

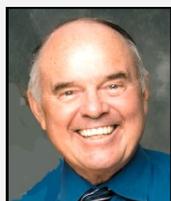


# The Good News Letter

April 4, 2018

*"You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You." Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)*

## PASTOR'S COLUMN



Pastor J. Lynn Martell

Dear Church Family:

"This happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him." John 9:3.

I was reading recently the story of John and Tricia Tiller and their son Eli.

They experienced a parent's worst nightmare. Their three year old son, Eli was playing by himself in his room when Tricia became concerned because it was too quiet.

When she walked into the room, Eli was no where to be seen. That is when she saw the table out of place. It had been pushed beneath his second story window, and the screen was conspicuously missing. Tricia's worst fears were realized as she rushed to the window and saw Eli lying thirteen feet below.

Eli was medivaced to the hospital, where he fought for his life in the ICU for three weeks. He miraculously survived but not without significant brain damage. He has no peripheral vision on his right side and the left side of his body has very little motor skills or muscle development. Eli speaks with a severe stutter and walks with a pronounced limp.

He is now 12 years old and has a sweet spirit and a courageous attitude. The parents, John and Tricia have thanked God countless times for saving their son, but their prayers for complete healing have gone unanswered.

The parents have fought with doubt and have unanswered questions. Why did God allow it—why do little boys fall from windows and why cannot God answer our prayers?

In John 9, Jesus encountered a man who was born blind, and the people falsely assumed it was the result of sin. They asked Jesus, "Who

sinned, this man, or the parents?" Jesus told them neither! The people assumed it was a generational curse or a lack of faith. But Jesus set the record straight by revealing the real reason: "This happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

After three years of fervent praying, and fasting John and Tricia began to accept his current condition and disability. Apparently, God was choosing not to completely heal Eli at this time. They decided instead of getting discouraged or getting angry, they choose to look for what God can do.

Sometimes the purpose of prayer is to get us out of circumstances, but more often than not, the purpose of prayer is to get us through them. I am not suggesting that we should not pray deliverance prayers, but there are times we need to pray prevailing prayers! We need to ask God to give us the grace to sustain, the strength to stand firm, and the will power to keep on keeping on!

Pastor J. Lynn Martell

## CALENDAR

### Sabbath, April 7

- 9:15 am Veranda Fellowship Ministry
- 9:45 am Children's Sabbath School Classes
- 10:00 am Adult Sabbath School Classes
- 10:00 am Leccion do Escuela Sabatica
- 11:00 am Don Vollmer  
"The Extent of Damages, and the Reach of Mercy"
- 12:30 pm Fellowship Luncheon
- 1:00 pm Spanish language sermon
- 1:30 pm Windows on God's World
- 2:00 pm Bible Memory Class
- 3:00 pm Creation Series Study
- 7:18 pm Sunset in Los Alamitos

## Sabbath Worship Speakers

- Apr. 14 Speaker: J. Lynn Martell
- Apr. 21 Speaker: J. Lynn Martell
- April 28 Speaker: Mike Oxentenko
- May 5 Speaker: J. Lynn Martell
- May 12 Speaker: J. Lynn Martell
- May 19 Speaker: Richard Schaefer
- May 26 Speaker: J. Lynn Martell
- Jun. 2 Speaker: J. Lynn Martell

## Special Events

- Apr. 12 7:00 pm Church Board Meeting
- Apr. 21 3:30 pm Health Talk—  
Margarete Carniero  
"Connection between  
Diabetes and Diet"
- Apr. 22 8:00 am Work Bee
- Apr. 15 1:00 pm Nutrition Seminar  
Martin Urquhart  
"Food from the Islands"
- May 10 7:00 pm Church Board Meeting
- May 13 Mothers' Day
- May 20 3:30 pm Health Talk  
Andrea Avery (CHIP)
- Jun. 7 7:00 pm Orangewood 8th Grade  
Graduation
- Jun. 10 3:00 pm Orangewood H.S.  
Commencement
- Jun. 14 7:00 pm Church Board Meeting
- Jun. 17 Father's Day
- Jun. 24 1:00 pm Nutrition Seminar
- Jun. 30 11:00 pm Communion
- Jul. 12 7:00 pm Church Board Meeting

**PRAYER LIST**

Shanell Joshua, Ronald and Rives Wiggins, Barbara Schmidt, Yolanda Quillen and a church member's friend's 5-yr. old daughter who is missing.

