Tasty and Healthy: Mexican Style
by Nathan Sarli

"Are there any more chairs in the building? Any stools, then?" One evening in March, the questions were whispered anxiously by program organizers as more and more people swarmed into the overflowing room. Less than two hours before, this room had been Niles dentist Richard Beckermeyer’s waiting room, but a team of workers led by JB Garrett had transformed it into a cooking school classroom complete with griddle, blender, and mixing bowls.

A dozen or so volunteers, led by Marilyn Sowder, were huddled over tables in the basement, assembling servings of rice, tamale pie, tacos, and gorditas.

The program was underway by seven. Registered dietitian Evelyn Kissinger spoke about preparing tasty and healthful food. Then Lety Goodson, who was raised in Mexico, showed the audience how to form a gordita by hand and how to make a delicious taco shell out of a tortilla. Other demonstrators included Sandy Smith, and Richard and Cindy Beckermeyer. As people were watching the food take shape up front, the samples were distributed.

When the program was over, the attendees reported on a survey form that the food was tasty, and they planned to try some of the recipes at home. One participant commented, “Thank you for letting us sample all the food. We are so excited to go home and make them all! So good.” Another wrote, “Fun and very entertaining, great job. Loved all the samples!”

This program was a unique partnership between the Niles Westside Seventh-day Adventist Church and Dr. Richard Beckermeyer, who provided his office and registered attendees. Everyone agreed that the program was a success, and Tasty and Healthy will be back soon with a different theme.

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Coming Up:

Tasty and Healthy: Barbecue Style
Thursday, July 21, at 7 p.m.
at Dr. Beckermeyer’s office, Niles, MI
But how often do professed Christians, by their lack of self-control, open the door to the adversary of souls! Divisions, and even bitter dissensions which would disgrace any worldly community, are common in the churches, because there is so little effort to control wrong feelings, and to repress every word that Satan can take advantage of. As soon as an alienation of feeling arises, the matter is spread before Satan for his inspection, and the opportunity given for him to use his serpentlike wisdom and skill in dividing and destroying the church. There is great loss in every dissension. Personal friends of both parties take sides with their respective favorites, and thus the breach is widened. A house divided against itself cannot stand. Criminations and recriminations are engendered and multiplied. Satan and his angels are actively at work to secure a harvest from seed thus sown.

Worldlings look on and jeeringly exclaim, “Behold how these Christians hate one another! If this is religion, we do not want it.” And they look upon themselves and their irreligious characters with great satisfaction. Thus they are confirmed in their impenitence, and Satan exults at his success.

~ True Revival: The Church’s Greatest Need
by Ellen G. White, pg. 10-11
Meet Our New Members

The Snow Family
by Gina Meekma with Rodrick Snow

Rodrick, Carla, Ryleigh (8), and Caleb (7) Snow live in Niles. Ryleigh is in second grade, and Caleb is in Kindergarten at Niles Adventist School.

Carla and Rodrick were both raised in Berrien County. They met at Andrews Academy where their locker assignments were next to each other. They have been married for almost eleven years.

The Snow family moved to Niles in November 2007 and began the transfer process from the Glenwood Adventist Church in Dowagiac in July 2008. The two biggest reasons they decided to transfer to Niles Westside were the school and the active children’s Sabbath Schools. Carla assists with Home and School, and Rodrick is the school treasurer. They are both part of a second service Praise Team also.

Rodrick is employed as the Office Manager for the International Development Program at Andrews University. Carla is a Certified Medical Massage Therapist.

As a family, the Snows enjoy hiking, time around the backyard fire, and reading/listening to stories read aloud. Caleb likes being outside (bike, peddle cart, dirt); toys (cars, trucks, Legos); and looking at books. Some of Ryleigh’s favorite things include reading, dreaming about horses, and singing. Carla’s interests are gardening and weight loss. In his spare time, Rodrick enjoys various projects (knitting, quilting, origami) and reading.

Thanks for joining our church family, Snows!

Snow Family

It’s a Girl!

Claire Sophia Hill was born to Karin, Brad, big sister Kate, and big brother Jack, on April 8 at 11:13 a.m. She weighed 8 lbs 10 oz and was 21 inches long. Congratulations to the Hill family!

Education commences at the mother’s knee, and every word spoken within the hearing of little children tends towards the formation of character.
~ Hosea Ballou
Welcome New Members!
Jessica Carlsen ~ Profession of Faith
Steve Carlsen II from PMC, Berrien Springs, MI

Free Cardmaking Class: Sunday, May 1, at 2:30 p.m. taught by Sandy Smith at the church. Ladies, please join us as we learn to make two Mother’s Day (or other) cards!

