

GRACE NOTES

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2018

"Be Skeptical of Speculation"

It is fun to speculate, to form a theory or conjecture without firm evidence (this is not about speculation on the stock market – be skeptical of that too since it can hurt your wallet and the economy). Making up stories and explanations can be exciting and help pass the time, but you can also end up very, very wrong.

In the early 1800's, a Baptist farmer from New York named William Miller was studying his Bible verse by verse to harmonize any apparent contradictions, hoping to convince his deist friends that his faith was logical. He came across a prediction of a future event in Daniel 8:14, and after calculating it out concluded it was going to be fulfilled several years later. He was being careful not to speculate and did his calculations carefully, but he made one critical assumption: the prophecy said that "the sanctuary would be cleansed," and he speculated that "sanctuary" was referring to the earth, and that the cleansing would be by fire at the end of the world when Jesus returned to earth.

The theory spread and many members from all Christian denominations began to proclaim that Jesus was returning soon. None of these "Millerites" with their varied religious backgrounds thought to question the assumption that the sanctuary = the earth. If they had more carefully searched for evidence, they would have found that the scriptures, particularly the book of Hebrews, teach the sanctuary in the wilderness was representative of a Heavenly sanctuary. Because of that one error, their hopes were dashed when on the date they had set, October 22, 1844, Jesus did not return to earth. Their sorrow is now known as the Great Disappointment.

Providentially, this disappointment was led by God and was predicted in Revelation 10:8-10. Their message of the second Advent was sweet to them at first, but in the end it left them bitter. Praise the Lord, He led some of these Adventists to reconsider Daniel 8:14 and they discovered the real fulfillment of that prophecy. Those same Adventists were led to many other scriptural truths including the seventh-day Sabbath, and the rest is history.

Miller's mistake is a good reminder to carefully, methodically, logically study the Bible. This is true of any topic of study, including medicine and politics, but it is very important with religion, and very important to us Seventh-day Adventists. Do not build a rickety faith on emotions, philosophy, or tradition; instead, build a firm foundation of comprehensive understanding from personal study.

Pastor Justin Spady

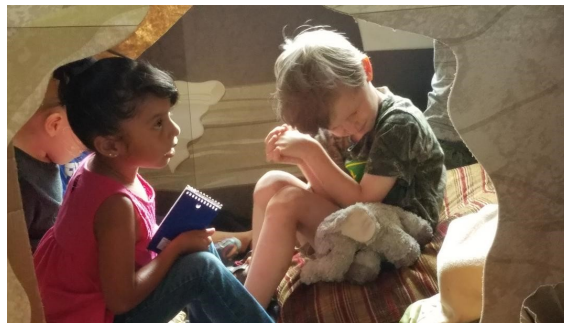
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Justin Spady, Pastor
Portage District

Wisconsin Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
(260) 413-3066
pastorspady@gmail.com

Wautoma VBS

July 9th thru the 13th, Wautoma church company held vacation bible school, the "Sea of Miracles" from the NAD. Fun was had by both the children and the volunteers. Children followed the life of bible times people like Peter, Fisherman Dan, and Somona. They visited Somona's home, the North shore of the sea of Galilee and the Mountain top prayer station. There were foods of the bible times provided. They learned how to make bread from grain grinding to the finished product, sandal making, perfume making, wool dyeing, learning to pray and most of all about Jesus. Jesus as the shepherd, we are his followers, Jesus as savior, as Son of God, as healer. We learned how to be saved and be brave and to be helpers for others. We had 13 in attendance on the 1st day and by mid week we had 21 attendees. A big thanks to all of our helpers: Sam and Judith Lopez, Sam and Lupita Lopez, Doug and Rosemary Bruder, Cythia Bergman, Carrie and Eric Anderson, Maria Frank, Cheryl and Alan Anderson.



From Ken Wells,

Ken has been transferred from the Redgranite Correctional Facility to the Correctional Facility in Waupun and he now has this new mailing address:

Ken Wells, Jr. #414034,

John Burke Correctional Center,

P.O. Box 900,

Waupun, WI 53963-900

Prophecy Highlights for August 2018

(Adventism's Visitation Series-Revelation 18 part A)

DANIEL 2		DANIEL 7		DANIEL 8		DANIEL 11, 12	
GOLD	BABYLON		NONE				
SILVER	MEDO-PERSIA		HE GOAT				
BRASS	GREECE						
IRON	ROME		LITTLE HORN FROM FOUR HORNS				
IRON AND CLAY	DIVIDED KINGDOMS 1000 YEARS		LITTLE HORN BEAT WAXED				
STONE CUT OUT WITHOUT MAN'S HANDS	INVESTIGATIVE JUDGMENT		CLEANSING HEAVENLY SANCTUARY				
STONE FILLS WHOLE EARTH	CHRIST'S KINGDOM		EXECUTIVE JUDGMENT				

And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. Revelation 18:1.

