Reflections on YOLO: You Only Live Once Seminar
by Nicole Koenigshof

I wasn’t able to attend every YOLO meeting, but when I was there I was truly blessed. As a third and fourth generation Adventist, sometimes it can feel a bit like I’ve heard it all before, but Andrea Jakobsons and Jared Browne really brought the story of Daniel to life in a very real and personal way. Each night they revealed God’s love and desire to have a personal and forever relationship with us through the Bible and their own personal testimonies. The meetings really touched my heart, and I felt a closeness to God through their presentation. I love when a Bible story can come to life and become a personal experience. Andrea and Jared helped us explore the emotions and physical realities of the Bible stories and also explored meanings through the original language and culture of that time.

by Donna Stout

I was excited to see the creative approach Andrea and Jared used at their series. The more intimate settings with circular, appealingly dressed tables, and the nightly surprises of wonderful treats, contributed to conversations between the attendees and new friendships made.

I liked the “double feature” messages which, even though I have attended many, many series as a pastor’s wife, taught me new and interesting things about familiar topics. The series was a true blessing to me.
Meet Our New Member

Colleen Staniszewski
by Colleen Staniszewski with Gina Meekma

Colleen Staniszewski lives with her parents, Lynn and Gregor, and her sisters, Tara (17 years old), and Kayleigh (9 years old), in Berrien Center. She and her family lived in South Bend, Indiana, before moving to Michigan seven years ago. She is a homeschooled ninth grader.

Baptized at Niles Westside on March 15 by Pastor Darrel, Colleen has wanted to be baptized ever since she was eleven years old. A while before she was baptized, she read a verse that appeared in her devotional—Isaiah 41:13. The beginning part of that text says, “I am holding you by your right hand . . . .” And that helped to bring her to baptism. Since her family is moving to Georgia at the end of the spring semester, she wanted to be baptized in the church that she grew up in. Colleen has been going to Niles Westside as long as she can remember, and she loves the church and all of the supportive people in it.

Colleen loves art, especially drawing in pencil. She and her family often enjoy skiing and snowboarding together, as well as traveling.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Church family, Colleen!

Everybody Dies - Few Spring to Life

Even those going to heaven have to die. It is not the same death that happens once in a lifetime that everyone is destined to know. The apostle Paul said, “I die daily” (1 Corinthians 15:31). Here is a death that becomes unafraid of death itself, for it looks beyond by faith to the spring of eternal life. This peace-producing dying has come to know the assurance of God’s awakening ability. Like a seed that dies and is just awaiting that mysterious working of God that bursts into the world of the dead with life-producing fruit, so this death waits for God. Springing to new life is God’s work.

Paul’s claim to “die daily” is precisely the reason for his willingness to “also stand in jeopardy every hour” (1 Corinthians 15:30). There is an eternity of spring living awaiting those crucified with Christ. The actual death of self, to lose a life of self-directedness, is the loss of total spiritual control. The old is gone. Selflessly dead, awaiting God’s living force to awaken this new life controlled by the Spirit. Then the totally new can come.

Die this daily kind of death this Spring. Let your life only spring from His.

Pastor Darrel le Roux

While taking photos of the earth, the space shuttle Columbia made a surprising discovery: Underneath the harsh Sahara Desert were 26 lakes, as well as miles of underground rivers. That region’s inhabitants face tough conditions because those abundant resources haven’t yet been tapped. Churches often suffer a similar problem. Congregations can’t reach their full God-given potential unless people discover and use their gifts. When we tap into our talents, however, God promises that we “will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail” (Isaiah 58:11, NIV).

April 2014

Niles Westside News
Handi-What?
by Tami le Roux, Director

In March, the Adventurers did their handicraft award. A lot of us think that handicrafts are a lost art, but the Adventurers proved that cards, frames, mobiles, clay, flower arranging, and posters are still a lot of fun and really beautiful. Handicrafts are crafts that are both made by hand and are useful items. We will be displaying our crafts soon in the church, so look out for them.

Are you struggling to get a “handle” on your kids? Is your schedule so busy that you cannot fit it all in? We would like to challenge you to make time to connect with each of your children - find something to build, make or do (like a game or outdoor activity) to make a good memory each week.

If you are still struggling with this, join our club. The fun, fellowship and connectedness with other families, as well as your own family, are encouraging and build great memories. If you are not sure, ask some of our Adventurer families or their kids. We have a great time and are blessed! It’s never too early to start planning for next school year.

Adventurer Fun Day

Mark your calendars! Gas up the cars! Bring the Families! The 2014 Adventurer Fun Day is coming!

Fun Day is planned for Sunday, April 27, in the Fitness Center of Great Lake Adventist Academy.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. The parade begins at 9:45.

