Blankets for Haiti
by Kristine Horvath

The project started quite by accident,” recalls Esther Jones, a Kindergarten 2 (ages 5-6) Sabbath School teacher at Niles Westside. She sat listening to Kathy Dockerty, also a K2 Sabbath School teacher, share week after week with the children about the deplorable conditions in Haiti, and the serious needs of the Haitian people in the aftermath of the earthquake in 2010. Esther realized an opportunity was presenting itself for the children to help, and since the K2 Sabbath School leaders had been trying to involve the children in sharing what they have with others, this was a perfect opportunity to get involved.

Esther remembered that Randy and Leslie Dowell had recently returned home from working at Nan Creve Community Growth Center, a Seventh-day Adventist run orphanage in Haiti. She made a call to Leslie asking about the practical needs of the orphaned children that the K2 children might be able to assist with. She learned that the orphanage had sixty orphans at that time, and they were in need of lightweight blankets to keep the children warm at night. Esther recalls that she tried to imagine not having blankets for her own children. It was at that point she felt impressed to help provide blankets for these orphaned children.

She asked the church family to help by sponsoring the cost of the sixty blankets. Over the weeks, the $159 needed was raised, and blankets were purchased. But the blessing didn’t stop there. The money donated nearly doubled the amount needed for the blankets. There was $151 extra!

The K2 children had hands-on involvement by packaging sixty wash cloths and bars of soap, coloring pictures of Jesus with children, and sorting toothpaste, toothbrushes, coloring books, crayons, stuffed animals, pens, pencils, and candy, all to be sent with the Dowells on their return trip to the orphanage. A scrapbook with pictures of the K2 children was also made to send back with the Dowells.

The K2 children enjoyed putting together all the things for the Haitian children, but the experience was made exciting and real when, on December 18, 2010, Leslie and Randy came to the K2 Sabbath School and showed pictures and told stories of the children at the orphanage. They brought a bowl of the food (rice and beans) the children ate daily and told how children outside the orphanage receive this food only every other day. The pictures and stories helped the Sabbath School children better understand how their small gifts and offerings can make a big difference in the lives of the Haitian children.

continued on page 2
“Please Ask for It” – Love God

Like a loving Father, God wants to give us the very best, desiring to wake us up to our need for His gift. Jesus said in Luke 11:9, “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” To ask, seek or knock places you in a position of valuing what you will get, find or will be opened to you. God, who loves us so much that He gave His son … will never force on us what we don’t want for Him to give us. Asking shows that we consider ourselves His children. A slave never asks, but waits to be told. Like our children have the total freedom to come to us anytime and ask, so we have the freedom to ask our heavenly father anytime.

Yet, the most important reason to ask is that God wants us to have what He wants to give. Look at Luke 11:11-13: “If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?” God wants us to have the Holy Spirit. He really wants us to have His presence embedded within our lives and living. He knows that without Him, we can do nothing. “Please Ask for It” – Love God.

Blessed Blessings.

Pastor Darrel

Blankets for Haiti continued

Leslie related that aid money through other organizations hasn’t yet reached the Haitians, but by donating in the way the K2 Sabbath School has, the items that are needed are sure to get to the children.

The extra money raised for the blankets is being used to purchase other much-needed items for the orphanage such as worm medication, burn medication, and children’s underwear.

K2 Sabbath School thanks the Niles Westside church family for assisting in reaching out to the needs of the orphans in Haiti.

If you would like more information on the Nan Creve Community Growth Center in Haiti, please contact Jean Florvilus at Orphans International Helpline, PO Box 123, Berrien Springs, Michigan 49103 or call 269-471-2629.

To contact Leslie or Randy Dowell, e-mail them at oih.ldowell@gmail.com.

A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To see this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it. Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing. A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer. While the people are so destitute of God’s Holy spirit, they cannot appreciate the preaching of the Word; but when the Spirit’s power touches their hearts, then the discourses given will not be without effect. Guided by the teachings of God’s Word, with the manifestation of His Spirit, in the exercise of sound discretion, those who attend our meetings will gain a precious experience, and returning home, will be prepared to exert a healthful influence.

The purpose of life is not to be happy but to matter, to be productive, to be useful, to have made a difference that you lived at all.

~ Leo Rosten

from the book True Revival: The Church’s Greatest Need by Ellen G. White, pg. 9
Two Churches, One Journey
by Nathan Sarli

On November 20, 2010, two churches nearly 2,000 miles apart witnessed the baptism of Chiare [“Sharee”] Frazier. It was the culmination of a lifelong journey in search of truth. Members of both the Niles Westside Church in Michigan and the Farmington Church in Washington had been used by God in her conversion.