THE TESTIMONY OF THREE

“But God’s servants are not to trust to themselves in this great emergency. In the visions given to Isaiah, to Ezekiel, and to John we see how closely heaven is connected with the events taking place upon the earth and how great is the care of God for those who are loyal to Him. The world is not without a ruler. The program of coming events is in the hands of the Lord. The Majesty of heaven has the destiny of nations, as well as the concerns of His church, in His own charge.” Testimonies, volume 5, 754.

Isaiah

(Isaiah 6:3) “The latter rain is to fall upon the people of God. A mighty angel is to come down from heaven, and the whole earth is to be lighted with his glory. Are we ready to take part in the glorious work of the third angel? Are our vessels ready to receive the heavenly dew? Have we defilement and sin in the heart? If so, let us cleanse the soul temple, and prepare for the showers of the latter rain. The refreshing from the presence of the Lord will never come to hearts filled with impurity.” Review and Herald, April 21, 1891.

“Such was the prospect that greeted Isaiah when he was called to the prophetic mission; yet he was not discouraged, for ringing in his ears was the triumphal chorus of the angels surrounding the throne of God, ‘The whole earth is full of His glory.’ Isaiah 6:3. And his faith was strengthened by visions of glorious conquests by the church of God, when ‘the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.’ Isaiah 11:9. ‘The face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations,’ was finally to be destroyed. Isaiah 25:7. The Spirit of God was to be poured out upon all flesh. Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness were to be numbered among the Israel of God. ‘They shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the watercourses,’ said the prophet. ‘One shall say, I am the Lord’s; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the Lord, and surname himself by the name of Israel.’ Isaiah 44:4, 5.”

(Continued on page 12)

God's Pharmacy

Weimar NEWSTART Program and the Eight Laws of Health

This is the first installment of a series on the 8 laws of health

Earlier this year I attended an 18-day Weimar NEWSTART Lifestyle Center Program in Weimar CA. There were 30 of us in attendance. We received so much good information about health and lifestyle principles. In sharing with you a little of what Weimar presented to us it is my hope and prayer you will find something beneficial for yourself and also to share with someone else. Making even one small healthy lifestyle change can impact our lives.

Weimar uses the acronym NEWSTART to address the eight laws of health; N=Nutrition, E=Exercise, W=Water, S=Sunshine, T=Temperance, A=Air, R=Rest, and T=Trust in God. This article will focus on nutrition.

What is the purpose of food? "In order to have good health, we must have good blood; for the blood is the current of life. It repairs waste and nourishes the body. When supplied with the proper food elements and when cleansed and vitalized by contact with pure air, it carries life and vigor to every part of the system. The more perfect the circulation, the better will this work be accomplished." *Counsels on Diet and Foods*, p. 91.

God tells us in 3 John 1:2, "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." Science is proving this text to be true. Foods God has made for us do bring health and healing. Note the following facts about foods in God's pharmacy.

"A slice of a carrot looks like the human eye. The pupil, iris and radiating lines look like the human eye. Science now shows carrots greatly enhance blood flow to the eyes and help enrich the eye." *

"A tomato has four chambers and is red. The heart has four chambers and is red. All of the research shows tomatoes are loaded with lycopene and are pure heart and blood food."

"Grapes hang in clusters that have the shape of the human heart. Each grape looks like a blood cell and all of the research today shows grapes are profound heart and blood vitalizing food."

"A walnut looks like a little brain, a left and right hemisphere, upper cerebrums and lower cerebellums. Even the wrinkles or folds on the nut are just like the neo-cortex. We now know walnuts help develop more than three dozen neuron-transmitters for brain function."

"Kidney beans actually heal and help maintain kidney function and yes, they look exactly like the human kidney."

"Celery, Bok Choy, Rhubarb to name some, look just like bones. These foods especially target bone strength. Bones are 23% sodium and these foods are also 23% sodium". If we don't have enough sodium in our diet, the body pulls it from the bones, thus making them weak. These foods replenish the skeletal needs of the body."

