

Loganville SDA Church Newsletter



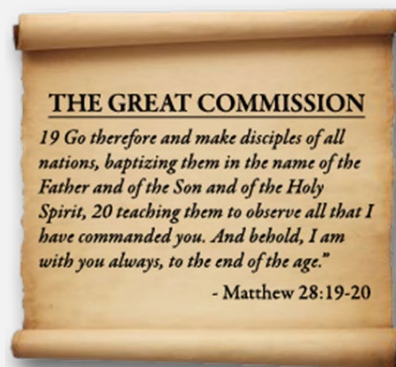
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Bringing Our Church Community Together March 1, 2025

Welcome to Our Quarterly Church Newsletter

Dear Members and Guests,

We are delighted to bring you our quarterly church newsletter. This publication aims to keep you informed about the latest happenings, upcoming events, and inspiring stories within our church community. We hope this newsletter strengthens our bond and keeps you engaged with our congregation's activities.



THE GREAT COMMISSION

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- Matthew 28:19-20

Pastor's Message



Greetings children of The Almighty:

During the year 2024, the hand of the Lord was manifested on His people. Each department was dedicated to simultaneously reaching out to the community while nurturing our own church family. It was encouraging to see how different ministries and departments would volunteer to help each other through different projects.

Mission outreach was both local and abroad including projects such as collecting and distributing school supplies to local neighborhoods, helping with the Shepherd's Staff food pantry, supporting overseas mission projects, and bringing Christmas cheer to the Clarkston refugee community. Other momentous events include the Woman's ministries weekend of evangelism, children's evangelism, Men's ministries pulling off a greatly needed church property clean-up project, the Loganville Long Pines Pathfinders winning first place at the National PBE competition and also attending the international pathfinder camporee in Gillette, Community Sabbath, the live Christmas nativity musical engaging many young people, monthly AY gatherings, and not to mention the Loganville potlucks which are events nobody wants to miss! Wow! And all of this is in addition to the weekly routine of church ministries which includes prayer meetings, prayer groups, pathfinders and adventurers club meetings and culminates weekly on Sabbath mornings with Sabbath schools for everyone and a Spiritual uplifting worship service.

It is rewarding to see new people walking through our church door every week and being embraced by a beautiful group of individuals who deeply love God and all type of people. During the year 2024 a total of 45 militants to the kingdom of God decided to join the membership of The Loganville SDA Church by baptism, profession of faith, and transfer.

Today we can say with prophet Samuel and the Israelites: "Thus far the Lord has helped us." (1 Samuel 7:12)

Be greatly blessed,

Pastor L. A. Mancebo



The blessings of God were evident in countless ways at Loganville SDA Church throughout 2024. It was truly a year of growth and renewal, as we welcomed new members through baptism, profession of faith, transfers, and even returning members. Each Sabbath, the increasing number of children eagerly coming forward for the children story was a beautiful testament to our church's vibrant future.

God's faithfulness was clear as He provided dedicated members to fill vital ministry roles that had been vacant at the beginning of the year. Our Pathfinders Club experienced remarkable growth, welcoming more children and young people into its ranks. With unwavering support from our church family, our Pathfinders attended the International Pathfinder Camporee in Gillette, Wyoming, a journey filled with blessings and challenges. Despite dangerous storms, God's protection was evident, safely bringing our children and members home.

We also witnessed our young people stepping into new chapters of their lives, some left for college, yet they remained connected to their spiritual home. It was a joy to see them return during the holidays and actively participate in worship services. Their continued faithfulness reassures us that they are holding onto the spiritual foundation they received here.

Our hearts were stirred throughout the year by the soul-inspiring sermons preached by Pastor Louis Mancebo. Each message spoke directly to our lives, offering encouragement, conviction, and a call to surrender to Jesus. His words pointed us to Christ, the only one who can truly help and transform us.

2024 Highlights

Baptisms, Professions of Faith, and Transfers - We rejoiced as many, especially our young people, surrendered their lives to Jesus through baptism.



Emphasis Sabbaths - Special services such as Women's Ministry Day, Family Life Ministries Sabbath, Pathfinder Day, Children's Day, Community Guest Service Day, and the Christmas Program allowed us to celebrate and grow together in faith.



