

The Grapevine ~

January 2012

Staying Connected in Christ

From the Pastor's Desk

At a recent vespers, I shared this story that I found. It has touched my heart and my hope is that it does yours as well.

The Teacup Story

There was a couple who used to go to England to shop in the beautiful stores. They both liked antiques and pottery and especially teacups. This was their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary.

One day in this beautiful shop they saw a beautiful cup. They said, "May we see that? We've never seen one quite so beautiful."

As the lady handed it to them, suddenly the cup spoke. "You don't understand," it said. "I haven't always been a teacup. There was a time when I was red and I was clay. My master took me and rolled me and patted me over and over and I yelled out, 'let me alone,' but he only smiled, 'Not yet.'"

"Then I was placed on a spinning wheel," the cup said, "and suddenly I was spun around and around and around. Stop it! I'm getting dizzy! I screamed. But the master only nodded and said, 'Not yet.'"

"Then he put me in the oven. I never felt such heat!" the teacup said. "I wondered why he wanted to burn me, and I yelled and knocked at the door. I could see him through the opening and I could read his lips as He shook his head, 'Not yet.'"

"Finally the door opened, he put me on the shelf, and I began to cool. 'There, that's better,' I said. And he brushed and painted me all over. The fumes were horrible. I thought I would gag. 'Stop it, stop it!' I cried. He only nodded, 'Not yet.'"

"Then suddenly he put me back into the oven, not like the first one. This was twice as hot and I knew I would suffocate. I begged. I pleaded. I screamed. I cried. All the time I could see him through the opening, nodding his head saying, 'Not yet.'"

"Then I knew there wasn't any hope. I would never make it. I was ready to give up. But the door opened and he took me out and placed me on the shelf."

One hour later he handed me a mirror and said, 'Look at yourself.' And I did. I said, 'That's not me; that couldn't be me. It's beautiful. I'm beautiful.'"

"I want you to remember," he said, 'I know it hurts to be rolled and patted, but if I had left you alone, you'd have dried up. I know it made you dizzy to spin around on the wheel, but if I had stopped, you would have crumbled. I knew it hurt and was hot and disagreeable in the oven, but if I hadn't put you there, you would have cracked. I know the fumes were bad when I brushed and painted you all over, but if I hadn't done that, you never would have hardened; you would not have had any color in your life. And if I hadn't put you back in that second oven, you wouldn't survive for long because the hardness would not have held. Now you are a finished product. You are what I had in mind when I first began with you.'"

The word which came to Jeremiah from the Lord saying, "Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I shall announce My words to you." Then I went down to the potter's house, and there he was, making something on the wheel. But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it pleased the potter to make. Then the word of the Lord came to me saying, "Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter does?" declares the Lord.

"Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel." Jeremiah 18:1-6 (NASB)

God knows what He's doing (for all of us). He is the Potter, and we are His clay. He will mold us and make us, so that we may be made into a flawless piece of work to fulfill His good, pleasing, and perfect will. Like the teacup, let us willingly yield to the Potter's hand.
God bless.

Pastor Antonio Cano

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Time

by Frank Waldorf, M.D.

Was there ever a time when time did not exist? Are our concepts of time and also of space valid, and in harmony with the Word of God? We read Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth". The next verse declares the earth was "without form and void, and darkness covered the earth". Therefore there was a time between the creation of this planet and the time when God began the week of creating life on it. Nothing is said as to the length of this period, and any attempt to define it is sheer speculation. Time, as we know it, depends on the relationship of the sun, moon, and earth to each other. A day is defined as the duration of one rotation of this planet relative to the position of the sun. A month is related to the phases of the moon, and a year relates to the duration of complete orbit of the earth around the sun. We have arbitrarily divided a day into equal segments of 24 hours, and to each hour assigned 60 minutes. Each minute is similarly divided into 60 seconds. Until recent years, a second was a small enough length of time to satisfy our knowledge quests. Now we have divided seconds by powers of ten, and speak of microseconds, and even nanoseconds when studying such topics as nuclear physics. Before the creation week there was no light, no sun, to define a day. And, without life, there was no need to have the gift of time.

Will there be need of time after 2nd coming? We often sing a hymn titled: *When the Roll is Called Up Yonder* (page 218 of the SDA Hymnal), and the words of the first verse say: "When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall be no more" we assume that time will end. We speak of the end time, or time of the end, but do we know that time will end? I am not sure. My Bible speaks of God as above time, saying (2 Peter 3:8, and Psalms 90) that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. God is from everlasting to everlasting, and time to Him is not the same as it is to mankind. We are slaves to time, and servants of it. It is essential to our social activities and well being. It is a gift from God yet we take it for granted. CT 354 states: "Good grants men the gift of time for the purpose of promoting His glory".