This year’s Fun Day theme is “Forest Friends.” We will learn of God’s love for us through a variety of stations from crafts to a Bible Story.

Our Adventurer District Leaders, Dr. Gordon Atkins, Pastor Ken, and Pastor Craig will be presenting at various times throughout the day.

Prayer and Pathfinders
by April Hughes, Deputy Director

The Pathfinder Club has been busy working on a variety of honors, including the prayer honor. The club enjoyed working on this honor together and studying different prayers in the Bible and God’s response to each prayer. We also studied ways to pray and worked on developing our individual prayer lives by choosing a person or situation that we wanted to pray about for thirty days. Following the thirty-day prayer project, we were blessed to discuss the journey and progress within small groups. It was a great experience to see how God worked in each person’s life, and how prayers were answered. One thing that we all were praying about was the club’s annual Dinner under the Stars Fundraiser. We are very pleased to report that we raised $1,800 at this year’s dinner. We stepped out in faith by deciding to have the dinner be free of charge this year. God never fails. Our club raised more money through donations this year than at any previous Dinner under the Stars event.

Thank you so much for helping our club be able to attend the International Pathfinder Camporee this August!

On another note, we would like to extend an invitation to all 4th graders and other youth in 5th - 10th grades to join us for a special “Experience Pathfinders” meeting from 6:30-8:30 p.m., on Wednesday, April 23, in the school gym. The invitation is also extended to adults who are interested in volunteering with the club and becoming staff members. At this meeting, you will get to participate in club activities and experience what we do at a regular club meeting. The evening will include worship, drill and march, and small group activities. If you are curious about Pathfinders, have questions, or are interested in joining the club as a member or staff, this meeting is for you. Join us and be blessed!

If you have questions about the Pathfinder program, or if you would like to give a donation or sponsor a Pathfinder, please contact Janessa Howell at janessa.howell@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued prayers!
Welcome New Members!

John & Christin Miller from Southcenter Adventist Church in Des Moines, WA

Colleen Staniszewski was baptized on March 15.

Our Sympathy to Darlene Wood and Family. Bill Wood passed away on March 22.

Our Sympathy also to Reggie Curtis and Family. His mother, Ellen Curtis, passed away on March 21.

Bible Homes: You are invited to participate in a “Bible Home” (6-8 weeks, starting in April, on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings), here you can be strengthened and grow in the knowledge and the grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please contact Pastor Darrel for more information.

Women’s Night Out: Thursday, April 17, at 5:30 p.m. at the Wood Fire (Dowagiac). Please RSVP to Kathy Dockerty (269-782-8567 or kadockerty@yahoo.com).

Singers Needed for Church Choir: Our church is planning a special service for Easter Sabbath, April 19. We are encouraging participation from our members in all parts of the service to make this a memorable one for our visitors. If you enjoy singing, consider joining the choir for this special celebration. No long term commitment is required. Our practices will be Friday evenings, April 4, 11, and 18, at 7 p.m. We look forward to coming together in harmony to praise our Lord Jesus!

Children’s Choir: We would like to incorporate a Church Children’s Choir for kids ages 6-12. Similar to our Church Choir, we would prepare for special occasions during the year. Our next special service is the Easter service on Sabbath, April 19. We are looking for dedicated children who will commit to attending each practice in preparation for a service. Our practices will be Sabbath afternoons at 4, on April 5 & 12. As there are only two practices, attendance at both is essential. We look forward to beginning this exciting children's ministry.

Fellowship Lunch: Sabbath, April 19, after second service, in the school gym. Please bring extra food and join us! Note that this is the third Sabbath rather than the second Sabbath, due to the Science Fair.

Battle Creek Tour: Eighty-two miles from Niles is the historic home of Adventism. Historic Adventist Village, located in the west end of Battle Creek, Michigan, shares the story of “A People Who Lived to Honor God.” The Village is a fascinating three-block experience that includes authentically restored or replicated buildings featuring the heritage of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

On Sabbath, May 17, Niles members are invited to spend the day worshiping and visiting in the actual buildings and grounds of our spiritual forefathers. Come and be inspired by the stories and places where God did something yet to be remembered. And to be challenged as He has promised to do even greater things than these in the future of His followers. You dare not leave unchallenged! “We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.” {LS 196.2}

Historic Adventist Village

address: 482 Van Buren St., Battle Creek, MI 49037.

Web site for more information: www.adventistheritage.org/article/19/historic-sites/historic-adventist-village-site-home.

Schedule

• 11 a.m. - Worship in original Parkville Adventist Church in the village. Early Advent hymn singing to the sounds of an original pump organ. Story sermon time with Elder Stan Hickerson, Associate with Ellen G White Estates.

• 12:30 p.m. - Lunch (each brings own lunch, and we eat together).

