

# February 8, 2020 Mortgage Burning Celebration 40th Anniversary

## We're Celebrating!

Today is a special Sabbath. The Spencerville Church building where we are currently located turns 40 years old this weekend! It is also a day to celebrate freedom from debt as we burn the mortgage on the new Spencerville Adventist Academy. There are lots of interesting things to read in the bulletin today. There is also much to praise. We thank God for His leading the past 40 years and look forward to what He has in store for our future. Please fill out the Connection Card in your bulletin and drop the card in the offering plates at the doors or turn it in at the Welcome Desk in the Foyer.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekly receiving goal: \$8,723

Local Combined Budget Giving Giving through January 25, 2020 - Week 30

Received: \$319,754

Receiving Goal: \$352,908

Annual Budget: \$550,000

## SUNSET TIMES:

Today: 5:34 p.m./Next Sabbath: 5:41 p.m.

#### Adventist Giving Online

A safe and easy way to give your tithes and offerings online using an electronic check or debit/credit card! Go to: spencervillechurch.org/give Click into the secure site. Receive a confirmation via email.

Current Debt ......\$3,223,697

**JOINING SPENCERVILLE:** If you would like to transfer your membership or be baptized to become a member of the Spencerville Adventist Church, please submit a Connection or Welcome Card to the Hospitality Desk in the Foyer or in the offering plate.

National Domestic Violence Hotline — 800-799-7233

## Church Staff Directory

Senior Pastor	Chad Stuart	Minister of Music	Michael Patterson
Associate Pastors	Lerone Carson	Organist	Mark Willey
	Andrea Jakobsons	Office Manager	Carol Strack
	Jason Lombard	Treasurer	Eugene Korff
	Kandace Zollman	Prayer Request Voicemail	301-384-2920 ext. 140
Pastors Emeritus	Gaspar Colón	Spencerville Adventist Academy	301-421-9101
	Charlotte McClure	SAA Head Principal	Tissiana Bowerman
	Steve Willsey		

Diaconate Team: Injety, Roth HIS Team: Henkel, Hess, Wetmore

WiFi connectivity is available. The network is: SpencervilleChurch and the password is: Spencerville16325.

## Order of Worship

9:00 a.m.

Choral in E Major

	Joseph Jorgen	
Welcome		Pastor Kandace Zollman
†Hymn of Praise No. 73:	Holy, Holy, Holy NICAEA	
Prayer		Rick Remmers
Thank Offering		Pastor Zollman
Children's Lesson		Sheralee Thomas
Mortgage Burning Celebration Remarks Litany (see page 6) Burning Prayer of Thanksgiving		Jerry Lutz Jerry Lutz Pastors Lutz, Stuart, and Remmers Rick Remmers
Sermon:	Jesus, Shape Our Buildings	Pastor Chad Stuart
Hymn of Response No. 559:	Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET	
Benediction		Pastor Stuart

Song Service

PRELUDE:

LESSON STUDY: Sanctuary Class (other classes listed on p. 12)

†Indicates congregation is to stand

Please assist us in maintaining a reverent spirit of worship by muting your electronic devices. You may be photographed or appear in video during the services this morning.

Ed Zinke

# Order of Worship 11:15 a.m.

Prelude:	Choral in E Major Joseph Jorgen	
Welcome		Pastor Kandace Zollman
Introit:	Behold, God is my salvatio Eric Thiman	on Sanctuary Choir
†Hymn of Praise No. 73:	Holy, Holy, Holy NICAEA	
†Invocation		Pastor Chad Stuart
Tithes and Offerings:	Adventist Television Ministries (	(NAD) Pastor Jason Lombard
Offertory:	Rejoice, the Lord is King Don Neufeld	Sanctuary Choir
Prayer		Rick Remmers
Thank Offering		Mark Noble
Children's Lesson		Shelley Tenali
Scripture:	1 Chronicles 29:10-20	Tissiana Bowerman
Mortgage Burning Celebratic Remarks Litany (see page 6) Burning †Praise in Song, No. 695	DN Doxology Old hundredth	Jerry Lutz Jerry Lutz Pastors Lutz, Stuart, and Remmers Congregation
†Prayer of Thanksgiving		Rick Remmers