Avocados, eggplant and pears target the health and function of some of the female organs. They look just like the organs (womb, cervix) they benefit. These fruits help ward off female cancers. It takes exactly nine months to grow an avocado from blossom to ripened fruit, the same length of time to fully develop a baby in the womb! God is so amazing!

Figs are great for men's organ health and help fight prostate cancer.

"Sweet potatoes look like the pancreas and actually balance the glycemic index of diabetics."

Onions look like our bodies' cells. Research today shows onions help clear waste materials from all of the body cells."

Onions, garlic, chives and asparagus are the most potent cancer fighting foods!

(Continued on page 8)

The annual **district tubing adventure** was held on July 22nd. Here are some pictures of the event and the great time that those attending had.



Can You Count the Stars?

Abram and Sarai had a problem. They were both getting on in years and they had no children. Surely they spent much time in prayer over the matter. And God responded. In Genesis 15:5, 6 We read these words, "And he brought him forth abroad and said, Look now toward heaven, and tell the stars, if thou be able to count them: and he said unto him, 'So shall thy seed be.' And he believed in the Lord; and he counted it to him as righteousness." I can just picture Abram standing out under the stars and trying to count them as he contemplated God's promise. So how about it? Can you count the stars?

Over two millennia ago, the astronomers of the day claimed that there were 5,119 stars! And that's where the matter stood for centuries. But then, in 1609 the Italian scientist Galileo Galilei heard of a marvelous new invention made by a Dutch spectacle maker. By placing two lenses on either end of a tube, objects could be made to appear nearer. Galileo set about to fabricate his own telescope and as far as we know was the first man to use this new invention on the night sky. We still have his observing log. He discovered the craters and mountain ranges on the moon. He was the first man to see the phases of Venus as it orbited the sun. He discovered the four bright moons of Jupiter and to this day they are still referred to as the Galilean moons. Then Galileo turned his primitive telescope to the stars themselves. He trained his instrument on the Pleiades, also known as the "Seven Sisters". But instead of 7 stars he plotted 33 stars in his journal. Suddenly the universe became a whole lot bigger.

For the last 400 years telescopes have revealed more and more stars in our Milky Way. Just recently the Hubble Space Telescope was directed toward the core of our galaxy and in a single photo recorded 500,000 stars. In 2013 the European Space Agency launched the Gaia satellite with the sole purpose of accurately plotting the positions of the stars. In essence, Gaia was counting them. Finally, in the fall of 2016 the first survey was completed and it was announced that 1.1 billion stars had been counted. Is this all of them? Of course not. Gaia could only see the stars in the vicinity of the sun. What lies beyond the obscuring dust and gas of our Milky Way? Astronomers can only estimate the total number of stars. A hundred years ago that estimate was 40 billion. By the 1960's that number had been increased to 100 billion. Today astronomers estimate that the Milky Way contains 200 billion stars and possibly as many as 400 billion. You might be wondering -- How long would it take to count 200 billion stars? Without the help of a computer and assuming you could count one star every second it would take 6,355 years!

The Bible has a few things to say about counting the stars. In Psalm 147:4,5 we read, "He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord and of great power: his understanding is infinite." And then in Isaiah 40:26 are these words. "Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power, not one faileth." We don't have to know exactly how many stars God has created. We just need to know that He made them and knows their names and is in control and guides and sustains each one of them. If He can guide those massive stars, don't you think He can guide you? Trust Him.

Written and submitted by: Raymond Tess

Almond's August Events

Aug 1 Patriarchs & Prophets Study 7:00 (J+D Tess home)
 Aug 3 Prayer Meeting 7:00
 Aug 4 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 Aug 5 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 Aug 8 Patriarchs and Prophets Study 7:00 (J+D Tess home)
 Aug 10 Prayer Mtg. 7:00
 Aug 11 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 Aug 11 District gathering at Legion hall in afternoon
 Aug 12 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 Aug 15 Patriarchs & Prophets Study 7:00 (J+D Tess home)
 Aug 17 Prayer Mtg. 7:00
 Aug 18 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 Aug 18 Annual Devil's Lake Hike
 Aug 19 Prayer Breakfast 9 AM
 Aug 19 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 Aug 22 Patriarchs & Prophets Study 7:00 (J+D Tess home)
 Aug 24 Prayer Mtg. 7:00
 Aug 25 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 Aug 26 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 Aug 29 Patriarchs & Prophets Study 7:00 (J+D Tess home)
 Aug 31 Prayer Mtg. 7:00

Important Dates!

