



# August Newsletter

August 2026

## Sequim Seventh-day Adventist Church Newsletter

30 Sanford Lane

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360-683-7373

[www.sequimwa.adventistchurch.org](http://www.sequimwa.adventistchurch.org)

## Olympic Peninsula Convocation

by Jay Richmond

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Sequim is honored to be host for a special weekend of worship and fellowship with participants from our sister Adventist churches, Forks, Port Angeles, Port Townsend, Sequim. This mini-camp meeting will be held partly at the Sequim church and also at Camp Kruse in Diamond Point on August 7 and 8. Conference President Doug Bing and others will also be attending. The featured speaker is Pastor David Smith.

Please plan on coming. We would love to see you! (See schedule for details or checkout our website, [www.sequimwa.adventistchurch.org](http://www.sequimwa.adventistchurch.org).)

### Olympic Peninsula Convocation

Forks, Port Angeles, Port Townsend, and Sequim

#### "What Jesus Asks Us to Do"

Featured Speaker: David Smith

August 7, 7:00 pm

"If God Is For Us" by David Smith.  
Music and vesper program  
at the Sequim church.

August 8, 9:30 am

Sabbath School Panel Discussion.

"Spiritual Gifts" lesson study  
at the Sequim church.

11:00 am

"All In" by David Smith.  
Worship service program  
at the Sequim church.

1:30 pm

Outdoor fellowship meal

at Camp Kruse (maps will be provided).

Bring vegetarian picnic food to share

(nothing that needs cooking or baking).

Plates, cups, napkins, cutlery,

and beverages will be provided.

Bring a lawn chair for seating.

Bathroom facilities will be available.

3:00 pm

"Pass It Forward" by David Smith.

Outdoor tent meeting (plenty of shade!)

at Camp Kruse (approximately 25 minutes driving  
time east of the church. Carpooling is encouraged due  
to limited parking space at the Camp.

Those desiring to bring camping vehicles for the weekend may  
occupy space in the parking lot on the Sequim church campus.  
Please call 360-683-7373 in advance for registration.



### Healthful Hints

by Barbara Miller, RN, MSN

#### On Letting Sunshine In

Sunshine days are here; so let's review its rewards and considerations. Vitamin D, the sunshine vitamin, is processed in the first three layers of the skin. Exposure to the forearms to the sun for 20 minutes a day has a beneficial effect on your bone's health. IF you do NOT scrub arms with a tuffy toile for 2-3 days. Letting soap and water roll off your forearms is good. Patting water off with a towel will keep those layers undisturbed while they make bones strong. Kids growing up had it right about too many baths!!

### Sign Language Class

Save the dates! There will be a six-session, worship/praise in sign language class held Tuesdays and Thursdays, August 18th, 20th, 25th, and 27th. The tentative time is set for 3:00 each day. If there is enough interest, a second class will be added in the evenings. If you are interested in attending, please contact Craig Hamilton at 907-312-0996 or [jamescraigham@gmail.com](mailto:jamescraigham@gmail.com).

# Student Sponsorship

by Jeff Dawson



We are just over a month away from the start of the 2026 - 2027 school year. There are 12 families requesting tuition assistance so far. The tuition for the coming year is \$506 per month for 11 months. Some families have more than one student enrolled, so this adds up quickly \$1,012 for 2 students etc.

Our PAES board has done a good job of finding ways to provide financial help. First, each family is asked to pay what they can and all of them are required to pay something. In some cases grandparents and other family members also contribute. Then there are options for additional funding from Student Sponsorship and from the Estate Funds. The Partnership For Eternity (PFE) is another option which can provide as much as \$90 per month per student depending on their participation in the program.

We are very fortunate to have so many sources of funding available. Student Sponsorship from our church is probably the largest source for student aid. We do have funds to start the school year, however, it is important for us as the church family to contribute so funds will be available in the future.

PAES is valuable outreach to the community for our church as well as for our own students. Over years I have talked with quite a number of people who have good memories of our school and how it was a positive influence in their lives. Also, more than one person from the community has stated that they are very happy that PAES provides an alternative to the public school system.

A big thanks to all of you who have supported our Student Sponsorship program. You are making a positive difference in young lives that they will likely remember for eternity.



