Niles Four Flags
Pathfinder Club
by Laura Hutchinson, Director

After Investiture on May 13, our Pathfinders went to the Pathfinder Fair in Lansing on May 15. They did a great job this year at the Fair and got into the 200 Club! To make it into this club, you have to have more than 200 points from the Conference points. Not only did we make it into the 200 club, but we were the second highest in points of the 76 clubs in Michigan. We got 248 points out of 250! Also, our drill team won 1st place! I am so proud of each Pathfinder for all of their hard work.

We are going on a camp out to Van Buren Campground from June 3-6, which new Pathfinders joining in the Fall are invited to attend. Thank you to everyone who donated food or funds for the camp out!

The annual Pathfinder Rummage Sale Fundraiser is July 27 – August 3 in the Niles Adventist School gym. Donations are welcome, so please don’t throw out saleable items when you are Spring cleaning! For more information about Pathfinders or to donate items to the sale, call or text me at 269-240-0182 or e-mail salthutch@yahoo.com.
Neither Japan nor Joplin is the result of the greatest force humanity experiences. Powerful as they are, tornados, tsunamis, volcanoes, hurricanes, and other brutal natural forces are unable to draw the human heart to center on eternal realities. Already Joplin and Japan are piecing things together. Like the atomic bomb of WWII or the 9/11 Twin Towers in New York, survivors move on with living now. Even our own school kids will be encouraging survivors with hope with the special teddy bears they recently made at the Build-A-Bear Workshop for kids in Joplin. An outstretched hand moves the heart to connect with it. God’s outstretched hand of love in the midst of turmoil and uncertainty is the only certain anchor the soul really has.

Jeremiah 31:3 says of God’s outstretched hand: “I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.” God desires contact that lasts forever. One irreversible force, however, that every soul has to face is “Where will you stand when Jesus comes?” Have you grasped His hand and made Him Lord of your life? That is something to consider and plan for in our detachment to things of this world and attachment to heavenly things. Consider the cross with its outstretched arms longing for a sinner to come. How do you respond to God’s great love that draws you to Him? If you don’t resist, you will be drawn to Him!

Blessed Blessings.

Pastor Darrel

Children between the ages of 5-14 can have Fun Learning About God (FLAG) starting Monday, June 6, through Friday, August 5. The cost is $15 per day. The camp is located at the Pathfinder Building on the campus of Andrews University and runs daily from 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. with Pre-care ($4/hour) starting at 7:30 a.m. and After-care ($4/hour) going until 5:30 p.m.

The children are grouped into units based on their grade level and participate in morning classes such as crafts, nature, games, music and Bible. Every afternoon the children can go swimming at the AU pool and play around in the gymnasium. There will be different field trips planned throughout the summer for each unit. Some examples include Wolf Prairie playground, Blossom Lanes bowling, Lakeshore Roller World skating, and the Warren Dunes State Park beach.

You can get an application with fee rates at www.pmchurch.org or call Scott Schalk (269-208-1933) for more information. Registration forms are also on the church bulletin board.

The great deceiver has prepared his wiles for every soul that is not braced for trial and guarded by constant prayer and living faith. As ministers, as Christians, we must work to take the stumbling blocks out of the way. We must remove every obstacle. Let us confess and forsake every sin, that the way of the Lord may be prepared, that He may come into our assemblies and impart His rich grace. The world, the flesh, and the devil must be overcome.

We cannot prepare the way by gaining the friendship of the world, which is enmity with God; but by His help we can break its seductive influence upon ourselves and upon others. We cannot individually or as a body secure ourselves from the constant temptations of a relentless and determined foe; but in the strength of Jesus we can resist them.

From every member of the church a steady light may shine forth before the world, so that they shall not be led to inquire, What do these people more than others? There can be and must be a withdrawal from conformity to the world, a shunning of all appearance of evil, so that no occasion shall be given for gainsayers. We cannot escape reproach; it will come; but we should be very careful that we are not reproached for our own sins or follies, but for Christ’s sake.

~ True Revival: The Church’s Greatest Need
by Ellen G. White, pg. 11
Marlin & Susan Sluiter
by Gina Meekma with Susan Sluiter

Marlin & Susan Sluiter are originally from Cadillac, MI, but moved here just over a year ago from Manton, MI, where they lived for five years. They moved to this area (currently Berrien Springs) to be closer to their daughter Laura Hutchinson, her husband Sam, and their children Tyler, Ajay and Tony. They love living close enough to their grandchildren to do more with them and watch them grow up. They also have a son, Robert (who is engaged to Kari Rasmussen), that lives in Petoskey, MI.

