

TO RENAME OR NOT TO RENAME

This Sabbath our church faces the beginning of a significant vote: to rename our church. Members will cast ballots today, August 9, after the service, and voting will remain open until next Sabbath, August 16. This decision will cap a year-long period of reflection, conversation, and weighing pros and cons. Our church first opened its doors in 1924 as the **Glendale Sanitarium Seventh-day Adventist Church**, affectionately known as “The San.” Forty years later, upon moving into our new sanctuary across the street, we renamed the church after its street location. For the past 60 years, we’ve been known as the **Vallejo Drive Church of Seventh-day Adventists**.

Over two decades ago, a powerful revival of God’s grace swept through our congregation. We considered various ways to reflect this crucial emphasis, including rebranding the church. Although the time wasn’t right for a name change then, our commitment to grace was boldly reflected in other ways. Our website adopted a new URL, www.graceunconditional.com, and our church’s monthly newsletter was named "Grace Place."

Today, 25 years later, are we ready for a rebrand that clearly reflects our purpose? Given our emphasis on grace and our church’s literal location on a hill, the pastors and Board of the church put forth the name **Grace Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church** as a possible replacement. We considered this name for its profound spiritual significance. "Grace Hill" points us back to Calvary, where Jesus sacrificed His life for the world. It also reminds us to be the church “on the hill that cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14), a place where people experience genuine grace through worship, teaching, and acts of service.

Let’s be clear: changing our name does not alter our identity or mission as a Seventh-day Adventist church. Our Bible-centered preaching will remain steadfast while we align our name more closely with our spiritual focus.

We currently face a name recognition issue. Vallejo, a Spanish surname, means nothing to most people today. Our community survey revealed frequent confusion; as we often had to repeat the name multiple times, hearing responses like, "Did you say Valley?" or "Is that Valero, like the gas station?"

Some have asked, "Why can't we keep our current name, still be a place of unconditional grace, and just be more active in the community so we're better known?" Well, we already are a place of grace, and are active in the community-- Laundry Love, Home Again L.A., food bank, exercise classes-- and people are still struggling to know who we are. It’s challenging to recall a name when it is not memorable and is difficult to pronounce. We simply aim to make ministry easier.

Finally, a name that transcends a local street communicates more effectively, resonating both locally and globally. When our mission teams wear t-shirts with our church’s name and logo, they should perfectly align with our beliefs, purpose, passion, and mission. Even God named His Son, Jesus (God saves), in line with His mission, in order to reach and touch the people He came to save.

With that said, we'll simplify what we’re voting on today and this week. Maybe you’re open to change, but not in favor of the name the board selected. **So we’ll simply vote on if the membership is open to a name change or not.** Choosing a church name is an important decision because it shapes identity, reflects mission, and can impact how the community perceives the church. In making your decision, we'd like you to consider six key criteria to consider when selecting a name:

- 1. Theological Accuracy: Does the name reflect our church's doctrine and beliefs?
- 2. Mission and Vision Alignment: Does the name align with our church’s purpose and outreach goals?
- 3. Cultural and Community Relevance: Is the name understandable, relatable, and inviting to our local context, especially to the unchurched?
- 4. Uniqueness, Clarity and Memorability: Is the name already widely used and/or something easy to pronounce, spell, and remember?
- 5. Longevity and Scalability: Will the name still fit 40 years from now as our church grows?
- 6. Legacy: Does the name speak to the legacy and history of the church?

Finally, we want to assure you that regardless of the outcome of our vote, together we are and will be more than motivated to do ministry with commitment, passion, and grace.

DIVINE WORSHIP SERVICE

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Prelude | <i>My Shepherd Will Supply My Need</i> <i>arr. Page</i> | Piano |
| Introit | <i>Holy Ground</i> | Vallejo Drive Worship |
| Welcome & Invocation | | Pastor Cindy Ramirez-Hui |
| Songs of Worship | <i>How Great Thou Art #86</i> <i>Friend of God/What A Friend</i> | Chorister & Organ Vallejo Drive Worship |
| Garden of Prayer | | Manasseh Nwaigwe, Jr. |
| Congregational Prayer Response | <i>What A Friend</i> (please remain kneeling) | Congregation, Piano, & Vallejo Drive Worship |
| Children’s Feature | | Teresa Bergman |
| Pastor’s Corner | | Pastor Jonathan Henderson |
| Worship in Giving | Local Church Budget | Susie Whitaker |
| Offertory | <i>Just Want to Praise You</i> | Vallejo Drive Worship |
| Responsive Reading | Psalm 103:1-6 | Morgan Taylor |
| Musical Feature | <i>Unshakable Kingdom (Patty)</i> | Juliana Baioni, solo |
| Sermon | “Discipleship 101: The Church” | Pastor Jonathan Henderson |
| Postlude | Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Bach) (please remain seated) | Organ |

Organist/Pianist: Haesung Park, DMA
Praise Team Director: Matt Daley, DMA

PREACHING SCHEDULE

August 16, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson
August 23, 2025: Pastor Anthony Paschal, Jr.
August 30, 2025: Pastor Cindy Ramirez-Hui
September 6, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson
September 13, 2025: Pastor Jonathan Henderson

CHURCH LIFE

WELCOME AND HAPPY SABBATH! Thank you for choosing Vallejo Drive Church as your place of worship. We pray that you will be blessed today.