Our monthly prayer breakfast is being put on hold pending the completion of the basement ceiling project!

August 18th

Annual Devil's Lake Hike

The Patriarchs and Prophets Study

will be held at the home of

John & Dorothy Tess

Wed. 7 p.m. - Call first.

715-366-4691

Portage August Events

Portage SDA Church email address is:

portagesdachurch@gmail.com

Portage SDA Church Facebook:

Type Portage Seventh-day Adventist

Radio station:

WPSA LP 93.5 FM

Bible study:

Every Tuesday at 6:30 pm at fellowship hall. Topical study from Mark Finley's "Studying Together"

Wautoma church company

held the baptism of Janiene and Frank Stanczyk at the Mt. Morris Lake park on July 21st.

They had been reading their bibles and were convicted of the 7th day Sabbath holiness. They were led by the Holy Spirit to contact Pastor Spady and started to come to our Wautoma church, followed by studies with bible worker Maria Frank. They were welcomed with open arms and a reception following the baptism. A whole hearted welcome to our new brother and sister in Christ.



Friendship Supper

July 12, 2018 Portage hosted another Friendship Supper. About a dozen community folks attended along with about a half dozen church members. Dr. Jess Dredske, Dr. Kamen Blau and Brittney Blau from The Blau Chiropractic Clinic were our guests of honor presenting the link between our spinal health with our overall well being. After supper and their presentation they checked our posture to demonstrate issues to our general health. Here are a few pictures from the event:



Dr. Jess Dredske, Dr. Kamen Blau, Brittney Blau



Supper Line



Host Deidra Roat with Dr. Kamen Blau and Brittney Blau



Dr. Jess Dredske with presentation



Dr. Jess Dredske with model of spine



Dr. Kamen Blau in consultation about posture



district tubing adventure on Wisconsin River

(God's Pharmacy-Continued from page 4)

One of the ways God has made provision for us to prosper and be in good health is through the foods He has created.

The Weimar NEWSTART Program recommends a whole food plant-based diet, eating all foods as whole as possible with the least amount of processing and eliminating all meat and dairy. Using the term whole food plant-based diet is a good term because it eliminates foods like potato chips which are vegan but unhealthy because of the fat and salt content in them. There are now books on the market written by non-Adventist professionals supporting a whole food plant-based diet.

A healthy diet consists of a daily intake of fruit, vegetables, grains, beans/legumes, nuts and seeds. By beans I mean kidney beans, navy beans, etc. Legumes are dried peas, lentils. The easiest way to determine what to put on our plate is this: $\frac{1}{4}$ of our plate should consist of whole grains, $\frac{1}{4}$ of our plate with beans or legumes, and $\frac{1}{2}$ of our plate should be fruits or vegetables. One serving is usually $\frac{1}{2}$ cup. One serving of berries is 1 cup and one serving of nuts or seeds is 2 tablespoons. One serving of nut butter is 2 tsp.

Include in your diet "dark green leafy green vegetables such as spinach, dark green leafy lettuce, Swiss Chard or other greens every day. Fresh or frozen vegetables are best - raw, lightly steamed or roasted. Skip the fatty sauces and excessive salt." Eat the colors of the rainbow every day! Cruciferous vegetables such as broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kale and Brussel sprouts are considered free carbohydrates. Eat some daily.

**Unless otherwise noted, quotes are taken from the lectures at the Weimar NEWSTART Program.*

Jane Gerndt

Reedsburg Church Member

Hello from Wautoma,

At our business meeting on July 16, 2018, we learned that the purchase of the old Wautoma SDA church was on schedule to be finalized by August 1st or 2nd. **Praise the Lord.** When we started meeting in Wautoma under two years ago, both the Wautoma English and the Wautoma Spanish groups were meeting in conference rooms at the CAPsell buildings in Wautoma, and we were very grateful for that opportunity. But now each of our companies look forward to having a building of their own to meet in. We will have work to do to bring the new-old church into worship ready condition. But this is a blessing, more than we hoped for as we started gathering for worship in Wautoma. Some of our members are quite excited about the possibility of worshipping in the same building they attended as young people.

We were blessed with a successful Vacation Bible School in July. We had up to 21 students come on one of the days, the average attendance being 15 children and they were a lively, loving group of children. Three brothers that came during VBS have been coming to church and Sabbath school since then and plan to join in bible study.

