

September Newsletter

Sequim Seventh-day Adventist Church Newsletter

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September 2026

PAES Message

by Josh Bonifant



As we begin another school year, we are filled with gratitude and excitement for all that God has in store for our students, families, and school community. At our school, we have the unique blessing of knowing each child personally, celebrating their strengths, and growing together as a family. We look forward to another year of learning, laughter, friendship, and discovering God's love in all that we do. Thank you to our church family for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support. Thank you to everyone who came to our Work Bee and helped to get our school ready for the new school year. We are so thankful to begin this new school year together and pray that God will guide our teachers, bless our students, and use our school to be a light in our community.



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Visitation Team

by Donna Bottgenbach

The Visitation Team is working at keeping our church connected to each other. Every member of our church is important. Take time to visit someone new this week.

September

Student Sponsorship

by Jeff Dawson

By the time you read this another school year will be under way. A good number of students and families will be benefitting from your support of the Student Sponsorship Program. For some of the students, this may be the only experience with Christian Education that they will have. PAES is an important outreach to our community and we are blessed to have our school in such a good location and close to our church. I would ask that you keep PAES, the staff, students and parents in your prayers as the school year gets underway. Your continued support of Student Sponsorship is a much appreciated part of making our school successful in reaching and supporting young families.

Convocation

by Merwin Stewart

The Sequim Adventist Church hosted the North Olympic Peninsula Convocation and greatly enjoyed the recent event titled “Arise.” Sharing a special weekend of worship and fellowship with the neighboring churches of Port Angeles, Forks, and Port Townsend created a warm and loving environment. Many people participated in making the event memorable, experiencing inspiring and powerful testimonies, beautiful music, and wonderful food.

The weekend’s worship messages were presented by featured speaker David Smith, who has a gentle style and a special talent for telling stories. The Holy Spirit was welcomed, providing important and heartfelt messages about the Heavenly love that is bestowed on each of us. The Convocation concluded with wonderful campfire songs such as “Pass it On” and “Soon and Very Soon.”



Vacation Bible School by Debbie Cooke & Marlene Ellquist

Vacation Bible School went off with a smash this year, thanks to the help of our Church family! The delightful registration team noted that we had an average of 37 children each evening. With the help of many talented chefs and sous chefs, we served approximately 60 delicious meals nightly.

Our gifted MC and puppet friends started each night off with much joy. Songs were greatly enjoyed and respectfully energetic. They were followed by grammy level skits performed by our very own cast and crew. Children transitioned easily into stations of creative games, nature/science exhibitions, and themed crafts.

Comments from parents were very positive and much gratitude was expressed. The entire experience was a wonderful community outreach. None of this could have been accomplished without our Church members committing their hands and feet to the work of Jesus.

“...I tell you the truth, whatever you

did for one of the

least of these

brothers of mine,

you did for me.”

Matthew 25:40



September

Healthful Hints by Barbara Miller, RN, MSN

Rescuing Your Immune System

Numerous studies by psychologists, infectious disease specialists and chronic disease doctors all come to the same conclusion: What you think directly effects how your immune system functions. Remember that book, *Laughter is the Best Medicine* by Dr. Ralph Cousins? In it, he enumerates deliberate thoughts that directly affect our ability to fight diseases and get healthy.

What thoughts could you deliberately have today? Remembering your wedding day. Reflecting on your favorite interaction at an activity. Recalling when you succeeded at a task.

The common denominator here is they are all **positive** thoughts. Push any negative thoughts away as soon as they appear and do not let them fester and grow. Dr. Cousins suggests using meditation techniques to secure a time and place for these positive thoughts to grow and to release the *feeling good* enzymes necessary to boost your immune system.

Since we are all so busy in our lives, finding time to focus on this may be a challenge. How about mini-meditation? Also, try deep breathing while recalling a pleasant scene. I am sure you all have lots of ideas, so let's give this a try!

Week of Prayer

Join us August 29–September 4 at 7:00 p.m. each evening via Zoom for Pray Like Jesus, a special online Week of Prayer centered on spiritual renewal, deeper dependence on God and the mission He has given us.

Throughout the week, we'll hear from guest speakers while spending intentional time in prayer and asking God to renew our hearts as we look ahead to what He wants to do in and through His church.

No travel. No registration. Just set aside the time, join us online and pray with your Washington Conference family.

Speaker lineup:

Saturday, August 29: **Melody Mason**

Sunday, August 30: **Carlton Byrd**

Monday, August 31: **Elizabeth Talbot**

Tuesday, September 1: **Lee Venden**

Wednesday, September 2: **John Bradshaw**

Thursday, September 3: **David Asscherick**

Friday, September 4, **Randy Maxwell**



WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

WEEK OF Prayer

PRAYING TOGETHER. BELIEVING TOGETHER. SEEING GOD MOVE.

Guest Speakers Include:

Dr. Carlton Byrd | John Bradshaw | Dr. Elizabeth Talbot
David Asscherick | Lee Venden | Melody Mason
and more!

