

Asylum Status Secured for Iranian Student in the U.S. - by Mylon Medley

An asylum claim submitted by the Seventh-day Adventist Church on behalf of an Iranian student who converted to Adventism in the United States was recently granted, ending a four-year process.

In July 2014, Todd McFarland, associate general counsel of the SDA Church, received a phone call from an Iranian woman who was pursuing graduate studies in the U.S. and seeking asylum. The student was first introduced to Adventism when she was studying abroad, before she came to the U.S.

Once in the U.S. through a student visa, the woman began baptismal classes at a local church near her university. She mentioned to a church member that when she returned to her country, there would be consequences due to her new faith. The member assured her that the Church has ways to help through the Office of General Counsel at the General Conference, the headquarters of the Adventist Church.

According to United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), a person can seek asylum if they are unable or unwilling to return home because they fear serious harm or persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, and/or membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. An asylum seeker can apply for protection within one year of arrival to the U.S., or at a port of entry.

The Office of General Counsel made a case for her asylum by laying out the conditions of her native country. Evidence was presented with religious discrimination reports from the U.S. State Department, various non-governmental organizations, the International Religious Liberty Association, and news stories.

“One of the happiest calls I have ever made was to tell her that she had been granted asylum. Individuals simply should not face persecution and potentially death simply because of their faith,” said McFarland.

Week at a Glance

| | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Today | Fellowship Meal for Visitors Sunset-Farewell to Sabbath | 12:30 pm 6:04 pm |
| Tuesday | Tuesday Morning Bible Study | 11:30 am |
| Wednesday | Bulletin Information Deadline Adventurers & Pathfinders Prayer Power Group | 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm |
| Friday | Sunset-Welcome to the Sabbath Christmas Choir Rehearsal | 5:56 pm 7:00 pm |
| Next Sabbath | Sabbath School Speaker: Pastor Ted Struntz Offering: Rockwood Church Budget Sunset-Farewell to Sabbath | 9:30 am 11:00 am 5:54 pm |

Do You Have An Urgent Prayer Request? To start the prayer chain please call the church office (503) 661-4100.

Contact Information

Office Hours: 9-3:30 Tues. & Wed., 9-3 on Thurs.
1910 SE 182nd Ave., Portland, OR 97233
Telephone: (503) 661-4100
E-Mail: RockwoodAdventist@gmail.com
Website: www.RockwoodAdventist.com

WiFi Password: Heisrisen

Support Your Church Financially online at
www.RockwoodAdventist.com/onlinegiving

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Pastor | Ted Struntz | (251) 776-2718 |
| Karen Bible Worker | Doh Soe | (503) 885-4826 |
| Secretary | Kamille Ross | (971) 284-2824 |
| Secretary | Jeannie Andrews | (503) 669-7666 |
| Deacon Team Leader Today | Ken Descamps | |

Rockwood Seventh-day Adventist Church



*Growing Disciples
Preparing People to Meet Jesus*

October 27, 2018

Exploring the Way

Sabbath School Classes

9:30 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.

Please visit our information desk in the lobby for a complete list of Sabbath School Classes. We invite you to join the class of your choice. We have classes for ALL ages!

Worship

11:00 A.M. to 12:15 P.M.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Welcome | Pastor Ted |
| Praise Time | Praise Team |
| Children's Story | Pastor Ted |
| Our Gift to God | Everyone |
| Oregon Conference Youth Support | |
| Offertory | Brent Sumaraga |
| Prayer Garden | Orrin Lundy |
| Worship in Song | Stephan Ilie |
| Worship in Word | Pastor Ted Struntz |
| Closing Hymn | Hymn #2 |
| "All Creatures of Our God and King" | |
| Benediction | Pastor Ted |
| Postlude | Brent Sumaraga |

Sermon audio available at RockwoodAdventist.com

Rockwood Community News

Fellowship Meal for our Visitors after the service this morning. Please join us downstairs for food and fellowship.

Who's Coming to Sabbath Dinner? Those who have signed up for this fun activity, please see Barbara and Shirley in the lobby and get the map for your surprise host home, and hosts, pick up your list of guests!

Caring Card - Please stop at the desk in the lobby and sign the card for **Emma Kaufman** - Cliff passed away on Monday of this week.

Harvest Party tomorrow, October 28, from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. There will be vegi-burgers, floats, popcorn, goodies, games and fun. This is a Pathfinder fundraiser for Oshkosh 2019.

Michael Allen Harrison Christmas Concert here at Rockwood on November 29, at 7:00 pm. There is no charge for the concert, though a love offering in support of our Pathfinders will be taken. A special feature at this concert will be a drawing for a free weekend at the beach!

Transfers - 2nd Reading - IN: Norma Carranza from Gresham Spanish. Out: Mikhail & Natalia Morar to Roseville, CA; Ilva Morar to Granite Bay, CA; Dennis & Vera Khadzhi (Palmer) to Nixa, MO.

Our Church Looks So Nice with the newly updated entrance. The brighter Foyer is very pleasing and I'm sure when the cold east wind begins to blow, we will all be appreciative of the new double doors, especially the greeters. We still have one challenge that remains. Paying for the project. The original goal of the church board was to raise \$44,000 by April 1, 2019. We have fallen off the pace of approximately \$850/week to achieve this goal. As of Oct. 20, 2018 we will need to average approximately \$1,070/week to make this happen. Thank you all for your continuing support. Together we can and will reach our goal.

Our Adventurer Club needs one additional staff member. This person needs to be a Rockwood member and at least 21 years of age. Please call Emiley Kelley at (503) 349-5695.

Area News & Events

Portland-area Walla Walla University Alumni are invited to a complimentary dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory (12725 S.E. 93rd Ave., Clackamas) on Saturday, November 10, at 7:30 pm. RSVP by November 5 at wallawalla.edu/alumni-events or email alumni@wallawalla.edu. Seating is limited.

2019 Great Controversy Tour (June 21 - July 4) with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt. See the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive. Visit Rome and the Reformation sites in the Waldensian Valleys, Switzerland, France, and Germany. Call (269) 815-8624, or email GCTours@mac.com

Thank You - We did it! PACS set an ambitious goal for our annual awards dinner and silent auction, and we are pleased to announce that we raised \$120,000! Your gifts will support our mission of providing dignity and support to families living at or near the edge of poverty. Your support makes our ministry possible! - Blessing, Mark Fulop, Executive Director

First Friday at Adventist Medical Center on November 2, from 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm in the lower level amphitheaters. First Fridays are a time of music and spiritual fellowship. Registration for the free First Friday soup and salad dinner will run through Wednesday, October 31. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Soup and salad will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 pm on Friday, November 2.

Alumni & Friends of Upper Columbia Academy are invited to a reception on Sunday, November 11, at 4:00 pm. The event will be held in the Board Room at Cherry Wood Village Retirement Community, 1417 SE 107th Avenue, Portland. Come enjoy a complimentary Mediterranean Supper, and hear current miracle stories from UCA. RSVP to (509) 939-1716 or linda.klinger@foundationeuca.org