Ripples of Love Evangelism

What love ripples are you creating within your neighborhood this season?

The launching of our Prayer Ministry will take place on Sabbath, December 8, during the first and second services. If nothing else, you can pray! This is the work that drives Satanic influences away from the eyes and minds of those making eternal decisions as they hear and participate in this gospel invitation. Pray, pressing together, in earnest life and death battles for souls. Other ministries will also launch their ministry invitations as we plan to have everyone signed up for one of the following ministries. We need everyone to sacrifice time, energy, skills, and even families for spiritual “bridge-building” contact with all our guests every evening of that iPerceive week: February 8-16, 2013.

Prayerfully ask the Lord what ripples you want Him to have you send.

Evangelism Ministries:

- Prayer Ministry
- Bible Study Teams
- Visitation Teams
- Spiritual Guardians
- Row/Table Hosts
- Children’s Programs
- Parking and Transportation
- Data Entry
- Greeters
- Gym Set-up Team
- Gym Take-down Team
- Décor Team
- Catering Team
- Social Team

Senior Pastor:
Darrel le Roux
☎ 269-605-7895; 269-254-9868
pastor@nileswestside.org

Associate Pastor:
William Dudgeon, Sr.
☎ 269-362-5247 - pasd987@msn.com

Head Elder:
Sue Fattic
☎ 269-876-9356 - suefattic@mac.com

Editor/Church Secretary:
Gina Meekma
☎ 269-845-8870 (cell)
☎ 269-683-5998 (church)
secretary@nileswestside.org

Church Office Hours: Thursdays - 1-3 p.m.
Church Web Site: www.nileswestside.org
“Like” us on Facebook!
Jolly Opportunities

Tis the season to be jolly, Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la ...

’ could be a fantastic bridge-building experience for

Christ. Everyone welcomes friendliness (especially in an

ultra-unfriendly political world). The world expects “jolly-

ness” at Christmas/New Year holidays. How much more

ought the Christian to reflect joy in the reality that Christ

came as a baby in order to give us another year, and

another and another ... forever!

The world has seasons to be jolly while the Christian’s joy is never out of season, as

Christ has no season for Salvation. Your opportunity to connect with your neighbors,

colleagues, strangers, and even strained family relations could be through this jolly

season. Prayerfully ask the Lord to open the door for you to be a witness of true Christian

joy. You may know the challenges someone is facing and could send them a Christian book like Thoughts from the Mount

of Blessings, from the ABC bookstore in Berrien Springs, to lift their thoughts higher to heaven this season (what a joy

that is every time we experience it!). Or you could just pray with someone for love, joy and peace to be part of their

home this season. Don’t miss the ‘jolly’ opportunities this season for Christ.

Blessed Blessings,

Pastor Darrel

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Talent Night

Saturday, January 26, at 6:30 p.m.
in the gym

Last year was such a success that we alert

you to plan for this Talent Night well in

advance! We invite everyone who wishes to

participate in this talent evening to please

let Fred or Amanda Boothby know what

you wish to do for the upcoming Talent

Night. Watch the bulletin for more info!

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It is the work of conversion and

sanctification to reconcile men to

God by bringing them into accord

with the principles of His law. In the

beginning, man was created in the

image of God. He was in perfect

harmony with the nature and the

law of God; the principles of

righteousness were written upon

his heart. But sin alienated him from his Maker. He no

longer reflected the divine image. His heart was at war

with the principles of God’s law. “The carnal mind is

enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of

God, neither indeed can be” (Romans 8:7). But “God so

loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son,”

that man might be reconciled to God. Through the merits

of Christ he can be restored to harmony with his Maker.

His heart must be renewed by divine grace; he must have

a new life from above. This change is the new birth,

without which, says Jesus, “he cannot see the kingdom

of God.”

The first step in reconciliation to God is the

conviction of sin. “Sin is the transgression of the law.”

“By the law is the knowledge of sin” (1 John 3:4, Romans

3:20). In order to see his guilt, the sinner must test his

character by God’s great standard of righteousness. It is

a mirror which shows the perfection of a righteous

character and enables him to discern the defects in his

own.