We had a beautiful baptism on 7-21-2018 at Mount Morris Lake when we gained two new baptized members of the English Group, Frank and Janiene Stanzick. They love the Lord and are glad to be joining us in Sabbath worship. It was a rainy day and all the attendee's came prepared with umbrellas. We walked to the beach under open umbrellas but the rain stopped and we were able to enjoy the baptismal service in nice weather.

(Continued on page 9)

Wautoma Company's August Schedule of Events

8/1/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.
8/4/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.
8/5/2018	Bible study at the Anderson's @ 5:30 p.m.
8/6/2018	Women's Group at the Anderson's @ 10:00 a.m.
8/8/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.
8/11/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.
8/11/2018	District Meeting @ Almond
8/12/2018	Bible study at the Anderson's @ 5:30 p.m.
8/13/2018	Women's Group at the Anderson's @ 10:00 a.m.
8/15/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.
8/18/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.
8/19/2018	Bible study at the Anderson's @ 5:30 p.m.
8/20/2018	Women's Group at the Anderson's @ 10:00 a.m.
8/22/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.
8/25/2018	Sabbath School/Church @ 9:30 a.m./11:00 a.m.
8/26/2018	Bible study at the Anderson's @ 5:30 p.m.
8/27/2018	Women's Group at the Anderson's @ 10:00 a.m.
8/29/2018	Prayer Meeting/Prophecy @ church @ 6:30 p.m.

(Wautoma-Continued from page 8)

We have acquired a used sign from the Neenah SDA Church and are working on the permitting process for placement of the sign.

I will remind you again, as I mentioned in last month's Grace Notes, to keep September 28th and 29th open as we will be having a special program lead by Pastor Abraham Swamidass on Family Life. This will be a blessing.

We are also planning to have "The Appearing" evangelism event in October, plus we are in the planning stages of a Nutritional Seminar in September.

Alan Anderson

POTATO POEM

All those trucks going by,
With potatoes piled high.
Always such a great big load,
Wish they'd drop some on the road.

I'd sure run to pick 'em up,
As they fall behind each truck.
But, like everyone else galore
I have to buy them at the store.

So to the boss and workers too,
Special thanks to all of you.
Diggin' sometimes in the mud,
Just so I can get dem SPUDS!!!

(Written and submitted by Nona Schmidt)

Are You In Need of ?

Upright Piano to give away

Looking for a good home for a well behaved and completely housebroken upright piano. "The older the piano, the sweeter the music" or something like that!

Contact Cindy Barten 715-921-9485

I have quite a bit of **photo paper** that I cannot use. It is Canon glossy and sizes 4x6" and 5x7". If anyone is interested, they can contact me by email: jmwitt@rucls.net

Maytag Washer

3 Cycle, Heavy Duty Wash machine

Contact Doug Bruder @ 715-498-1126

This section is intended as an outreach to help those with needs, also helping those with the need to free up space in their homes by donating those un-needed items to someone who may have a use for them. May God Bless you for your generosity. If you have items to donate to someone, please let us know.

715-572-0650

or gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com

Wisconsin

Rapids

Calendar of Events

DENTAL CLINIC: October 25-27, 2019

Men's Prayer Breakfast

August 19th

9:00 a.m.

Betty and Darwin would love to hear from their church family while Darwin is recuperating. Here is their address:

Darwin & Betty Dittburner

4322 Vida Grande

Weslaco, TX 78596

Happy Birthday!



August Birthdays

- 1 David Hahn
Dawn Hahn
- 3 Jason W Hahn
Joseph D Hahn
- 4 Nancy Colon
- 6 Joannette Suchon
Tyler Armstrong
- 7 Harvey Churkey
- 11 Pastor David Guerrero
- 12 Matthew Anderson
- 18 Dolores Shudarek
- 21 Paula Kuhlman
- 24 Margaret Dissing
Alex Cuahuizo
- 25 Stacy Taylor
- 27 Micah Guerrero
Stewart Cuhuizo
- 29 Carrie Anderson
- 30 Karen Blair
Shirley Corral

If we missed your birthday and you would like to be recognized, please let us know so that we can update our records.



Oxford SDA Church

Sabbath Worship Times

Sabbath School @ 9:15 a.m.

Worship @ 10:40 a.m.

322 E Chauncey St
Oxford, WI 53952-9064
608-586-5770

PASTOR: JUSTIN DANE SPADY
PHONE: 260-413-3066 EMAIL:
PASTORSPADY@GMAIL.COM

Portage Seventh-day Adventist Church

2100 E State Road 33
Portage, WI 53901-1468
608-742-4695

Pastor: Justin Dane Spady
Phone: 260-413-3066
Email: PastorSpady@gmail.com

Service Times:

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.

