

CAMARILLO SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Sabbath, March 21, 2020

3975 E. Las Posas Road, Camarillo, CA 93010
805-482-4632 www.camarillosda.org



Welcome to our online services today...

CHURCH ONLINE

9:30 - Sabbath School - Dr. David Lowe

10:45 am - Worship Service - Pastor Jason Whitley

Offering: Church Budget

Scripture: Jonah 1:9-10

Message: "RUNNING FROM GOD"

Next Week's Reminders:

► TUESDAY, MARCH 24:

"THE PANTRY" IS **CLOSED** until further notice

► WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25:

7:00pm: **ONLINE BIBLE STUDY** live stream with Pastor Jason (Book of Ecclesiastes)

► FRIDAY, MARCH 27:

4:00 - 6:00pm: **SABBATH SCHOOL**
QUARTERLIES available for pick-up at the church front door, courtesy of Nancy Tinsley

Announcements:

WELCOME! We're glad you're here in spirit to worship and praise the Lord, our Creator and Redeemer.

YOUR TITHES & OFFERINGS may be turned in by mail, drop off (in church mailbox) or online by using the "Giving" option on the home page of the church website.

NEW SABBATH SCHOOL QUARTERLIES: Nancy Tinsley has volunteered to hand out our new 2nd quarter quarterlies on Fri., March 27, from 4:00 - 6:00pm by the front door of the church.

IN DEEPEST SYMPATHY: We are very sad to announce the passing of **Theodore Richard Benson, Sr.**, husband of Beverly Benson and father of Ted (Melissa) Benson, Jr, on Sunday, March 8, in Arizona. Please keep the family in your prayers, that the Lord will comfort and strengthen them in their time of loss.

Condolences may be sent to: Beverly Benson, 20200 No. 272nd Lane, Buckeye, AZ 85396.

Ted & Melissa Benson, Jr.: 142 Academy Dr., Newbury Park, CA 91320.

The Memorial Service here at Camarillo SDA Church (scheduled for March 28) has been postponed until the coronavirus restrictions are lifted. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Holbrook SDA Indian School either by mail or online: <https://www.holbrookindianschool.org> Mailing address: Holbrook SDA Indian School, 2001 McLaws Rd., Holbrook, AZ 86025.

PERSONAL MINISTRY: A group of our deacons would like to reach out and help with needs of church members who are elderly, homebound and others who may be in need - for example, of groceries etc. brought to their door. If you know of someone with a need we may be able to facilitate, *please email the church office with the following information: Name, address, contact number, description of need.*

CHURCH E-MAIL LIST: If you'd like to receive Camarillo Church office e-mails, please notify us by sending an e-mail with your request to Suzanne at: office@camarillosda.org

SUNSET TONIGHT: 7:07pm.

NEXT SABBATH, MARCH 28: *Message* – To Be Announced; *Offering* – Conference Church Building; Sunset – 7:13pm

(NO OFFICIAL CHURCH SERVICES (EXCEPT ONLINE), MINISTRIES OR SOCIALS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)

Praying for God's Family

"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." **Mark 11:24 (NIV)**

PRAYER REQUEST FORMS are in the church pews and may be placed in the Prayer Box in the foyer. To update your prayer needs, please contact Prayer Ministry leader **Anne Curry** (805-987-1365) or the Pastor.

PRAISES: For the blessing of rain! Bill and Donna returned safely home from overseas. Jerry Goodrich - home from the hospital and doing better; thanks for your prayers for continued recovery.

HEALTH CONCERNS: Grace Kato's brother, Peter Yoshida (stroke); Mirjana Popkow's friend Rouja, 44 yr. old recovering from breast cancer surgery, whose husband is asking for a divorce; Lisa Matthew's mother; Dorothea Amey (cancer has returned); Mike Godfrey - (stroke recovery); Clinton Hooper (Chad's brother) - surgery recovery; Myrna Hooper (Chad's mother); Carol Taylor; Gershon Napod's brother Levi; Evelyn DeLay; Jay Cummings; Larry Miller (serious health issues).

OTHER CONCERNS: Coronavirus pandemic - that we all do our part to protect ourselves and others, and that we pray specifically for frontline medical personnel, along with people who are at high risk.

BEREAVEMENT: Sue (Carl) Randall and Sandy (Roy) Spencer, in the loss of their mother, Doris Zumach.

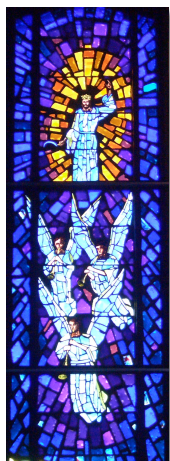
To access a previous broadcast, go to our church website and click on "Video Archives" on the left side of the home page. Can also be seen on Roku.

Hearing Assistance Devices – may be checked out from the A/V booth.

Church Website: www.camarillosda.org

To watch the live broadcast of our Sabbath School, Worship Services, and some other church events online, click on LIVESTREAM at the left side of the church website home page. You can watch from any device. Also may be viewed on Roku, Facebook, or YouTube.

