. Adding fresh produce would require refrigeration.



Chinnock and Eady started at step one – money. Chinnock received \$15,000 from three grants and a \$30,000 donation. Eady explored refrigeration options. Communication on Facebook, email and texts were already in place. But without reliable sources of produce, a fresh food pantry was not possible. Now, their work was to wait on God.

Feeding God’s Community

The phone call came on Thursday morning, May 28. When Pastor Garrison Chaffee answered, a familiar voice said: “I have 1,400 20-lb. boxes of fresh produce available for pick-up next Tuesday. It’s free and I will deliver it. Could your church give some of these out to your community?” asked Keith Jacobson, Senior Pastor of the Sacramento Carmichael Adventist Church. His mission is for Adventist churches to help feed their communities through a partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). His call was perfect timing. God works that way.

On Tuesday, June 2nd, volunteers unloaded 5,760 lbs. of fresh produce and delivered a 20-lb. box to each car. In four hours, 290 boxes were given away. The surplus was sent to their neighbors. Now, when there is surplus, the produce is given to the four church food pantries.

“Oh, I am so happy. The world needs more nice people like you. Acts of random kindness rarely happen. Thank the Seventh-day Adventist Church!” said recipient Tracy Periman.

“In order to rebuild our community, we must work together. This is just another opportunity that God has given us to reach out, serve our community and build strong ties within the body of Christ,” said Chinnock. Calls for more information keep coming in. The need is great. Our God is bigger. Through His believers, His glory will light the world.

Side Bar...



According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA):

Food insecurity occurs when a household has difficulty providing enough food due to lack of resources for a healthy and active lifestyle.

Every community in the country is home to families who struggle with food insecurity including rural and suburban communities.

In 2018, 14.3 million American households, about 37 million people, were food insecure with limited or uncertain access to enough food including more than 11 million children.

In April 2020, food insecurity was from 22-38 percent including more than 18 million children. Mothers with children 12 and under have the highest percentage level since 2001.

More than one in five households in the US and two in five households with mothers with children 12 years and under are experiencing food insecurity. Many families do not qualify for federal nutrition programs.

It's a perfect storm – food demands are soaring, supplies plunging and volunteers plummeting.

What can you do?

Be informed about your community.

Call your local Food Bank and pantries for facts and needs.

Call your conference to learn what Adventist Community Services programs are available near you. Get involved!

Donate, do a food drive, volunteer.

51% of food programs rely on volunteers for sorting and packing and, with shelter in place, about 70 percent new volunteers are needed – a great family outreach. Remember, those who struggle with enough food may be the family in the church pew, a neighbor, a work colleague, or everyday strangers.

Redwood Camp Meeting 2020

Although campers won't gather in the Redwoods this summer, everyone has the opportunity to receive a camp meeting blessing



online. Don't miss great sermons, inspiring music, programs for kids of all ages, a cooking show, and much more! The new Redwood website – with the schedule – will soon be up, so keep checking:

www.redwoodareacamp.com. “We're looking forward to a wonderful reunion with our camp meeting family!” said Harry Salvini, Redwood director.

This Summer at Leoni Meadows



Leoni Meadows has permission to open for cabin and campground use only. However, campers must be self-contained (no public

bathrooms/showers) and do their own cooking. The camp can't offer all the usual activities, but bring your own bicycles, basketball, volleyball, and discs for disc golf. Leoni can open these activities for one household group at a time. They can also open the pool for one household group at a time by appointment (Wednesday - Friday). The camp requests that guests practice appropriate social distancing at all times. Call (530) 626-3610, ext. 1, for more information or to make a reservation.

Adventist Health Increases Access to Services During Pandemic



In 2018, when Adventist Health reopened clinics to serve Butte County just a few short weeks following the Camp Fire, a key aspect of their goal was to ensure that the services provided would meet the needs of the community. What that community would look like, and how many people would be served, was totally unknown.

Welcome to 2020, where Adventist Health is continuing to provide important health services to meet the ever-changing needs of the ridge community, no matter what challenges they have had to face. From power shutoffs to COVID-19 quarantine orders, nothing has stopped the staff and providers at Adventist Health clinics in Butte and Tehama Counties from their mission to serve this community, inspiring health, wholeness and hope.



In the past 18 months, new services have been implemented to ensure that health care services continue to be available for community residents, while ensuring safe access points. Virtual Visits offer an office visit with a provider from the comfort and safety of your own home. This

option increases access to care while decreasing risks, allowing individuals to seek health care expertise through a phone, tablet or computer video interaction. Not all visits can be accomplished with a Virtual Visit, but this option is there for those that meet the specified criteria.

Enhancements to the *MyAdventistHealth* patient portal now expand the breadth of services offered to patients, including the opportunity to view their medical history, send secure messaging to their provider, keep a list of prescribed medications and supplements, and identify

upcoming appointment details as well as forms required to make the next office visit that much smoother.

Rapid Care offers immediate medical care for those urgent medical concerns, such as allergic reactions, asthma, bronchitis or sore throats, cold and flu symptoms, infections, fevers, minor cuts or burns, diarrhea, minor traumas and much more including COVID-19 screening. *Rapid Care* is open weekends, to ensure that medical care is available on the ridge seven days a week.



Adventist Health has always been innovative with access to health care, and their *Telehealth* program was established several years ago as a safe and convenient way to meet with providers in all specialties without requiring the patient to travel out of the area to an appointment.

To learn more about how to meet with your provider through a Virtual Visit, go to AdventistHealth.org/VirtualVisits.

To sign up for the *MyAdventistHealth* patient portal, visit AdventistHealth.org/patientresources/myadventisthealth/

Rapid Care is open Mondays through Fridays from 8 am to 12 noon and from 1 pm to 4:45 pm, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 3:30 pm.

Vespers Under the Oaks



Friday evening vespers are returning to the Ridge beginning July 10. Meet us under the PAC oaks at 7:30 pm for music, inspiration, and encouragement. The

same safety practices for Sabbath morning will be practiced at our Friday evening vespers.