Pathfinder Dinner under the Stars: A Night in the Hanging Gardens
by April Hughes and Gina Meekma

The Pathfinders’ annual fundraiser dinner on March 2 featured wonderful Mediterranean food, beautiful decor, great service, a video about the International Pathfinder Camporee, and personal testimonies. Although the dinner was free, the Pathfinders accepted donations to support their trip to the Forever Faithful International Pathfinder Camporee this August. Even if you did not attend the dinner, you can still donate using a tithe envelope. Mark the envelope “Pathfinders.” Or contact Janessa Howell at 269-240-7112, or April Hughes at 269-462-1662, or via email: niles4flagspathfinderclub@gmail.com.

The International Pathfinder Camporee is a life-changing experience. This gathering only happens every five years, and Pathfinders attend from around the world. This year the theme, “Forever Faithful,” will focus on the life of Daniel.

Photos by Chip Meekma
Nothing New under the Sun

There is an innate desire within us for things that are new. We make space for new things. We are attracted to new things. We enjoy being surrounded by new things. Why should we want something old when we could have something new? Yet some of the most valuable items are antiques. Suddenly we don’t want to throw everything away. Old vs. new appears to be an ongoing debate. Some would prefer an eclectic collection of the latest and the greatest gadgets, while others are content with continuous characteristics of the antique. (Note of caution: be careful around those who are allured to new things all the time—they may get bored with you too.) There is nothing new under the sun, the wise man has said (Ecclesiastes 1:9). How do we live meaningfully if there is really nothing new under the sun?

Salvation itself is as old as the foundation of the world and written in an ancient book inspired by the Ancient of Days Himself. Yet the sparkling experience of new mercies every morning is ours to have through faith. Prayer may be considered by many as outdated, yet it connects you to the most powerful source ever known: God. Though there may be nothing new under the present sun, the Son plans to create a new Heaven and a New Earth in which righteousness (ancient concept) dwells.

What will be your new experience with this Ancient of Days?

Pastor Darrel le Roux

Meet Our New Members

Hunt Family
by Gina Meekma

Delbert & Myrna Hunt moved to Niles after they married in 1967. Before that, Delbert lived in Cassopolis and Dowagiac. Myrna grew up in Marshall, Michigan. They have a son, Todd, who is married to Swehla.

Originally a math major, Delbert graduated from Western Michigan University with degrees in speech and business. He then taught middle school in the Niles school system for thirty-eight years. Myrna attended both Oakwood and Andrews University. She worked at the Secretary of State in Niles for thirty-four years.

Myrna and Delbert met at a roller skating rink after their freshman year in college. He took Bible studies through correspondence, and was baptized in 1966 at the Village Adventist Church in Berrien Springs, although he became a member of the Niles Philadelphia Church. After belonging to the Niles Philadelphia church for forty-seven years, Myrna transferred to Niles Westside in March 2013. Delbert transferred from Niles Philadelphia in February 2014. At Niles Westside, Myrna blesses us by playing the piano and organ for church.

Now that they are retired, the Hunts have more time to focus on their hobbies. Delbert enjoys working with wood. Myrna’s passion is music. She used to sew and likes to roller skate. They are both part of a seniors bowling league. They also love to travel and have been to most of the fifty states. This summer they plan to take a road trip to the East Coast, to go the five states that they haven’t visited yet.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Church family, Myrna & Delbert!
Spring?
by Tami le Roux, Director

We know that everything has a season, but our spring this year seems like it’s going to be late. I know my children have been asking me where spring is this year and have started to pray for green grass and warm weather to play outside in. The weather man is predicting a cold start for March, so start reminding your kids that under all that snow the ground is preparing for spring. Where we can’t see - it’s getting ready.

Everything has a season, in its time. Just as God works where we cannot see in our heart, on our character, to help with our choices. Pray your kids through this winter, through their storms, and through the rough spots in their lives. God promises a season for everything - and to NEVER leave you (or your kids) alone and cold in winter.

Our club enjoyed some fun activities in February, including swimming at Andrews University to earn our swimming awards. Dan Minter came to teach us our Building Blocks award, and we LOVED his tools! Thank you to each one for joining us in making great memories for February.

Swimming at Andrews University

Photo by Pastor Darrel le Roux

Adventurers learning about building from Dan Minter.

Photo by Pastor Darrel le Roux

We want to especially thank all the guest teachers we have had so far. You all have done a wonderful job! The kids love it. Please keep your eye open for our investiture date as we’d like to present you with a gift then too.

As we look forward to March, we have some fun things planned as well. Busy Bees and Sunbeams have finished their curriculum and are doing extra awards now. The schedule is below. Please make sure your child is with us each night to get their curriculum finished and to earn these fun awards.

March 3 - Curriculum (Busy Bees and Sunbeams - Cooking Fun)
March 10 - Handicraft Award, Part 1
March 17 - Spring Break - No Adventurers
March 24 - Curriculum (Busy Bees and Sunbeams - Lady Bug)
March 31 - Handicraft Award, Part 2

Two NAS students getting books from the book exchange at the Family Reading Night at Niles Adventist School on February 25. The evening also included make-your-own trail mix, camping decorations, and true adventure stories from “Michiana Jones.”

Photos by Heidi Beardsley

March 2014

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“No life of faith can be lived privately. There must be overflow into the lives of others.”

— Eugene H. Peterson
School Round-Up/Visitation Day:
Wednesday, April 9, 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon at NAS

Prospective Parent Information Meeting:
Tuesday, April 8, 6 p.m. at NAS
Please RSVP for both events by phone or on our web site.

Come Grow with Us!

Sunday, April 13,
from 4-7 p.m. in the gym

Come and view the science projects and bridge-busting competition at this year’s Science Fair! There will also be food for sale.

Homeschoolers are welcome to participate! Contact Staci Fagal (269-591-7054) for more information.

Thursday, April 10,
from 2-7 p.m.

Sign up and be a hero!
March Calendar of Events

1 Andrea Jakobsons, Speaker 8:30 & 11 a.m.
2 YOLO Seminar (gym) 7 p.m.
3 Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park) 8 a.m.
4 Pathfinder Dinner under the Stars (gym) 5 p.m.
5 Adventurers (Curriculum - gym) 6 p.m.
6 Pathfinders (gym) 6:30 p.m.
7 Women’s Bible Study 2 p.m.
8 YOLO Seminar (gym) 7 p.m.
9 Daylight Savings Time Begins - Spring Ahead 1 Hr
10 Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park) 8 a.m.
11 Adult Volleyball (gym) 7 p.m.
12 Adventurers (Award - gym) 6 p.m.
13 Women’s Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
14 School Board Meeting (school) 7 p.m.
15 Noon Dismissal for Spring Break at NAS
16 Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker 8:30 & 11 a.m.
17-21 NAS Spring Break
18 Adventurers (Award - gym) 6 p.m.
19 Women’s Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
20 Church Board Meeting 7 p.m.
21 Youth Service 8:30 & 11 a.m.
22 Newsletter Items Due
23 Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park) 8 a.m.
24 Adult Volleyball (gym) 7 p.m.
25 Adventurers (Curriculum - gym) 6 p.m.
26 Women’s Bible Study 10:30 a.m.
27 Pathfinders (gym) 6:30 p.m.
28 Women’s Bible Study 2 p.m.
29 Youth Service 8:30 & 11 a.m.
30 Music by NAS - Grades 5 & 6 2nd svc
31 Parent/Teacher Conferences at NAS 12:15-6 p.m.

March 2014

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