†Indicates congregation is to stand

Anthem:	The Majesty and Glory of Your Name Tom Fettle	Sanctuary Choir
Sermon:	Jesus, Shape Our Buildings	Pastor Stuart
†Нумп of Response No. 559	: Now Thank We All Our God NUN DANKET	
†Benediction		Pastor Stuart
†Choral Response:	Holy, Holy, Holy Franz Schubert (originally Sanctus)	Sanctuary Choir
Postlude:	Now Thank We All Our God J. S. Bach	

### Worship Notes

Today is a special Sabbath. First and foremost, because we will demonstrate the completion of a dream started 20 years ago—the building of a new Spencerville Adventist Academy—by burning the mortgage. We will do this on the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Spencerville Church in this building.

A mortgage burning ceremony is a celebration of freedom from debt. But for a congregation it goes much deeper. It symbolizes God's guidance and blessing for this church. It is a tribute to the faith and persistence of God's people. And it inspires us toward new visions, dreams, and the further fulfillment of mission. This ceremony will occur in both services.

A nod is given to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church through several elements in our second service. Forty years ago on February 9, this building was dedicated (see history on p. 9). Larry Noble called for the Thank offering that Sabbath; his son, Mark, will do that today.

The prelude, postlude, and opening hymn were all played in this church 40 years ago, albeit on a different organ by a different organist (see music notes).

You will note three lit candles on the platform this morning. They are lit in honor of the memory of three men who were passionate and committed to the building of the new SAA. All three served either on the Long Range Planning Committee or Building Committee, as well as serving as leaders in our church community. All three were taken from us too soon, and before they could see the fruits of their labor. We remember them in love, and in the shared hope of the resurrection at our Lord's soon return: Frank Faehner, Scott Handel, and Larry Noble.

## Litany In Celebration of the Burning of the Mortgage

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

#### Congregation: God's love is everlasting.

Leader: Come, let us praise God joyfully.

#### Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

Leader: For those people, both in our past and our present, who gave of themselves fully and completely to the building of our faith community;

#### We thank you, Lord God.

Leader: For those among us who dared to dream, to see what others could not, who, inspired by God's leading, pushed forward in faith;

#### We thank you, Lord God.

Leader: For the generous contributions of time, talents, and the commitment of pastors, leaders, and members who tirelessly worked toward the completion of this project in spite of obstacles and challenges;

#### We thank you, Lord God.

Leader: For the unwavering commitment and abundant generosity of those who contributed so that this dream could be fulfilled;

#### We thank you, Lord God.

Leader: For the faithful prayers of members entreating God's guidance and blessing;

#### We thank you, Lord God.

Leader: For our children and the commitment to Seventh-day Adventist education, recognizing that educating a child in and for Christ is one of our most important missions;

#### We thank you, Lord God.

Leader: For the Holy Spirit's leading in each generation, from our smallest beginnings to the present;

#### We thank you, Lord God.

Leader: We praise You, Eternal God, for Your goodness to us. We celebrate and give thanks to You for a milestone reached, a debt paid, and a promise kept.

#### Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

Leader: We pray that God will continue to guide us with a spirit of unity, inspiring us with wisdom and knowledge to continue His work. While this project is now complete, we dedicate ourselves anew to continuing to envision new ways to share the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout this community, our nation, and the world.

With joy in our hearts, recognizing the blessing of God in lifting this burden of debt, we transform this cancelled mortgage, the symbol of our completed task, into the incense of prayer and thanksgiving.

## **Membership** Transfers

This is the first reading of these names.

#### Incoming:

David **Imbraguglio** from Sligo Adventist Church in Takoma Park, Maryland Tanesha **Forbes-Gibbs** from Olney Adventist Church in Olney, Maryland

#### **Outgoing:**

Bob and Sherry Uhrig to Connection Community Company in Laurel, Maryland

#### **Music Notes**

As we celebrate the successful payoff of the mortgage for the SAA school building, the words of Martin Rinkart's hymn "Nun danket alle Gott" ring as true to us now as they did when they were written in 1636.

- Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
- Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices;
- Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
- With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

Since the fortunes of this church and school have been intertwined from the beginning, it is fitting that as we burn the school mortgage, we also arrive at the 40th anniversary of worship in this sanctuary. On that first worship in the "new" church, the congregation sang the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy," and John Lintner played Jongen's Choral in E Major and Johann Sebastian Bach's "Now Thank We All Our God." When John died in 2015, he gave his bow ties and his vast collection of organ music to Mark Willey, who is playing the prelude and postlude from the very same scores John used that day, 40 years ago. The dedication of those who've come before to the worship of God and the education of our children is a legacy we are blessed to continue. May the voices of all, young

and old, be ever raised in our school and church, in praise to "God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!" until He comes again in glory.

#### Happy Birthday to Us!

Spencerville Church was organized in 1941, but moved to this current location in 1980. Today is the 40th anniversary/birthday celebration for our current facilities. We honor this milestone with another one, burning the mortgage for the new Spencerville Adventist Academy. Just as you would any birthday, we will offer a special treat after the second worship service at the HIS team table. You may also like to look at some of the memorabilia on display. We hope you enjoy the worship service today and find it meaningful. Clearly it is a day to express thanksgiving to God who has blessed us so abundantly.

#### Welcome!

We are happy to welcome two of the Chesapeake Conference officers today as part of our celebration. Rick Remmers, president, is no stranger to Spencerville. He visits now and again, has been supportive of our church in a myriad of ways, and we're happy he is here to participate in the burning ceremony.

Many will recognize the name and face of Jerry Lutz. Now the secretary of the Chesapeake Conference, he served as pastor of the Spencerville Church from 1996-2014, the longest serving pastor in its 78 year history. It was under Pastor Lutz's leadership that the Spencerville Adventist Academy building project began and was completed. We are grateful for his leadership and happy he can participate in this exciting milestone.

## **Special Thanks**

When any church is involved in a project for this long a period of time, you can imagine there is a long list of people to thank. This would be why we won't even attempt to do so. There are those who were dreamers, facilitators, leaders, organizers, experts, builders, planners, givers, cheerleaders, prayer warriors, realists, encouragers, preachers, teachers, and we could go on and still have left someone out. What was a constant was God's ever abiding presence in directing decisions that culminate in today's celebration.

## Congratulations

Many might remember Barbara and Ernie Sines, who have since moved to Georgia. Ernie served on many of the committees for the SAA project including as our representative on the building site. They sent the Spencerville congregation this message:

"We are thrilled to learn that the SAA mortgage is being retired this Sabbath. Ernie was reminiscing about the original committee's work and how hard and tirelessly everyone worked toward this common goal. He has always been so proud of the work that was accomplished and also in the retiring of the mortgage, another huge accomplishment! We're praising the Lord! We are very happy for the church and SAA. Wishing everyone a wonderful celebration. We will be watching from Georgia! Congratulations!"

## **Evensong Concert Today**

Clearly February is a special month as we have another Evensong Concert today at 4:00 p.m. featuring Tatiana Chuluchnikova and her BaRock band. This concert will celebrate the incomparable music of J. S. Bach in a program of works for soprano and baritone with violin, flute, and continuo, including movements from his sacred cantatas, trios sonatas, and music for solo gamba.

## SAA's Got Talent Tonight

Don't miss the annual talent show sponsored by the Class of 2020 tonight at 7:00 p.m., in the SAA auditorium. Come see a variety of routines prepared by students of all ages. Entrance fee is \$2 for SAA students and \$3 for all others. Refreshments will be sold.

## **Grief Relief Seminar**

The seminar continues tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor Steve Murphy who will address the subject of "Reflections." This will be a time to share memories. Feel free to bring pictures or other memorabilia.

## **Special Sabbath School**

The adult Sabbath School lesson study held in the sanctuary will feature a special guest next Sabbath, February 15. At 10:00 a.m., we will host a conversation with world-renowned conductor, Herbert Blomstedt. Dr. Blomstedt, a Seventh-day Adventist, will speak on the timelessness of hymnody in worship. Later, he will be interviewed by our organist, Mark Willey, and Costin Jordache from the *Adventist Review*. This is a not-to-be missed feature. This service will preempt the Sanctuary Sabbath School study, but our other regular adult classes may continue to meet or choose to attend this special presentation.