Graduation Open House for Cliff Shameerudeen: Sunday, May 1, from 2-4 p.m. at the SimpleUpdates conference room, 100 W. Ferry St., Berrien Springs. Please come help us celebrate the completion of Cliff’s Master of Divinity degree.

The Women’s Bible Study will meet on May 9 & 23 at 10:30 a.m. Childcare is provided. ~ Sheila Patterson

On Sabbath, May 14, Pastor Leroy Bruch will speak for both services, as well as present a Finance Seminar at 2:30, after the fellowship lunch.

The Pathfinders will be hosting a fellowship lunch in the school gym on Sabbath, May 14. Please bring extra food and join us!

Is clutter taking over your home? Need help getting organized? Women’s Ministries is sponsoring a get-together on Sunday, May 15, at 10 a.m. that will give you tips on how to “Organize and Declutter.” Barb Harris is opening her home, located at 3940 Hidden Valley Trl. S., Niles, MI, and she is willing to share her secrets. Please RSVP to Barb at 517-474-2434 or Denise Scroggs at rn95@sbcglobal.net.

Women’s Night Out: Thursday, May 19, at 5:30 p.m. at Union Coffee House (Buchanan). Contact Denise Scroggs to RSVP (rn95@sbcglobal.net or 574-243-0141).

Bonfire Vespers Social: Sabbath, May 21, at 6:30 p.m. Nature walk, vespers, and supper at the Chapel in the Woods, not far from the church. Bring your own hotdogs, etc. to roast. S’mores will be provided.

Church Business Meeting: Sunday, May 22, at 6 p.m. Please join us as we vote on the church and school budgets for 2011-2012 and discuss other important business.

Spring is here! Consider hiring a group of kids for your yard clean up. Donations will go toward the Junior/Earliteen SS mission trip to LaVida Mission in July. Contact Lisa Babcock at 269-684-5556 or Lynn Staniszewski at 269-683-7550.

Sound of Rain: We invite you to embrace “Sound of Rain” during our preaching emphasis on the book of Acts. Every Sabbath evening we invite you to actively participate between 6:30 - 7:30 in a meaningful season of prayer.

Prayer Meeting: Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m., we have been discussing the book of John. We invite all to come and participate in understanding the work of the Holy Spirit better.

I’m looking for a book that I loaned to someone. It is the first book of Ellen G. White’s life story. It is a brown book and part of a set of six books on her life written by Arthur L. White. Thanks so much. ~ Dorothy Metzger

Understanding the Creation-Evolution Debate: Can we believe the Bible’s account of creation and still be intellectually honest? How does science fit in? Let research biologist Dr. Timothy Standish, and Seminary professor Dr. Ron Clouzet, explain the science of creation and the flood. They will discuss genetics, radiometric dating, the age of the earth, and the flood and fossils. The seminar will air on the Hope Channel from May 4-8 beginning at 7:30 each evening. We will host a public showing at Dr. Beckermeyer’s office. Please RSVP to Dorothea Sarli at 269-684-3590.

Vacation Bible School: July 11-15 starting at 9 a.m. Contact Erica Hippler (jande_hippler@yahoo.com or 269-876-7690) or Gina Meekma (gmeekma@gmail.com or 269-845-8870) to volunteer for this important outreach.

Congratulations to Phyllis Shupp, who won the reserved church parking spot at the Silent Auction! Photo by Dawn Kingman
Dear Church Family,

This next school year I will be going as a student missionary to Bolivia through Gospel Ministries International. I will be teaching English and possibly other subjects at a primary/high school there.

I’m asking for your support in two areas. First of all, I’m asking for you to pray for me – that my attitude and service will be pleasing to God and sensitive to the new culture, and that my outlook on Christianity and my purpose in life will become clear in some aspect of service for God and others.

Secondly, I’m asking for your financial support as a sponsor. I’m responsible for raising $3,000 to cover travel expenses, plus an extra amount for living expenses while I am there. I need to have all of my money raised by June 1. I know that to be a missionary, I must have the support of others. I’m asking you to be part of my support in this endeavor. Any donation will be greatly appreciated. Checks can be made out to Southern Adventist University. You may mail the donations to the address listed below. The donations given are tax-deductible and receipts are issued. You can also donate online at www.southern.edu/studentmissions. Click on the donate option in the column on the left side. Please be sure to put my name, Jamie Howell, in the special instructions box. If not, then the donation will just be put into the student missions general fund.

Please continue to pray for me during this year of service and upon my return. Of course, I’ll be eager to share with you the events from the trip, and how my life is affected by them.

Thanks for being part of my missionary team!