God's Miracles - We witnessed God's hand in the lives of our members, from miraculous healings of cancer and other illnesses to deliverance from life-threatening accidents. Our prayers were heard, and His mercies were evident.

Through every challenge, God has drawn us closer to Him, reminding us of His **faithfulness and promises**. Psalm 23 reassures us: "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." Though life may bring trials, **God has promised never to leave us.**

As we reflect on this past year and look ahead to 2025, let us hold fast to God's guidance.

We are immensely **grateful for our church family**, for **the dedicated leaders** who have selflessly given their time and talents, and for the **many blessings we have received**. May God **strengthen and equip** us for the work ahead, and may we cling to the **living hope of Jesus' soon return**, knowing that one day, we will dwell with Him forever.

Amen!



Weekly Sabbath Service Schedule

Join us for our weekly Sabbath services. We gather to worship, pray, and share the teachings of the Bible. Our service schedule is as follows:

- 10:00 AM – Sabbath School Lesson Study
- 11:00 AM – Divine Worship Service

Bible Class

Our Church Bible Class is held every 1st and 3rd Sabbath at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary. Please remember to bring a sack lunch on the Sabbaths that a fellowship lunch is not provided.

Adventist Youth (AY) – March 1st

Join us for our first Adventist Youth (AY) program of the year on Sabbath March 1st at 4:00 PM. Our young people will be leading out as they develop critical leadership skills, strengthen their faith in Christ and grow spiritually. Let us show our support and encouragement as they grow in faith and service. Do not miss this inspiring program.

Adventurer Sabbath – March 8th

Join us on Sabbath, March 8th as we celebrate Adventurer Sabbath! Our young Adventurers will be leading out in a special service showcasing their faith and growth. Let's come together as a church family to support and encourage them. Your presence and prayers mean so much as they continue their journey with Christ. See you there!

Church Business Meeting – March 8th at 6:30 pm



YOUR CHURCH AT WORK

We invite all members to attend our upcoming church business meeting on Saturday, March 8th immediately following the vesper service at 6:30 PM. This gathering is a vital opportunity to learn about and discuss the plans and initiatives our ministries have for the year ahead. Your participation is crucial as we collectively seek to align our church's mission with God's will. Please continue to pray for our congregation's dedication and submission to his guidance. We look forward to your presence and input.

Family Life Ministries Emphasis Sabbath – March 15th

We are delighted to invite you to our Family Home Life Improvement Day on Saturday, March 15th. The schedule is as follows:

10:00 AM: Sabbath Morning Session

11:00 AM: Worship Service

12:30 PM: Potluck Meal

2:00 PM: Sabbath Afternoon Session

Our featured speakers are Amy Cirigliano, GCC Family Ministries Director and Chuck Jenkins, M.Div., Psy.D., a licensed clinical psychologist and marriage and family therapist. They will share valuable insights on effective parenting and fostering joyful homes.

Please plan to attend, bring friends, and a vegetarian dish to share. We look forward to a day of learning and fellowship.

Women's Ministry Retreat April 11th – April 13th.



We are excited to announce the upcoming Women's Ministry Retreat, scheduled for April 11-13, 2025, at Cohutta Springs Conference Center. This retreat offers a wonderful opportunity for spiritual renewal, fellowship, and personal growth in a serene setting.

Registration Details:

Deadline to Register: March 21, 2025

Registration Link: <https://events.gccsda.com/womensretreat2025>

We encourage you to register promptly to secure your spot. Do not miss this chance to connect with other women of faith and deepen your relationship with God.

Church Evangelistic Week of Revival and Consecration – April 16th – 19th.



We are pleased to announce our upcoming church evangelistic week of revival and consecration, scheduled for April 16 - 19. We are honored to have **Pastor Chester V Clark, III, Vice President for Administration of the Georgia Cumberland Conference**, as our guest speaker. Pastor Clark brings a wealth of experience from his extensive pastoral ministry and leadership roles within the church. This special week is designed to deepen our spiritual walk and renew our commitment to God's mission. We encourage all members to attend and invite friends and family to join us in this transformative experience. Please continue to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as we prepare our hearts for this significant event.

