Despite the cool and sometimes rainy weather on May 17, more than 100 Niles Westside members and friends enjoyed learning about how God has led the Adventist church in the past in Battle Creek, Michigan.

After a church service and picnic lunch, we toured the Adventist Historic Village. Besides the White home, points of interest included a museum, other historic buildings, and the cemetery where the Whites, Uriah Smith, the Kelloggs and other pioneers are buried.
Put Christ First

We have influence on, and are influenced by, relationships. Who has tremendous influence in the decision making in your life? Perhaps it may be your spouse, your parents, your children, your friends or others. Who carries the greatest weight when you and I are going to make an important decision?

As we may be weighing a decision that we have to make at an important crossroad, we may hear Jesus’ words in Luke 14:26, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.” What an apparent contrast to love: “to hate those you love.” In this context, to hate is to detest or renounce. Strong words! But in comparison to Jesus, there is no other choice. God always wins in a decision if you are His disciple. Suddenly, we realize that God not only desires, but requires, that if we are following Him, we need to place Him as ultra important. That is, to place God as more important than anyone or anything, including ourselves. It is one of the hardest things to do as our selfishness so easily gets in the way. This summer we may face many crossroads. We may battle to make a right decision. For our own sake and everyone else’s, have no other conflicting or competing influence with God. Put Christ First.

Be joyfully blessed,

Pastor Darrel le Roux

Who has tremendous influence in the decision making in your life?

We are so excited because we recently doubled our membership! Every meeting is a new experience with God, as we worship and pray for the needs of others, or whatever is heavy on our hearts at the time. I am so proud of each of the children that come to our book club. They truly love their Savior and are eager to learn.

We are not just about books. We are about sharing time, experiences, talents, and concerns at school. We express ourselves through creative crafting, eat haystacks at the park, paint on canvas, and we have game sessions, talent programs, and ice cream socials. We are way BEYOND just a BOOK club. Not everyone enjoys books, so no need to worry—come anyway because we have an interesting story time and treats!

This is for any youth ages 7-12, so invite a neighbor! Anyone who wants to help by leading out in a particular part of the club, please contact me (269-641-7080). Perhaps you’d like to tell a story, lead out in a craft, or entertain by having a pool party. We also like new and good ideas, so suggestions are helpful.

The summer program will vary a little from the school year, when we typically meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month at 3 p.m. On June 5, July 24, and August 7, we will meet at 3 p.m. at the church. Our regular schedule will resume in September.

What you can do as a congregation to help this program be a success:

1. Any crafting items that you don’t want or need, please donate them to us—we can use anything!
2. Put a dollar in a tithe envelope (marked Beyond Books) occasionally to help fund this project. It’s an investment in our youth, and I know how to make a dollar S-T-R-E-T-C-H!
The Stratton Family
by David Stratton with Gina Meekma

David & Leah Stratton live in Berrien Springs. They moved to this area two years ago from La Crosse, Wisconsin. David is originally from Erie, Pennsylvania, and Leah is from Wausau, Wisconsin. They met online.

The Strattons joined Niles Westside in May because it was the first church that offered to let them help when they spoke to the pastor and said, “We want to get involved.”

Both Leah and David help with the Earlteen Sabbath School, and they are pursuing outreach with community leaders to help improve the Niles community. David also works with the Pathfinders.

Leah is a Social Work student and an intern at the Niles Pregnancy Care Center, as well as working at the Andrews University School of Business MBA office. David is a seminary student and employee at AU Press.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Church, David & Leah!

The Miller Family
by Christin Miller with Gina Meekma

John & Christin Miller transferred to Niles Westside in March from the Southcenter Adventist Church in Des Moines, Washington. They moved from Seattle, Washington, a year ago in August and now live in Berrien Springs along with their grandma, Rose Marie Stone. John is former Westside member Jared (& Katie) Miller’s brother.

The Millers joined Niles Westside because it is friendly, family-oriented, and balanced in its worship style. They enjoy teaching Sabbath School from time to time.

John is studying at the Andrews University seminary to be a pastor. Previously he worked for the Washington Conference for four years as the director of Literature Ministries. Christin has had a wide range of experience in ministry, sales, and care giving. She plans on being a mother and home maker, as well as a partner to her husband in ministry. Currently they are both full-time students and work at Adventist Information Ministries as chaplains.

Christin enjoys gourmet vegan cooking and eating, shopping at second hand stores, camping, reading, rock climbing, skiing, traveling, being around animals, and photography. John enjoys board games, hiking, biking, jet skiing, snow shoeing, basketball, Logos Bible software, and getting good deals.

