Do You Add Fun to Your Child’s Day!
by Tami le Roux, Director

April’s Adventurer activities added fun for our families on Monday nights. We completed our curriculum, did our Fitness and Gymnast awards—with the help of a team of pros from Andrews—and learned all about collections from Walt & Carol Williams. Mondays are FUN! Each time we meet, we have worship, games, a craft and learn something about God and how special He made something...and most of all we do all of that with our family—mom or dad and child/ren. We are building memories that will last a lifetime, and teaching our families to remember to have fun every day. So, remember to add something fun to your child’s day to build a memory of joy in their heart.

Also in April, a few of us went to GLAA for Michigan Conference’s Adventurer Fun Day. We learned about habitats, animals who live in Michigan, and how sunshine and proper food make a difference to our health. We came home with porcupine quills, sunglasses, bouncy balls, a whistle, and a bag. We made a diorama of a habitat for a plastic animal, and got to look at a lot of other club’s crafts and things they worked on this year. It was fun! I hope more families will join us next year.

Another BIG memory coming up is our Investiture, which is Friday, May 9, at 7 p.m. at the church. It is an exciting night for the kids as they look forward to getting their awards and finishing off the Adventurer year. We hope you will join us and help make a good memory for our kids.
The Hedge

Do you fear God for nothing? Or is there an unspoken expectation that you and I serve God, worship Him and submit to Him because He protects us?

We love to be hedged in and protected by God and that promised guardian angel. To be surrounded so that no evil can enter in. Satan was looking for a way into Job’s life and found that Job was hedged in. Satan investigated every possible entry and found that he could not penetrate that hedge. The hedge was on every side of Job, himself, and his household. Job was blessed with all he did, and he was increasing constantly (Job 1:10). Job had clung to God’s hand and promises and enjoyed the blessings of living by faith that hedged Satan out. We don’t realize how blessed we truly are to be hedged in until there is no more hedge.

Suddenly, and in one day—in fact one hour—while one report came in, the other wave was on its way, and Job lost everything. Tearing his clothes, shaving his hair in grief, Job utters these unforgettable words: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord” (Job 1:21). Yes, Job feared God for who He is and acknowledges God in all things, even through his personal suffering. This kind of mature faith clings to God in blessings and sufferings.

Do you serve God for nothing, or because He is truly everything?

Blessed Blessings.

Pastor Darrel le Roux

Meet Our New Members

The Birth Family
by Allyn Birth with Gina Meekma

Allyn, Ashley and Michael (19 months) Birth moved to Berrien Springs in August 2013 from Minnesota. Allyn is from Iowa, and Ashley is from Georgia.

Ashley met Allyn at Union College, where they worked together in the bakery. In June, they will have been married for six years.

The Births transferred to Niles Westside in April 2014 because of the good children’s program and nice group of young adults.

Allyn works in the gazebo at Andrews University, and Ashley works as the baker at Andrews.

As a family, the Births enjoy hiking, camping, horseback riding, and board games.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Church, Birth family!
As we come to the close of another fantastic Pathfinder year, our club has been busy wrapping up honors and Investiture Achievement curriculum. The Pathfinders have been busy learning camping skills, first aid, red alert, and more. To celebrate all of the achievements that have been made this year, we would love to see our church family support us at the Investiture program at 7 p.m., on Friday, May 9, at Niles Westside. Investiture is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of all of the kids in Eager Beavers, Adventurers, and Pathfinders. The Pathfinders have been working throughout the year on many activities that are designed to develop and build their character through Bible study, community service, nature study, and more. The evening will include a challenge to the youth and the presentation of insignia (pins, honors, awards, etc.). We encourage you to attend and show your support.

The Pathfinder Club will be heading to the Michigan Pathfinder Fair at Camp Au Sable from May 16-18. We have been so blessed to have the support of the church with food donations to help defray the cost in the past. Thank you for your generous support again. There will be a “Pathfinder Food Needs List” posted at church on the Pathfinder bulletin board. If you are able to donate food items, please sign-up on the list. Food can be dropped off at the school with “Pathfinders” clearly marked on the bag/box—non-perishables by Wednesday, May 14, perishables by Friday, May 16, at 8:15 a.m.

We have been given a wonderful opportunity in May to assist Veterans in need of personal items. Many Veterans are unemployed and some are homeless. The Veterans Advocate Services in Niles provides much needed material goods assistance to our Veterans. They have had homeless Veterans come through the door that have literally walked and/or hitchhiked from Battle Creek. Veterans are allowed to “shop” at their facility for personal care items and more that they need (all free, of course). Our Pathfinder Club will be collecting personal care items during May to donate to Veterans Advocate Services. Please consider helping us with this worthy cause. We will have a collection box at church that will be clearly marked and a detailed list of items will be posted on the Pathfinder bulletin board.

Last but not least, we have a Parent Meeting at 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, May 21, at the Niles Adventist School. We are asking that parents plan on attending this meeting with their Pathfinder. We will discuss our summer schedule and provide more information about our August trip to the International Pathfinder Camporee. You don’t want to miss this meeting.

We want to give a huge thank you to all of you for your continued support throughout the year! The club is blessed to have such a wonderful church family.

Questions? Please contact Pathfinder Director, Janessa Howell at 269-240-7112 or via email: niles4flagspathfinderclub@gmail.com.
Welcome New Members!

- Allyn & Ashley Birth from Southview Adventist Church, Minneapolis, MN
- Adam Fenner from Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs, MI

Farewell to Our Member:

- Robert Benjamin to Buchanan Adventist Church, Buchanan, MI

Our Sympathy to Jason Hippler and Family. His mother, Gloria “Gay” Hippler, passed away in April.