In her journey to truth Chiare had been involved in all kinds of cults and religions before settling with Buddhism. She had been a Buddhist for ten years when one of her Christian co-workers, Bill Tate, asked her, “If I can prove God exists would you believe in Him?” She said that she would. The two of them ate lunch together for a year to discuss God and religion. Several miracles convinced her of the existence of God, prompting her to become a Christian. She didn’t join any one denomination for several years, however, because she “wanted to know who God was” and didn’t think she could find that in organized religion. In 2004 she married Kerry Frazier who introduced her to the Adventist faith, although she did not become a member at that point.

Before their family moved to Washington, Kerry had visited several local Adventist churches while he was interviewing for a job. They were all nice enough, but the most friendly of all was the Farmington Church. The members invited him home for dinner and were very welcoming. When the rest of the family arrived in town and came to church, all of the twenty-five or so members who were there introduced themselves. Chiare says, “They were eager to get to know me. They did not just wait for me to show up each Sabbath. They actually called and made a point to get to know us.” Although Chiare loved her new church family, she did not believe she needed to be baptized as she had already been baptized through immersion into other Christian churches. She said, “If God wants me to be baptized into the Adventist church, He will have to show me.”

In October 2008, the Fraziers packed up and moved to South Bend, Indiana. Once again, they were searching for a church. Chiare was especially looking for a community she could immerse herself in. She also wanted sit-down Bible studies. One Sabbath during their search the Fraziers visited the Niles Westside Church. Before going inside, they prayed in the parking lot “Lord, direct us home.” Their prayer was answered as several people talked to them in the hall and invited them to potluck dinner. Later, they were invited to Stan and Sandy Smith’s house for lunch. As they attended church in the ensuing weeks, Chiare began helping in the church library. Her desire to study the Bible was also fulfilled, as she met weekly with Dorothea Sarli. Later, she decided to recommit her life to God through baptism.

A few weeks before her baptism, she met with Elder Walt Williams to go over church doctrines. Over the course of the Bible studies she had been slowly removing her jewelry, but she still wore one small earring. Walt asked if it had a special significance to her. It was to remember a son that had been given up for adoption at birth twenty-seven years before. Elder Walt asked her, “If God told you to remove it, would you?” She replied, “Yes, if the Lord asks anything of me, I’ll do it.” This earring had been placed in her ear the day she came home from the hospital and had never been removed for any reason or given her any trouble. The very next morning after the meeting, when she looked in the mirror, her left ear was “red, swollen, and pussy.” She took it out, and the next morning the ear was back to normal. “That’s when I realized the Lord had asked me to take it out,” Chiare explained.

As the day of her baptism drew closer, Chiare was praying that her friends in Farmington could witness the moment because they had been so influential in her conversion. Two of her closest friends, Terrill and Dennis Wagner had planned to fly out to Michigan, but it turned out they wouldn’t be able to make it. Valeska, Chiare’s daughter, suggested that they could use Skype, an online video chat program. So she asked Adrian Sarli, a member of the audio visual team at Niles, and Karla Wagner and Jennifer Wintermeyer in Farmington to set it up. On the day of her baptism, a laptop on the edge of the baptistery in Niles connected with a large screen in Farmington, Washington, and two churches witnessed her commit herself to Jesus. Chiare later related, “I felt hugged from around the world!”

Dorothea, Chiare and Walt

Photo by Nathan Sarli
Meet Our New Members

Niles Four Flags Pathfinders
by Laura Hutchinson

Sam & I took eight teens to Camp Au Sable for Teen Snow Outing in January. We want to thank Marlin & Susan Sluiter for letting us take their Blazer so we all could go. TSO was a great fun. From the worship to the ice skating, there were a lot of things for the teens to do while we were there. Some of the events were tubing, sledding, skating, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, board games, and just hanging out with new friends from other clubs (which our club was good at). The weekend speaker was Pastor Ken Micheff. He told the teens that they are not kids, and they should get up and stand on their own feet. They should stand up for what they believe and show God. On Sabbath afternoon Pastor Ken made an unusual call. He wanted those that were ready to stand up for God and give God one year of their lives before they turned twenty-five years old. Three teens from our club stood up. As Pathfinder Director, I am working with them and will be helping them talk to parents, pastor and the church later. Please keep them in your prayers as we plan their year out. We praise God for their commitments, and that we had an awesome TSO. And to the Pathfinder Teens, “if earth was the size of a golf ball....”