• 1:30 p.m. - Tour of Historic Village museum with many Battle Creek Sanitarium artifacts.

• 2 p.m. - Walking Village tours begin with village staff, including historic scavenger hunt for children and youth.

• 4 p.m. - Walking tour & pioneer stories in Oak Hill Cemetery with Stan Hickerson.

• 5:30 p.m. - Return to Niles.
**NAS News**

_Niles Adventist School_  
www.nilesadventistschool.org  ☎️ 269-683-5444  📞 Michael Jakobsons, Principal  
“Like” us on Facebook!  

_We bring our children to Jesus to be touched by His love, trained for service, and educated for Heaven._

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**Blood Drive**  
Thursday, April 10, from 2-7 p.m.  
Sign up at NAS and be a hero!

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**Science Fair**  
Sunday, April 13, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the gym

Come and view the science projects and bridge-busting competition at this year’s Science Fair! There will be a science show by Greg Snider, electrical engineering professor at the University of Notre Dame, and food will be for sale (including Sam’s “Chicken”).

Contact Staci Fagal (269-591-7054) for more information.

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**NAS Round-Up/Student Visitation Day:**  
Wednesday, April 9, 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon  
_Free lunch for guests!_

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

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**NAS Calendar**

- Tuesday, April 8 - Parent Information Meeting, 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 8 - School Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 9 - Round-Up/Visitation Day, 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Thursday, April 10 - MI Blood Drive, 2-7 p.m.
- Sunday, April 13 - Science Fair, 4:30-6:30 p.m., gym
- Tuesday, April 15 - Gift Card Orders Due
- Saturday, April 26 - 7th & 8th Grade Music at Niles Westside
- Tuesday, April 29 - Gift Card Orders Due

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Swimming at Andrews U’s pool.  
_Photo by Heidi Beardsley_

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*April 2014  
Niles Westside News*
April Calendar of Events

1. Bible Study. .......................... 10:30 a.m.
2. Elders Meeting. ........................ 7 p.m.
3. Midweek Manna. ........................ 6 p.m.
4. Pathfinders (gym). ..................... 6:30 p.m.
5. Women’s Bible Study. .................. 2 p.m.
6. Beyond Books Club ...................... 3 p.m.
7. Choir Practice. ........................ 7 p.m.
8. Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker. .... 8:30 & 11 a.m.
9. Children’s Choir Practice. ............ 4 p.m.
10. Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park). 8 a.m.
11. Adult Volleyball (gym) ................ 7 p.m.
12. Adventurers (Curriculum - gym) .... 6 p.m.
13. NAS Parent Information Night (school) 6 p.m.
14. School Board Meeting (school) ...... 7:30 p.m.
15. NAS Round-Up/Visitation Day ........ 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
16. Pathfinders (gym) ...................... 6:30 p.m.
17. Women’s Bible Study. ................. 2 p.m.
18. MI Blood Drive at NAS ................ 2-7 p.m.
19. Choir Practice. ........................ 7 p.m.
20. Aldar Nommik, Speaker. ............. 8:30 & 11 a.m.
21. Sunshine Band at Riveridge Manor, Niles 2:30 p.m.
22. Children’s Choir Practice. ........... 4 p.m.
23. Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park). 8 a.m.
24. NAS Science Fair (gym) ............... 4:30-6:30 p.m.
25. Adventurers (Fitness Award - gym) ... 6 p.m.
26. Bible Study. .......................... 10:30 a.m.
27. Finance Committee Meeting ........... 7 p.m.
28. Midweek Manna. ........................ 6 p.m.
29. Pathfinders (gym) ...................... 6:30 p.m.
30. Women’s Bible Study. ................. 2 p.m.

Easter

Newsletter Items Due
Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park) ........ 8 a.m.
Adult Volleyball (gym) ........................ 7 p.m.

No School - Teacher In-Service
Church Board Meeting. ...................... 7 p.m.
Midweek Manna. ................................ 6 p.m.
Experience Pathfinders (gym). ............... 6:30 p.m.
Women’s Bible Study. ........................ 2 p.m.
Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker. ............. 8:30 & 11 a.m.
NAS Music - 7th & 8th Graders. ............. 2nd svc

Adventurer Fun Day - GLAA
Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park) ........ 8 a.m.
Adult Volleyball (gym) ........................ 7 p.m.
Adventurers (Award - gym) ................... 6 p.m.
Bible Study. ................................ 10:30 a.m.
Midweek Manna. ................................ 6 p.m.
Pathfinders (gym). .......................... 6:30 p.m.

Services

First Worship Svc Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.
Second Worship Svc Saturdays, 11 a.m.
Sabbath School ............................. Midweek Manna
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. ........................ Wednesdays, 6 p.m.