



3301 Cherry St.
Hoquiam, WA 98550

February 3, 2025

Dear Friends,

A couple of weeks ago I was stunned.

As I drove up to the Grays Harbor Adventist Community Service (ACS) building I could not believe my eyes. There was a line of cars stretching out of the parking lot and down the street. There must have been at least 70 cars patiently waiting. Why? To get a simple box of food.

As I sit here writing this letter, I am reminded of the person who came into the thrift store one cold rainy day with only one shoe. His bare foot was blue with cold. He left with a free pair of shoes and socks.

I also think of the family who had lost everything in a house fire and were looking for some basic things just to get by. They left with all they needed.

These stories and many others are written each and every week at the Grays Harbor ACS. I am here to testify that the need in Grays Harbor is great - and very real.

Let me tell you another story.

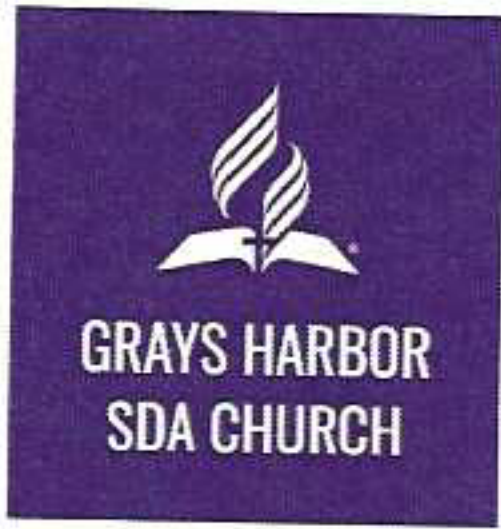
In Luke 10:25-37 Jesus dialogues with a certain lawyer who wanted to test Jesus.

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He (Jesus) said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he (the lawyer) answered and said, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" And He (Jesus) said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, pressed Jesus and said, "And who is my neighbor?"

Then Jesus answered with the well-known story of the good Samaritan. Jesus concluded with a question back at the lawyer. "So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The point of the story is that our neighbors are those around us, especially those that are in need of mercy.

So, in the year 2025 what does Jesus tell us to do? Go and do likewise.



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What do we do at Grays Harbor ACS?

Each week dedicated ACS volunteers provide free food and clothing to approximately 110 to 170 families in Grays Harbor. Our 3 R's Thrift Store not only helps support the operation of the building but is also a source of low-cost household essentials for the community. We periodically teach classes on healthy cooking/nutrition, stop smoking, and grief recovery.



No one in need is ever turned away.

Yes, these stories and many others are written every week at Grays Harbor Adventist Community Services,

but sadly, without your help the stories may no longer be written!

Why you ask?

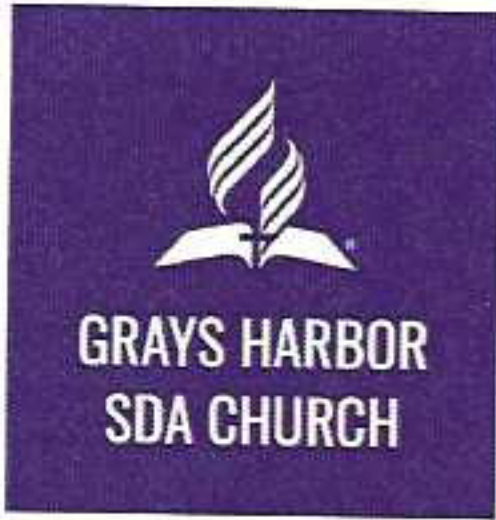
The building in which the ACS has performed acts of kindness and mercy since 1984 is in desperate need of repair. There are many places where the siding has rotted away to nothing, exposing the underlying insulation to the elements. Without the temporary plastic covering installed this fall, water gets into the inside of the building. The windows leak and the doors no longer function properly. The flat membrane roof needs to be resealed. We are in danger of not only losing the building but also losing the services we provide to the community as well.



What can be done?

After a year and a half of study and weighing options, the ACS board has hired a local contractor to reseat the roof, install gutters and downspouts, repair damage due to rot, re-sheet, install vapor barrier, metal siding and new windows and doors. This will stop the damage to the building and enable us to continue our two-fold mission until Christ's soon return, "1. *The safe provision of nutritious, uncontaminated food as well as*





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information, referral, and other services; 2. The distribution of clean, usable clothing to people in need; both without bias, discrimination or prejudice towards any age, economic, ethnic, racial, religious, sexual or social group. No one is turned away." GH ACS Operations Manual, p. 1.

How can you help?

The ACS board has stepped out in faith. The work agreement has been signed, and the **work is scheduled to begin this next week!** This projected cost of the entire project is \$108,225. Thus far we have raised \$58,440,

which leaves us \$49,785 short!

My friends, if the Holy Spirit places it in your heart to make a tax-deductible donation to this project, you may do so either online or by check.

You can donate online by going to <https://adventistgiving.org/donate/ANIMEV> and choose "**ACS Building Project.**"

Or **send a check payable to the Grays Harbor SDA Church, for ACS Building Project** at the following address.

Grays Harbor SDA Church
3301 Cherry St.
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I am excited about the many stories yet to be written. Will you partner with us and become part of the story?

On behalf of the Grays Harbor Adventist Community Services Board,

Don Hay
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PS.

Do you need an idea of how much to donate? Why not sponsor a section of the reconditioned roof (\$4.00 per square foot) or part of the new siding wall (\$16.00 per square foot). You could also buy doors or windows, on average (\$370.00) each.