Church Office E-mail: office@camarillosda.org



Pastoral Staff

Jason Whitley pastorjason@camarillosda.org

Interim Senior Pastor..... (Cell) 661-714-5498

(To be announced)

Head Elder

Calvin Gardner calvin@camarillosda.org

Youth Director (Cell) 323-204-7109

Suzanne Goodrich office@camarillosda.org

Ministry Assistant..... (Office) 805-482-4632

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COVID-19 GUIDELINES FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE PRESIDENT (3/13/20)

As you are aware, local concern and precautionary measures surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19) are rapidly increasing. Our concern focuses on the health and wellness of our members and constituents, and we are closely monitoring the progress of this situation with our constituents' needs and well-being in mind.

The Governor of the state of California on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, stated that all gatherings of more than 250 people through the end of March should be canceled or postponed with tight restrictions on smaller meetings as well. ([See the press release here.](#))

At this time, in order to both comply with current guidelines and understanding that these guidelines are changing quickly as the virus continues to spread, the Southern California Conference has made the decision to suspend in-person worship services at all of our churches regardless of size, effective immediately. This has been done after much deliberation and prayer in order to assure we follow regulatory and public health guidance while we protect the health of our parishioners, many of which fall into high-risk categories. At this time, this suspension of in-person services extends through the end of March of this year. Please have the appropriate number of individuals for your church available outside your church for members and/or visitors who do show up so they can be informed of the cancellation.

We understand that this information will generate many questions. This situation is extremely fluid, and we will share further updates as they become available. In the meantime, please take care of yourself and your family. Stay rested and hydrated, and remember to continue washing your hands and sanitizing commonly touched surfaces. ([Refer to the CDC guidelines here.](#))

The “social distancing” that we are experiencing both within our church and in the community at large does not mean social isolation. We are relational beings, and our relationships are a vital part of our faith. Please support one another by increasing personal communication as much as possible during this time to provide much-needed support to each other.

Let us take this time to unite together in prayer and support as a church family. While we must adopt proper precautionary measures and hygiene practices, we need not panic. We cannot neglect prudent care of ourselves and our families, and we can trust the Lord that He will guide and protect us. Let us hold to the promises found in Scripture, [like those found in Psalm 91](#).

Presence in a Time of Pandemic

March 16, 2020 by [Nicholas Zork](#) (NAD Ministerial - from *Best Practices for Adventist Worship*)

It was surreal to lead worship in an empty building this past Sabbath morning. The physical absence of the community was palpable. Although I don't take gathering for granted, I was, in some ways, more aware of those with whom I was worshipping that I often am when we're in the same space. In a sense, we were more present to one another in our absence than we are when we're together.

It's interesting how often the reverse is true—how frequently we share space without being fully present in it, much less to one another. Our portable, digital devices allow us to be physically present but mentally absent. Technology can, in this way, exacerbate what is already true: just being in the same space doesn't mean we're a community; simply being in the pews or chairs on Sabbath morning doesn't mean we're engaged in worshipping together; and merely being physically close to one another doesn't mean we're truly connecting. In practice, social proximity and social isolation often go hand in hand.

So it is my hope and prayer that during this time of necessary social distancing, we can rehearse ways of being intentionally and inclusively present to our church and broader communities. Perhaps the same devices that have disconnected our in-person gatherings can now connect us. And hopefully we can learn to empathize with those who are, not only now, but often missing social connection, often excluded, marginalized, and distanced—those who never feel fully present with us or that we are fully present with them. There are people for whom social distancing is not just a voluntary, temporary precaution but an involuntary, permanent reality—people Jesus identifies with as “the least of these who are members of my family” (Matthew 25:40): prisoners, those isolated by illness, the stranger, and those experiencing food insecurity. This pandemic will compound the isolation of those from whom we are often socially distant but with whom Jesus says he is especially present.

There is daunting work to be done in our societies. There are laws to change, systems of injustice to overturn, and unforeseen challenges ahead. But as we protect our neighbors through social distancing, there are small ways we can be lovingly present to one another that are unlikely to transmit disease but very likely to spread love and joy: a smile, an extra tip for the person delivering food, a random compliment, a thoughtful affirmation, bringing groceries to a person who is older or otherwise vulnerable and cannot safely shop, an unexpected call just to check in on someone, leaving a positive comment on a social media post—troll for good for goodness sakes! It is possible we can learn to be more positively present to one another in our physical absence than we ever were in person.

We worship a God who prioritizes presence. To be present with us, Jesus became one of us, served us when we rejected him, joined us in a death he did not deserve so we might join him in a life we cannot earn, and has promised us that he will come again so we might one day all be gathered together with him. And although Jesus is at this moment physically absent, he promises us nonetheless, “I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20)

So in these times when the gravitational pull of fear threatens to absorb the light, may we remember God's persistent, relentless love for and presence with all people, especially with those we have isolated and especially when we ourselves feel alone. And in gratitude for the God who drew near to us and is with us even now, may we—even in our physical absence and distance from one another—draw near to those with whom Jesus is already present. In whatever apartments, homes, or spaces we worship this coming Sabbath, may we be intentionally present to the God who is always present to us. And may we find ways to be present to one another—to connect, encourage, express affection for, and remind all our neighbors that we're in this together. Our margins are Jesus' center, and our isolation can be the place where Jesus' presence is most tangibly perceived. Distancing and fear are no match for love, for as the Apostle Paul writes, “I am convinced that neither death,

nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our

Lord.” (Romans 8:39)