- True Revival: The Church’s Greatest Need

by Ellen G. White, pg. 21
Meet Our New Members

Kerr Family
by Gina Meekma with Anna Kerr

Kara, Anna and Richard Kerr moved from Berrien Springs to Buchanan in August 2010. They have lived in this area for about nine years.

Kara stays at home with Anna, who is home schooled and a junior/senior in high school, and Richard, who is in 8th/9th grade.

The Kerrs enjoy watching funny TV shows and movies together as a family. They also enjoy taking care of their pets as a family.

When visiting Niles Westside for the first time, the Kerr family found that they really liked the people and the service, and felt that it was where God wanted them to be. They transferred from Pioneer Memorial Church in October 2012.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Family, Kara, Anna and Richard!

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Operation Christmas Child Update
by Esther Jones

As I was putting the November Church Calendar on the refrigerator at home and reading through the upcoming Church/School events, I almost panicked as I noted that Niles Adventist School would be closed on November 19 and 20—the final days of Operation Christmas Child Collection Week! What would we do without the help of those amazing kids in the upper grades of NAS? How would we pack the thousands of shoe boxes that always come in on the last day of OCC Collection Week? As I sat down to ponder this new problem the “still small voice” spoke to me and said, “This is not YOUR project, everything is going to work out just fine. I have a plan—just put a ‘help needed’ ad in the bulletin, and others will step up to help you.” That is exactly what happened this year! Several fine new volunteers came forward from our congregation and from others in the area to help load the five semi-trailers sending 23,793 shoe box gifts to the OCC Processing Center in MN. Thank you so much to all of you who packed shoe boxes, wrote checks to help with shipping costs, made soup and hot chocolate mix for hungry volunteers, packed cartons, loaded semi-trailers, and prayed for all the volunteers and the children who are waiting to be blessed by your boxes.

A special “thank you” to our volunteers this year: Betty Pfeifle, Terri Hebard, Kathy Dockerty, Lorraine Hilliard, Sue Rose, Jordyn, Natalie & Brigg True, Walter Biggs, CJ Jones, James Gigante, Jim Ralph, Debbie Simpson, Pastor le Roux, Bev & Faith White, NAS Faculty & Students (especially Nathan Horvath who packed boxes on Sunday too), Phillip Lake (prior NAS student) & EV Free Youth Group, Buchanan Redbud Pathfinders & Staff, Niles Christian Home Schoolers, and Cedar Lane School students with Tara Carlson. The gift boxes that left NAS will answer the prayers of thousands of children and their families and will introduce them to Jesus. So, as the Christmas season is approaching, I ask myself, “What do I really need?” Nothing really—but what gives me the greatest joy? Oh, that's easy! I count it all joy to put LOVE in a box in Jesus’ name! Operation Christmas Child Collection Week 2013 is just fifty weeks away. Let’s plan on setting a new record of Gospel Opportunities!
In November, the Adventurers were blessed when they presented two families in our community with food for Thanksgiving. Before we divided and delivered the food to the families, we prayed over the food and asked that God would bless the families and our witness to them. We rounded our month out by completing the Lizard award. A big thank you to our Builder teacher, Louise Demler, for teaching that and bringing her bearded dragon in for the kids to see and touch. They really had a blast!

For December, we are looking forward to our Christmas Party!

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We are happy to share that the Annual Thanksgiving Day Baskets project was very successful. The combined efforts of the Pathfinder and Adventurer Clubs, our church family, and the generous donations of our community allowed us to collect more than 900 nonperishable food items. Those items were then sorted into large generous baskets and delivered to local area families and individuals in our community. One individual was so touched by the gesture that she exclaimed, “You are angels sent from God!” We were so touched to be used by God to bless others and show His love to those around us. Please pray that the gift basket recipients will continue to see God’s love and blessings in their lives.

On another note, some of the Pathfinders enjoyed a ten-mile hike at T. K. Lawless Park in November to work on their hiking honor. It was a beautiful day for a hike. We all enjoyed spending time out in nature and seeing a variety of interesting sights including a beaver dam, swans on a lake, and a common garter snake that crossed our path.

We have more fun activities planned for our club too. In January, the teens in the club will have the opportunity to attend the Teen Snow Outing at Camp Au Sable. They will enjoy spiritual worships, nature activities, and fun outdoor activities including skiing, sledding, snowmobile rides, and more.