Church Cleaning Bee: Sunday, May 4, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. See the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for a list of things that need to be done to spruce up our church.

Fellowship Lunch: Sabbath, May 10, after second service, in the school gym. Please bring extra food and join us!

Women’s Night Out: Thursday, May 15, at 5:30 p.m. at Aladdin’s (Mishawaka). Please RSVP to Kathy Dockerty (269-782-8567 or kadockerty@yahoo.com).

Horseback Riding Social: If you are interested in going horseback riding on Sunday, May 18, from 2-3 p.m., in Cassopolis, please contact Jacquelyn Barney (269-357-6978 or jsb@highland-counseling.com) for more information and to RSVP. There is a cost per person. If you want to stay for a bonfire and meal from 3-4, bring hot dogs to roast and other food to eat.

VBS Volunteers Needed! Vacation Bible School is back this summer, and we will need a lot of help to put on another great program for approximately 200 kids ages 4 - 12 (6th grade)! VBS is from July 14-18 in the mornings. Help is needed that week with crafts, snacks, guiding kids to the different stations, registration, music, childcare for young staff kids, and much more. If you can’t help that week, there are also opportunities to work behind the scenes to help get things ready, set up, decorate, etc. For more information on how you can help, contact Erica Hippler (jande_hippler@yahoo.com or 269-876-7690) or Gina Meekma (secretary@nileswestside.org).

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.
New Teachers

We have hired two new teachers for next school year since Miss Beardsley and Mrs. Boothby are not returning. Mrs. Jody Seigal, who is from Oregon, will be teaching grades 2 and 3. Mrs. Melanie Taylor, Niles Westside church member, will teach grades 6-8 in the afternoons.

NAS Calendar

May 5-9 - Teacher Appreciation Week
Monday, May 5 - Lego Robotics at AU
Thursday, May 8 - Soccer Game, 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 10 - Select Music Groups at Westside

Tuesday, May 13 - School Board, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, May 13 - Gift Card Orders Due

Thursday, May 22 - Spring Concert, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, May 26 - No School–Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 27 - Dutch Village Trip
Tuesday, May 27 - Gift Card Orders Due

Wednesday, May 28 - Kindergarten Graduation, 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 29 - 8th Grade Graduation, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, May 30 - Last Day of School! (Noon Dismissal)

Spring Concert

The Ark is coming to NAS. The flood, a dove, a rainbow, and animals! On Thursday, May 22, at 6:30 p.m., the students are presenting A Technicolor Promise in the school gym. Please come and support our students.
May Calendar of Events

1 Women’s Bible Study. ............................ 2 p.m.
2 Beyond Books Club. ............................. 3 p.m.
3 Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker. ............ 8:30 & 11 a.m.
4 Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park). 8 a.m.
5 Church Cleaning Bee. .......................... 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
6 Adult Volleyball (gym). ........................ 7 p.m.
7 Adventurers (Award - gym). ..................... 6 p.m.
8 Elders Meeting. .................................. 6 p.m.
9 Women’s Bible Study. .......................... 2 p.m.
10 Pathfinders (gym). ............................. 6:30 p.m.
11 Women’s Bible Study. .......................... 2 p.m.
12 Pathfinder/Adventurer/Eager Beaver Investiture. 7 p.m.
13 Joseph Kidder. ................................. 8:30 & 11 a.m.
14 Midweek Manna. ................................ 6 p.m.
15 Women’s Bible Study. .......................... 2 p.m.
16 Adventurers (Party - gym). ..................... 6 p.m.
17 School Board Meeting (school). ............ 7 p.m.
18 Adventurers (Award - gym). ..................... 6 p.m.
19 Pathfinder (gym). ............................... 6:30 p.m.
20 Women’s Bible Study. .......................... 2 p.m.
21 Beyond Books Club. ............................ 3 p.m.
22 Women’s Night Out - Aladdin’s, Mishawaka. 5:30 p.m.
23 Happy Mother’s Day!
24 Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park). 8 a.m.
25 Adult Volleyball (gym). ........................ 7 p.m.
26 Adventurers (Party - gym). ..................... 6 p.m.
27 School Board Meeting (school). ............ 7 p.m.
28 Midweek Manna. ................................ 6 p.m.
29 Pathfinders (gym). ............................. 6:30 p.m.
30 Women’s Bible Study. .......................... 2 p.m.
31 Beyond Books Club. ............................ 3 p.m.

Happy Mother’s Day!

- Camp Au Sable
- Camp Au Sable

Pathfinder Fair through Sunday - Camp Au Sable

Robert Zama, Speaker ............................. 11 a.m.
CareNet Donations Collection
Worship/Tour - Battle Creek ........................ 11 a.m.

Newsletter Items Due

Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park). 8 a.m.
Horseback Riding/Bonfire Social (Cassopolis). 2 p.m.
Adult Volleyball (gym). ............................ 7 p.m.
Finance Committee Meeting. ..................... 7 p.m.
Midweek Manna. .................................. 6 p.m.
Pathfinders (gym). ............................... 6:30 p.m.
Women’s Bible Study. ............................ 2 p.m.
NAS Spring Concert (gym). ....................... 6:30 p.m.
Communion, Baptism. ............................ 11 a.m.
Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park). 8 a.m.

No School - Memorial Day

Church Board Meeting. .......................... 7 p.m.
Midweek Manna. .................................. 6 p.m.
Kindergarten Graduation (gym). .................. 6 p.m.
Women’s Bible Study. ............................ 2 p.m.
8th Grade Graduation. ............................. 6:30 p.m.

Last Day of School. ............................... dismissal at 12 p.m.
Joseph Kidder, Speaker ........................... 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Leader Potluck & Connected Leadership Mtg. 2nd svc

May 2014

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