If prayers have been answered, the crisis is past, or we need to add a name or concern, please let one of the staff know.

**BIRTHDAY**

4/10 Charity Rogers

Let us know if we are missing anyone.

**SABBATH SUNSET TIMES**

04/14 7:23 pm 04/28 7:34 pm

04/21 7:28 pm 05/05 7:39 pm

**FINANCES**

Tithe Income \$52,887  
 Church Budget Income \$34,923  
 Budgeted Amount: \$40,615

YTD totals as of 3/31/18

**CLASSIFIED**

Need for a room to rent with bathroom for female in the Cypress area. Contact Denise Thomson at 562-335-4956.

**INSPIRED THOUGHT**

“Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service of God supreme, will find perplexities vanish and a plain path before their feet.

“The faithful discharge of today's duties is the best preparation for tomorrow's trials. Do not gather together all tomorrow's liabilities and cares and add them to the burden of today. ‘Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.’ Matthew 6:34.

“Let us be hopeful and courageous. Despondency in God's service is sinful and unreasonable. He knows our every necessity. To the omnipotence of the King of kings our covenant-keeping God unites the gentleness and care of the tender shepherd. His power is absolute, and it is the pledge of the sure fulfillment of His promises to all who trust in Him. He has means for the removal of every difficulty, that those who serve Him and respect the means He employs may be sustained. His love is as far above all other love as the heavens are above the earth. He watches over His children with a love that is measureless and everlasting.”—*The Ministry of Healing*, 481, 82.

**GUEST SPEAKER**



Pastor Michael Oxentenکو, speaker for Reaching Hearts International radio broadcast, and pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Laurel, MD, will be our featured speaker for the weekend of April 27 and 28.

Friday evening's 7:30 p.m. session the topic is “The Abomination of Desolation.” Sabbath worship service, at 11:00 a.m., the topic is “The New Jerusalem and the Wife of the Lamb.”

The Sabbath afternoon session, at 2:30 p.m., has the topic “Linguistic Geometry and the Testimony of Jesus: Chiastic Structures and Hidden Treasures in the Bible, Ellen G. White, and William E. Foy.”

This seminar will be an intellectual and spiritual celebration of the testimony of Jesus in our midst at the time of the end.

There are many proofs and evidences in the Bible that God has given for verifying the integrity of His word. One such evidence of God's power in scripture is the presence of interacting chiastic structures.

Chiasms are literary structures that submit to the principles of symmetry and balance as the bookends of two narrative sides move from the front side and the back side toward a chiastic center which holds the essential truth of the structure at the very center of the narrative. God has so arranged His word that he has not left its deepest meanings to be imposed upon the church by smart theologians with philosophical grids and philosophical system builders or even creative textual interpreters who take the text in a different direction than God intended.

In God's plan, divinely inspired chiastic structures appear in every prophetic book containing hidden manna (Rev. 2:17) that disclose interpretive treasures in the text and that also reinforce understanding of God's message for his people in the text.

After years of linguistic work in Daniel and Revelation, including many other portions of the Bible, Pastor Oxentenکو decided to examine the writings of both Ellen G. White and William E. Foy to ascertain if they conform to the principles of biblical chiastic technique. After years of analysis, the evidence is broad and compelling that Ellen G. White's writings are almost universally chiastic and that the writings of William E. Foy, relative to his first visions, are of like character. In this seminar, Pastor Oxentenکو will provide evidence from the Bible, the writings of Ellen G. White, and of William E. Foy's early visions, that God visited his end time church around the year 1844 with the same spiritual gift manifested earlier in the Old Testament prophets and the early apostolic church.

**THE WEEK IN PICTURES**



Dr. Zelda Billingy—Health Talk



Dr. Zelda Billingy



Steve Zeller, Pastor Martell, Pastor Vollmer Communion



Deacons serving communion