Jones Family
by Esther Jones

Charlie & Esther Jones recently became members of Niles Westside. They have lived in the Buchanan/Niles area since 1975 and have involved the Niles Adventist School in Operation Christmas Child since 1997. Sharing Jesus with children around the world through OCC is a passion of theirs as they serve year-round as volunteers promoting this ministry throughout Southwest Michigan and Northwest Indiana. Participation in the Four Flags CROP Hunger Walk each September is also very important to them.

Charlie was born in Wisconsin and moved to New Jersey when he was ten years old. Esther was born in Ludington, Michigan, and grew up on a farm in Mason County. They met while Esther was visiting her sister in New Jersey and have now been married thirty-seven years.

Charlie has been working as a contract CAD Designer, but due to the slow economy has found it necessary to return to school full-time and is studying Internet Security. He is also currently teaching Auto-CAD and Quality Control classes at M-Tec on a part-time basis. His hobbies include a passion for steam trains and model trains. He can sometimes be found on Sunday afternoons volunteering at Fernwood, running the outdoor model train in the children’s garden.

Esther has a tailoring/alteration business that she runs from their home on Jay Street in Niles. She enjoys gardening, traveling, and scrapbooking, and is currently fulfilling a lifelong dream of learning to play the harp.

Charlie & Esther are very proud of their two young-adult children, Charles (22) and Gerilyn (19), who are both in college preparing for careers in Business and Speech Pathology/Music respectively.

The Joneses are both enjoying the fellowship of Niles Westside and are looking forward to getting to know everyone. Welcome to the Niles Westside Church family, Esther & Charlie!

Dinner Under the Stars
Pathfinder Fundraiser
Sunday, March 27, from 5:30 - 7 p.m. in the School Gym
Church Family News

† On Sabbath, February 5, we will have a fellowship lunch in the school gym. Please bring soup, salad and/or bread and join us! {Note that this is a week earlier than usual, due to set up for the silent auction the next week.}

† Wanted: People willing to have visitors and/or new members to their house for lunch on the Sabbaths that we don’t have potluck. If you are interested, please contact Nicole Koenigshof at 269-362-1482 or thomsonsp@care2.com. Thank you!

† Free Exercise for Everyone:
- ✔ No Membership Dues - No Monthly Fees
- ✔ The school gym will be open every Monday evening from 6-8 p.m.
- ✔ Come walk a mile or two for your health.

† The Women’s Bible Study will meet on February 7, 14 & 21, at 10:30 a.m. Childcare is provided. On the 14th, we will have a potluck. ~ Sheila Patterson

† Couples’ Corner: Every last Sabbath of the month, between 4:30-5:30 p.m., married and engaged couples are invited to meet at the church with the pastor and his wife. Babysitting will be provided. For more information or questions, contact Pastor Darrel at 269-605-7895 or email him at evergreen4me@gmail.com.

† Women’s Night Out: Thursday, February 17, at 5:30 p.m. at Ho Ping Chinese (Hwy 933, South Bend).

† Sledding & Hot Chocolate Social: Saturday, February 26, at 6:45 at Niles Adventist School.

† International Women’s Day of Prayer: Sabbath, March 5. “The International Women’s Day of Prayers is a special day in the World church calendar for women to learn about each other, pray with and for each other and help each other. It is a time to unite with God and one another to strengthen spiritual bonds.” Niles Westside Women’s Ministries is planning programs to follow this guideline from the Michigan Conference. This will include time for women, family and friends. Please join us for this special day, including potluck. Our speaker will be Barbara Hales.

† Niles Westside Adventist Church turned in $31.25 for Sabbath School Investment during the 4th quarter of 2010.

This was from labels only! Thank you for your participation.

The total for the 2010 year is $143.75 for SS Investment just from Worthington, Loma Linda, Morning Star, and Cedar Lake labels.

Thank you for your participation. Make the year 2011 even better. This the only General Conference offering that goes entirely for NEW mission work. ~ Carol Williams

† Weather Cancellations: If we have your e-mail address, or if you are a fan of the Niles Westside church on Facebook, you should have been notified of the first service cancellation on January 8. It was also announced on WAUS (90.7 FM – Andrews University’s radio station) for those who don’t have e-mail access. In the future, it will also be announced on www.wsbt.com. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list (or give us your cell number so that we can text you) for future cancellation information, please e-mail secretary@nileswestside.org or text to 269-245-0261. Thank you!