CITY OF GLENDALE REPAIR ON VALLEJO DRIVE: The sidewalk and driveway leading up to our Vallejo Drive parking lot will be unaccessible starting Monday, August 18, 2025 for at least 2 weeks, including 2 or 3 Sabbaths. Parking is available in our Holly parking lot and at the hospital. Thank you for your understanding.

NAME CHANGE: Church members, make your voice heard! Please place your votes today regarding the name change after the service. Vote during the week! Email clerk@vallejodrive.church by next Sabbath, Aug 16.

CONCERT: THE PHILIPPINE MEISTERSINGERS--WED, AUG 13
You will not want to miss this concert at Vallejo Drive by this award winning, world-renown choir during their USA tour. This Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at 7 pm. For more information, contact the church office.

CONFERENCE WIDE CHURCH LEADERS TRAINING: SAB, SEPT 6, 2025
Our church will be hosting EQUIP 2025, a conference-wide training for all local church leaders in our conference. Please plan on attending if you are part of a ministry. For more information, please contact SCC at 818-546-8400 or 818-246-2476. Register at scc.adventist.org/equip2025

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please pray for Jacqueline Baptiste, Petra Rodriguez, Susan Lindner, Francis Ciera, Trevis Wanjohi, Kayla, Lucy Wanjohi, Pratik, Wesley family, Birmingham family, Mattesi family, Danlag family, Jabola family, and for our members affected by the SoCal fires.

SCC OFFERING SCHEDULE: scc.adventist.org/treasury
Aug 9: Christian Record Services for the Blind | Aug 23: Camp Cedar Falls

9:30 am SABBATH SCHOOL & 10:15 am MISSION FEATURE in CHAPEL
Magdalena Dan--Herghelia Lifestyle Center & School in Romania
Next Sabbath: Russ Nelson and friends--Sabbath Keepers Motorcycle Club

HOME AGAIN LA OUTREACH: Contact Maite & Andrew Cervik on how you can feed families in need. Aug 25-27, Sept 15-17, Oct 13-15, & Dec 8-10.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES: SECRET SISTER ADVENTURE: Let the fun begin!
The Secret Sister Post Office will be open Aug 9 to Oct 25. Bring your Secret Sister a note & a small gift. Stop by our Secret Sister Post Office to see if you have a package! For more info, contact Alma 747-215-0611.

GAA NEWS
Glendale Adventist Academy Prayer Walk in the cul-de-sac next Sabbath afternoon, August 16, 2025 at 2:30 pm at 700 Kimlin Drive. Come join our teachers as we invite the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to direct and guide our school year. For more information, call or text (818) 472-2571.

Please continue to support our constituent school, Glendale Adventist Academy, their faculty, staff, and students. 818-244-8671.

CHURCH EVENTS

| | | |
|-------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Wed, Aug 13 | Philippine Meistersingers (AUP Amabassadors) | 7 pm, Sanctuary |
| Fri, Aug 15 | Young Adult Vespers Youth Vespers at Eagle Rock Church | 7pm, Cafe 7 pm, Eagle Rock Church |
| Aug 25-27 | Home Again LA Outreach: Meal Preparation | see Maite Cervik |
| Sab, Sept 6 | EQUIP 2025: Church Leaders Training | 3 pm, Church Campus |

MINISTRIES AND OUTREACH

FOOD BANK
Come help feed those in need! To volunteer to receive, pick up donations, or distribute, please contact Pastor Ben. Receiving donations at church on Mondays & Fridays. Food Distribution: Wednesdays 12pm-1 pm and Sabbath afternoons

LAUNDRY LOVE MINISTRY
For those in need of laundry services: every 3rd Tuesday at 1157 N Pacific, Glendale
For more info, contact Doug at 818-935-4317 or Pastor Cindy

ADVENTURERS & PATHFINDERS Adventurers (PreK-4th grade) and Pathfinders (ages 10+) meet on the 2nd and 4th Sabbaths, from Sept to June.
adventurers@vallejodrive.church or text 818-571-2038

TEENS4CHRIST: T4C Hangout--A Friday after-school activity with games, snacks, and vespers for 7th and 8th graders. Fridays at 3 pm. [vallejodrive.church/T4C](#)

