

Desert Cove SDA Church News

“Serious Times”

From Hope of Glory Devotional by John Bradshaw

“Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. Joel 2:12, 13

When the United States announced it would enter World War II, Americans knew that life was going to change and circumstances would be difficult. But for those living in Europe or Asia—in the places where the flames of war burned fiercest—people prepared as much as they could for a time they knew would be indescribably difficult. They knew bad times were ahead.

The Bible makes clear this planet is headed for difficult times. God’s Word assures us that “all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution: (2 Timothy 3:12), and Daniel pointed forward to a coming “time of trouble, such as never was” (Daniel 12:1). Though it isn’t possible to know what exactly that time is going to be like, it is clear that the faith of God’s people will be severely tested. Revelation 13:8 says, “all who dwell on the earth will worship” an end-time spiritual counterfeit, with the exception of a group of people whose names are “written in the Book of Life of the Lamb.” The coming conflict involving every inhabitant of earth will be great.

What will it take to honor God at a time when the world at large is doing exactly the opposite? Consider what God says in Joel 2:12. In calling His people to repentance, God says, “Turn to me.” While no one needs to live in fear of the future, God points out that anyone planning to depart this world and dwell one day in the world to come must make a radical commitment to Him. This is no time to take faith lightly. Only those who allow God to be their everything will experience the power of God to carry them through a time of difficult trial. We face tomorrow knowing Jesus is with us, and an eternity of security and peace is just ahead.

(A note from your pastor) With the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our daily devotion studying God’s Word, we can build our faith in Jesus so that we can stand the trials that are coming in the future. My prayer for all of us is that we continue to grow in a closer and closer relationship with Jesus Christ daily.

May Calendar

Women’s Ministry Meeting
May 4th after the service

Men’s Ministry Brunch
May 5th @ 10 a.m.

Outreach Group
May 5th @ 10 a.m.

Small Group Training
May 6th @ 6:30 p.m.

Elder’s Meeting
May 9th @ 6:30 p.m.

Church Board Meeting
May 9th @ 7 p.m.

VBS Meeting
TBA

Food Pantry
May 15th from 10-noon

Health Ministry Meeting
May 18th after the service

Work Bee
May 19th @ 9 a.m.

Mobile Ministry Meeting
May 25th right after lunch

Sabbath School
Adult 9:30-10:40 a.m.
Kindergarten, Primary and Junior
9:30-10:40 a.m.

Revelation Verse by Verse
Each Wednesday at 7 p.m.
2nd & 4th Sabbaths after lunch

Prayer Call
Tuesday’s at 7:00 p.m.
Call 1-971-224-6616 Code: 278589

Great Controversy Reading
Sabbaths @ 3:30 p.m. via zoom

Tithes & Offerings
Mail to: Cathy Fields
10005 W Cameo Drive
Sun City, AZ 85351

Go to www.desertcovesda.com and click on ‘Online Giving’ and follow the prompts to give that way.

Email: desertcovesda@yahoo.com **Physical Address:** 12400 W Desert cove Road, El Mirage, AZ 85335

Mailing Address: 13954 W Waddell Road, Suite 103 #616, Surprise, AZ 85379 **Website:** www.desertcovesda.com

Avocado

Avocados are rich in omega-9 fatty acids, healing fats that increase the activity of cellular energy engines to speed fat burn. Scientists at Loma Linda University in California report that adding half an avocado to your daily diet can help you shed up to 1 pound of belly fat each week without dieting. The Omega-9 fatty acids in the avocado increase the out-put of glutathione, which speeds up the liver's breakdown of fat-trapping toxins. Avocados can also increase energy. Enjoying an avocado-spiked smoothie can help improve focus for 5 hours and increase energy by 40%, according to researchers. All the credit goes to the fruit's rich stores of potassium, which kick-starts the production of the energizing hormone dopamine. Most importantly studies indicate that women who eat half an avocado daily shed 10 pounds in two months without counting calories.

“And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.” Genesis 1:20

Thank you, Dr. Sylvia Hayashi, Health and Prayer Ministry Leader

Mobile Ministry

The Mobile Ministry was able to serve 404 meals in the month of April so far. They still have a couple more days to take food to the homeless.

White Chocolate Cranberry Cookies

1 cup unsalted butter (room temp)
 1/2 cup granulated sugar
 1/2 cup pack light brown sugar
 1 tsp vanilla extract
 1 tsp almond extract
 1 large egg, room temperature
 2 T lemon zest

2 cups flour
 1 tsp baking powder
 1/2 tsp fine salt
 3/4 cup white chocolate chips
 2 cups fresh cranberries, chopped,
 (see substitute below)

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a large mixing bowl, with an electric mixer on medium high speed, cream together the butter and sugar for 2-3 minutes or until light and fluffy. Add the egg and beat well to incorporate. Beat in the zest, vanilla and almond extract.
3. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder and salt. Add to the butter mixture and beat just until combined and dough comes together.
4. Using a stiff spatula, stir in the cranberries and chocolate chips just until incorporated. Using a small cookie scoop, place cookies 2 inches apart on your prepared baking sheet.
5. Bake 12-15 minutes or until golden brown at the edges. If you are using dried cranberries, your baking time will be about 11-13 minutes. Do not over bake or they will be hard.
6. Cool for 5 minutes on the baking sheet then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.
7. Once cool, you may want to make a simple icing of powdered sugar, a little butter, lemon juice and zest to taste and maybe a touch of milk so it will drizzle over the cookies.

Note: If fresh cranberries are not in season, use dried cranberries and soak them in boiling water for about 10 minutes then drain well. You may want to add more zest to the cookies. You may also use orange zest and orange juice where lemon is called for.

Outreach Ministry

The outreach group went out in April and homes in the Buckeye area. They made a lot of contacts and gave away quite a few Great Controversy books. They had a table at the Mobile Ministry fundraiser and were able to give away even more books. If you want to join them they will go out May 5th again at 10 a.m.

Bible Studies

Eva has four adult Bible studies and one child study going right now. Keep these people in your prayers. There are many out there who are searching for the truth right now.

Community Service

We are collecting flip-flops, backpacks and summer clothing now. Please bring your donations to church and place them in the basket by the entry table.