Finding Jesus in a Shoe Box
by Esther Jones

Operation Christmas Child season has arrived! National Collection Week begins Monday, November 18, and ends on November 25. The students of Niles Adventist School will once again have their hands on thousands of shoe box gifts as they are put in cartons, shipped to the OCC Processing Center, and then put in the waiting hands of the poorest children around the world. These gifts are used as tools of ministry in over 100 countries each year, introducing the children to Jesus Christ along with the shoe box gift. Assistance with this project is always appreciated. Feel free to fill shoe boxes or contribute to the cost of shipping the boxes ($7 per box). OCC brochures are available in the lobby of the church or in the school office. Thank you for your faithful support of this project as we prepare for our 17th year of participation! Our goal this year is 25,500 shoe boxes for our Michiana Area. Last year we received 23,800.

There are many stories about children who receive shoe boxes. Samaritan’s Purse shares this one about Ted Foreman. As a 9-year-old living in a Russian orphanage, he says his life was changed when he received a shoe box filled with gifts from people who didn’t even know him. “It made me know and feel that someone actually loved me and cared about me,” Foreman said. “I felt hope like I’ve never felt before; it was what I needed then.” The shoe box he received a decade ago was the first gift he had ever received.

“Growing up in Russia was very difficult,” he said, “especially because I was in an orphanage from a very young age. I lacked a loving family. I did not get to see my sisters very often even though we lived in the same orphanage. It was depressing and hopeless.”

He said he remembers having to share everything with the other children in the orphanage; nothing belonged to just him alone. “I even shared a towel with my whole group of almost 20 kids,” he said. “Once a week we would walk to town (3 km) to a public shower, and we would have to share one towel amongst all of us. My shoe box gift contained a washcloth, soap, toothbrush and toothpaste, and school supplies! I thought I was rich! The washcloth became my own personal towel and to have my own toothbrush was a luxury too. I could write my sisters letters with the paper from my box as well.”

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Pastor Appreciation

October was Pastor Appreciation month, and November is Thanksgiving. So we thought it would be a good opportunity for the Pastors to appreciate the body of Christ at Niles Westside Church that we are privileged to be a part of. It is impossible for a pastor to have any successful ministry on his own. The body, gifted by the Holy Spirit, unites the church ministries within the church for eternal success for God’s kingdom. The Holy Spirit is only poured out on those who have Christ as Lord of their lives.

Whenever we are surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, we are successful. We want to sincerely thank those leaders and church members who have surrendered their lives to our Lord Jesus Christ. It is every person, who, making Christ Lord of their life, actively and personally contributes to the successful ministry at Niles Westside. Thank you! Thank you for responding to what Christ wants for you and His church. Thank you for your enthusiasm for the glory of God. Thank you for your devoted prayers, your personal support, and eager participation in the programs and life of the church. Thank you.

Blessed blessings,

Pastor Darrel le Roux and Pastor Bill Dudgeon

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Foreman, a recent graduate of diesel mechanic school in Chicago, said when he was young he never imagined he would live in America, “but God has the ultimate plan. He began working in my life with an Operation Christmas Child shoe box!” Foreman and his two sisters were adopted by a Minnesota family when he was 13 after one of his sisters came to America as an exchange student and stayed with the family for two weeks.

He was reconnected with Operation Christmas Child when he learned that his adoptive parents were OCC volunteers at the shoe box processing center near Minneapolis. Ted volunteers with Operation Christmas Child, relating his story to groups both large and small. “This ministry plays a huge role in my life,” he said. “It changed my life, and it continues to bless me. I’m so privileged to serve with Operation Christmas Child.”

If you have questions or need further information, feel free to contact Esther Jones at 269-845-5770 or email ocessether@gmail.com. Also see www.samaritanspurse.org.

Bonfire Social: More than 80 people enjoyed the warmth of the fire, worship, hot chocolate, S’mores, and cooking their food over the fire on October 19 at the Chapel in the Woods.

The walking trails in our woods are always available, so feel free to use them, especially on Sabbath.

Photo by Gina Meekma
Meet Our New Member

Joyce Rodie  
by Gina Meekma

Joyce Rodie was born on a farm in Kansas, where she lived with her family, which included seven siblings. One of her sisters is LeAnn Herbel. Kathy Herbel is her niece.

When Joyce was 19, she started teaching in an eight-grade school that had one student in each grade. She remembers having to stoke the wood stove that stood in the middle of the classroom. Her summers were spent getting her teaching degree at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, and later her Master’s at Andrews University. She worked for the church as a teacher, girls’ dean (in ND), and assistant superintendent of education (IN) for 39 years. For ten of those years, she taught at Gobles Junior Academy in Gobles, MI. She also worked for the Michigan Conference helping with VBS programs during the summer. Although she taught all grades, including grades 9 and 10 English, Joyce most enjoyed teaching the lower grades.