Join Us!

AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 4

7:00 PM EACH NIGHT

ON ZOOM
ID: 943 7368 6012
PASSCODE: PRAY2026

PRAY LIKE JESUS **SERVE LIKE JESUS** **SHARE LIKE JESUS** **FOLLOW JESUS**

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

– 2 CHRONICLES 7:14





Social Committee by Donna Bottgenbach

Please keep September 13th open for our next Social. The committee is sponsoring a “Big Frank” Roast and S’Mores around the Firepit at the church. They will also host a Remote-Control Car and a Bicycle obstacle course. Watch for details. Questions? Call Donna Botch 360-461-2548

Announcements

ABC Bookmobile will be at the church on Sunday, September 20 from 4:00-5:00 pm. Place your orders by Thursday, September 17 to be on the van. Items will be on the van for you to browse as well. Call 253-833-6707.



Mark your calendars! The Secret Sister reveal will be Sunday, September 20, at 2:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Further details forthcoming. Questions? Contact Susan, 208-866-4993.

Welcome to the Family of God!

Jaidyn Casey was baptized at Sunset Lake Camp this summer, publicly showing her decision to follow Jesus.

Wedding bells for Debbie & Brian

Debbie & Bryan Cooke were married June 27, 2026



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

What Do Teachers Make?

submitted by Bonnie Sanford

The dinner guests were sitting around the table discussing life. One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education. He argued, "What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided his best option in life was to become a teacher?" He reminded the other dinner guests what they say about teachers: "Those who can, do. Those who can't, teach."

To emphasize his point he said to another guest; "You're a teacher, Bonnie. Be honest. What do you make?"

Dorothy, who had a reputation for honesty and frankness replied, "You want to know what I make?" (She paused for a second, then began...) "Well, I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I make a C+ by a former D student feel like the Congressional Medal of Honor. I make kids sit through 40 minutes of class time when their parents can't make them sit for five without an I Pod, Game Cube or movie rental. You want to know what I make?" (She paused again and looked at each and every person at the table.)

"I make kids wonder. I make them question. I make them apologize and mean it. I make them have respect and take responsibility for their actions. I teach them to write and then I make them write. Keyboarding isn't everything. I make them read, read, read. I make them show all their work in math. They use their God-given brain, not the man-made calculator. I make my students from other countries learn everything they need to know in English while preserving their unique cultural identity. I make my classroom a place where all my students feel safe. I make my students stand, placing their hand over their heart to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, One Nation Under God, because we live in the United States of America. I make them understand that if they use the gifts they were given, work hard, and follow their hearts, they can succeed in life."

Dorothy paused one last time and then continued, "Then, when people try to judge me by what I make, with me knowing money isn't everything, I can hold my head up high and pay no attention because they are ignorant. You want to know what I make? I MAKE A DIFFERENCE! What do you make Mr. CEO?" His jaw dropped, he went silent.

Sept. 2026 Church Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Week of Prayer, Pray Like Jesus on Zoom at 7pm, Aug. 29 - Sept. 4		1 ACS 10:00am-12:00pm Sign Language Class 3:00pm	2	3 Backpack Program 8:00am Sign Language Class 3:00pm Club Registrations 6:30pm	4	5 Fellowship Meal (Team Terri) 12:30pm
6	7 Church Office Closed	8 Christmas Community Chorus Practice 6:00pm	9 Prayer Meeting 6:30pm	10 Backpack Program 8:00am Pathfinders 6:30pm School Board Meeting 6:30pm	11	12 Adventurers Induction 2:30pm
13 Social at the Firepit	14	15 ACS 10:00am-12:00pm Christmas Community Chorus Practice 6:00pm	16 Prayer Meeting 6:30pm	17 Backpack Program 8:00am Pathfinders 6:30pm	18	19 Children's Church 11:00am
20 Secret Sister Reveal 2:00pm	21 Adventurers 3:30pm Church Board Meeting 6:30pm	22 Christmas Community Chorus Practice 6:00pm	23 Backpack Program 8:00am Prayer Meeting 6:30pm	24 Pathfinders 6:30pm	25	26
27	28	29 Christmas Community Chorus Practice 6:00pm	30 Prayer Meeting 6:30pm	Upcoming Events: Oct. 2 Pathfinder Induction Service Oct. 10 Social - Travelogue with the Ellquists Oct. 16-18 & 23-25 Evangelism 6-part Series		

September Birthdays

2 Sandra Garvey
 2 Jerry Ley
 5 Donna Woods
 6 Debbie Cooke (Collins)
 7 Sandi Christensen
 8 Linnea Balkan
 14 Becky Pittario
 15 Marlene Medina Ellquist
 16 Eloise Gatchet
 21 Ed Nelson
 21 Scotland Noonan

23 Allison Young
 23 Mel Zbaraschuk
 25 Judy Berry
 25 Jaidyn Casey
 27 Twyla Luke
 30 Brian Taylor



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