## Church Renovation Color Preferences

by the Sanctuary Project Committee

The final paper ballot voting by our church members was completed Friday, July 17, between three sets of color combinations. The green scheme was chosen by the majority of votes, with blue coming in at second place and brown in third place. In the first vote, 53% of the votes eliminated the Brown. In the second vote between Green and Blue, Green won by 60%. There were 62 votes both times. A special business meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, August 2 at 6:30 pm, when more details will be shared and ballot comments will be discussed, followed by a formalizing vote. Thank you to all who have chosen to be a part of this voting process.

# Visitation Team

**by Joanie Schmoll & Donna Bottgenbach**

A visitation team reflects the spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being of our church attendees. Our team reaches out with prayer, kindness, and encouragement. We trust that God will guide our steps and use us wherever needed. We would be happy to visit with you, call you, or simply send a note of encouragement.

The team members are not included on the office/ministries list. They are, in alphabetical order:

Carmen Pitkin, Cindy Thomas, Dee Gregory, Diana McGuire, Donna Bottgenbach, Doug Woods, Janet and Craig Hamilton, Jerry Ellquist, Joanie and Mike Schmoll, Karlette and Bruce Winters, Marilyn Triplett, and Sheri Dixon.

Our team has enlisted the help of our Deacons and Deaconesses and men's and women's ministries to help meet the needs of our church family.

If you wish to have a call or text or visit from any team member you may fill out the bottom half of this sheet and place it in the prayer box located in the church foyer.

-----  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

I specifically would like to hear from: \_\_\_\_\_

## August Birthdays

2 Joseph Barcellos  
3 Agnieszka Niemeyer  
3 Carla Spady  
6 Merwin Stewart  
9 Jerry Ellquist  
12 Rashell Carmack  
13 Abigail Berry  
13 Daryl Trowbridge

14 Kezya Bell  
14 Rebecca Bullard  
15 Melvin Casey  
16 Don Daniel  
16 Willard Henkes  
17 Kenna Jo Bradley  
19 Emily Stober  
28 Pam Henkes  
28 Rachel Levitan



# Announcements

## Good Stuff Sale

Date has been set for Good Stuff Sale, October 28-29. Save your items for the sale and be ready to bring them October 27. Plan now to help with setup, during the sale, and cleanup.

## S.A.M.M. Meeting (Sequim Adventist Men's Ministry)

Men, you are invited to the next SAMM meeting on August 9 at 3:00 pm at the church.

## Corn Feed at Reseck's Farm

**August 9 from 12 noon to 3:00 pm**

Come and enjoy sweet corn and wonderful fellowship at the Reseck's farm, 922 W. Uncas Road, Port Townsend. More details will be available as the date approaches.

## School Work Bee August 16

Please come and help get the school ready for classes. School begins August 24.

## Back-to-school Picnic August 28

Bring food to share and come meet the families who will be attending this coming school year.

## Week of Prayer Begins August 31

Spend time in prayer as we begin our evangelistic emphasis, building up to a 6-part series in October with Pastor Cristian Boboceca.

## Kids Club Registrations

*Boys and Girls Scouting Groups September—May*

**Thursday, September 3**

**@ 6:30 pm**



### Adventurer

(ages 4-9)

**Meetings are twice a Month:**

One Monday 3:30—5:00 pm  
One Saturday 2:00-3:30 pm

**First Meeting:  
Sept. 12**

A calendar for the year will be available at registration



### Pathfinder

(ages 10+)

**Meetings are  
Thursdays**

6:30-8:00 pm

**First Meeting:  
Sept. 3**

## Location for Both Clubs

will be at the

**Sequim Adventist Church 30 Sanford Lane**

**Call 360-683-7373**

Be a part of helping these kids have a wonderful experience learning about our world and our amazing God we serve. Consider giving the Pathfinder and Adventurer Clubs a boost financially as they begin to plan their year.

Thank you for your donation!

# North America's Tallest Mountain Checked Off Mountaineer's List

## by Kathy Cruz

submitted by Doug Woods

When Paul Balkan stepped onto the summit of Alaska's Denali in minus-45 degrees with windchill on June 5, he stood at the highest point in North America — 20,310 feet above sea level. It marked the Iron Man competitor's greatest athletic achievement and the culmination of a dream that traced back to his roots growing up in Sequim.