Community Outreach Programs

We are proud of our community's outreach programs that aim to support those in need. Here are some of the initiatives we are currently involved in:

- **Shepherd's Staff Ministries:** Donations of unexpired foods and toiletries are appreciated. You can leave your donation in the designated basket in the church foyer.
- **Clarkston Refugee Community** – If you have clothes, furniture, old working appliances such as refrigerators and electric stoves to donate, please text or call Sis Marcia Shippey-Pryce at 404-721-1942 to arrange delivery of these items to the Clarkston Refugee Center, in Clarkston, GA.
- **Haiti Mission** – Donations received for the Haiti Mission goes towards supporting an orphanage in Haiti. You can donate to this mission by designating your offerings for this mission on your tithes and offering envelope or via online giving.

We need volunteers one Sunday out of each month to assist with delivering clothes, furniture, and appliances to the Clarkston Refugee Community. We need volunteers with pick-up trucks, and volunteers who can help to load and unload the donated items. If you would like to volunteer, please see Sis. Marcia Shippey-Pryce.

Inspirational Stories & Testimonies

Personal Testimony of Faith and Healing

We are blessed to have many inspiring testimonies within our congregation. This month, we share the story of one our church sisters, who experienced miraculous healing through prayer. Her journey is a testament to the power of faith and the unwavering love of our Heavenly Father.



In 2019, one of our dear church sisters was diagnosed with autoimmune hepatitis and was given only a few weeks to live. A doctor attending to her advised that only prayer could change her situation and encouraged her to start reading her Bible and praying if she had not been doing that already.

At the time her church family in Florida immediately began interceding on her behalf in prayer when they heard of her diagnosis. Determined not to give up, she and her family sought a second medical opinion at Emory Hospital. She was admitted to the ICU for nine days, and her liver function continued to deteriorate. The doctors initiated a new treatment plan, but she also made significant lifestyle changes eliminating processed foods, embracing a diet rich in vegetables, fruits, and nuts, and even starting her own vegetable garden and juicing regimen. Her faith remained strong that God would heal her.

Amazingly, her liver function began to improve at a remarkable rate. She firmly believes that it was the power of intercessory prayer, combined with her own earnest petitions to God, that led to her healing. Over time, her condition improved so much that she was taken off many of her medications.

Today, she praises God at every opportunity, knowing firsthand that He is still a miracle-working God. She has experienced His grace, mercy, and healing power in a deeply personal way and stands as a living testimony to His unfailing love and faithfulness.

Giving Christ a Chance in Your Life

"I used to read my bible a lot as a non-Christian but could not make sense of anything. I also felt frustrated and empty as to where my life was going. I finally decided to stop running because that is how I felt, like I was running from something or someone. I had so many questions I wanted to know about the bible and understanding God's purpose for my life. Getting baptized in the Sunday faith I thought that everything would be solved, but I only felt emptier. Not satisfied, one Friday evening after work I went to the Seventh-day Adventist church to find what time their service began.

I was working on Saturdays at that time and this would be a challenge, but that first Sabbath I experienced was like drinking a tall glass of cool water. It was refreshing, different and fulfilling. I had never experienced anything like it. The bible class had me hooked, I was getting answers. I requested bible study, and it was great! All I had been reading in my bible and all those questions was falling into place. I resigned my job the following Saturday. I was on my way to work, when I turned around, went home got dress and went to church. I was also told by members of the church that I attended on a Sunday that the Sabbath is not a day of worship. But I read the book "The Almost Forgotten Day" by Mark Finley which helped me make my decision about the Sabbath.

I finally made the decision to be rebaptized in the Adventist faith and in less than a month got a new job. When Jesus told the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl, I saw myself in those parables; the hidden treasure (me!) and the pearl of great price (Jesus Christ) which meant so much more to me than a job. I wanted to know what God's word meant for my life and I took that step.

Today as I look back on my journey, I do encourage those who read this not to hesitate or put off giving Christ a chance in your life. He is knocking today, open your heart and let Him in."

A. Williams

Acts of Kindness

Spreading Christmas Joy Through Acts of Kindness

Our church community is known for its generosity and commitment to serving others, and this Christmas season was no exception. During the holidays, our members donated toys to bring joy to the children of the Clarkston Refugee Community in Clarkston, Georgia.

