

NORTHEAST HORIZONS

The Ark Trip Adventure – June 11th through 17th 2022

More News

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Corner	2
Views from the Pews	2
From the Treasury	4
Personal Testimony	4
Ongoing Activities	5
Events Schedule	5
Lost and Found	6
Editorial	6

In some ways it seems like it was forever ago, and in some ways, it seems like just last week. The El Paso Northeast SDA Church, last June, embarked on a first-time, long-distance church sponsored trip. Forty-six of our congregation went to Florence, Kentucky and spent three exciting days at the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter, the top two Christian-based attractions in the world. Let me tell you about the monumental effort that went into making this dream a reality.



It began in August of 2021 and went on until the day the bus pulled out of the church parking lot on Sabbath pm, June 11th, 2022. When the Ark Committee, made up of Michelle Rosalez, Harald Halseth, Steve Weaver, Becky Mena, Vicki Murray and Pastor Eliab Quinoñes, first approached the Finance Committee and the church Board with the idea of sponsoring the trip, we promised that not one penny of church ministry or expense funds would be used for the trip. And through a gargantuan effort lead by the exquisite planning skills of Vicki and Pastor Eliab, we held 6 fund-raising events and garnered over \$13,000 to pay for much of the trip. We set a fund-raising example for the church going into the future which can be well used for ministry and church support.

The participants were subsidized by the Ark Committee for 25% of the transportation and lodging costs. The price of the tickets was carried by the participants as well as meals while we were in Kentucky. Planning for group rates at a good hotel, centrally located, as well as contracting a tour-bus service for a 50-passenger luxury tour bus took long-term

effort and massive coordination. Our deepest thanks go out to Misioneros of El Paso who provided our tour bus and two drivers. They even sent replacements when the initial bus we received had issues. Also, many thanks go to Quality Inns and Suites of Florence and the management team as well as the desk staff who welcomed our group with efficient, professional, enthusiastic, friendly service.

Day-one was the Creation Museum, built and sponsored by Answers in Genesis, a Bible-Based group led by world renowned Australian Evangelist, Ken Ham. The group entry process went very smoothly and all had a full, invigorating and enjoyable day.



The Lobby Exhibit

The Creation Museum is awe-inspiring to say the least. A state-of-the-art planetarium as well as hundreds of Bible-based, world-class exhibits make this attraction a must-see for all Bible-believing Christians.



In the Garden of Eden



Outbound – June 11th, 2022

This article is continued
on Pg 3 of this issue.

Pastor's Corner

Welcome to the Family

Did you know a large extended family can reduce the crime rate in a region through proper upbringing? Children living with both biological parents are 20-35% more physically healthy than children from broken homes. I have always enjoyed a large extended family, yet I have underestimated the importance of my church family. When we moved to live & work in foreign countries for seven years, we had to develop relationships with people not from our direct family. Our church family became our most precious commodity & resource for life, health & happiness.

The Seventh-day Adventist church, with over 22 million members, represents one of the

largest extended families in the world! And we have so many ideas & practices that hold us together in common bonds of love & respect. I have learned to love members of my SDA extended family from all corners of the earth. Each of you are dear to me in so many ways, your warmth, your faith, your encouraging smiles, your presence in important times of life (worship, prayer, bible study). I cannot imagine the loneliness so many suffer alone without an extended family like we have. I am overjoyed with the El Paso Northeast SDA Church family & look forward to many good years ahead of us. Let's share the joy & go find as many others as will come, to join our great big loving family.



Pastor Ray, Becky and Anna house

Pastor Ray House

Views From the Pews

Let's talk about mentorship. What is it and why should we, as a church, be concerned with it?

Merriam Webster's Dictionary says: **Mentor** :

2 – a : a trusted counselor or guide

b : TUTOR, coach

As a congregation we are very good at evangelizing and helping people through the process of preparation for baptism through Bible study, and help. But once a person is baptized and has become a member of our congregation, it seems like they are put aside for the next ones to be worked with.

We need to remember that baptism is the **START** of a lifelong journey, not the end. We need to keep these young Adventists under our wings as they grow in faith, not leave them on their own.

The last thing we wish for is to see people fall to the wayside and leave our family because they were taken for granted. A good many come to God's Church in the Northeast and by far those who come back say that it was because of the loving, family feeling they experienced when they first came. Those who do not come back, we don't know, in most cases, why. Some have been baptized in the Northeast and left after just a couple of weeks, some have been after a few months, but the takeaway from this is that they left. We may have been able to keep them with us to grow in Christ, we may not. In any case we have to try.