"I started backpacking and scrambling up peaks in the Olympics growing up in Sequim, moved on to climbing all the tall peaks in the Cascades, and always had Denali on my to-do list, which I finally did," Balkan said.

Balkan, 56, now lives in West Seattle, but he returns to Sequim often to visit his mother, Linnea Balkan, a former nurse. His father Mike owned and operated Evergreen Electric in Sequim until he died in 2008.

Balkan attended Sequim Seventh-day Adventist School through eighth grade, then transferred to Sequim High School, where he played basketball and tennis before he graduated in 1987. He went on to the University of Washington for his undergraduate degree and then to Cornell Law School.

"I've been practicing law for 30 years focused on intellectual property and technology transactions," he said.

He married along the way. He and his wife Kelly have five children, all of whom are grown now.

"In my early 20s, I started doing some more serious climbing — Mount Baker, Mount Rainier, Mount Hood, Mount Adams, Mount Whitney down in California," Balkan recounted. "The next big step for me was always going to be to go climb Denali, because that's sort of the ultimate objective if you're climbing in North America."

Life intervened. There was a career to build and children to raise.

It was his wife who finally nudged him off the fence. He had been talking about that dream for decades, she said, and, well, he wasn't getting any younger. This might be his window of opportunity.

"I took that as motivation to get back into some mountaineering, and then go ahead and do this big trip, which I did this last May," Balkan said.

**This article was published on July 20 in the Peninsula Daily News. This is only a sample of the full article that was published.**



# August 2026 Church Calendar

| Sun                                                                                          | Mon                                             | Tue                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Wed                                       | Thu                                             | Fri                                                                             | Sat                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                              |                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                           |                                                 |                                                                                 | <sup>1</sup><br>No Fellowship Meal              |
| <sup>2</sup><br>Special Business Meeting<br>6:30pm                                           | <sup>3</sup>                                    | <sup>4</sup><br>ACS<br>10:00am-12:00pm                                                                                                                                                                                           | <sup>5</sup><br>Prayer Meeting<br>6:30pm  | <sup>6</sup><br>Elders Meeting<br>6:30pm        | <sup>7</sup><br>Olympic Peninsula Convocation<br>Speaker: David Smith<br>7:00pm | <sup>8</sup><br>Peninsula Convocation Continued |
| <sup>9</sup> Annual Corn Feed at Reseck's Farm<br>12:00-3:00pm<br>S.A.M.M. Meeting<br>3:00pm | <sup>10</sup>                                   | <sup>11</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <sup>12</sup><br>Prayer Meeting<br>6:30pm | <sup>13</sup><br>School Board Meeting<br>6:30pm | <sup>14</sup>                                                                   | <sup>15</sup>                                   |
| <sup>16</sup><br>School Work Bee<br>9:00am                                                   | <sup>17</sup><br>Church Board Meeting<br>6:30pm | <sup>18</sup><br>ACS<br>10:00am-12:00pm<br>Sign Language Class<br>3:00pm                                                                                                                                                         | <sup>19</sup><br>Prayer Meeting<br>6:30pm | <sup>20</sup><br>Sign Language Class<br>3:00pm  | <sup>21</sup>                                                                   | <sup>22</sup>                                   |
| <sup>23</sup>                                                                                | <sup>24</sup><br>PAE School Begins              | <sup>25</sup><br>Sign Language Class<br>3:00pm                                                                                                                                                                                   | <sup>26</sup><br>Prayer Meeting<br>6:30pm | <sup>27</sup><br>Sign Language Class<br>3:00pm  | <sup>28</sup><br>PAES Back to School Picnic and Vespers                         | <sup>29</sup>                                   |
| <sup>30</sup>                                                                                | <sup>31</sup><br>Week of Prayer                 | <b>Upcoming Events:</b><br><b>Sept. 3 Pathfinder &amp; Adventurer Club Registrations</b><br><b>Sept. 8 Community Christmas Chorus Practice (every Tuesday through December)</b><br><b>Sept. 20 Secret Sister Revealing Party</b> |                                           |                                                 |                                                                                 |                                                 |

Sequim Adventist Church  
30 Sanford Lane  
Sequim, WA 98382