In addition to the toy donations, our AY, Pathfinders and Community Service Ministries extended warmth and kindness by providing cookies and hot chocolate during the toy giveaway. The gratitude from both the children and their parents was heartfelt, as many of them would not have been able to provide gifts for their little ones this season.

This outreach was a beautiful example of living out the gospel in a tangible way, reflecting Christ's love through acts of kindness and compassion. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve and make a difference in the lives of others, especially during such a special time of year.

Youth Corner



Our youth are not just the church of tomorrow, they are the church of today. They bring energy, passion, and fresh perspectives that inspire and strengthen our faith community. As they navigate life's challenges, it is our responsibility to uplift them, guide them, and create an environment where they can grow spiritually and develop a deeper relationship with Christ.

Supporting our young people means more than just encouraging words; it requires active mentorship, opportunities for leadership, and a willingness to listen and invest in their spiritual journey. When we nurture their faith, equip them with biblical principles, and surround them with love and support, we help them become bold, faithful disciples who will lead the church forward.

Let us continue to pray for, encourage, and stand by our youth, reminding them that they are valued, loved, and called by God for a great purpose. May we always be a source of strength and inspiration, guiding them toward a future filled with faith, hope, and unwavering commitment to God's will.

Youth Perspective – Year at a Glance

This year, our church has been the perfect place for young people to be. We have had many wonderful opportunities for the youth to become more involved in our church. From being in our Pathfinder club, to starring in our Christmas play.

In February, we were able to participate in our church's talent show! Many children and young adults were able to showcase their God given talents with the people around them and they even helped serve food to others during the show!

Another key moment for the youth was our Sports Day in August. We were able to have lots of fun outside and enjoy the beautiful nature God has provided for us by playing many games such as volleyball, basketball, and having a wonderful time socializing with friends. Not to mention all of the opportunities our Pathfinder club has had.

We've been to the lovely Cohutta Springs multiple times this year for our camping trips, we've handed out gift baskets to those who need them most during the holiday season, we've led out in church service, and so much more! Pathfinders alone has given us so many chances to be involved and for us to get closer to God throughout this year. There's so much this church has to offer for our youth, and it's all thanks to our wonderful and mighty God.

By Mercy Crockett

Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) Competition Update

Our Loganville Long Pines Pathfinders club won first place at the 2024 National PBE Competition. We have 3 teams in the 2025 competition and the teams are making great progress through the early competition rounds.

Congratulations to our 2025 Pathfinder PBE Teams! We are thrilled to celebrate our three Pathfinder PBE teams, who all placed first in the conference-level PBE match at Georgia Cumberland Academy on February 15, 2025! They are among the six first-place teams representing the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

As they are now preparing for the union-level match on March 29th at River Oaks Campground in Orangeburg, South Carolina, we ask for your continued prayers. May God bless them with wisdom, perseverance, and strength as they study His Word and represent our church.



A huge thank you to all the dedicated leaders and mentors who have been guiding and preparing our young people for these competitions. Your time, effort, and commitment are truly making a difference in their spiritual growth.

Well, done, Loganville Long Pines Pathfinders! We are proud of you!

Youth Group Activities

Our youth group is vibrant and active, with various events and activities planned for the upcoming Year. We encourage all young members to participate and grow in their faith together. Lets take time to remember some of the memorable youth activities in 2024.

International Pathfinder Camporee, Gillette, WY



The Gillette, Wyoming, Camporee took place from August 5-12, 2024, with a total of fifty-six participants. During this incredible experience, our Pathfinders actively engaged in community service by organizing a food drive for the less fortunate in Gillette, encouraging local residents to contribute and make a difference.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our church family for their overwhelming generosity and support. Because of your kindness, we had everything needed for a successful and meaningful Camporee. This trip would not have been possible without you, and we are profoundly grateful for the love and encouragement you continuously show to our youth. Thank you for investing in their spiritual growth and service!

Youth Program Spotlight

A Savior Is Born



One of the many memorable highlights of 2024 was the youth Christmas play, program, “A Savior Is Born,” held near the end of the year. The performance took place on December 14, 2024, at 5:30 PM in a packed church, with visitors from near and far gathering to witness our young people share the good news of Christ’s birth.