John and Christin were introduced by a mutual friend at a Generation of Youth for Christ convention in Baltimore. They will have been married two years in September.

The Millers love Jesus and want to live their lives in service for Him and His Church. The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are guides for their lives, and they look forward to the soon coming of Jesus.

Welcome to the Niles Westside Church, Miller Family!
Pathfinder Fair Fun and Summer Events
by April Hughes, Deputy Director

In May, the Pathfinder Club had a chilly, but fun time at the Michigan Pathfinder Fair: READY! PERIOD! We were blessed by the guest speaker, Pastor Ron Whitehead. Four members of our Pathfinder Club went forward during a call for baptism. We are so proud of them for making a decision for Christ. There were thirty-one total Pathfinders in Michigan that responded to the baptism call. Please keep all of these young people in prayer as they connect with church leadership to begin the next step in this important decision.

During the camp out, we also enjoyed activities such as hiking, making s’mores, participating in and watching the Drill and March competition, and participating in the ladder lashing activity on Sunday. Janessa Howell and I were able to attend a special meeting with Pastor Ron about the International Camporee and received great information and fun facts about the event.

This year’s International Camporee, Forever Faithful, is expected to have 46,000 people in attendance (some of those are day passes). It is going to be the largest Adventist gathering for this length of time in the world ever. We are very excited as we finalize travel plans and other details for this amazing Camporee in August.

The Pathfinder Club is taking a break for most of June. Our first summer event will be on Sunday, June 29. The Pathfinders that were in the Model Rockets honor will be launching rockets at 1 p.m. at NAS. Then, the tie-dye honor will be from 2-4 p.m. Pathfinders are encouraged to be there at 1 p.m.; church members are invited to watch the model rocket launch and/or participate in the tie-dye activity.

We invite our church family to join us for this fun fundraising event. If you would like to participate in the tie-dye event, please note the following:

1. Bring your own white 100% cotton T-shirt or pair of socks (recommended that you wash and dry the item first).
2. You can come anytime between 2-3:30 p.m. (last project starts at 3:30 p.m.).
3. RSVP to Janessa Howell at 269-240-7112 or via email: niles4flagspathfinderclub@gmail.com (so we can prepare enough dye/materials).
4. Free of charge, donations are accepted.

We will begin meeting on Wednesday nights again beginning July 9. Meetings will be more informal than during the regular year. We will be focusing only on earning honors such as the tie-dye and Geocaching honors. Pathfinders are allowed to wear shorts at the summer meetings; shorts must be no shorter than one inch above your knee.

We look forward to seeing new and returning Pathfinders this summer. Please see the schedule at a glance or contact Janessa Howell for more information.

**Summer Schedule at a Glance**

- **Sunday, June 29:** Rocket Launch at 1 p.m., Tie-dye Honor and Fundraiser from 2-4 p.m., NAS
- **Wednesday, July 9:** Oshkosh Camporee Chaperone Meeting, 6 p.m., MANDATORY, NAS
- **Wednesday, July 9:** Club Honor Meeting, 6:30-8:30 p.m., NAS
- **Sunday, July 13:** Car Wash Fundraiser, 1-4 p.m., Advance Auto Parts, Niles
- **Wednesday, July 16:** Club Honor Meeting, 6:30-8:30 p.m., NAS
- **Wednesday, July 23:** Club Honor Meeting, 6:30-8:30 p.m., NAS
- **Wednesday, July 30:** Club Honor Meeting, 6:30-8:30 p.m., NAS
- **Wednesday, August 6:** Final International Camporee Info Meeting, 6:30 p.m., NAS
- **August 10-17:** Forever Faithful International Camporee, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

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.
Mom/Dad, “I’m Bored!”
by Tami le Roux, Director

Those are the two most common words a parent can hear in the summer. Now that it is summer vacation, what do you have planned for your summer? Do your kids watch TV all day, or are they on technology all the time? Well, we would like to challenge you to make a proactive plan for this summer and to implement some of the tools we learned in Adventurers this year.

1. PLAN: Always have a weekly plan of things you’d like done in the house for you and the kids to achieve. Also, plan fun outings like the library, park, beach or zoo.

2. ROUTINE: Get a good routine going - you had one during the school year, might as well keep using one, it keeps you on task.

3. SURPRISE: Have some fun things up your sleeve for those times where everyone is tired of the rain, or everyone has completed their tasks and deserves a reward. Ideas include bowling, eating out, getting ice cream, or a special game.

4. REST: We are all busy. So, make sure when you are home - BE at home, don’t work and push the kids aside. Take this time to make a real memory. It’s the ONLY time you will ever have to do that.