With gratitude,

Jamie Howell

Address for donations: Chaplain’s Office
Southern Adventist University
PO Box 370
Collegedale, TN 37315-9908

Several Niles Westside members participated in the Easter Passion Play at Andrews University in April. Tori Meekma is pictured here in the Marketplace. Other members in the play included Michael Jakobsons (Roman soldier in the resurrection scene), Andrea Jakobsons (angel in the resurrection scene), and Gina Meekma (Marketplace).
Outdoor Education
by Heidi Beardsley

In April, Miss Beardsley and Bob Horvath took the 5th and 6th graders up to Camp Au Sable for three days of outdoor education. Though spring had supposedly arrived, they accumulated about six inches on snow in their outdoor classroom. Despite the comeback of winter, they had a wonderful time.

Classes were mostly held outdoors. Students got to walk around the lake, reflecting on Bible texts and journaling or drawing pictures about their thoughts. Later, they took a nature walk along the horse trails leading toward the backwaters of the lake. Along the way they spotted an eagle’s nest, woodpecker homes, and many other natural beauties. After their walk, they went inside to enjoy a nature craft. At the end of the afternoon, they visited a class on ecology and recycling.

On the second day the kids enjoyed a live animal demonstration, getting up close and personal with an owl and squirrel. Then they went back outside to take part in some team building activities like getting all the members of your team over a twenty-foot wall without leaving anyone out. When they headed to the Observation building to learn about the stars and universe, a wrong turn led them far away from their destination. They ended up taking their own nature walk, getting to the stars a bit late. Finally, they ended with a birdwatching class led by Miss Beardsley. They learned about attracting birds to your backyard and went on a short walk watching for birds through binoculars.

Everyone had a wonderful time and look forward to the next time they can visit Camp Au Sable.

Mother’s Day Plant Sale Fundraiser

Plants and hanging baskets will be on sale at Niles Adventist School starting on Wednesday, May 4 at noon. Wednesday afternoon sales from 3:15-4 p.m.; Thursday sales at noon & 3:15 – 4 p.m.; Friday at noon & 2:20 – 2:45.

Prices: 3.5” pot - $4.75; 6” pot - $7; 10” basket - $22.50; 12” basket - $30

Proceeds will go towards renovating the girls’ bathroom in the school.

Let’s Sing, America

How many patriotic songs do you know? Come and hear the NAS students sing songs about America at their annual Spring Concert on Thursday, May 26, at 6:30 p.m.

Ukraine Bike Fundraiser: The NAS students are raising money for bikes for pastors in the Ukraine. Besides bringing in their money, they will have a Bike-a-thon on Thursday, May 12 (weather permitting). Students will be looking for sponsors for every lap that they do (younger kids in the school parking lot for an hour, and older kids on the dirt road next to the school for two hours). Contact a NAS student or the school if you’d like to be a sponsor. Donations can also be given in a tithe envelope or online at www.nileswestside.org, Online Giving.
**ShopWithScrip.com:** You can now order some gift e-cards (Dell, Amazon, iTunes, Lowes, etc.) online (ScripNow!), as well as reload some of the gift cards that you get through us. Sign up at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) (use this enrollment code: **AL8ELD988L1**). You can also order your gift cards and pay online with PrestoPay (using your bank account), or you can still give us a check for payment. This is a great way to help pay down a student’s school bill and benefit the school at the same time! Go to [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) for a list of the available retailers.

**NAS recently received a check from Box Tops for Education for $277.50!** Thank you for turning in your Box Tops, Labels for Education, and Spartan label bar codes!

**Congratulations to the NAS Science Fair Bridge Competition Winners!**

Students – **Krista & Kendra Ellis**  
Adults – **Nicole & Kyle Koenigshof**  
*Photo by Nathan Sarli*

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**Upcoming NAS Events**

**Now registering for the 2011-2012 School Year!**

- Teacher Appreciation Week ~ **May 2-6**
- 8th Grade Class Trip ~ **May 8 & 9**
- Bike-A-Thon ~ Thursday, **May 12**, 9-11 a.m.
- School Board Meeting ~ Tuesday, **May 17**, 7 p.m.
- Staff/Parents vs 6-8th Graders Soccer Game ~ Thursday, **May 19**, 6 p.m.
- Spring Concert ~ Thursday, **May 26**, 6:30 p.m.
- Spring Picnic ~ Friday, **May 27**
- Memorial Day ~ No School ~ Monday, **May 30**
- Kindergarten Graduation ~ June 1, 6 p.m.
- 8th Grade Graduation ~ June 2, 6:30 p.m.
- Last Day of School (½ day) ~ June 3
Calendar of Events