Besides living in Michigan and Indiana, Joyce also lived in South Dakota and North Dakota. Before she moved to Niles in 2012, she took care of her brother in Kansas for eight years.

Joyce joined Niles Westside in March 2013 because LeAnn and Kathy are members here. She is the leader of CareNet, which is our church/community services ministry. She also has a Bible Study group with LeAnn in the home that they share with Kathy.

Activities that Joyce enjoys include reading, crocheting, sewing, playing jokes on people, and having jokes played on her. Joyce had done a lot of traveling over the years, including going to Haiti with a group of teachers, but she is glad to be back “home” in Michigan.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Church family, Joyce!

Adventurer Fun  
by Tami le Roux, Director

During October, the Adventurers hiked 2.5 miles and geocached at Fernwood; made booklets of family, friends and people Jesus uses; learned about Whales; and spent time with our families. We earned our Outdoor Explorer award, our Whale award and worked on curriculum awards. We also had two booths at Fall Fest. That might not sound like a lot to some of you, but to us it was time spent learning about how God made nature and how we are to protect it and the animals who live in it. Our Adventurers are loving each moment!

For November, we are looking forward to helping the Pathfinders on November 2 with Can Collecting, working on our curriculum, and doing our Postcards award. If you know of any missionaries you would like us to write to, please email their address to nwcaterpillars@gmail.com, and we will include them in our list of addresses to use.

Please feel free to drop by and visit Adventurers. We meet on Mondays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. If you are looking to help out, please contact Tami le Roux or Isabel Acosta at nwcaterpillars@gmail.com or call 269-425-2161.
Coming Soon to Our Library

One Miracle After Another: The Pavel Goia Story by Greg Budd

Don’t miss this inspirational story—testimony that God still performs miracles today!

Fall Festivities in the Pathfinder Club

by April Hughes

Pathfinder Sabbath is on November 2! Please join us and be blessed as our young people lead out in the service. Also on Sabbath, November 2, you are invited to donate non-perishable food items to our Annual Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive. All collected items will be sorted into baskets for people in our community that need some assistance this holiday season. If you would like to donate canned, boxed, or other non-perishable food items, please bring them to church this Sabbath. Donated items can be left in the entryway by the parking lot. We want to thank the Adventurer Club for helping us and thank our church family for supporting this outreach project. If you know of a family or individual that could use some extra help this season by receiving a food basket, please contact Janessa Howell at 269-240-7112, or email the club at niles4flagspathfinderclub@gmail.com.

It’s not too late to order pasta from the Niles Four Flags Pathfinder Club! Orders can still be placed online through November 13. Your order will be shipped directly to your home. All funds raised help support the trip to attend the International Pathfinder Camporee in August 2014. There are all kinds of fun pasta shapes, kits with pasta and crackers, and cookies to choose from. There is even a gluten free pasta option! To purchase online, go to www.funpastafundraising.com/shop/niles-four-flags-pathfinder-club. Please share this link on your Facebook page or email it to other out of town family and friends too. Thank you for supporting your Pathfinder Club today!

Kristine and Lauren Horvath enjoyed Mother-Daughter Retreat at Camp Au Sable the second weekend in October. Eight families (mothers and daughters) from Niles Westside and NAS attended this fun weekend, which is put on each year by the Michigan Conference Women’s Ministries Department. This year’s theme was Wanted by God, and Western wear was prevalent.

Activities included meetings with speaker Linda (Micheff) Johnson; wonderful meals (with no preparation or clean up by the attendees!); time with family and friends; walks on the boardwalk around the lake; visits to the Nature Center; a craft; an evening at Fort Shellenbarger with worship, food and games; Go Karts; and riding horses. Hope to see even more of our members there next October!

Our newest member, Kaleb Teat, being baptized by Pastor Darrel while his family and friends witness his commitment to God on October 26. Photo by Chip Meekma

Our newest member, Kaleb Teat, being baptized by Pastor Darrel while his family and friends witness his commitment to God on October 26. Photo by Chip Meekma
It’s a Girl!

Abbey & Donovan Bredenkamp announce the birth of Olivia Elizabeth Bredenkamp on October 1 at 2:30 a.m. She weighed 6 lbs 9 oz, and was 19.25 inches long. Congratulations to newly expanded family!

Welcome New Member!

Kaleb Teat was baptized on October 26.

Farewell to Our Friends:

Britney (Bell) Hopkins to Sunnyvale Adventist Church, Sunnyvale, CA
Kathleen Williams, David Williams Jr., and Jon Williams to Deltona Adventist Church, Deltona, FL

With Sympathy

Our Sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones: Carol & Walt Williams (Carol’s mother, Gerry Neidigh); Staci Fagal & Family (Staci’s grandfather); Tom Stiles, Jillian Panigot and Ben Panigot (their brother/uncle); and Lynda Bell (mother). Please keep them in your prayers during this difficult time.