Marlin is currently working as a School Bus Driver for Berrien Resa and also as Campground Maintenance for Shamrock Campground in Berrien Springs. He worked for more than twenty years in the trucking business as a driver for both local and over-the-road trucking companies. Susan is currently working as a School Bus Attendant for Berrien Resa, and trying to be a full time Grandma to her three grandsons. She also worked as a Customer Service Manager for Walmart for more than eight years.

Both Susan and Marlin like working with children and have been working with Pathfinders for over 33 years. They enjoy canoeing, feeding and watching the birds, and just being in nature. Marlin likes to scuba dive (he is up to the rank of Rescue Diver). Susan enjoys reading.

The Sluiters joined Niles Westside because their daughter is a member at Westside, as well as the Pathfinder Director, and they wanted to help and be near her.

Starting in July 2011, Marlin will be an Elder and Assistant Plant Administrator at Niles Westside. He also drives the bus for Pathfinders as needed and is a Campground Host for camp meeting in Cedar Lake, MI. In the past, Marlin has been a Deacon, Head Deacon, Elder, Pathfinder Director, and Youth Sabbath School Teacher.

Susan is Secretary/Treasurer for Pathfinders, and will be Assistant to Adventurers and Sabbath School Secretary starting in July 2011. She has also been a teacher in Cradle Roll, Kindergarten and Primary Sabbath Schools, a Pathfinder Director & Deputy Director, and a Deaconess.

The Sluiters have been married for thirty-three years. After they both graduated from high school, they met while getting a summer job at the first McDonald's to come to their town. They started dating soon after and have been together ever since.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Church Family, Sluiters!

Photo by Aliya Verbrigghe

Vacation Bible School
July 11-15, 2011
9 a.m.

Pre-K (age 4) - 6th grade

Online registration will be available soon at www.nileswestside.org. Please register early!

Many volunteers (either during the week or behind the scenes) are needed to reach as many children as possible. Please contact Erica Hippler (269-876-7690 or jande_hippler@yahoo.com) or Gina Meekma (269-845-8870 or gmeekma@gmail.com) to see how you can help. Donations are also welcome.
Welcome New Members!

Dean & Ruth Ann Snow from Glenwood Adventist Church, Dowagiac, MI

Claudine Bayles, Claudia Ernestina Arauz, and Claudine Elena Tudor were baptized on May 14, 2011.

Jacquelyn Barney was also baptized on May 14, 2011.

Farewell to Our Friends:

Jess Oliver to Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, MI

John, Tamara, Timothy, Tobias, Phillip & John Jr. Robertson to Village Adventist Church, Berrien Springs, MI

Linda Munroe to Edwardsburg Adventist Church, Edwardsburg, MI

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

Brina Irwin, Janelle Bennett, Stephanie Kidder, Nick Leonard, Climond Shameerudeen, and Paul Vivier.

Children’s Sabbath School Council Meeting: Tuesday, June 7, at 6 p.m. at the church. Current and new leaders and assistants should attend if possible to help make important decisions about our Sabbath Schools.

VBS Planning Meeting: Tuesday, June 7, at 7 p.m. at the church. Those interested in helping with VBS (mornings of July 11-15) are invited to attend. Our theme this year is Egypt, with stories about Joseph. Help is needed! If you are unable to volunteer your time either that week or behind the scenes, please consider donating funds (mark your tithe envelope “VBS”) so that we can reach out to as many children as possible. Thanks! ~ Erica Hippler & Gina Meekma

Communion: There will be only one service on Sabbath, June 11, at 11 a.m. We invite the whole church family to participate in this very special church service.

June’s fellowship lunch will be on Sabbath, June 11, after the Communion service. The location will be announced. Please bring extra food and join us!

The Women’s Bible Study will meet on June 13 & 27 at 10:30 a.m. Childcare is provided. ~ Sheila Patterson

Women’s Night Out: Thursday, June 16, at 5:30 p.m. at IHOP (Mishawaka). Contact Denise Scroggs to RSVP (rn95@sbcglobal.net or 574-243-0141).

Please note Pastor Bill’s new phone number: 269-362-5247.

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.

The Sound of Rain prayer session will not meet during the summer.

Midweek Manna: Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. We are reading through Prophets and Kings.

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.

