

# CENTRAL NEWS SEPTEMBER 2017

STOCKTON CENTRAL SDA CHURCH

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## ASSORTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dear Church Family:

Quite some time ago, discussions took place regarding needs of the church—some pressing and some less pressing. Perhaps some were desires and some were needs, which would enhance our church services. It seems that, based on most urgent need, a priority list was compiled. Needs, prioritizing and commitment were the driving forces. Some of those needs/desires have been met, among which are: our sound systems, large screen TV monitor mounted upper level at the rear of the sanctuary, and our up and running radio station. The time is here when we are again being reminded that it was agreed upon at that the church was (and continues to be) in need on a new Organ. That has not changed. So, again, we need to remember our commitment to purchase a new Organ and begin (or continue in some situations) to contribute/donate to the Organ Fund; that the time is here to honor those commitments; and move forward to achieve that goal

For further information and/or clarification, please contact Pastor, Dr. David Resendes, or one of the Elders.

### Church Picnic

AhhhThe Church Picnic! !! There were **no Losers!** Despite the heat, there were real enthusiasts who played, stayed hydrated, and remained enthusiastic. Hooray for them! There were a few of us who stood or *sat* in *the shade* of the few trees (two people braved the hot sun and sat in the bleachers) to cheer the players on. So, all who played were winners!

And, believe it or not, there were courageous women, young and not so young who played—to the end! Go Women Go!!!

Because of the hot sun and somewhat low turnout, (our numbers were down) and the picnic ended earlier than anticipated. Still, to those who supported it, you are so appreciated! To the organizers, you deserve a huge Thank You!

## ANSWERED PRAYER

Each night when I say my prayers, I ask God for guidance, strength, and safety for my family and me for each day. One morning, I woke with a start; my alarm clock had not gone off! Angry to be an hour late for work, I tossed the clock into the trash. When I got to work, I saw flashing lights, fire trucks, and police cars. Someone had lost control of their vehicle my boss said. It's a miracle you weren't at your desk. I looked again, it was my office! The truck had slammed full-speed into my window. If I had been on time, I would have been right in its path!. When I got home, I went to the trash can and retrieved the clock.

Curious and amazed, I tested it again and again to see if the alarm was broken, but it went off each time. My heart filled with gratitude. I THANKED GOD. Then I placed the clock back on my night stand,

-anonymous

Now for a bit of less pleasant news; directly for me and perhaps less directly for you. My friend and assistant, Carol Wilson, informed me recently that she is resigning her position as my assistant. Interestingly, when I received her correspondence containing *Answered Prayer*, I didn't open it right away as I usually do. I placed it on my desk, stared at it, and walked away. I repeated that behavior for a few days for reasons unknown. It was unusual. I was suspicious. Of what? I have no idea. It was too heavy for a simple Answered Prayer. When I finally opened it, my unknown suspicion was revealed. Regrettably, she informed me that she was resigning. The reasons she gave were both logical and reasonable for which I respect her greatly. Will I miss her? Indeed I will? She became more than a helper to me; she became my friend. I welcomed her aboard the train, now I must say "good-bye" as she departs the train. The ride was worth it. A most helpful person, great listener, and willing to give "positive feed-back".

I love you Carol and look forward to spending time with you on another train ride. May God continue to bless you—and your family—a bundantly. -Bobbie

## PASTOR'S CORNERER

Why do not believers feel a deeper, more earnest concern for those who are out of Christ? Why do not two or three meet together and plead with God for the salvation of some special one, and then for still another? In our churches let companies be formed for service. Let different ones unite in labor as fishers of men. Let them seek to gather souls from the corruption of the world into the saving purity of Christ's love.

The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me by One who cannot err. If there is a large number in the church, let the members be formed into small companies, to work not only for the church members, but for unbelievers. If in one place there are only two or three who know the truth, let them form themselves into a band of workers. Let them keep their bond of union unbroken, pressing together in love and unity, encouraging one another to advance, each gaining courage and strength from the assistance of the others. Let them reveal Christlike forbearance and patience, speaking no hasty words, using the talent of speech to build one another up in the most holy faith. Let them labor in Christlike love for those outside the fold, forgetting self in their endeavor to help others. As they work and pray in Christ's name, their numbers will increase; for the Saviour says: "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven." Matthew 18:19 (Ellen White, *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 7, pp. 21-22)

### Life Style Change Class

A new series of sessions of Life Style Change Classes began the last Monday evening of August. As usual, it was quite interesting as well as informative. Information is shared, not only by the presenters, Dr. & Mrs. Holmes, but by the class attendees. It is amazing how much information one can glean from these sessions. Give them a try. See Mrs. Holmes (Charlotte) for additional information).