Season of Prayer: If you have a passion for prayer and the Sabbath morning worship service, please join us each Friday evening at 7 p.m. in the Junior/Earliteen Room to intercede for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our worship services, the speaker, and the message.

Calling all singers! We have begun a standing church choir to prepare songs for special services throughout the year. Minimum practice time but maximum output. Anyone who can sing is welcome to join, but we are especially looking for strong section leaders (bass, tenor, alto, and soprano). November practices are Fridays, November 8 and 29, at 7 p.m. Let’s lift our combined voices in praise to our God and fill our church with music.

- Shari Lyons

Fellowship Lunch: Sabbath, November 9, after second service, in the school gym. Please bring extra food and join us!

Games4Kids: Saturday evenings, November 9 and 23, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. in the gym, kids ages 6-15 are invited to come play various games in the gym, such as volleyball, basketball, etc. Families are also welcome. Contact Pastor Darrel with any questions.

Chili Cook-off Social: Saturday evening, November 16, at 6 p.m. in the gym. We will also play the “Check Your Mate” game. Watch for further details.

Women’s Brunch: Sunday, November 17, at 11 a.m. at IHOP (Mishawaka). Please RSVP to Kathy Dockerty (kadockerty@yahoo.com or 269-782-8567).

CareNet Donations Reminder: The third Sabbath of each month, boxes will be at the door to collect food for CareNet–Niles Westside helping others. Your generosity last month was much appreciated and some has already been shared. We are grateful for what you have given, but there are some items that would be great to have on hand also: canned fruit, crackers, prepared packages of rice, noodles, or potatoes (mashed, scalloped), money donation for incidentals, etc.

November 2013

Church Family News

Niles Westside News
NAS New Classroom Consecration and Dinner

Sunday, November 17, at 5 p.m. in the gym

All are invited to join us as we look at how God has led our school in the past, and how He continues to lead us now. We will have a ribbon cutting ceremony, tour the new classrooms, and share a complimentary meal together also.

LIFT

In October, the seventh and eighth graders joined other students from Michigan Conference at Camp Au Sable for LIFT: Lifestyle Improvement for Teens.

Besides learning more about God, students also went to breakout sessions and enjoyed activities such as Go Karts, canoeing, horseback riding, and basketball.

“What I liked about the social part of LIFT was that I got to meet new people, especially in my physical breakout, where I had to work with a team of people I didn’t know. I learned more about bullying in my social breakout.” - Nathan

“The Art Around Us’ was my favorite breakout. This was taught by Nathan Greene, and we learned about shading and drawing.” - Genna

“My first breakout was ‘Nothing to Fear about the Future.’ I learned that there is nothing to fear of the future because Jesus is coming soon.” - Keegan

Photo by Michael Jakobsons
Serve Fresh Citrus Fruit for Thanksgiving!

Donations & Proceeds will help the Niles Adventist School.

Ruby Red Grapefruit $27 p/case $13.50 half case
Florida Navels $32 p/case $16 half case
Tangerines $24 half case only
Variety Pack $25 half case only

Variety pack contains 32-34 pieces: Bottom layer 16-20 navels; Top layer 6 grapefruit and 10 tangerines.

ORDER DUE DATES

Nov 3 Ruby Red Grapefruit, Florida Navels, Tangerines, Variety
Dec 1 Ruby Red Grapefruit, Florida Navels, Tangerines, Variety
Jan 12 Ruby Red Grapefruit, Navel, Honeybells/Minneolas, Variety Pack
Feb 16 Ruby Red Grapefruit, California Navels, Tangerines, Temple Oranges, California Mandarins
Mar 23 Ruby Red Grapefruit, California Navels, Tangerines, Florida Spring Orange, California Mandarins

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

To place your order, please contact Nicole Koenigshoff @ 269-362-1482 or nicream@yahoo.com. Or order online at www.goldenharvestsales.com, Account #7018.

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Upcoming NAS Events

Friday, November 1 - OCC Packing Party
Sunday, November 3 - Citrus Orders Due
Monday, November 4 - No School - Teacher In-Service
Tuesdays, November 5 & 19 - Gift Card Orders Due
Tuesday, November 12 - School Board, 7 p.m.
Thursday, November 14 - Volleyball Game, 6 p.m.
Sunday, November 17 - New Classroom Consecration/Dinner, 5 p.m.