Bible Chain Reference Class: Would you like to turn your Bible into a powerful study tool by equipping it with a Chain Reference system? The Light Link Chain Reference System will give you confidence to share your faith by providing ten powerful texts on 28 different Bible teachings. The class meets on Fridays at 6 p.m. at the Jones Residence. Please call Esther or Charles Jones at 269-684-6828 or e-mail occester@gmail.com for more info. There is a $10 fee for the Reference System.

Harbor of Hope will be holding a $10 for 10 minutes chair massage fundraiser at Apple Valley Market monthly throughout 2011. All proceeds will go to benefit our ministry to youth and children in Benton Harbor. To sign up for a slot, please call 740-297-1478 or send an email to torchiapet@gmail.com.

Faith doesn’t get you around trouble; it gets you through it.
—Anonymous
In response to the tornado disaster that recently occurred in Joplin, Missouri, the Michigan Conference has received an official request to send personal care kits to be handed out to the victims. They would appreciate the help of all our churches in relieving the suffering of these poor people. Below is a list of how to make personal care kits, with children’s kits included. The Conference depends greatly on our church members to help us during these disaster response events. The Michigan Conference will see that all kits delivered to them will be mailed to Missouri. Thank you for your help! ~ Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (dbruch@misda.org)

If you would like to donate kits, or just buy several of the same item to be put in kits, bring them to the church, to Peggy Cain’s house, or to Dr. Max Rusher’s office. Peggy Cain and Lorraine Hilliard (and anyone else who would like to help) will put the kits together and make sure that they are delivered to the Conference.

Personal Care Kits for Tornado Victims

Personal Care Kit (PCK)

ALL ITEMS IN EACH KIT MUST BE NEW, WITH UNOPENED PACKAGES.

PCK provides basic necessities to survivors who have been forced to leave their homes because of natural disaster. Please buy enough to last 3-5 days. (Please no motel size bottles.) Each comfort bag should contain the following:

✓ 1 Wash Cloth - thin
✓ 1 Hand Towel - thin
✓ 1 Bath Towel - optional (only if very thin)
✓ Soap - 3 oz and up
✓ Shampoo - no larger than 15 oz.
✓ Conditioner - no larger than 15 oz.
✓ 1 Comb - large
✓ Brush (optional but nice for women’s and children’s kits)
✓ Toothbrush - single brushes only in original wrapper. No child sizes.
✓ Toothpaste
✓ Disposable Razor
✓ Shaving Cream - travel size only
✓ Deodorant - sample size only
✓ Fingernail file or clipper-optional
✓ 6 Band-Aids - optional

Add to Children’s Kits:

✓ Small toy or coloring book and crayons (4 x 6 in size)
(Stuffed animals or small action figures and 4 X 6 activity books with pencil.)

Add to Women’s Kits:

✓ 5 individually wrapped feminine hygiene pads
✓ 1 bottle lotion

Please place all items in the largest size zip-lock bag (larger than one gallon). Please mark on the outside what gender or age with magic marker.

Children’s Disaster Kit

This is to help replace toys or give the child something to do when parent is busy with filling out forms. These may be added to children’s care kit:

✓ 1 coloring book
✓ 1 box of crayons
✓ 1 story book (preferably about feelings)
✓ 2 small toys vehicles (these should be emergency vehicles – police car, fire truck, ambulances – so that children can express their feelings in play).

Thank you!
We are now registering for the 2011-12 school year! Registration forms can be found on our web site, www.nilesadventistschool.org, or at the school office. The registration fee is discounted $25 (from $175 to $150) if paid by July 15. Please contact Principal Michael Jakobsons (mjakobsons@misda.org or 269-683-5444) or see our web site to learn more about our excellent multi-grade classroom school.
NAS Students Raise Money for Missions by Gina Meekma

Most of the 62 NAS students participated in a Bike-A-Thon on May 19 to raise money for their mission project, Bikes for Ukraine Pastors. Including donations and pledges, approximately $2,400 was raised for this worthy project! Their goal was $1,000. Students also brought money in to put in a large glass jar for the project.

According to information from Doug Fattic, project director, pastors and other service workers in the Ukraine need bikes to more effectively reach their church members. Their average salary is less than $400 per month, and they typically minister to three churches in a fifty kilometer radius. Personal visits are more necessary because phones aren’t common. Since public transportation doesn’t go when and everywhere needed, having a bike is important because biking is three times faster than walking. Bicycles are made in the Ukraine to assist the local economy as much as possible.

For more information, go to www.ukrainebicycletours.com.