The evening was filled with music, drama, and heartfelt worship. The sanctuary resounded with the melodies of stringed and wind instruments, including violins, guitar, trumpets, and harmonicas, all lifting praises in remembrance of Jesus’ birth. Songs such as “Noel, Noel, Born Is the King of Israel,” and “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” were beautifully performed

by an angelic children's choir, their voices ringing boldly as they held lighted candles in white raiment, symbolizing the joy and light of Christ.

The congregation was further blessed by powerful performances of "Go Tell It on the Mountain," showcasing the incredible musical talents of our youth, and "We Three Kings" presented by the Little Kings as they followed the guiding star from the back of the church to the manger scene. The play also invited us to reflect on what we would do if Jesus came to our home today, leaving a heartfelt call to make Him our honored guest in our lives.

The program concluded with the uplifting "Joy to the World" reminding us of the blessing and hope found in the Savior's birth. Our Pastor expressed gratitude to our youth and the dedicated leaders who worked tirelessly to bring this inspiring production to life.

A Savior Is Born was more than just a performance. It was a beautiful reminder of the gift of Jesus and a testament to the faith, dedication, and talents of our young people. We praise God for their willingness to serve and for the message of hope they shared with our church family and beyond.

Announcements

Baptisms and Membership

We are thrilled to welcome new members to our church family. If you are interested in bible study, baptism or membership, please complete one of our visitor's card or give us a call or send a text to (404) 721-1942 and our Pastor or an Elder will reach out to you.

Church Newsletter Contribution

Our next newsletter will be published in July 2025, if you have an article, testimony or event you would like us to share with our church community, please reach out to a member of our Communications Team. **We want to hear from you!**

Prayer Requests

Our prayer team is committed to lifting up your needs in prayer. If you have a prayer request, please see Sis. Carolyn Whyte or you may also fill out a request form and drop it in the prayer box located in the church foyer or contact us directly at 404-721-1942.

Health Corner



Health Nugget: Honoring God Through Healthy Living

“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.” 3 John 1:2

As Seventh-day Adventists, we believe that caring for our bodies is an act of worship, reflecting God’s desire for us to live vibrant, healthy lives. Maintaining good health not only improves our quality of life but also enables us to serve Him more effectively. Here are some key principles to incorporate into your daily routine:

1. Eat for Health and Vitality

- a. Choose a plant-based diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts, and legumes.
- b. Avoid processed foods, excessive sugar, and unhealthy fats.
- c. Drink plenty of water to keep your body hydrated and functioning optimally.

2. Exercise Regularly

- a. Engage in at least 30 minutes of physical activity daily, such as walking, jogging, or gardening.
- b. Exercise improves circulation, heart health, and mental well-being.

3. Rest and Renewal

- a. Prioritize sleep, aiming for 7-8 hours of rest each night.
- b. Take time for relaxation and enjoy the blessings of the Sabbath, a time for physical, mental, and spiritual renewal.

4. Sunshine and Fresh Air

- a. Spend time outdoors to absorb natural sunlight, which helps produce Vitamin D for strong bones and immunity.
- b. Breathe deeply and enjoy fresh air, especially in natural environments.

5. Trust in God

- a. A peaceful mind is essential for overall well-being.
- b. Reduce stress through prayer, meditation, and faith in God’s promises.

Let's strive to be good stewards of the bodies God has given us, making wise choices that honor Him. By embracing these health principles, we can experience greater energy, joy, and a deeper connection with our Creator.

Stay healthy, stay blessed!

Let's Have Some Fun!

Can you find all the countries of the bible below?