When we get to heaven, and in the light of eternity, will time have any meaning? Here on earth we time our activities to a short stay of perhaps 70 years, with additional days merely a bonus. Our education and most of our choices all depend on this fact. Eccl. 3 tells us there is a time for most everything we say or do. But with an infinite future, time becomes unimportant.

I searched the concordances to find a Bible verse which would tell me when time began, but was unsuccessful. In fact, the more I studied the subject of time, the more it became apparent I was floundering around in an ocean of the great unknown. And God was probably laughing at my impertinence and impudence. We hang our heads in shame at our stupidity and ignorance but look with hope in heaven when we will learn the secrets God is eager for us to grasp. Praise Him for His unspeakable love.

Notes and Quotes

Church Family Fun Night is Thursday evening, from 6:30-8:00 pm in the gym for volleyball or basketball, or other games and fellowship. Come join in the fun and fellowship. On **Saturday night we have Family Game Night** in the gym after sundown. Please come join in the fun. For more information contact Alan Durbin.

Congratulations to our newly baptized members: **Salomon Vargas** was baptized on October 22; **Chauncy Marron** was baptized on December 24 and her daughter **Keeyanah Brown** was baptized the following week on December 31. We praise God for these precious new members.

Everyone is invited to come to prayer meeting on Wednesday evening and join together in silent or spoken prayer for our Church Family and our ministry here in the City of Turlock.

We are looking forward to having **Dr. Arlene Taylor with us the weekend of February 10-12**. You will want to hear what she has to tell you about how your brain works. Beginning Friday evening, February 10 at 7 pm she will have a lecture on "The Power of Prayer." Sabbath morning during the 11:00 am worship hour she will talk about "Seven Secrets of Communication--a Biblical Perspective." Sabbath afternoon from 4-6 pm her lecture is entitled, "Getting Along with Difficult People, Parts 1 and 2." On Saturday evening from 7-8 pm she will talk about the brain and laughter. Sunday morning, February 12 from 9-12 she will present "How to Alter Old Behaviors -- Using Willpower Appropriately, (or The Power of Positive)" and "Gender Differences -- Vision Style and Hearing." Lunch will be served. Friday and Sabbath lectures are free; the fee for Sunday morning is \$10.00.

"Yehovah is the name of the Creator. Yah is His short poetic name as in HalleluYah which is Hebrew for Praise be to Yah. Yehshua haMashiach is Hebrew for Jesus the Messiah, who was raised and was Jewish. The Hebrew word Shalom means much more than peace, hello or goodbye. In essence it means: Completeness, wholeness, health, peace, welfare, safety soundness, tranquility, prosperity, perfectness, fullness, rest, and harmony, the absence of agitation or discord. This is the highest form of greeting somebody, and with this we greet you in His precious name." by Joseph F Dumond

Beginning February 26 and continuing through March 3, we will be holding an educational seminar called, "**Natural Remedies Health Training Program**" with **Dr. John G. Clark, M.D. and his wife, Julie**. Their mission is: "To advance the natural laws of health, the principals of lifestyle and preventative medicine that promise health and healing. We teach why disease occurs, the mechanics of health practices and how to make changes that will prevent, reduce and reverse and/or eliminate disease: all evidenced by medically researched studies. Our education by way of seminars, DVD's and website include information on nutrition, exercise, hydrotherapy, sunlight, water, fresh air, avoidance of harmful substances and spiritual health." They will be speaking every evening during the week. Check out their website at www.NorthernLightsHealthEducation.com.

Women's Group

Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm the Women's Group is meeting in the Bride's Room. The Women's Group gets together for study, fellowship, and prayer. This group is open to all of our women in church as well as any guests.

In addition to their studies, they are committed to getting to know each other better as sisters. For more information, contact Kathy Mathews or look us up on Facebook under "Turlock SDA Women's Bible Study".

Men's Group

All Men are invited to the Men's Group. You are welcome any time, there is no bad time to join. They meet in the Parent's Room on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The third Tuesday night of the month they are meeting offsite at a home or business. They meet for fellowship, Bible study and support. For more information contact Alan Durbin or Dennis Simpson.

Library

Please take advantage of our library which is open between the Sabbath School and church services as well as directly following the sermon. Feel free to ask any of our librarians for suggestions or help and we will do our best to assist you. You are welcome to come in and browse our large selection of books and movies, both VHS and DVD.

Young Adults

Amy Conley is planning to start a Young Adults group, ages 18 and up, meeting on Sunday afternoon/evening. Please contact her at conley.amy@gmail.com if you are interested in meeting together.