Mentorship is the way to accomplish this very important task. Ideally, when a person is baptized, he or she should be placed with a solid, well-versed member of the Body of Christ and, throughout the growth process, have that person to go to when questions or doubts arise. I know that my wife, Cynthia, and I had David Grabe to go to for years as we grew in Christ. David has since moved and we truly miss him.

I know every one of you are here because someone cared enough about you to take you under their wing and help you become the Adventist and Christian you are today.

Make your connection to a new Christian and be their mentor today.



Be someone's Mentor. Bring them closer to Christ, help them learn and make them really feel like a part of our family, God's Family.

Harald Halseth, your brother in Christ



The Ark Trip Adventure (continued from page 1)

The second day was The Ark Encounter. Also built and sponsored by Answers In Genesis it is in its 5th year. Visitors have come from around the world to see it and we just came from Texas.



It is impossible to actually express the immenseness of the Ark. The volume is incredible, and one can easily understand, using the model of taking two or seven of each **KIND**, and taking young ones, how Noah could have fit all those animals in the Ark. Noah and his family would have had their hands full taking care of them but using the technology they most likely had available, and God's help, The Ark Encounter shows, in detail, how it could have been done with models and exhibits.



The New Bus Arrives



Storage Containers

After another long and exciting day walking miles through the Ark everyone was ready to call it a day after grabbing a delicious dinner at Emzara's Kitchen, a very good buffet restaurant. It is the kind of place that you want to go back to since one day is hardly enough to take it all in.

Day three was a free day to visit one of the numerous other attractions in the Florence, Cincinnati area. Most took the day off to relax and absorb what they had taken in, but a few went to the Newport Aquarium with our bus providing transport. A few hardy individuals went back to the Ark to try out the zip lines.



Home Sweet Home

The Ark Committee had decided early in the planning process to hold and pay for a group fellowship meal before we came back to El Paso to let everyone share their impressions and ideas for the future. The Olive Garden in Florence made last-minute arrangements for our party of 41 and did a fantastic job for us. We had 3 servers dedicated to our group and they cleared a large party room for us with just minutes to spare. The Soup, Salad and Bread-sticks was the big winner that evening as well as all those who came to dinner.



The Fellowship Meal



The return trip started early on Thursday morning and our drivers drove straight through to our home church arriving late on Friday morning. Most slept for the majority of the trip back but managed to show up for Sabbath services the next day.

After the trip, a survey was taken and it received a 10 out of 10 review. Both Creation Museum and Ark Encounter are on people's to-do-again list and most felt the Northeast should plan another trip in a couple years.

It was a huge amount of labor, tons of planning and an exhausting year for the Ark Committee but we would do it all again. God's word shines in all our hearts and we all got closer to it as a result of this little trip.

El Paso Northeast SDA Church Celebrates Global Youth Day

The El Paso Northeast SDA Church celebrated Global Youth Day on March 18th by having a Worship service completely led by the church's young people. From the initial announcements to the closing hymn the stage was dominated by some very motivated and dedicated kids. All ages and all the different Sabbath School groups were represented in an awesome display of the truth that our children are the future of our church.

The Children Shall Lead



Music for the worship service was provided by all sections of the Children's Sabbath School, from the Beginners to the Junior classes. Leading the hymns as well special musical selections, they showed themselves not only capable but willing and enthusiastic.



There was a delicious fellowship luncheon following the service which attracted the majority of the congregation. After the luncheon, at 3:00 many took the opportunity to do a visitation to the Montana Villa nursing home to spread the Gospel and bring some light and love into all the resident's day.

The theme of the service was "Love is a Verb" and the sermon was given by two of our more active young people, Elias D. and Joshua T. The. Elias's part of the sermon was "Love is to Share". Joshua is a high school senior this year and is waiting to see if he will be going to Southwest Adventist University next year. He is hoping to become a pastor and it showed. He was on fire at the podium with his part of the sermon, "Love is to Wait". The entire congregation was captured by both messages based on our hope in Christ.



David and Josiah Call for the Offering



In addition to having our youth conducting the service on Global Youth Day, the El Paso Northeast has placed its first youth in a leadership position in the church and Isaac D, the Technology Coordinator is now our first teenage church Board member. His contributions have made us realize that the younger generation has a lot to offer and when the Holy Spirit leads, all things are possible.