YOUNG ADULTS: 1st Sabbath of month: Afternoon Bible Study |
2nd Sabbath: Social Event | 3rd Friday: Joint Vespers with Eagle Rock SDA Church

EXERCISE OPPORTUNITIES
Come exercise with our Adventist Fitness Clinic! Sundays at 7am, Verdugo Park.
Contact Irvin for more information.
During the week, join AHG LiveWell’s Exercise program Mon-Wed [here at church!](#)
Contact Sara at (818)409-8354 for dates and times.
The whole body is designed for action, and unless the physical powers are kept in health by active exercise, the mental power cannot long be used to their highest capacity.” (Education, p.207)

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY GROUPS
Mondays 7 pm on Zoom: Koinonia- led by Elder Doug Warner
Wednesdays 6pm on Zoom: Seeking Jesus- led by Pastor Mark Papendick
Wednesdays 7pm in-person: Bible Study- led by the Pastoral Staff

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Join our Media/AV team & be part of bringing worship to life, both in person and supporting our livestream. Contact Mavis 818-419-4429

WOMEN'S MINISTRY: [Baby Quilts](#): Capable hands needed to complete baby quilts for LA General Medical Center’s NICU. Contact Alma 747-215-0611 or Winna 818-919-9228 for more information. [Can't come to quilt?](#) Visit [vallejodrive.church/women](#) for a list of supplies. [Sponsor a Baby Quilt!](#) \$35 only!

MUSIC MINISTRY REHEARSALS--everyone is welcome!
Praise Team: Contact Matt Daley for more info: [worship@vallejodrive.church](#)
Bell Choir: Fridays at 7:15 pm in the Bell Room. Contact the church office for info
Choir: Saturdays at 9:15 am in the Choir Room. Contact the church office for info

CHURCH INFORMATION

LISTENING DEVICES are available at the Hostess Desk for guests who are hearing impaired.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are available at the Hostess Desk for children ages 1 to 9. Please return them at the end of the service.

HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES are available for people with disabilities and the proper placards in our two parking lots: 4 spaces in our Holly Drive lot, 3 spaces in our Vallejo Drive lot, and 2 spaces right in front of our Sanctuary.

SABBATH SCHOOL

9:30-10:15 am: Adult Sabbath School Lesson Study (Chapel)
10:15-10:45 am: Adult Sabbath School Mission Program (Chapel)
9:45-10:30 am: Fellowship Hall Class (Fellowship Hall)
10-10:45 am: Spanish SS/Escuela Sabática (1st Floor Room 104A)
10-10:45 am: Gospel Conversations (Outside Hallway)
10-10:45 am: Young Adult Sabbath School (Cafe)

| CHILDREN AND YOUTH CLASSES | Education Complex | |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| KIDS CONNECTION at 9:45 am in Room 106 | | |
| Beginners | Birth - 36 months | 1st floor, Room 116A |
| Tiny Tots | 3 & 4 years old | 2nd floor, Room 206A |
| Kindergarten | 5-7 years old | 2nd floor, Room 204B |
| Primary | 3rd & 4th grades | 2nd floor, Room 202A |
| Juniors | 5th & 6th grades | 2nd floor, Room 208A |
| T4C (Earliteens) | 7th & 8th grades | 1st floor, Room 104A |
| VDrive- Youth | 9th - 12th grades | 2nd floor, Room 202A |

CONTACT US

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Lead Pastor: Jonathan Henderson | 747-291-8994 | henderson@vallejodrive.church |
| Teaching/Care: Aivars Ozolins | 818-928-9230 | pastoraivars@vallejodrive.church |
| Admin/Comm Services: Ben Garcia | 818-424-4180 | adminpastor@vallejodrive.church |
| Youth: Cindy Ramirez-Hui | 818-246-2476 | pastorcindy@vallejodrive.church |
| Young Adults: Anthony Paschal, Jr. | 818-246-2476 | youngadults@vallejodrive.church |
| Worship Director: Matthew Daley | 818-246-2476 | worship@vallejodrive.church |
| Choir Director: Helene Quintana | 818-246-2476 | office@vallejodrive.church |
| Treasurer: Michelle Sharda | 818-246-2476 | treasurer@vallejodrive.church |
| Admin Assistant: Anne Leah D. Guia | 818-246-2476 | office@vallejodrive.church |



Vallejo Drive Church

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

A Place Where GRACE is UNCONDITIONAL

August 9, 2025

“Discipleship 101: The Church”

Pastor Jonathan Henderson

Vallejo Drive Church of Seventh-day Adventists
300 Vallejo Drive, Glendale, CA 91206

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 9 am-6 pm
Phone: 818-246-2476 Fax: 818-246-0157
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