

"EVER GROWING IN GRACE"



MILTON SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER



COMING EVENTS

INDEPENDENCE DAY

July 4, 2026

CHURCH IN THE PARK

Yantis Park, Milton-Freewater

July 18, 2026

MILTON VACATION

BIBLE SCHOOL

THEME: "NOAH'S ARK"

JULY 27-31, 2026

CHURCH FAMILY RIVER DAY

AUGUST 2, 2026

CHURCH CAMPOUT

AUGUST 14-15, 2026

Make reservations for Harris Park at <https://co.umatilla.or.us/departments/parks>. Questions may be directed to Joyce Chinn at (509) 520-2897 or eljoychinn@gmail.com.

We are excited to share with you an important initiative on behalf of Milton-Stateline Adventist School. In order to reach new families across the Walla Walla Valley and share the remarkable work that God is doing through our school, we're launching a two phase promotional video project. We humbly invite each of our seven constituent churches to prayerfully consider participating in this effort.

The enrollment at Milton Stateline School has been steadily declining over the last several years. We need to act immediately to try and turn this trend around. The single greatest need to help the school bounce back is to find more prospective families with school-age children. Thus, the Stateline Church has been able to raise \$3,500 in matching dollars. For every dollar donated to this fund, your funds will be matched up to \$3,500.

Milton-Stateline Adventist School

A Message from Pastor James Ash

Brent Bergherm, a talented videographer who teaches at Walla Walla University, has been hired to produce a short, professionally-crafted promotional video that can be immediately released to the public.

Phase Two: An in-depth school portrait video

This video will be launched this fall and will give prospective families a compelling picture of our school's extraordinary value for elementary school students.

Donations may be sent to Stateline Adventist Church, 53730 Stateline Road, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862.

Please mark any donation for *MSAS Promotional Video Project*.

The two phases are as follows:

Phase One: A short social media video

The Pastor's Tellogram

"Finding Grace in Dry Places"

By now you've probably noticed that the fresh green of spring has slipped away. What we see now are the dry hills and sunbaked fields that wrap around our valley. And yet, even in this season, there's a beauty that's uniquely ours—especially when the sun slips behind the western horizon and fills the sky with those breathtaking summer colors.

As the day ends and night settles in, we're reminded that life has its sunsets too. Spiritually, you may be feeling that just now—the closing of a bright season and the beginning of a darker, quieter one. Trials and struggles have a way of doing that.

Most of us would prefer a life without hardship, but without those difficult moments, our faith would never grow beyond its earliest stages. Someone once said, "*Conflict brings clarity.*" And it's true. When we wrestle with the challenges in our lives, those very struggles help reveal what matters most.

I've learned that when unexpected things come up and I feel overwhelmed, it forces me to pause and reevaluate. I look again at what I say yes to and what I say no to. Every yes carries a no with it, and I have to be careful that my choices aren't quietly pulling me away from my connection with Jesus.

If you notice that happening, change course. The Lord is always ready to meet you in the dry places and lead you back into His life-giving presence.



Until next time, this is Pastor Tello reminding you that
Thoughts Do Change Lives!

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Appointments are available through the church office on
Monday — Thursday
(541) 938-3066 or (509) 386-6071
office@miltonsda.org

Pulpit Schedule

July 04 Pastor Howard Tello
July 11 Pastor Howard Tello
July 18 Church in the Park: Pastor Howard Tello
July 25 Lalo Herrera Testimony

Offering Schedule

July 04 Local Church Budget
July 11 World Budget
July 18 Local Church Budget
July 25 UCC Advance

Contacts

Office Phone: (541) 938-3066
Pastor Howard Tello: (209) 283-4322
Prayer Hotline: (509) 520-5442
ACS Thrift Store: (541) 938-9188
Email: office@miltonsda.org
Website: <https://www.miltonadventist.org>
Facebook: facebook.com/miltonadventist
Newsletter: LLFenton45@outlook.com



ABC Christian Bookstore

505 S. College Avenue
College Place, WA 99324
(509) 529-0723

Storytime for KIDS!
Every Wednesday
10:15—11:00 a.m.