As always, please keep the Pathfinder Club in your prayers. If you would like to give a monetary donation or sponsor a Pathfinder, please contact Marlin Sluiter at mjsluiter57@yahoo.com or Janessa Howell at janessa.howell@gmail.com. Thanks and remember to tag Jesus!

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“The birth of Christ is the central event in the history of the earth — the very thing the whole story has been about.”

—C.S. Lewis
New Church Officer:  
Sabbath School Secretaries – Chair: Laurie Johnson

Fellowship Lunch: Sabbath, December 8, after second service. Please bring a pasta dish (hot or cold) and/or your favorite holiday dessert and join us in the gym!

Baptism: Nicole (Compton) Gray will be baptized on Sabbath, December 8, at 4 p.m. at the church. Please join us as we welcome her into our church family!

Afternoon Prayer Time: Launching Sabbath, December 8, at 5 p.m. in the sanctuary – PowerHour. This prayer time will emphasize a different topic and style of prayer assignment weekly, leading up to our evangelistic series starting February 8 with Dwight Nelson. Join us as we begin with prayers of thankfulness and praise—something we all have! Your ‘clue’ for our prayer focus: “I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy!”

Women’s Cookie Exchange:  
Sunday, December 16, at 4:30 p.m. at Barb Harris’ house (3940 Hidden Valley Trail, Niles). We will have a soup and salad supper. Please RSVP to Kathy Dockerty (kadockerty@yahoo.com or 269-782-8567) so we can figure out how many cookies each should bring. Each attendee will bring one kind of cookie and take home an assortment of all the different cookies.

Carolng: Sabbath, December 22, at 4 p.m. If you like to sing and would like to reach our community for Christ, here is an opportunity for you to get involved. We will have several groups go into the Niles community caroling and giving out a package with some Christmas treats and a DVD of Dwight Nelson’s sermon. Contact Andrea Jakobsons (262-416-8007) if you would like to participate in bringing Christmas joy to Niles as we keep asking God to Give Us Niles! There will also be a sign up sheet.

Volleyball: December 2, 9, and 20, at 7 p.m. in the school gym. Adults are invited to come play volleyball on alternating Thursday and Sunday evenings. Watch the church bulletin and calendar for exact dates each month.

The Blessing of Giving: The blessing of giving is most simply the fact that you have to give. Considering all our blessings and heaven’s gift of Christ to us, we are never able to ‘out-give’ God. The very sanctuary that we worship Him in has been such a blessing in its newness. It’s a place guests will want to return to after the evangelism in February as we fill it with Christian hospitality. We invite you to place your gifts of gratitude on the evergreen tree during one of the Sabbaths of December 22 – January 5, marked for the renovation funds and/or evangelism that is planned to start in two months.

Swiss Valley Skiing Social: Saturday evening, January 12. Watch for more details.

Please Note: The church is a hospital for sinners rather than a museum for saints. Niles Westside continues to live with this reality. Thankfully we don’t wear labels announcing our particular stripe of sinfulness. But in specific cases, the law requires exactly that. This occurs when specific public crimes carry lifelong consequences. And this has happened to one of Niles’ favorite guests. Mark Hasselbring has experienced prison for a crime that long preceded his surrender to Jesus Christ. Before, during, and following his recent incarceration, he has demonstrated the genuineness of his Christian walk. He misses and deeply desires to resume worshiping with us. Watch in coming weeks for more details of how Niles will welcome his return and protect both your family and him.

Mission Trip: Some members and friends of Niles Westside are going to Ambato, Ecuador, from March 13-25 to build two one-day school buildings. The buildings will have block exterior walls and be part of 21 buildings that Maranatha is building on the school campus. We are in need of more building help. If you do not have construction skills, we will train. There will be something for everyone to do. Roy Kingman is the group leader and will have pictures and more details after returning from a site visit in Ecuador. There is a $1,500-1,700 cost per person.

Passion Play: The Andrews University Passion Play is a two-day event this year, Saturday and Sunday, April 6-7, 2013. (Note: This is not Easter weekend.)
We bring our children to Jesus to be touched by His love, trained for service, and educated for Heaven.

Adopted Into God’s Royal Family

Saturday, December 15, at 11 a.m. at Niles Westside.