† Easter Passion Play--GET INVOLVED: The Andrews University Easter Passion Play is a walking indoor and outdoor depiction of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ on Sabbath, April 23. Be part of this great outreach to the community! Visit passionplay.andrews.edu and click “Volunteer” to register now. An audition time will be given to you. Rehearsals begin February 27.

† 2011 Women’s Retreats: April 1-3, 8-10 and 15-17 at Camp Au Sable. The topic is The Poured Out Life, featuring Jennifer Jill Schwirzer. See bulletin board for details. For more information on going as a group, contact Denise Scroggs (rn95@sbcglobal.net or 574-243-0141).

Spa Day

Sunday, February 27,
from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ladies, join us at the church for fun, food (brunch), and fellowship with old and new friends.

Childcare provided if needed.

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**Gift Cards (Scrip) Fundraising Program**

Please see the list of participating retailers in the school office or at [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com). Use gift cards for your grocery, gas, and other shopping needs!

Remember to collect Boxtops for Education, Spartan brand bar codes, and Labels for Education. They can be turned in at the church or school.

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**Upcoming NAS Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, February 13th</td>
<td>Chocolate Extravaganza &amp; Silent Auction</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 - 8:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, February 14th</td>
<td>Fruit Orders Due; Valentine’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 15th</td>
<td>School Board</td>
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**February 17-20** ~ Teen Bible Camp at Camp Au Sable

**Monday, February 21** ~ Presidents’ Day ~ No School

**February 26** ~ Music by NAS at Niles Westside Adventist Church

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**I like to go sledding**
In winter so bright
We won’t stop sledding
Until it is night.

by Ryleigh Snow

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**Presenting**

Chocolate Extravaganza & Silent Auction

**Sunday, February 13th 2011, 6:30pm to 8:30pm**

Niles Adventist School, 110 N. Fairview Ave., Niles, MI 49120
Tickets: $5 per person in advance or $7 at the door
Childcare provided
Five Pines Essays

When I went tubing at Five Pines last week, I had to get my tube. Then we had to climb some stairs so we could get up the tube hill. When I got up the stairs, a girl named Reilly asked if we could go together down the hill. When we were on the tube, we went down. We screamed! We were going so fast that I couldn’t breathe with all the snow coming on my face. We were finally down, we had to get up fast so that we wouldn’t get hit by the other tubes. Then we walked up the long hill. It was slippery, but dirt was put on the higher part of the hill so we could get up easier.

We went really fast in the middle tubing hill lane. My bottom hit the ground when I went over the bump. On my third turn, Ben said, “You should go on your stomach.” I did! That’s where I almost fell off my tube, but I held on. Tubing was fun! I want to go again next year. ~ Natasha Makumbe (grade 4)

Editor’s Note: The NAS students went tubing and cross-country skiing at Five Pines in Berrien Center on January 19.

I had fun when I went tubing at Five Pines last week.

I went down the hill with my friends Ben and Nathan. Logan, a staff member, pushed and spun us at the top of the hill. He also stopped us at the bottom of the hill.

The only thing I didn’t like was walking up the hill. I went down on a double tube, but they were not as fast. The counselor said we couldn’t go down on our knees.

Once when I went down with Ben, we hit a bump and went into the air. I also went down with my mom [Daphne Kent]. She screamed all the way down the hill. I almost fell out of my tube once. I had so much fun! I can’t wait to go back. ~ John Kent (grade 4)

Last week, I went tubing at Five Pines. I got a blue tube. Going down the icy hill was fun. The tubes slid very fast. I raced a few of my friends going down the hill. Once, I won! The double tubes sound fast, but they went slow. I went in a double tube two times. Tubing with two people in a single tube was more fun.

The bumps at the bottom of the hill were fun to go over. There was sand and hay to stop us from going into the hay bales at the bottom. The wind blowing in my face when I went down felt good. I didn’t want to go home, but I had to. Five Pines will always be my favorite tubing place! ~ Tori Meekma (grade 4)

Citrus Fruit

Donations & proceeds will help the Niles Adventist School.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit</th>
<th>Price per case</th>
<th>Price half case</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grapefruit</td>
<td>$24.00</td>
<td>$12.00 half case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Navels</td>
<td>$30.00 p/case</td>
<td>$15.00 half case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temples</td>
<td>$26.00 p/case</td>
<td>$13.00 half case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangerines</td>
<td>$22.00 half case only</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ORDER DATES

Feb. 14  Grapefruit, California Navels, Tangerines, Temples
Mar. 14  Grapefruit, California Navels, Tangerines, Valencias (if there are enough orders)

***Pick up dates are usually 10-14 days after order is placed.***

To place your order, please contact:
Dawn Kingman at 574-340-9637 or dawnkingman@comcast.net.