November 18-25 - OCC Collection Week

Saturday, November 23 - Music at Niles Westside (Grades 3, 4, 7 & 8)

Wednesday, November 27 - Thanksgiving Meal & Noon Dismissal
November 28-29 - Thanksgiving Vacation

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Bible Lab: Students picking up walnuts at Dorothy Metzger’s home.

Photo by Denise Kidder
November Calendar of Events

1. Season of Prayer ........................................... 7 p.m.
2. Pathfinder Sabbath ........................................ 8:30 & 11 a.m.
3. Pathfinder/Adventurer Can Collecting .................. 2:30 p.m.

Daylight Savings Time Ends - Fall Back 1 Hr
Citrus Fruit Orders Due
Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park) ...................... 8 a.m.
Adult Volleyball (gym) ..................................... 7 p.m.

No School - Fall Teacher In-service
4. Elders Meeting ............................................. 7 p.m.
5. Pathfinders (gym) .......................................... 6:30 p.m.
6. Praise Prayer Meeting .................................... 7 p.m.
7. Bible Study (Pastor’s Office) .......................... 2 p.m.
Beyond Books Club .......................................... 3-4:30 p.m.
8. Choir Practice ............................................. 7 p.m.
9. Season of Prayer ........................................... 7 p.m.
10. Robert Zama, Speaker ................................. 8:30 & 11 a.m.
11. Fellowship Lunch (gym) ............................... after 2nd svc
12. Sunshine Band at Riverider Manor .................. 2:30 p.m.
13. Games4Kids (gym) ........................................ 6:30-8 p.m.
14. Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park) ................ 8 a.m.
15. Adult Volleyball (gym) ................................. 7 p.m.
16. Adventurers (Curriculum - gym) .................... 6 p.m.
17. Women’s Bible Study (Danielle Johnson's home) .. 10:30 a.m.
18. School Board Meeting (school) ....................... 7 p.m.
19. Pathfinders (gym) ........................................ 6:30 p.m.
20. Prayer Meeting ........................................... 7 p.m.
21. Bible Study (Pastor’s Office) .......................... 2 p.m.
22. Season of Prayer ........................................... 7 p.m.
23. Pastor Darrel le Roux & Alex Prouty, Speakers .. 8:30 & 11 a.m.
3. Chili Cook-off (gym) ...................................... 6 p.m.

Newsletter Items Due
Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park) ...................... 8 a.m.
Women’s Brunch (IHOP, Mishawaka) ..................... 11 a.m.
NAS Consecration/Dinner (gym) ......................... 5 p.m.

OCC Collection Week Begins (gym)
Adventurers (Curriculum - gym) ........................ 6 p.m.
Finance Committee Meeting ............................... 7 p.m.
Pathfinders (gym) ............................................ 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting .............................................. 7 p.m.
Bible Study (Pastor’s Study) .............................. 2 p.m.
Beyond Books Club .......................................... 3 p.m.
Adult Volleyball (gym) ..................................... 7 p.m.
Season of Prayer ........................................... 7 p.m.
Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker ............................
Music by NAS ............................................... 2nd svc
Games4Kids (gym) .......................................... 6:30-8 p.m.
Sunday Sunup Runners (Plym Park) ...................... 8 a.m.
Adult Volleyball (gym) ..................................... 7 p.m.

OCC Collection Week Ends
Adventurers (Family Network/Award - gym) ............ 6 p.m.
Women’s Bible Study ....................................... 10:30 a.m.
Church Board Meeting .................................... 7 p.m.

NAS Noon Dismissal for Thanksgiving Vacation
Prayer Meeting ............................................... 7 p.m.

Happy Thanksgiving!

NAS Thanksgiving Vacation
Choir Practice ............................................... 7 p.m.
Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker ............................

November Birthdays

Lucilo Acosta 1
Laura Robbins 2
Amber Benjamin 3
Ramona Bibi 4
Gavin Irwin 5
Mary Patrick 6
Eva Prouty 7
Alicia Franklin 8
Karlin Hill 9
Lavonne Hirsch 10
Aniya Emetu 11
Kathleen Williams 12
Paul Eager 13
Vincent Heremnitt 14
Nevaeh Hippler 15
Dustin Wood 16
Ronald Benjamin 17
Travis Boykins 18
Sue Rose 19
Abel Chole 20
Roger Edington 21
Sandra Siebold 22
Sylvia Stiles 23
Dawn Kingman 24
Melanie Taylor 25
Marilyn Wood 26
Michael Gonzales 27
Genevieve Prouty 28
Alexander Horvath 29
Lauren Horvath 30
Matthew Horvath 31
David Dulemba 32

Services
First Worship Svc
Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.  ....... Prayer Meeting
Wedgeays, 7 p.m.
Sabbath School
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.  ....... Season of Prayer
Fridays, 7 p.m.
Second Worship Svc
Saturdays, 11 a.m.

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