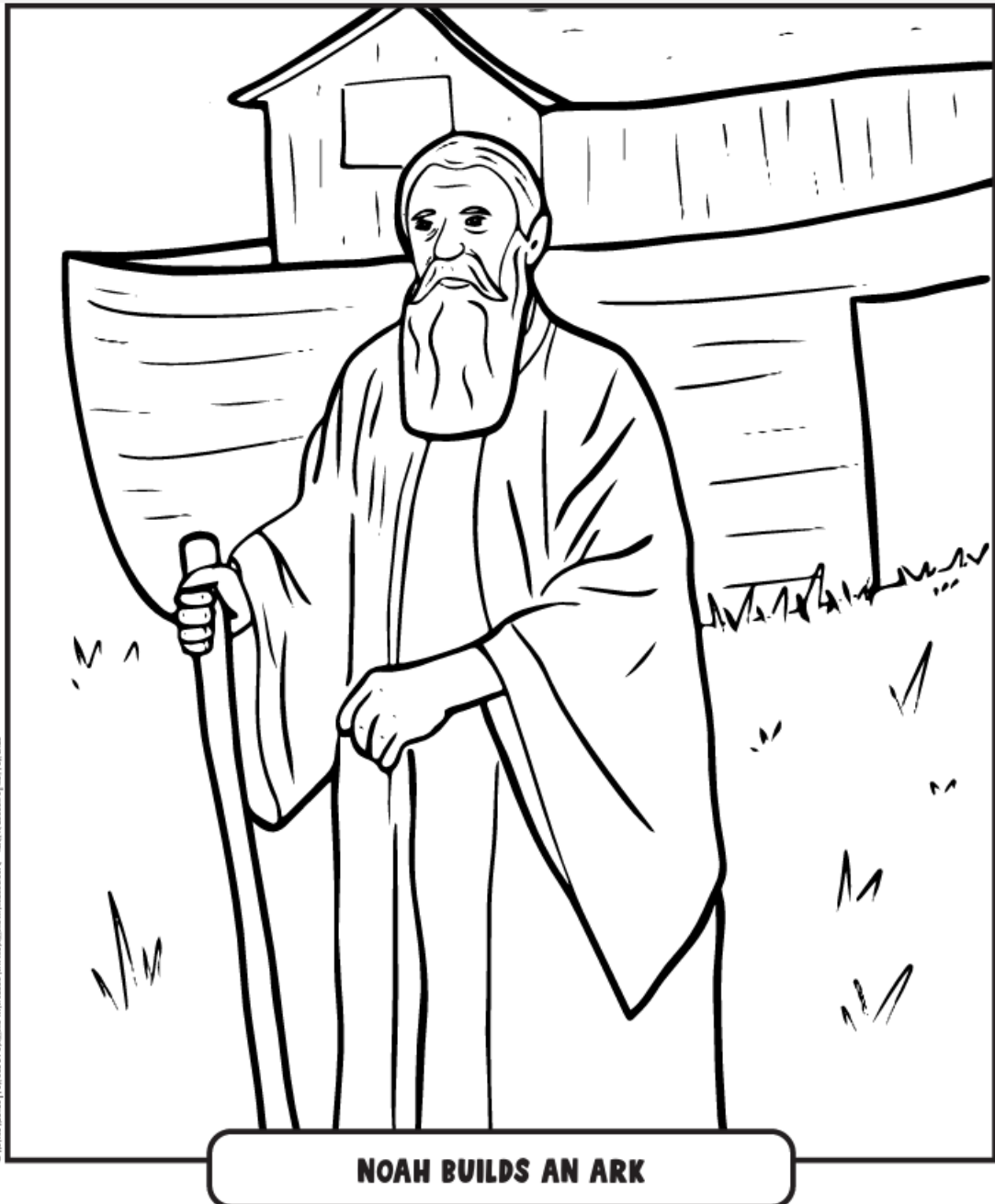
Bible Word Search: COUNTRIES OF THE BIBLE

R Q M G A M H Q A S K S T L S
Q M A D C B Q S A P U F U V C
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ASSYRIA	CANAAN	BABYLON
PERSIA	TOGARMAH	TARSHISH
ROSH	ACHAIA	MACEDONIA
PUT	ASIA MINOR	INDIA
GALATIA	PHILISTIA	SAMARIA
CYPRUS	CRETE	ETHIOPIA
MELITA	EGYPT	JUDAH

Coloring Activity

Have some fun coloring - Noah and the Ark



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Closing Thoughts

As we navigate through these challenging times, I want to remind you of the enduring love and faithfulness of our Lord. His grace is sufficient for all our needs, and His strength is made perfect in our weakness. Let us continue to trust in Him and support one another as a loving church family.

Thank you for being an integral part of our church community. We hope this newsletter keeps you connected and inspired. Let us continue to grow in faith, love, and service together.

Blessings,

Loganville SDA Church Newsletter Team

Marcia Shippey-Pryce and Mercy Crockett