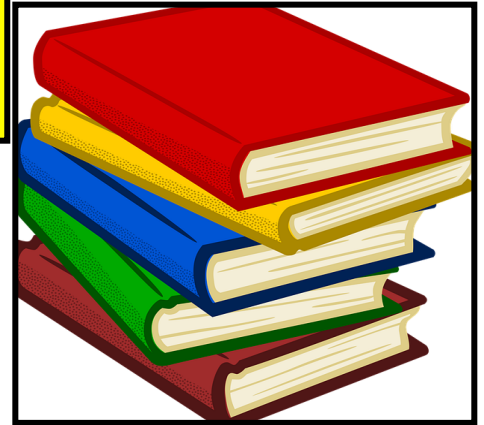
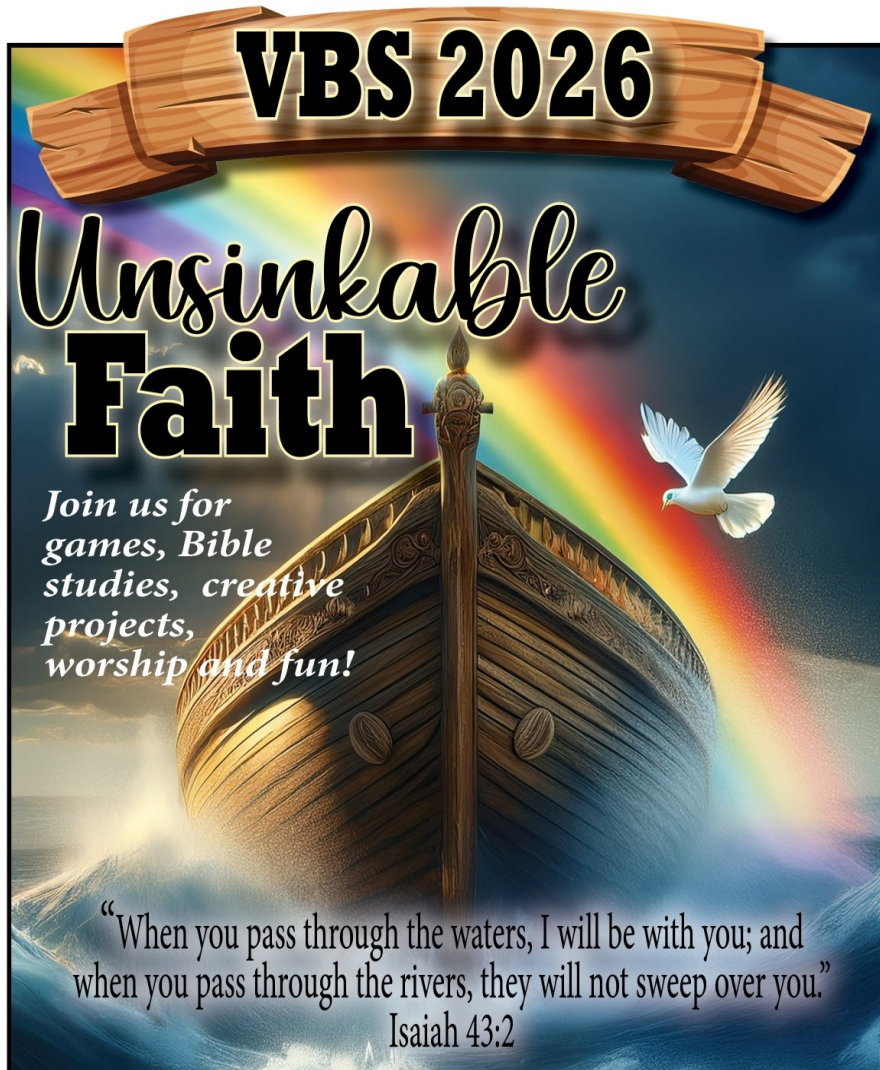
Consider This

"As the disciples proclaimed the message of redeeming grace, hearts yielded to the power of this message. The church beheld converts, flocking to her from all directions. Backsliders were reconverted. Sinners united with believers in seeking the pearl of great price. Some who had been the bitterest opponents of the gospel became its champions. ... Every Christian saw in his brother a revelation of divine love and benevolence. One interest prevailed; one subject of emulation swallowed up all others. The ambition of the believers was to reveal the likeness of Christ's character and to labor for the enlargement of his kingdom" (Acts of the Apostles, p. 48).