Ongoing Events Schedule

Sabbath Worship Schedule

Sabbath (Saturday)	
Sabbath School	9:30 am
Worship Service	11:00 am
2 nd Sabbaths Potluck	1:00 pm ±

Regular Group Bible Study

Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Reflect and Revive

Wednesday 7:00 pm on Facebook

www.facebook.com/elpasonortheast

Home Prayer Meeting

Thursday and Friday Home Prayer Meetings will be addressed each Sabbath in the pre-service announcements. If you have questions please text Genesis Garcia @ 915-820-8401. For meetings held on Zoom use the following to join in:

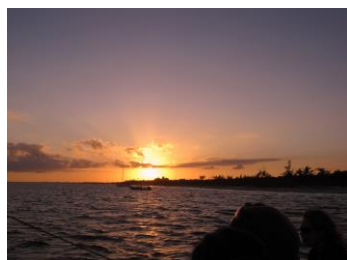
Zoom Meeting ID : **949 3721 4138**

Password : **prayer**



Pathfinder/ Adventurer Meetings & Activities

Adv Fun Day – Apr 9
 PF/Adv Meet – Apr 16
 PF Fair – May 5-7
 PF/Adv Meet – May 21
 Flag Placement
 Ft Bliss Cemetery on
 May 27
 PF/Adv Meet – June 4



Friday Sunsets El Paso, Texas

All times are p.m.

April

7	7:30
14	7:35
21	7:40
28	7:44

May

5	7:49
12	7:54
19	7:59
26	8:04

June

2	8:08
9	8:11
16	8:14
23	8:16
30	8:16

All times shown above are derived from the National Meteorological Center website.

Upcoming Events Schedule

April through June 2023

Ongoing

Come learn and develop friendships at **Sabbath School** each Saturday at 9:45 a.m. There are classes for all ages including adult classes in English and Spanish. If you are interested in helping or leading out with a class contact Annalisa at 915 541-5858 or Ellen at 704 473-7288.

We are excited to be presenting our **new church choir** on April 8th. If you are interested in joining or providing special music for the Worship Service in voice or instrument, please contact Annalisa at 915 541-5858.

April

From April 21st through 30th, the El Paso Northeast SDA Church will be hosting a **Revelation Seminar** presented by Pastor David Merling. Meetings will be each evening at 7:00 pm. Pastor Merling will also be our speaker for the Sabbath worship services on the 22nd and the 29th. Come and bring a friend with you, each evening. There will be an Archaeology and Cultural Study Bible given to some participant each evening.

May

The **Social Committee** is proposing the following event, date yet to be determined, pending approval from Church Board

Church-wide Yard Sale and Grill-Out

Bring all your gently used former treasures to the sale. Items must be in working condition and clean.

- Support a specific ministry with your proceeds.
- Support the mortgage principal with your proceeds.
- Keep the proceeds and pay a spot fee for space.
- Split your proceeds with the church and pay a reduced spot fee.

June

El Paso Adventist Academy, at 3510 George Dieter is now accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year, grades pre-K through 12th grade. Give your children the education they deserve. There will be an open house and early registration in June, date to be determined. Contact Juanita Camacho at 505 681-2683 or Ellen Benoit at 704 473-7288 with your questions.

Lost and Found Dept.

It has been an active quarter for transfers both in and out of the Northeast. Below is a list of those who have become members of our family and those to whom we bid a fond farewell. If there is someone we missed, we sincerely apologize and need you to make sure we recognize them in the next issue of the **Northeast Horizons** newsletter.

For the period 1/1/23 – 3/31/23

We wish a fond farewell to:

Missed last issue: Oct – Dec 22

Amy Hovorka – to Lubbock, TX

Enoch Mitchell – to EP Central

Jan – Mar 23

Chaplain Carlos Molina to Regensburg, Ger.

You will all be missed.

We welcome with open arms:

Alejandro Montes – Baptized

Nicholas Rodriguez – Baptized

Urijah Rodriguez – Baptized

Isaac Drayton – from Caribou, ME

Olga Quiroz – Welcome back from EP Central

Phillip & Joyce Smith from EP Central

Gus & Lidia Ruiz from EP Montana (Spanish)

Welcome to your new family. **This is HOME!**

Anyone desiring a transfer into the El Paso Northeast SDA Church from your current church or to be baptized into our church please see our Church Clerk, Milo Knight to begin the process.