Some fun things to do in our area include the following:

- The public libraries are offering some fun kid events you can register for - ask at your local library.
- Camp meeting is coming up! Plan to come out for a day and enjoy all the activities planned there.
- VBS is such a great treat for kids and parents - we hope you will all join us for that from July 14-18.
- The beaches around the lakes are all open and ready for your use - make sure you are sun-protected.

We would like you to remember that Adventurers and Eager Beavers will start back up in August, and we are excited to add a Little Lambs class for the 3 and 4-year-olds. So make sure you are adding that to your long range planning.

Plan to change “I’m bored” to “that was fun!” Go make a memory today!

The Adventurers Club is preparing for the coming school year, and we are in need of school supplies (pencils, glue, construction paper, crayons, colored pencils, etc.). Also, arts and crafts supplies will be much appreciated. Donations will be collected by Isabel Acosta. Contact Tami le Roux (269-425-2161 or nwcaterpillars@gmail.com) for more information.

Flag Camp is a summer-long day camp on the campus of Andrews University—from June 3 to August 8—that accepts children entering Kindergarten to 8th grade. Through creative programming and activities, FLAG Camp seeks to promote Fun Learning About God. For more information, to register, or donate, visit www.flag-camp.org or call PMC at 269-471-3133.

- The Man Behind the Message by C.D. Brooks - This book will give you a glimpse into the personal trials and triumphs of this modern apostle. The stories he skillfully weaves thrill the imagination and bring conviction to the heart.
- The Blueprint DVD - This is the story of Adventist Education and is a collection of short features about students and teachers who form an extraordinary network of schools operated by the Adventists. Each story shows how the “whole child” approach to education, teaching body, mind, and spirit, is transforming lives.
- The Complex Religion of Teens by Roger Dudley - For more than fifty years, Dudley has devoted his ministry and research to understanding the spiritual experience of teens. With insight and encouragement, he reveals what you need to know to help teens establish a biblical value system.
- Guide’s Greatest Change of Heart Stories - Especially for teens

We also have most of Ellen G. White’s books on CD—great for listening to in the car—which remind us to be ready for His soon coming. The church librarians hope that you find what you need in the Lord’s Library to encourage, enlighten, fulfill, and direct you in your walk with God.
Church Family News

Welcome New Members!

David & Leah Stratton from Eau Claire Adventist Church, Eau Claire, MI

Vida Welch from Collegedale Adventist Church, Collegedale, TN

Mattie Smith was accepted on Profession of Faith on May 10.

Amber Benjamin was baptized on May 24.

Our Sympathy to Rhonda Peak & Family on the recent loss of her mother.

Our Sympathy also to Dan Johnson & Family on the recent loss of his father.

Congratulations, Graduates! Tristan Pulsifer and Robbie Benjamin from Andrews Academy; Anna Kerr, Home School High School; Jackie Barney, Associates Degree from Lake Michigan College; Monica Constable, Nursing Degree; Jamie Howell, Elementary Education Degree from Southern Adventist University; Karen Benjamin, MS in Human Resource Management from Indiana Wesleyan University; Frank Riley IV from Brandywine High School; and Nathan Dennis from Berrien Springs High School.

Women’s Shopping Trip: Sunday, June 8, leaving at 10 a.m. from the church parking lot for the outlets in Michigan City (if you want to car pool). Please contact Jenn Cook (jenn@thosecooks.com or 269-845-5585) for more information and to RSVP.

Fellowship Lunch & Nature Walk Social: Sabbath, June 14, after second service, at Crystal Springs Camp (33774 Crystal Springs Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047). Please join us–bring extra food and walking shoes!

Women’s Night Out: Thursday, June 19, at 5:30 p.m. at Olive Garden (Mishawaka). Please RSVP to Kathy Dockerty (269-782-8567 or kadockerty@yahoo.com).

VBS Volunteers Needed! 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 from 9-11:45 a.m. 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. Also, due to church budget cuts, donations to help fund VBS are needed. For more information on how you can help, contact Erica Hippler (269-876-7690 or jande_hippler@yahoo.com) or Gina Meekma (269-845-8870 or secretary@nileswestside.org). Please pre-register early at www.nileswestside.org/vbs.

The King’s Heralds Concert
Friday, June 27, at 7 p.m. at Niles Westside

A freewill offering will be taken to help defray their expenses. Invite your friends!
We will miss you!

7th graders with Mrs. Boothby. After five years teaching at NAS, Mrs. Boothby and her family are moving to Florida.