Reedsburg SDA Church

115 S. Oak St.
Reedsburg WI 53959

Pastor Justin Spady
Phone: 260-413-3066
Email: PastorSpady@gmail.com

Join Us This Saturday
Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

The Shepherd's House

Previously: Wausau SDA Church

Address: 6300 Bittersweet Rd

Wausau WI 54401-9465

Mail: 6300 Bittersweet Rd

Wausau WI 54401-9465

Phone: 715-241-7722

Fax: 715-241-7723

Pastor: Tom (Thomas) J Michalski

Sabbath School begins at 10:00 a.m.

Church Service begins at 11:20 a.m.

Antigo SDA Church

1515 3rd Ave.

Antigo WI 54409-1481

Bible Study @ 10:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:00 a.m.

Contact

715-623-4168

Pastor Tom Michalski

tommichalski@gmail.com**Wisconsin Rapids SDA**

611 24th St. N

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Service Times:

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday evening Bible
Study @ 6 p.m.

"Revelation Speaks Peace"

Pastor: Joseph Perricellia

Cell Phone: (641) 680-2944

Email: sdapastorjoseph@gmail.com

Stevens Point Church

Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service 10:50 a.m.

1510 Sherman Ave

Stevens Point WI 54481

715-344-4337

Pastor Tom Michalski

715-623-4168

tommichalski@gmail.com**Almond SDA Church**

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service: 11:00

Potluck follows service each week!

1340 Elm St.

Almond WI 54909

715-570-2179

www.almondsda.org

Pastor Justin Spady

260-413-3066

(Prophesy-Continued from page 3)

(Prophets and Kings, 371).

"In the vision that came to Isaiah in the temple court, he was given a clear view of the character of the God of Israel." *(Prophets and Kings, 314).*

"The prophet Daniel was an example of true sanctification. His long life was filled up with noble service for his Master. He was a man 'greatly beloved' (Daniel 10:11) of Heaven. Yet instead of claiming to be pure and holy, this honored prophet identified himself with the really sinful of Israel as he pleaded before God in behalf of his people: 'We do not present our supplications before Thee for our righteousness, but for Thy great mercies.' 'We have sinned, we have done wickedly.' He declares: 'I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people.' And when at a later time the Son of God appeared, to give him instruction, Daniel says: 'My comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.' Daniel 9:18, 15, 20; 10:8.

"When Job heard the voice of the Lord out of the whirlwind, he exclaimed: 'I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.' Job 42:6. It was when Isaiah saw the glory of the Lord, and heard the cherubim crying, 'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts,' that he cried out, 'Woe is me! For I am undone.' Isaiah 6:3, 5. Paul, after he was caught up into the third heaven and heard things which it was not possible for a man to utter, speaks of himself as 'less than the least of all saints.' 2 Corinthians 12:2-4, margin; Ephesians 3:8. It was the beloved John, who leaned on Jesus' breast and beheld His glory, that fell as one dead before the feet of the angel. Revelation 1:17." *(The Great Controversy, 470-471).*

"But Peter was unmindful now of boats or lading. This miracle, above any other he had ever witnessed, was to him a manifestation of divine power. In Jesus he saw One who held all nature under His control. The presence of divinity revealed his own unholiness. Love for his Master, shame for his own unbelief, gratitude for the condescension of Christ, above all, the sense of his uncleanness in the presence of infinite purity, overwhelmed him. While his companions were securing the contents of the net, Peter fell at the Savior's feet, exclaiming, 'Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.'

"It was the same presence of divine holiness that had caused the prophet Daniel to fall as one dead before the angel of God. He said, 'My comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.' So when Isaiah beheld the glory of the Lord, he exclaimed, 'Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.' Daniel 10:8; Isaiah 6:5.

Humanity, with its weakness and sin, was brought in contrast with the perfection of divinity, and he felt altogether deficient and unholy. Thus it has been with all who have been granted a view of God's greatness and majesty.