Please come and enjoy the musical talents of our students, led by Mrs. Kent.
Citrus Fruit Fundraiser

Donations & Proceeds will help the Niles Adventist School

Ruby Red Grapefruit $25 p/case $12.50 half case
California Navel $32 p/case $16 half case
Honey Bells $40 p/case $20 half case
Variety Pack** $25 half case

**Variety pack contains 15-20 honey bells, 8-10 grapefruit

**Pick up dates are usually 10-14 days after order due date.**

To place your order, please contact Dawn Kingman at 574-340-9637 or dawnkingman3@gmail.com.

ORDER DUE DATES

January 7 Grapefruit, California Navels, Honey Bells, Variety Pack
February 11 Grapefruit, California Navels, Tangerines, Temples
March 18 Grapefruit, California Navels, Tangerines, Valencias

Thank you!

Upcoming NAS Events

Volleyball Game - 6-8th Graders VS Staff & Parents
Thursday, December 6, at 6 p.m.

Gift Card Orders Due
Tuesday, December 11

School Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 11, at 7 p.m.

8th Grade Bake Sale
Friday, December 14, at 11:15 a.m.

NAS Christmas Program at Niles Westside
Saturday, December 15, at 11 a.m.

Bible Lab - Nursing Home Visits
Wednesday, December 19 (a.m. and p.m.)

Noon Dismissal for Christmas Vacation
Friday, December 21

Christmas Vacation
December 24 - January 4

Sunday, February 17, 2013, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
at Niles Adventist School

Ticket Reservations: 269-683-5444 or www.nilesadventistschool.org

Tickets: $8 per person in advance or $10 at the door
NO childcare provided.

Funds raised will go towards updating our playground equipment.
December Calendar of Events

1st  Communion (1 service only)  11 a.m.
    NADEI Training (after a participant potluck)  2:15 p.m.
    Vespers & Book Signing with Barney Family  5 p.m.
2nd  Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park)  8 a.m.
    Free Babysitting by Pathfinders (gym)  2-6 p.m.
    Volleyball (gym)  7 p.m.
3rd  Citrus Fruit Orders Due

House of Prayer Time  6-7 p.m.
4th  Pathfinders (gym)  6:30 p.m.
    Praise Prayer Meeting (Philadelphia Church)  7 p.m.
8th  Walt Williams, Speaker; Prayer Launch  8:30 & 11 a.m.
    Fellowship Lunch (gym)  after 2nd svc
    Sunshine Band at Riveredge Manor  2:30 p.m.
    Nicole Gray Baptism  4 p.m.
    PowerHour  5 p.m.
9th  Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park)  8 a.m.
    Volleyball (gym)  7 p.m.
10th Women’s Bible Study  10 a.m.
    Adventurers (gym)  6 p.m.
11th House of Prayer Time  6-7 p.m.
    School Board Meeting (school)  7 p.m.
    Midweek Manna  7 p.m.
12th Pathfinders (gym)  6:30 p.m.
    Prayer Meeting  7 p.m.
15th Aldar Nõmmik, Speaker  8:30 a.m.
    NAS Christmas Program  11 a.m.
16th Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park)  8 a.m.
    Women’s Cookie Exchange (Harris’ Home)  4:30 p.m.
17th Adventurers (gym)  6 p.m.
18th House of Prayer Time  6-7 p.m.
    Finance Committee Meeting  7 p.m.
    Midweek Manna  7 p.m.
19th Pathfinders (gym)  6:30 p.m.
20th Prayer Meeting  7 p.m.
    Volleyball (gym)  7 p.m.
21st NAS Noon Dismissal for Christmas Vacation
22nd Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker  8:30 & 11 a.m.
    Caroling  4 p.m.
23rd Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park)  8 a.m.
24-Jan 4  NAS Christmas Vacation
25th Merry Christmas!
26th Prayer Meeting  7 p.m.
29th Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker  8:30 & 11 a.m.
30th Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park)  8 a.m.

Newsletter Items Due
31st New Year’s Eve Supper (gym)  5:30 p.m.

December 2012

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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.

House of Prayer Time
Tuesdays, 6 p.m.
Midweek Manna
Tuesdays, 6 p.m.
Prayer Meeting
Wednesdays, 7 p.m.