## Spencerville's 40 Days of Prayer

The Prayer Ministry is reaching the end of 40 days of prayer. Each Tuesday evening, the Prayer Gathering Ministry focuses on a different topic. Consider joining for this special prayer emphasis as well as weekly with the Prayer Gathering.

## Call to Serve Our Community

Spencerville church will manage the operation of the local community services center, C-4 (Colesville Council of Community Congregations for the month of February. C-4, located on New Hampshire Avenue, is open to the public a few hours on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Friday mornings from 9:00 - 11:30. If you would like to be of service, why not grab a friend (or spouse) and donate a few hours? For more information, contact Florence Shanko at 301-802-3620. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Desk.

## **Scrapbooking Evening**

Join us for an evening of scrapbooking on February 22, from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. Digital scrapbookers are invited to join the fun as well! Bring your supplies to the Fellowship Hall and enjoy scrapbooking while visiting with your tablemates. Snacks and drinks will be provided by the Women's Ministries team, who are sponsoring the event. Those new to scrapbooking are invited to attend—there will be a special table for you with help available. A list of suggested supplies as well as a sign-up sheet is available at the Welcome Desk. Please sign up so we can plan appropriately for tables and snacks.

## A Committed People: A Brief History of the Spencerville Church

Members of the Hyattsville Church began distributing literature in the Burtonsville and Spencerville areas in 1940. While working near the intersection of what is now New Hampshire Avenue and Route 198, Arthur Hume knocked on the door of Frank DeVilbiss. As a result of this visit, DeVilbiss offered a portion of his property for tent meetings. This effort resulted in 17 baptisms. Early the next year, the DeVilbiss family donated seven acres on the corner of Spencerville and Good Hope Roads for a new church.

Still meeting in the tent in mid-October,

a church building was a high priority. The group constructed a "tabernacle" from donated lumber. Built in just two weeks, this "temporary" structure served as a sanctuary for the next decade. They held their first service on October 25, 1941.

The group formally organized into the Spencerville Seventh-day Adventist Church on December 27, 1941, with 39 charter members. Shortly thereafter members began to dream about opening a church school. This dream was realized when the doors of what was to become later known as Spencerville Junior Spencerville congregation in front of the Tabernacle in 1941.

Academy opened in September 1943, with six students. A two-room cinder block school building was erected in 1948, a gymnasium added in 1956, and additional rooms in 1965.

The Tabernacle was destroyed by fire in 1950. The congregation met in the school while building the red brick church now occupied by the Korean Adventist congregation at the corner of Good Hope and Spencerville Roads. Like the church school, the church was built mostly by members. Charter member, Ella May Robinson wrote: "There were no rich donors among us but we put our 'littles' together, and there were many in our congregation who were skillful workmen rich in love and willing to devote many hours of free labor." In yet another example of commitment, the Spencerville members dedicated that church on April 3, 1954, just two years after its completion. The \$100,000 church was dedicated without debt.

In 1954, the membership was 164. By 1966, membership had grown to 354. In 1973, the membership was 433, and still growing. It was time to build again. Committees were formed, and plans made. The eight-acre site where the current church is located was purchased by two members and donated to the congregation.

It is interesting to note that the architect believed that the "most perfect church" would be a "cathedral in the woods." To that end, he designed the sanctuary of windows, exposed rock surfaces, and wood to give a natural composition of warmth. This approach combined the light, stone, and wood inside with the trees surrounding the church to achieve his attempt to arrive at "perfection."



In 1978 construction began. Once again, members put in hours of volunteer work. There were those in the congregation who donated their skills in earth moving, insulation, painting, cabinetry, and more. Nearly every member of the congregation provided funds, and early in 1980, the new church was ready for occupancy. Many thought the congregation was thinking "too big." This enormous sanctuary would never be filled.

On February 2, 1980, the Spencerville congregation met in the newly finished church for the first time, and it was true, it did seem a bit large for the 300 or so who attended. On February 9, 40 years ago, the church was dedicated. Life continued and the congregation grew. Others began to attend and joined the congregation. Soon the sanctuary many thought could never be filled, was full Sabbath after Sabbath.