"Peter exclaimed, 'Depart from me; for I am a sinful man;' yet he clung to the feet of Jesus, feeling that he could not be parted from Him. The Savior answered, 'Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.' It was after Isaiah had beheld the holiness of God and his own unworthiness that he was entrusted with the divine message. It was after Peter had been led to self-renunciation and dependence upon divine power that he received the call to his work for Christ." *(The Desire of Ages, 246).*

(Continued on page 13)

(Prophecy-Continued from page 12)

(Isaiah 6:1-10)

“Not one of the angels could have become surety for the human race: their life is God’s; they could not surrender it. The angels all wear the yoke of obedience. They are the appointed messengers of Him who is the commander of all heaven. But Christ is equal with God, infinite and omnipotent. He could pay the ransom for man’s freedom. He is the eternal, self-existing Son, on whom no yoke had come; and when God asked, ‘Whom shall I send?’ he could reply, ‘Here am I; send me.’ He could pledge himself to become man’s surety; for he could say that which the highest angel could not say,—I have power over my own life, ‘power to lay it down, and . . . power to take it again.’” (Youth Instructor, June 21, 1900).

Was Isaiah a Laodicean in his time?

“As the prophet Isaiah beheld the glory of the Lord, he was amazed, and, overwhelmed with a sense of his own weakness and unworthiness, he cried, ‘Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts.’

“Isaiah had denounced the sin of others; but now he sees himself exposed to the same condemnation he had pronounced upon them. He had been satisfied with a cold, lifeless ceremony in his worship of God. He had not known this until the vision was given him of the Lord. How little now appeared his wisdom and talents as he looked upon the sacredness and majesty of the sanctuary. How unworthy he was! how unfitted for sacred service! His view of himself might be expressed in the language of the apostle Paul, ‘O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?’

“But relief was sent to Isaiah in his distress. He says: ‘Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: and he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.’ . . . “The vision given to Isaiah represents the condition of God’s people in the last days. They are privileged to see by faith the work that is going forward in the heavenly sanctuary.

‘And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament.’ As they look by faith into the holy of holies, and see the work of Christ in the heavenly sanctuary, they perceive that they are a people of unclean lips,—a people whose lips have often spoken vanity, and whose talents have not been sanctified and employed to the glory of God. Well may they despair as they contrast their own weakness and unworthiness with the purity and loveliness of the glorious character of Christ. But if they, like Isaiah, will receive the impression the Lord designs shall be made upon the heart, if they will humble their souls before God, there is hope for them. The bow of promise is above the throne, and the work done for Isaiah will be performed in them. God will respond to the petitions coming from the contrite heart.

“The object of this great and solemn work of God is to gather together the sheaves for the heavenly garner; for the earth is to be filled with the glory of the Lord.” Review and Herald, December 22, 1896.

The Wheat and Tares are to be Gathered Together (Matthew 13:36-43)

“To John were opened scenes of deep and thrilling interest in the experience of the

(Continued on page 14)

(Prophesy-Continued from page 13)

church. He saw the position, dangers, conflicts, and final deliverance of the people of God. He records the closing messages which are to ripen the harvest of the earth, either as sheaves for the heavenly garner or as fagots for the fires of destruction. Subjects of vast importance were revealed to him, especially for the last church, that those who should turn from error to truth might be instructed concerning the perils and conflicts before them. None need be in darkness in regard to what is coming upon the earth.” *The Great Controversy*, 341.

“The end will come more quickly than men expect. The wheat will be gathered and bound in sheaves for the garner of God; the tares will be bound as fagots for the fires of destruction.” *The Great Controversy*, 630.

“I then saw the third angel. Said my accompanying angel, ‘Fearful is his work. Awful is his mission. He is the angel that is to select the wheat from the tares, and seal, or bind, the wheat for the heavenly garner. These things should engross the whole mind, the whole attention.’” *Early Writings*, 119.

“There cannot be a third [angel’s message] without the first and second.” *Selected Messages*, book 2, 104–105.

“‘Whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner.’ *Matthew 3:12*. This was one of the times of purging. By the words of truth, the chaff was being separated from the wheat. Because they were too vain and self-righteous to receive reproof, too world-loving to accept a life of humility, many turned away from Jesus.

Many are still doing the same thing. Souls are tested today as were those disciples in the synagogue at Capernaum. When truth is brought home to the heart, they see that their lives are not in accordance with the will of God. They see the need of an entire change in themselves; but they are not willing to take up the self-denying work. Therefore they are angry when their sins are discovered. They go away offended, even as the disciples left Jesus, murmuring, ‘This is an hard saying; who can hear it?’” (*The Desire of Ages*, 392).