If you would like to donate to this project, you can put money in a tithe envelope at Niles Westside Church; send a check to NAS (110 N Fairview Ave, Niles, MI 49120); or give online at www.nileswestside.org, Online Giving.

Thank you for your support!

Build-A-Bear Workshop Bible Lab

On June 1, the NAS students went to the mall in Mishawaka to help stuff bears and make cards to send to children in Joplin who were recently affected by the tornado there. They all enjoyed being a blessing to others and were blessed as well. Pictures can be found on our Facebook page, and there is also a link to them on the school website (click on Links).

A big Thank You to Miss Katie Weakley (art teacher and sub) for organizing this mission project!

Upcoming NAS Events

Now registering for the 2011-2012 School Year!

Kindergarten Graduation ~ Wednesday, June 1, 6 p.m. (gym)

8th Grade Graduation ~ Thursday, June 2, 6 p.m.

Last Day of School (½ day) ~ Friday, June 3

School Board Meeting ~ Tuesday, June 21, 7 p.m.

NAS Early Registration Fee & Student Aid Applications Due ~ Friday, July 15

First Day of School ~ Monday, August 22

These two Pre-K and Kindergarten students enjoyed the sand at Niles Adventist School’s spring picnic at Madeline Bertrand Park on May 31.

Photo by Heidi Beardsley
Calendar of Events

June 1  Pastor Darrel’s Birthday
  Kindergarten Graduation (gym) ............. 6 p.m.
  Prayer Meeting ............................ 7 p.m.
June 2  Eighth Grade Graduation ............... 6 p.m.
June 3  Last Day of School - ½ day
Pathfinder Camp Out through June 6
June 4  Pastor Darrel le Roux .................. 8:30 & 11 a.m.
  Worship Committee (Fattic’s)
June 6  Church Board Meeting .................... 7:30 p.m.
June 7  Children’s SS Council Meeting .......... 6 p.m.
  VBS Planning Meeting ...................... 7 p.m.
  Midweek Manna ............................. 7 p.m.
June 8  Prayer Meeting .......................... 7 p.m.
June 11 Communion - One Service ............... 11 a.m.
  Fellowship Lunch (location TBA) - after 2nd service
  Sunshine Band at Riveridge Manor .......... 2:30 p.m.
June 12-29  Pastor Away for Camp Meeting and Vacation
June 13  Women’s Bible Study ................... 10:30 a.m.
June 14  Midweek Manna ........................ 7 p.m.
June 15  Prayer Meeting ........................ 7 p.m.
June 16  Women’s Night Out-IHOP (Mishawaka) 5:30 p.m.
June 17-25  Camp Meeting in Cedar Lake, MI
June 18  Ghenadie Girleanu, Speaker ............ 8:30 & 11 a.m.
June 19 Happy Father’s Day!
June 21  School Board ........................... 7 p.m.
  Midweek Manna ............................. 7 p.m.
June 22  Prayer Meeting ........................ 7 p.m.
June 25  Joe Kidder, Speaker .................... 8:30 & 11 a.m.
  Baptism
June 26 Newsletter Items Due
June 27  Women’s Bible Study ................... 10:30 a.m.
June 28  Midweek Manna ........................ 7 p.m.
June 29  Prayer Meeting ........................ 7 p.m.

June 2011

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Services

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

Happy Father’s Day!

Kenneth Beil 1 Andrew Bennett 19
Darrel le Roux Nathan Hamilton 20
Denise Scameheorn Sue Fattic 21
Mary Pfeifle Andrew Hamilton 3
Marilyn McCalment Chiya Chitekwe 22
Ron Park Simon Constable 23
Angela Bennett Darlene Grooms 6
Elijah le Roux Aubrie Demler 24
Shirley Meyers Staci Fagal
Lisa Reitz Bernita Hainey
Rose Anne Grove Dakota Pascucci 8
James Lechner Jessica Shepard 25
Patricia Morse Deborah Peshka 26
Christine Robbins Gary Sorenson
Grace Dockerty Marcia Irwin 10
Wendy Munroe William Lechner 27
Denise Scroggs Ellen Curtis 28
Levi Fagal Dawna Luzadder 11
Janessa Howell Ron Luzadder
Abigail Richter Dan Pfeifle
Bryan Seltzer Edwin Constable 29
Carol Minter Ernest Constable 13
Joshua Bennett Anke Pagaja 14
Elisabeth Peak Linda Rogers
Ethan Bell Alex Prouty 15
Matthew Kent
Carol Williams Alyssa Robbins

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