In 1989 a gift from former members Frank and Dolly DeHaan fulfilled the dream for a pipe organ. The congregation raised additional funds for acoustical improvements for the sanctuary. The organ was presented to the church and community in its inaugural concert on September 21, 1991.

Membership continued to expand and grow so

Building the current Church (top); interior of the sanctuary (middle); sanctuary as it appeared in 1980 (bottom) Note the absence of the pipe organ.

that soon the membership was nearing 800. This had a profound effect on school enrollment. The cinderblock building that began with 20 students had more than 350 students enrolled. Elementary grades had expanded to a full senior academy. It was time again to build, however, this time it would be a new school.

Building the new school wasn't an easy process. There were funds to be raised, plans to be drawn, and many decisions to discuss. County regulations often made things challenging, but it offered great opportunities to see God's leading. Again, this congregation committed itself to faithful giving and dedicated prayer.

On July 31, 2011, a grand opening was held at the newly built Spencerville Adventist Academy on Spencerville Road (Route 198). A project, 14 years in the making, now stood as an additional testimony to the commitment, generosity, and tenacity of the Spencerville church members; another accomplishment under God's leading.

In 2020, the membership has grown to (believe it or not) 2,020. The Horse Farm property adjacent to the church was purchased in 2018. Again, Spencerville will begin anew what we do best—dream, build, discuss, and plan. While the faces may have changed and generations passed on, the hard work, commitment, and generosity of the Spencerville members has been a constant. God has certainly blessed this church. It is with His guidance that we move into fulfilling the future plans He has prepared for us.



## WEEK AT A GLANCE

**Today** 4:00 p.m. — Evensong Concert 6:30 p.m. — SAA Talent Show

**Sunday, February 9** 2:00 p.m. — Grief Relief Seminar

Monday, February 10 7:00 p.m. — Facilities Management Committee Meeting

#### **Tuesday, February 11** 10:00 a.m. — Keep in Stitches (cancelled this week) 5:00 p.m. — Bulletin deadline 7:00 p.m. — Prayer Gathering 7:00 p.m. — Tuesday Night Study Group

Wednesday, February 12 7:00 p.m. — Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, February 14** 7:00 p.m. — Unplug at SAA auditorium

## Sabbath, February 15

9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Worship Services: Speaker: Pastor Chad Stuart Offering: Local Church Budget Diaconate Team: Arthur, Jacobson HIS Team: Esveld, Mayer
12:45 p.m. — Diaconate Members Potluck

**Prayer Meeting.** All are welcome and encouraged to attend each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

**Need Prayer?** Call the Spencerville Prayer line (301-384-2920, ext. 140). Leave a message regarding prayer requests or praise reports to be shared with our Prayer Ministry team. Leave a number if you wish someone to return your call.

## SABBATH SCHOOL CLASSES

Sabbath School meets from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. for all age groups. There are many classes to choose from; we invite you to select a class from the directory below. Most of the adult classes follow the Adult Bible Study Guide, but with different emphases. For a free Adult Bible Study Guides or more information on our classes, please visit our Welcome Desk in the church foyer.

Sanctuary Class: Ed Zinke...... Sanctuary George Reid Class .....South Porch, Classroom A Spanish-language Class......South Porch Classroom B Prayer and Praise Class ..... South Porch Classroom C Hallway Class......Hallway Off Foyer Conference Room Class ...... Conference Room Great Expectations Class ...... Family Room A A Practical Approach ..... Family Room B Bible Discussion Class: Luke ......Family Room C Collegiate & Young Adults.... Fellowship Hall, Fireplace End Youth (Grades 9-12)..... East Wing Middle School (Grades 7 - 8) ..... East Wing Juniors (Grades 5 & 6)..... East Wing Primary 2 (Grades 3 & 4) ..... East Wing Primary 1 (Grades 1 & 2)..... East Wing Kindergarten (ages 4 and 5)..... East Wing Beginners 2 (Ages 3 through 4) ..... West Wing Beginners 1 (Birth through 2) ......West Wing

In case of an emergency. This facility is equipped with an Automatic External Defibrillator. If a medical emergency arises, immediately call attention to the situation. Trained individuals will respond. If you are in need of immediate assistance, contact a deacon. A nurse or physician will respond to assist you.