(Submitted by Tim Schmidt of the Wautoma SDA Company)



district tubing adventure

Prisoner's Praise**by Kenneth Wells, Jr.**

It took a miracle to save a wretch like me.
 I took God's grace from past eternity,
 To see that I would need to be incarcerated.....
 To turn to Him, I needed to go to prison..
 I needed to hear the "Good News" of Christ/
 God knows what He is doing, I Don't.
 But I do know this: I now belong to Him.
 Father, Son and Spirit are one God indeed.
 The Father chose me in His eternal purpose.
 He sent His son to die in my place.
 His Son's blood washed away my sins.
 He buried my sins in the depths of the sea.
 He rebirthed my spirit by the Holy Spirit.
 The Holy Spirit has made His home in me, a lonely prisoner's..
 He dwells miraculously in my human spirit.
 He wakes within me every morning,
 He walks with me through the day,
 He never leaves me as I am sleeping,
 He is God in action in my time in any good I do..
 He gives me strength to resist sin from without
 And gives me grace to banish sin from within..
 The power of the Triune God is on my side.
 He convicts me of my sin and urges repentance.
 I strive to keep short accounts with God.
 His word is my delight and the food for my life.
 It is what gives me joy and help and gladness..
 For me to live is Christ, to die is gain.
 I have got a home in heaven and I am going there, soon!
 I will see my loved ones someday and hug them.
 My tears will all be wiped away and I will sing.
 For all eternity, I will worship and serve Him.
 Oh, what sweet love it was—Christ's Love.....
 That saved a worthless wretch like me in prison!!

GONE FISHIN'

My fish pole is ready
 I'm rarin' to go,
 But before that can happen
 The snows gotta go!

Bobbers and sinkers,
 And swivels are fine;
 Boy! I can't wait
 For a big one this time!

When the spring waters run,
 So will I!
 You'll find my note sayin'
 "Gone fishin'...Bye...Bye!"

(Written and Submitted by: Nona Schmidt)

MY HOLY BIBLE

AT TIMES WHEN I FEEL OH SO LOW,
 I CLUTCH MY BIBLE NEAR.
 AT TIMES WHEN I FEEL OH SO SCARED,
 MY BIBLE IS SO DEAR.
 AND THEN THERE'S TIMES WHEN I AM GLAD
 AND MY BIBLE SHOUTS WITH PRAISE.
 BUT REGARDLESS OF THE WAY I FEEL
 I WILL READ IT ALL MY DAYS.
 FOR IT TO ME WAS GIVEN
 BY MY LORD WHO WAITS ABOVE.
 IT IS FILLED WITH ALL HIS HOLINESS
 HIS MIGHT AND SPECIAL LOVE.
 THROUGH SAINTS I SEE HIS PRECIOUS FACE
 AND FEEL HIS ARMS OF LOVE.
 BUT FACE TO FACE I WILL SEE MY LORD
 WHEN HE TAKES ME HOME ABOVE.

~ CHERYL A. MARIANO ~
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GRACE NOTES

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Contribution deadline is the 23rd
of the month

Disclaimer:

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Mission Statement:

Fostering Unity

Vision Statement:

To be a resource which encourages and inspires unity in our church district; through inspirational thoughts, informative articles and testimonials; preparing for the soon coming of Christ.

Ministry From Home

Have you ever thought of having a prison ministry? You don't have to leave your home to have this. A letter changes the life of an inmate every time they receive it. Pray that God will lead you to write an inmate. Give an inmate a blessing!

Ken Wells, Jr. #414034,
John Burke Correctional Center,
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Letters to the editor...

If you have ideas, thoughts, complaints or opinions, write to us. This column will appear each month.

Send emails to
"gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com"

Thanks,
Grace Notes Editor

Grace Notes needs your help!

We have all been blessed in many different ways and I would like to ask that you share some of your talents with us. I've seen first hand the results of this newsletter and it's effect on the people that became friends and family rather than strangers.

Since we have this new arrangement of districts, it's even more important for us to stay connected, to get to know one another. How can we do this? It's simple. Even if you think you don't have good writing skills, write up something and send it to us anyway. I promise that no one will laugh. Write up your testimony to share. Something that God has placed on your heart or just something that is important to you. How about a good recipe that you want to share? Are you in need of something? Write us and we'll put it into the newsletter and God will provide those needs.

I look forward to putting out the newsletter, with God's help and with yours too!

And, of course, in all that we do...
To God be the Glory!

Rick Felts, Grace Notes Editor

Looking for your thoughts on these questions!

What does the Sabbath mean to you?

What do you believe when you say "Happy Sabbath" to someone?

No one ever says happy Monday or even happy Friday... The Sunday Church goers don't wish everyone a happy Sunday? Let's hear your thoughts on these questions and we'll share your responses next month.