

contact

SERMON NOTES

"Mary's Marvelous Gift" Jeff Wilson 9-25-21

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LOCATION

41 E 13th St., Tempe, AZ 85281

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Ray Andrew Navarro, Pastor

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WAYS TO GIVE



CHURCH



ONLINE



MAIL

Monthly Goal in Offerings: \$4,112

WEEKS: 1-\$30 2-\$520 3-\$325

Today's Offerings: for Arizona Evangelism (conference)

SABBATH SUNSETS

Tonight, 6:20 p.m.

Next Friday, 6:12p.m.



1946 ~ 2021

TEMPE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

welcome

We're glad you're here! Worshiping God together is one of life's greatest blessings. We welcome our guests and hope that we will make you feel at home.

A special welcome to the Honorable Corey D. Woods, Mayor of Tempe, and pastor and Mrs. Jeff Wilson.

Today we are celebrating our 75th Anniversary and thank God for His love, providence, and guidance that He has so graciously bestowed upon us throughout the years.

ABOUT US

We officially organized in Tempe on September 21, 1946. For 75 years our goal has been to demonstrate Jesus' love and share Bible truths. We are racially and culturally diverse. We promote godliness, the Gospel for all, and the soon coming of Jesus.

Adventists are about 22 million, globally.

CURIOUS ABOUT ADVENTISTS?

FIND OUT MORE

WWW.ADVENTIST.ORG



ANNIVERSARY

75 YEARS OF HARVESTING FOR CHRIST



PROGRAM

9:30 a.m.

Opening
Special Presentation
Bible Class in Sanctuary

*Elisa Navarro
Pastor Ray Navarro*

11:00 a.m.

Welcome
Church News
Bible Reading, Luke 7:36-40
Praise
Opening Prayer
Weekend Overview
Recognition of Dignitaries
Remarks
Children's Story
Prayer & Share
Special Music

*Jacquelyn Van Sant
Pastor Ray Navarro
Daniel Andrean
Jacquelyn Van Sant
Pastor Jeff Wilson
Pastor Ray Navarro
Pastor Ray Navarro
Mayor Corey D. Woods
Autumn Mittermiller
Chris Albrecht
Young Disciples
Christian Academy
Pastor Jeff Wilson*

Sermon: "Mary's Marvelous Gift"

(sermon note-taking on flip side)

Special Music
Prayer

*Jacquelyn Van Sant
Pastor Jeff Wilson*

~ LUNCH IN ASSEMBLY ROOM ~

After Lunch Program

Welcome & Prayer
Songs
Tempe's History

*Harold Clark
Jacquelyn Van Sant
Dottie Eddlemon, Judy Long
Pastor Ray Navarro
Judy Long
In Assembly Room*

Special Commitment
Invitation to Exhibit
Closing

SPECIAL EXHIBIT, "TEMPE'S STORY" IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOM

Beverly Bell, organist | Deacon Team, Lewis | Elder, Chris Albrecht

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH

The Tempe Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized on September 21, 1946 with 35 charter members. Two years prior Dr. Ernest Pohle established a hospital in Tempe (now the Tempe St. Luke's Hospital); but as the hospital family grew the desire for a local church organization increased.

After evangelistic meetings at the Tempe Women's Club by pastor A.J. Purdy, the church was organized with Claude Eldridge as pastor. Soon others were added to the 35 charter members and a regular meeting place was sought. This problem was solved by a kind gentleman, Mr. Joseph Birchett, who owned the Knights of Pythian Lodge Hall located above a grocery store on the main street of town (you can see a large photo of the hall in our Assembly Room). At the top of the long flight of stairs up to the hall was a motto that the Adventists adopted as their own. It read, "If every church member were just like me, what kind of church would this church be?" The lodge hall was filled with equipment and tobacco fumes. The youth met in the room of pool tables where one of them served as a podium with a sheet cover. But many people discovered Christ in this unlikely setting.

At one particular worship, a communion service, a cultured woman attended. Pastor Eldridge had a few Bible studies with her but was somewhat nervous what she would think of this unique ritual. But at the close of the service she remarked to the pastor, "I have found what I have been searching for." In the ensuing years, she proved to be a real asset to the church.

Mr. Birchett demonstrated such faith in and friendship for our infant church that he purchased two lots strategically located on Highway 60 and encouraged the construction of a church home. A builder living on the same block attempted to stop the construction, gathering neighbors and convincing some that the church would be a bad addition to the neighborhood. Determined to stop the Adventists from building, he hired the best law firm in Phoenix. But supported by the majority of townspeople and encouraged by Mr. Birchett, construction of the church began anyway. With the assistance of Arthur Wahlman from the firm of Lescher and Mahoney Architects, the Del Webb Corporation, pastor W.R. French (Tempe's second pastor), and many other friends, the church was finished and dedicated free of debt in 1952 (pictured at right).



As the church grew, there was an acute need for larger and better facilities. Dale Perkins of Battle Creek, Michigan, spent several years in Tempe and made architectural drawings of a beautiful addition and alteration of design in 1981—including a bell tower that still works today—that has given Tempe one of the most beautiful church homes in Arizona.

Today we continue to be a vibrant congregation, always seeking ways to be a light in our community.