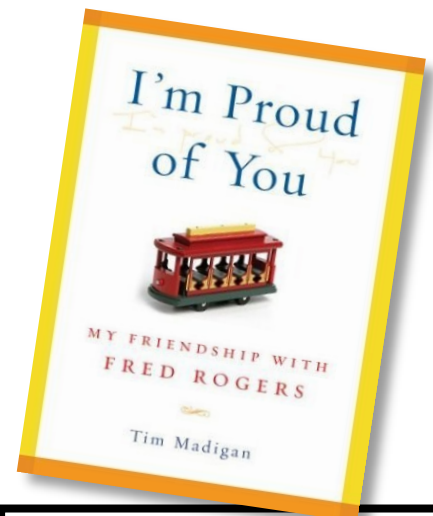
PLEASE PRAY FOR

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Blue Mountain Broadcasting | 3. College Place ABC |
| 2. Gospel Outreach | 4. Blue Mountain Therapeutic Riding |

Vacation Bible School



Recommended Reading



I discovered this beautiful story quite a few years ago while I was pastor of the Canyonville, Oregon Adventist Church. I loaned it to a fellow pastor in the community who wanted to share it with his wife. After reading it, her response was, "This is one of the best, most inspirational books I have ever read!"

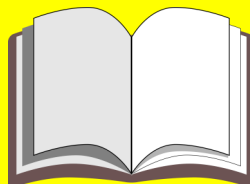
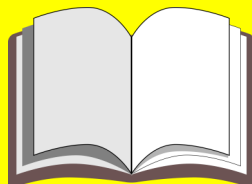
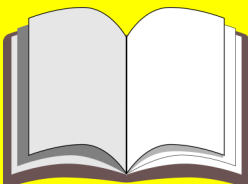
I'm Proud of You is the true story of one man's spiritually transforming friendship with children's television icon, Fred Rogers.

I can also say it is a book I treasure in my personal library. I highly recommend it! It's available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [bn.com](https://www.bn.com) (Barnes & Noble). Loren Fenton

July 27-31 from 6 - 8 p.m. Ages 4-17*
& a Family River Day Sunday, Aug. 2, 1-5 p.m.

Seventh Day Adventist Church 244 N Elizabeth St, Milton-Freewater 541-938-3066

*younger kids are welcome if attended by a parent or guardian





Milton Seventh-day Adventist Church
1244 N. Elizabeth Street

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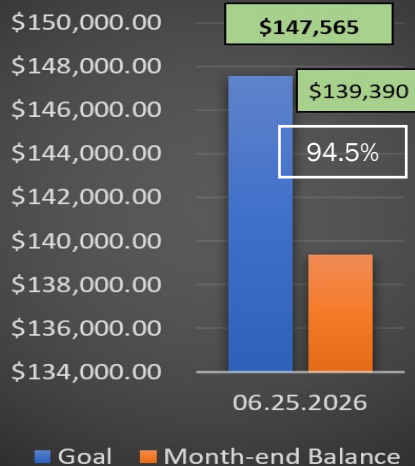
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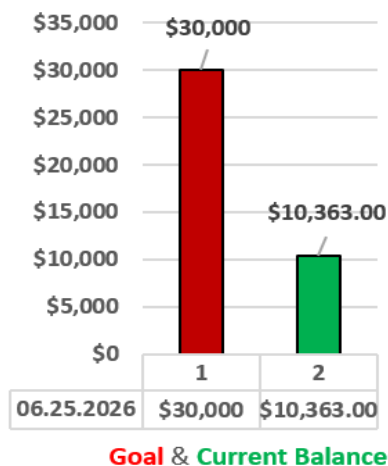
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Stewardship Corner

Roof RENEW



Maintenance Reserve Fund



A PARTING THOUGHT

"Living in Freedom"

Freedom is one of God's most generous gifts. Jesus has already released us from guilt, fear, and the old patterns that once controlled us. But sometimes we still find ourselves slipping back into familiar negative emotions. Paul reminds us, "*It is for freedom that Christ has set us free*" (Galatians 5:1 NIV). That freedom is not something we earn. It is a divine gift of grace we learn to walk in.

Living in freedom begins with remembering who we are in Christ—who He declares us to be—*beloved, forgiven, and made new!*

Freedom grows through daily choices. Each time we choose forgiveness over resentment, prayer over worry, or hope over discouragement, we are practicing the life Christ has already given us. These small acts of obedience don't create freedom—they express it.

Sometimes freedom means letting go of a regret we've carried too long. Sometimes it means refusing to let fear or guilt write the next chapter. And sometimes it simply means resting in the truth that Christ is enough for this moment.

We don't walk this path alone. God places us in community so we can remind one another of what is true and speak grace when old chains try to return. Freedom flourishes where encouragement is shared.

As we move through July, may we lean into the freedom Christ has already secured. May we walk lightly, trust deeply, and live as people who know they are truly free.

Ever walking in the liberty of love.

Ever growing in grace.

Loren Fenton, DMin
Newsletter Editor