Photo by Daphne Kent

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

Congratulations, Graduates!

8th grade - Taylor, Amber, and Keegan

Photo by Gina Meekma

Kindergarten - Andrew, Anna B, Anna C, Azucena, Brian, Colton, Ella, Emily, Gavin, Michael, and Pace

Photo by Pastor Darrel le Roux

NAS Calendar

Tuesdays, June 10 & July 8 - School Board, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, July 1 - Student Aid Applications Due
Tuesday, July 15 - Early Registration Fee Due [Save $25]

Monday, August 18 - Registration, 4-6 p.m.
Monday, August 18 - School Board, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, August 20 - First Day of School (noon dismissal)
## June Calendar of Events

### 1

**Happy Birthday, Pastor Darrel!**

- **Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park)**: 8 a.m.
- **Parking Lot Repairs**: 4 p.m.
- **Church Business Meeting**: 6 p.m.
- **Adult Volleyball (gym)**: 7 p.m.
- **Midweek Manna**: 6 p.m.

### 4

- **Beyond Books Club**: 3 p.m.
- **Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker**: 8:30 & 11 a.m.

### 8-23

- **Pastor Darrel & Family at Camp Meeting**
- **Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park)**: 8 a.m.
- **Church Business Meeting**: 6 p.m.
- **Adult Volleyball (gym)**: 7 p.m.

### 10

- **School Board Meeting (school)**: 6 p.m.

### 11

- **Midweek Manna**: 6 p.m.

### 12-22

- **Pastor Bill at Camp Meeting**
- **MI Camp Meeting at Great Lakes Adventist Academy**
- **Elders Potluck/Meeting (Chung's)**: after 2nd svc.

### 13-21

- **MI Camp Meeting at Great Lakes Adventist Academy**

### 14

- **Kari Prouty, Speaker**: 8:30 & 11 a.m.
- **Fellowship Lunch & Nature Walk (Crystal Springs)**: 2:30 p.m.

### 15

- **Happy Father’s Day!**
- **Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park)**: 8 a.m.
- **Orchestra Concert**: 3 p.m.
- **Adult Volleyball (gym)**: 7 p.m.

### 17

- **Finance Committee Meeting**: 7 p.m.

### 18

- **Midweek Manna**: 6 p.m.

### 19

- **Women's Night Out - Olive Garden, Mishawaka**: 5:30 p.m.

### 21

- **Robert Zama, Speaker**: 8:30 & 11 a.m.
- **CareNet Donations Collection**

### 22

**Newsletter Items Due**

- **Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park)**: 8 a.m.
- **Adult Volleyball (gym)**: 7 p.m.
- **Midweek Manna**: 6 p.m.
- **The King’s Heralds Concert**: 7 p.m.
- **Pastor Darrel le Roux, Speaker**: 8:30 & 11 a.m.
- **Sunday Sunup Runners/Walkers (Plym Park)**: 8 a.m.

### June 2014

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### June 2014 Niles Westside News

Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.

— Robert Louis Stevenson

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**Services**

- **First Worship Svc**
  - Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.
  - Sabbath School
  - Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.

- **Second Worship Svc**
  - Saturdays, 11 a.m.
  - Midweek Manna
  - Wednesdays, 6 p.m.

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**June Calendar of Events**

- **Darrel le Roux**: 1
- **Denise Scamehorn**: 4
- **Marilyn McCalment**: 8
- **Ron Park**: 6
- **Angela Bennett**: 7
- **Elijah le Roux**: 10
- **Lisa Reitz**: 11
- **Tamara Bell**: 12
- **Rose Anne Grove**: 13
- **James Lechner**: 26
- **Patricia Morse**: 27
- **Christine Robbins**: 28
- **Grace Dockerty**: 12
- **Wendy Munroe**: 13
- **Denise Scroggs**: 14
- **Levi Fagal**: 20
- **Ethan Bell**: 21
- **Carol Williams**: 25
- **Darlen Grooms**: 22
- **Chiya Chitekwe**: 23
- **Simon Constable**: 24
- **Aubrie Demler**: 25
- **Staci Fagal**: 26
- **Nick Moore**: 19
- **Ernest Constable**: 20
- **Linda Rogers**: 21
- **Anke Pagaja**: 22
- **Dakota Pascucci**: 23
- **Gary Sorenson**: 24
- **Marcia Irwin**: 25
- **William Lechner**: 26
- **Peter Lyons**: 27
- **Deborah Peshka**: 28
- **Dawn Luzadder**: 29
- **Ron Luzadder**: 30
- **Edward Constable**: 26
- **Alex Prouty**: 27