

FYI.

FROM ILLINOIS CONFERENCE
PRESIDENT, RON AGUILERA



DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your path straight."

Proverbs 3:5,6

On the back of a dollar bill, you will find the words, "In God We trust". These words, this motto, was placed on U.S. coins largely because of the increased religious sentiment existing during the Civil War. Secretary of the Treasury, Salmon P. Chase, received many letters urging the U.S. to recognize God on coins. The first appeal came in a letter dated Nov. 13, 1861, written by Rev. M.R. Watkinson. An Act of Congress dated January 18, 1937, said mottoes on coins of the U.S. had to be approved by Congress. Congress passed this Act in April 1864. Also, "In God We Trust" first appeared on the 2-cent coin of 1864. On July 30, 1956, President Eisenhower approved a joint resolution of the 84th congress, declaring "In God We Trust," the national motto of the U.S. It first appeared on paper money in 1957.

Today, "In God We Trust," is the national motto of the U.S. I believe this should be the motto of every Seventh-day Adventist Christian. Proverbs 3:5,6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your path straight." This is the crowning proverb of all Proverbs. It summarizes everything. This proverb confronts with the question, "How seriously are we going to take our faith." I remember when I first asked myself this question. I figured that at the very least, I should: read the Bible, pray some, get involved in church work...it was the least I could do. I had heard of Christians whose faith altered their morals, modified their work patterns, changed the way they managed their money, and the way they treated others...all which seemed a little extreme to me. Later, I discovered the value of trusting God with my whole life.

The questions I would like you to ponder this morning are, "Who do you trust?" "How much are you going to let your faith affect your life?" Choose to trust Jesus fully. You won't regret it.

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NEWS

Interim Hinsdale SDA Church Pastor

I am happy to announce that Elder Dan Smith, currently retired, has accepted our invitation to serve as the interim Senior Pastor of Hinsdale SDA church. He will assume his duties effective March 21.

Welcome!

Adventurer Fun Day

Save the date! Adventurer Fun Day 2022 is right around the corner, coming up on April 10th in Chicagoland and April 17th in Southern IL! Details about this event will be available soon.

PRAYER FOCUS

Praying for Ukraine and Russia

I want to ask you and our churches to pray for both Ukraine and Russia. Beside praying for the people in these countries, especially those under attack in Ukraine, remember the Seventh-day Adventist churches and church members.

Here is a note from the General Conference: *"Pray for our pastors, church members, leaders, students, and the institutions in Ukraine, including our educational institution at Bucha, about an hour from Kyiv, our clinic/medical center in downtown Kyiv, our publishing house and Adventist Media Center, the Ukrainian Union headquarters in Kyiv, the various conference headquarters, hundreds of churches, and numerous schools."*



DID
YOU
KNOW?

Did you know the Illinois Conference Quadrennial Constituency Session is scheduled for October 23, 2022?

Churches are in the process of selecting their delegates for the Session, as well their delegate for the Organizing Committee. The Organizing Committee selects the Nominating Committee, who is then responsible for nominating Conference officers and directors, as well as the Conference Executive Committee and Board of Education.

RESOURCES



Free Youth Week of Prayer Resources

“All the Way Up!” is a free Youth Week of Prayer series created by the North American Division Youth Ministries Department. The theme verse is Colossians 3:2; “Let heaven fill your thoughts; don’t spend your time worrying about things down here.” This series is set up so local churches can access the sermons and share them with the young people who sign up to preach each night of the week.

To download this resource, visit <https://www.adventsource.org/store/youth-ministries/new-leaders/all-the-way-up-youth-week-of-prayer-41196>

Compassion Weekend

Compassion Weekend is every second weekend of the month in North America and a time for us to join and be intentional about tackling the needs of our community such as hunger, thirst, abuse, slavery, human trafficking, refugee crisis, violence, depression, and disease in our world, by showing compassion to the people around us. Also, join us in our Compassion 10 million initiative, which is an opportunity for each Adventist in North America to serve within their churches, their homes, and their communities as the eyes, heart, hands, and feet of Jesus.

For more, go to: <https://www.nadadventist.org/events/compassion-weekend-6>

GALLERY



- Ellen G. White
Life Sketches, pg 239