Many thanks to our Church Clerk, Milo Knight for this information.

Editorial Section

If the **NORTHEAST HORIZONS** newsletter is going to be a success, it will depend on participation from everyone. Any newsletter is the voice of not only the church leadership, but the general membership (that's you) as well. There are several sections that are dedicated exclusively to input from church members and there should be a waiting list of submissions to go in them.

The member's sections are specifically the "Views From The Pews" and an column dedicated to personal testimonials as to how the Northeast has had an influence, or changed, your life. Tell us about that special moment when you had that epiphany in your relationship with Christ, the time you went to Sabbath services feeling like it may be the last time, and how by the end of the service you knew this was "Home" to you.

Input from the ministry leaders drives the "Upcoming Events" section and without input, there is nothing to publish. Let the congregation know what you are planning for the next quarter in the way of activities and events. Show us you care.

From the Editor: Harald Halseth

Pastor David Merling To Present Revelation Seminar

Discovering Revelation
Jesus Is the Key

Dr. DAVID MERLING has a Ph.D. in archaeology and Old Testament studies. He taught for 22 years at Andrews University Theological Seminary. In addition, beginning in 1992, he co-directed the excavations at Tall Jiddeh, Jordan. During these years of academic research, he maintained his interest in Bible prophecy. He believes that Jesus is the Key to unlock the mysteries of last day events. The evidence has never been clearer that the exciting conclusion of this world is about to unfold. Dr. Merling says most students try to understand the prophecies of the book of Revelation without understanding that Jesus is the Key to its understanding.

ATTEND IN PERSON
Church Auditorium
5555 Woodrow Bean Transmountain Drive
El Paso, TX 79924

ATTEND ONLINE
Attend Seminar Live @ El Paso
or to receive a seat or for more information

SESSION 1: Friday, April 21 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Is the Key to Discovering the Book of Revelation and Your Future
Prophecies predict an impending crisis greater than we have ever seen before. How can we survive?

SESSION 2: Saturday, April 22 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Rewards the Seven Winners of Revelation
Explore a powerful prophecy that charts the course of world history, reveals where we are today in God's prophetic timetable, and unveils the next world superpower—all with pinpoint accuracy!

SESSION 3: Sunday, April 23 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Acknowledged as Total World and Universal Liberator
One of the most important rights of the entire seminar! Gain the confidence to face the future unafraid!

SESSION 4: Monday, April 24 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Resumes Tattooing His Slaves

SESSION 5: Tuesday, April 25 - 7:00 p.m.
Baby Jesus Attacked by the Dragon

SESSION 6: Wednesday, April 26 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Plays Defense at Earth's Superbowl!

MORE TOPICS TO INCLUDE:
Thursday, April 27 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Proclaimed Victorious by Heaven's Messengers
Friday, April 28 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus' Messengers Empty Their Bowls on the Blasphemers

Thursday, April 29 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Blinds Over the Devil to the Grand Jury
Sunday, April 30 - 7:00 p.m.
Jesus Claims His Glorious Prize

FREE Admission FREE Study Materials FREE Parking
FREE Archaeology and Cultural Background Study Bible will be given away each evening.

April 21 – 30 at 7:00 pm
each evening at the El Paso
Northeast SDA Church.
Don't miss it!

News From the Treasury

Our church mortgage balance continues to shrink at an incredible rate thanks to God's blessings and your faithful generosity. We began 2023 with a balance of \$50,886.29 and by March 31st it was down to approximately \$28,600.



We have established two new church accounts to manage some church offerings. The first, the **Church Reserve Fund**, is dedicated to the Local Church Budget offerings from weekly and online budget offerings. Any surplus, (offerings over \$3,500) will be placed in this account to allow an instant accounting of any budgetary expense reserves we have. The second, the **Ministry Support Funds**, was set up to allow a centralized expense fund for ministry use only. Offerings listed on the tithe envelope as "Local Church Ministries" will be placed in this account. This account will allow those who wish to support the ministries in their missions without specifying a particular ministry to make offerings which will be available to any ministry needing it. Many ministries currently have surpluses which they can use as needed but several have very little or no money available. If you have a particular ministry you wish to support with your weekly offerings please continue to do so by entering the ministry you wish to support on the blank line in the **Local Church Section** of your tithe envelope. If you wish to support all ministries without designating one, use the tithe envelope entry "Local Church Ministries" in the **Local Church Section** of your tithe envelope.