May 1  Cardmaking Class  ......................... 2:30 p.m.
May 3  Midweek Manna  ......................... 7 p.m.
May 4  Pathfinders (gym)  ..................... 6:30 p.m.
     Prayer Meeting  ......................... 7 p.m.
     Creation Seminar (Dr Beckermeyer’s)  7:30 p.m.
May 5  Basketball (gym)  ...................... 7 p.m.
     Creation Seminar (Dr Beckermeyer’s)  7:30 p.m.
May 6  Creation Seminar (Dr Beckermeyer’s)  7:30 p.m.
May 7  Pastor Darrel le Roux/Ryan Kilgore  8:30 & 11 a.m.
     Sound of Rain  ......................... 6:30 p.m.
     Creation Seminar (Dr Beckermeyer’s)  7:30 p.m.
May 8  **Happy Mother’s Day!**
     Creation Seminar (Dr Beckermeyer’s)  7:30 p.m.
May 9  Women’s Bible Study  .................. 10:30 a.m.
May 10 Midweek Manna  ....................... 7 p.m.
May 11 Pathfinders (gym)  .................... 6:30 p.m.
     Prayer Meeting  ......................... 7 p.m.
May 12 NAS Ukraine Bike-A-Thon
     Basketball (gym)  ...................... 7 p.m.
May 13 Pathfinder Investiture  ............ 6:30 p.m.
May 14 Pastor Leroy Bruch, Speaker  ...... 8:30 & 11 a.m.
     Fellowship Lunch  ...................... after 2nd service
     Finance Seminar  ...................... 2:30 p.m.
     Sunshine Band at Riveridge Manor  .... 2:30 p.m.
     Sound of Rain  ......................... 6:30 p.m.
May 15 Pathfinder Fair (Lansing)
     Organize & Declutter (Harris’)  .... 10 a.m.
May 16 School Board  ......................... 7 p.m.
     Midweek Manna  ......................... 7 p.m.
May 17 Pathfinders (gym)  .................... 6:30 p.m.
     Prayer Meeting  ......................... 7 p.m.
May 18 Women’s Night Out-Union Coffee House  5:30 p.m.
     Basketball (gym)  ...................... 7 p.m.
May 19 Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker  .... 8:30 & 11 a.m.
     Sound of Rain  ......................... 6 p.m.
     Bonfire, Nature Walk, Vespers.  .... 6:30 p.m.
May 20 Newsletter Items Due
     Church Business Meeting  ............ 6 p.m.
May 21 Women’s Bible Study  ................ 10:30 a.m.
May 22 Church Board Meeting  ............. 7 p.m.
     Midweek Manna  ......................... 7 p.m.
May 23 Pathfinders (gym)  .................... 6:30 p.m.
     Prayer Meeting  ......................... 7 p.m.
May 24 Women’s Night Out-Union Coffee House  5:30 p.m.
     NAS Spring Concert (gym)  ............ 6:30 p.m.
May 25 Prayer Meeting  ....................... 7 p.m.
     Walt Williams, Speaker  ............. 8:30 & 11 a.m.
     Couples’ Corner  ....................... 4:30 p.m.
     Sound of Rain  ......................... 6:30 p.m.
May 26 Memorial Day - no school
May 27 Midweek Manna  ....................... 7 p.m.

May 2011

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Nellie Karengo 1
Samuel Storie 2
Gus Bell 3
Michael Luzadder 4
Nancy Rader 5
Kim Ross 6
Heidi Beardsley 7
Larry Prelog 8
Tim Salvini 9
David Williams Jr 10
Matthew Grooms 11
Mike Taylor 12
Gabriel Detweiler 13
Colleen Staniszewski 14
Sharon Willis 15
Candida Chole 16
Timothy Dockerty 17
Nathan Reitz 18
Mark Howell 19
Dumisani Manda 20
Erica Bennett 21
Bob Coe 22
JB Garrett 23
Amanda Boothby 24
Frank McCalment 25
Olivia Sutton 26
Josephine Prouty 27
Wendie Meek 28

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May 2011

May Birthdays

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Samuel Storie 2
Gus Bell 3
Michael Luzadder 4
Nancy Rader 5
Kim Ross 6
Heidi Beardsley 7
Larry Prelog 8
Tim Salvini 9
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Bob Coe 22
JB Garrett 23
Amanda Boothby 24
Frank McCalment 25
Olivia Sutton 26
Josephine Prouty 27
Wendie Meek 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, 6:30 p.m.

Midweek Manna
Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Prayer Meeting
Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

May 19 Women’s Night Out-Union Coffee House 5:30 p.m.