Thank you!
Calendar of Events

February 1  Special Committee to Choose Nom Com  7 p.m.
        Midweek Manna  7 p.m.
February 2  Pathfinders (gym)  6:30 p.m.
        Prayer Meeting  7 p.m.
February 3  Basketball (gym)  7 p.m.
February 5  Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker  8:30 & 11 a.m.
        Fellowship Lunch (gym)  after 2nd service
        Sound of Rain  5:30 p.m.
February 6  Women’s Ministries Meeting  3 p.m.
February 7  Women’s Bible Study  10:30 a.m.
        Walking in Gym  6-8 p.m.
February 8  Finance Committee  7 p.m.
        Midweek Manna  7 p.m.
February 9  Pathfinders (gym)  6:30 p.m.
        Prayer Meeting  7 p.m.
February 10  Basketball (gym)  7 p.m.
February 12  Joe Kidder, Speaker  8:30 & 11 a.m.
        Sunshine Band at Riveridge Manor  2:30 p.m.
        Sound of Rain  5:30 p.m.
February 13  Chocolate Extravaganza/Silent Auction  6:30 p.m.
February 14  Valentine’s Day
            Fruit Orders Due
            Women’s Bible Study Potluck  10:30 a.m.
            Walking in Gym  6-8 p.m.
February 15  School Board  7 p.m.
        Midweek Manna  7 p.m.
February 16  Pathfinders (gym)  6:30 p.m.
        Prayer Meeting  7 p.m.
February 17  Women’s Night Out - Ho Ping  5:30 p.m.
        Basketball (gym)  7 p.m.
February 19  Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker  8:30 & 11 a.m.
        Sound of Rain  5:30 p.m.
February 20  Newsletter Items Due
February 21  Presidents’ Day - no school
            Women’s Bible Study  10:30 a.m.
            Walking in Gym  6-8 p.m.
February 22  Church Board Meeting  7 p.m.
        Midweek Manna  7 p.m.
February 23  Pathfinders (gym)  6:30 p.m.
        Prayer Meeting  7 p.m.
February 24  Basketball (gym)  7 p.m.
February 26  Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker  8:30 & 11 a.m.
        Music by NAS  2nd service
        Couples’ Corner  4:30 p.m.
        Sound of Rain  5:30 p.m.
        Sledding & Hot Chocolate at NAS  6:45 p.m.
February 27  Women’s Spa Day  10:30 a.m.
        Business Meeting  6 p.m.
February 28  Walking in Gym  6-8 p.m.

Birthdays

Amanda Jackmovich  1  Mitchell Meekma  19  
Florence Wood  2  Uchechi Ejiofor  20  
Robert Horvath  5  Mark Verbrigge  3  
Shallie Mondol  6  John Robertson Jr  21  
Jeffrey Howell  6  Dillon Salvini  22  
Allyssa Irwin  7  Karen Hillebert  22  
Brian Frazier  7  Fredrick Mann  23  
Lori Thames  8  Sebastian Reitz  23  
Kate Hill  8  Anne Buller  23  
Liam Kilgore  9  Kim Nannay  23  
Nathan Mangena  10  Phillip Robertson  24  
Dorothy Shepard  11  Michael Leak  24  
Laf Robbins  11  Jeffrey Schoun  24  
Alexis Heremitt  12  Susan Curtis  25  
Abigail Ashton  13  Pauline Hiatt  25  
Robin Lisek  13  Betty Pfeifle  25  
Rodney Mitchell  14  Phyllis Shupp  25  
Sandra Smith  14  Jennifer Kilgore  26  
Dana Brown  15  Ralph Reitz  26  
Daniel Constable Jr  15  Gregor Staniszewski  26  
Tobias Robertson  15  Jacob Verbrigge  26  
Michael Villwock  15  Eddie Weiser  26  
Fred Wood  17  Karen Benjamin  27  
Victoria Curtis  17  Aaron Bennett  27  
Skip Hemminger  17  Sweetie Zubar  28  
Ryan Kilgore  18  Jerry Danless Jr  28

Services

First Worship Service  Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.
Sabbath School  Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.
Second Worship Service  Saturdays, 11 a.m.
Sound of Rain  Saturdays, 5:30 p.m.
Midweek Manna  Tuesdays, 7 p.m.
Prayer Meeting  Wednesdays, 7 p.m.