Pathfinder News Notes

The Turlock Titans will be participating for the first time in the Pathfinder Bible Achievement adventure. Each year two books are chosen for Pathfinders to study, and then they go through a series of events that test their knowledge of the books. This year the PFs are studying I Samuel and Mark. On Sabbath, February 4, they will participate at the Parkwood SDA Church in the Area 8 competition. A team of 6 will have 10 seconds to come up with the answer to a question projected on a screen. Their scribe will write down the answer and run it to the judges who will log in the response as being correct or not.

All teams scoring 90% and above go on to the Conference event in March. They would then progress through the Union and Division events if they continue to do well. Pray for our Pathfinders as they prepare and study these books, and as they do their best in recalling the information they have learned. Come join us at 3:00 if you would like to have an exciting Sabbath afternoon activity on Feb. 4!

The Turlock Titans wish to thank all those church members who so generously supported our Bike-a-thon last fall. The Pathfinders are on their way to earning the \$90-\$100 each needed for the Union Camporee at Glen Helen State Park this March. They have worked very hard, and we appreciate your help!

The Grapevine ~

January 2012
Newsletter Published by
Turlock Seventh-day Adventist Church
2400 North Olive Avenue
Turlock, CA 95382
Phone 209/632-2426
Fax 209/632-2427
E-mail turlocksda@aol.com
www.turlocksda.org
Antonio Cano, Pastor

Address Service Requested
Forwarding and Return
Postage Guaranteed

NON-
PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
---PAID---
PERMIT
NO. 339
TURLOCK
CALIFORNIA



(MAILING LABEL HERE)

Groups and Ministries:

Sabbath

8:00 am *Hour of Power Prayer* in Pastor's Office
9:30 am *Bible Study* in the Sanctuary & classrooms
10:50 am *Worship* in the Sanctuary
12:45 pm *Fellowship Lunch* in Buffet Room
1:30 pm *Footprints for Kids* in Youth Chapel
3:30 pm *GLOW with Brenda Proetel*
5:00 pm *Sabbath Evening Vespers* in Chapel
After sundown - Family Game Night in the gym

3rd Sunday of the month

9:30 am *Youth Feed the Needy* --meet in gym
to prepare lunches

Tuesday

7:00 pm *Pathfinder Club* (ages 10-15) with
Sharlyn Wenberg and other volunteers
in the Junior Room
7:00 pm *Men's Group* in the Parents Room
with Dennis Simpson & Alan Durbin
7:00 pm *Women's Group* in the Bride's Room
with Kathy Mathews

Wednesday

9:00 am *Prayer Group* in Conference Room
7:00 pm *Prayer Meeting* in Sanctuary

Thursday

6:30-8:30 pm *Family Fun Night* in gym/playground

***Check Monthly Calendars
for other events***

Central Valley Christian Academy

- ♦ Jan. 23-27 - Gr 9-12 ASB Spirit Week
- ♦ Jan. 30 - Gr 9-12 ASB Snow Day at Dodge Ridge
- ♦ Feb. 2-4 - Choral Performance Weekend
- ♦ Feb. 11 - Gr 7 & 8 CCC Bible Challenge
- ♦ Feb. 11 - Winterfest
- ♦ Feb. 17-19 - Jr. Varsity Basketball at MBA
- ♦ Feb. 20 - Presidents' Day, No School
- ♦ Feb. 22-25 - Gr. 9-12 PUC Band Festival
- ♦ Feb. 2-27 -Gr 9-12 PUC Math/Science Workshop
- ♦ Mar. 2 - Gr K-8 End 3rd Quarter
- ♦ Mar. 4-5 - Gr 9-12 Northstar Ski Trip
- ♦ Mar. 5 - Gr K-8 Begin 4th Quarter
- ♦ Mar. 5 - Gr K-8 Parent/Teacher Conference Prep. Day;
12:15 Dismissal
- ♦ Mar. 6-7 - Gr K-8 Parent/Teacher Conf.; 12:15 Dismissal
- ♦ Mar. 8 - CCC Elementary Spelling Bee
- ♦ Mar. 9 - Gr 9-12 End 3rd Quarter
- ♦ Mar. 11 - SAT
- ♦ Mar. 12 - Gr 9-12 Begin 4th Quarter
- ♦ Mar. 16 - Gr-9-12 ASB Birthday Breakfast
- ♦ Mar. 17-Apr. 1 - Spring Break

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Our church is now on Facebook. Here is the link:
<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Turlock/Turlock-Adventist-Church/145106532191079>. It can also be found by typing Turlock Adventist Church in the Facebook search box.

Fellowship Groups: Please let us know if your name is not on the list and you would like to join a group, please call the Church Office. We want to include everyone who would like to participate.