

A Few Words From Your Pastoral Staff

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Dear Member of the Auburn Church Family,

This week we have a special privilege in our church! Our speaker this coming Sabbath for our annual Teacher Dedication Sabbath is Mark Witas, one of the most engaging speakers I know. He has been a youth pastor, an academy boys dean, a teacher and is currently the pastor of the Pacific Union College Church.

The Adventist Church and the Pine Hills Academy Constituency in particular, believe in Christ-centered education so much that we make a huge investment in it. Parents invest significant amounts of their family's resources to send their children to Pine Hills. We as a church invest almost 50% of our budget in subsidizing Pine Hills - in addition to providing infrastructure and support for special projects and "worthy student" funding. In the Northern California Conference, half of the tithe paid by members stays in the Conference and twenty-five percent of that goes towards subsidizing Adventist education.

Placer County has a stellar educational system. You can get an excellent education in the local public schools. In addition, there are home schools, charter schools and other Christian schools that all provide an educational product we as Placer County residents can be proud of.

So, why do we make the investment that we do?

Because we believe that Pine Hills is there to prepare student's hearts and minds for an eternity of learning about God and the universe he has created. In addition, we believe that we are training the future leaders of his church here on earth. Our aim is to make fully committed, passionate followers of Jesus.

Because of that aim, Pine Hills is a spiritual battlefield where every day real spiritual warfare goes on that has eternal consequences. That's why we pray for Pine Hills - teachers, students, administrators, Board members and support staff on a regular basis. And, that is why we set aside a special Sabbath each year to honor our teachers and to pray for them as the front-line forces training our children. That is also why we urge you to prayerfully support our teachers and students in the public sector, in other Christian schools the people who educate at home.

Here's hoping you are having a great week!

Pastor Dan M. Appel

