

GRACE NOTES

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

JANUARY-2021

**BRINGING UNITY, EVENTS & NEWS TO THE CHURCHES OF ALMOND, OXFORD,
PORTAGE, REEDSBURG & THE WAUTOMA COMPANY**

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Greetings,

I was inspired to write this letter from a sermon I watched on-line at the New Market SDA church. The sermon talked about Religious Liberty and how that particular item is squarely on the election ballot. The pastor didn't talk about which candidate to vote for, but the question was raised "who would be best to preserve those First Amendment rights (religious freedoms)?" As you know the First Amendment reads...

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

To me this means our country's founders who were of different religious backgrounds knew the best way to protect religious liberty was to keep the government out of religion. I see a number of State Governors shutting down or limiting church goers from worshiping even in parking lots. At the same time I see drive-in political rallies. I understand the need to be safe during this COVID period. I do believe we know how to protect ourselves, obviously we do that when we visit Walmart and Home Depot stores.

EGW writes..." There are many, even of those engaged in this movement for Sunday enforcement, who are blinded to the results which will follow this action. They do not see that they are striking directly against religious liberty. There are many who have never understood the claims of the Bible Sabbath and the false foundation upon which the Sunday institution rests. Any movement in favour of religious legislation is really an act of concession to the papacy, which for so many ages has steadily warred against liberty of conscience. Sunday observance owes its existence as a so-called Christian institution to "the mystery of iniquity;" and its enforcement will be a virtual recognition of the principles which are the very cornerstone of Romanism. When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act join hands with popery; it will be nothing else than giving life to the tyranny which has long been eagerly watching its opportunity to spring again into active despotism. 5T 711

A time is coming when the law of God is, in a special sense, to be made void in our land. The rulers of our nation will, by legislative enactments, enforce the Sunday law, and thus God's people be brought into great

(Continued on page 2)

(Religious Liberty-Continued from page 1)

peril. When our nation, in its legislative councils, shall enact laws to bind the consciences of men in regard to their religious privileges, enforcing Sunday observance, and bringing oppressive power to bear against those who keep the seventh-day Sabbath, the law of God will, to all intents and purposes, be made void in our land; and national apostasy will be followed by national ruin. We see that those who are now keeping the commandments of God need to bestir themselves, that they may obtain the special help which God alone can give them. They should work more earnestly to delay as long as possible the threatened calamity. If, in our land of boasted freedom, a Protestant government should sacrifice every principle which enters into its Constitution, and propagate papal falsehood and delusion, well may we plead, "It is time for thee, Lord, to work, for they have made void thy law." Some may think that because it has been revealed in prophecy that our nation shall restrict the consciences of men, it must surely come; and that if we make an effort to preserve our liberty, we shall be acting the part of unfaithful servants, and thus come under the condemnation of God. RH DEC.18,1888"

I implore you to remind your congregations about the importance of our votes reference religious freedoms. I truly believe if we lose those rights, we will be in danger of losing the SDA schools, hospitals, and churches as well.

Yours in Christ,

Chris A Williams

Reprinted with permission of Chris A. Williams

"Our Thinking" Vs "God's Promises"

"It's impossible"

All things are possible (Luke 18:27)

"I'm too tired"

I will give you rest (Mathew 11:28-30)

"Nobody really loves me"

I love you (John 3:16 & John 13:34)

"I can't go on"

My grace is sufficient for you (2 Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)

"I can't figure things out"

I will direct your steps (Proverbs 3:5-6)

"I can't do it"

You can do all things (Philippians 4:13)

"I'm not able"

I am able (2 Corinthians 9:8)

"It's not worth it"

It will be worth it (Romans 8:28)

"I can't forgive myself"

I forgive you (1 John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)

"I can't manage"

I will supply all your needs (Philippians 4:19)

"I'm afraid"

I have not given you a spirit of fear (2 Timothy 1:7)

"I'm always worried and frustrated"

Cast all your cares upon me (1 Peter 5:7)

"I don't have enough faith"

I've given everyone a measure of faith (Romans 12:3)

"I'm not smart enough"

I give you wisdom 1 Corinthians 1:30

"I feel all alone"

I will never leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5)

Submitted by Kenneth Wells

Portage 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

*Please pray for our country, it's leaders
and for our health through these try-
ing times that we are living in.*

God is good,

All the time!

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: Steven Hall 407-461-2095

Wautoma SDA Company

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.

Potluck follows service each week!

429 W River Street

Wautoma WI 54982

920-765-0961

wautomawi.adventistchurch.org

Pastor: Steven Hall 407-461-2095

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: STEVEN HALL
407-461-2095

Portage Seventh-day Adventist Church

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

Pastor: Steven Hall 407-461-2095

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: Steven Hall 407-461-2095

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

We have bible studies on Wednesday evening's at 6:30 at the church. We are starting the book of John on video.
Pastor: Steven Hall 407-461-2095

Word Search

Find the following words in the puzzle. Words are hidden     and .

F N V T N A L P T O I M T E A C H E R S G T Z
A I G P F S W W L H A R V E S T N R C T R N F
M D E N D S P R P V G F A I T H O K O W O I I
I S E E R U M S I R I E B O W X I I M Q W A B
L P W R E R A I Y D A P Z F O L T N M K T R A
Y I P D H A K M X G I Y Z F R E A D A D H T H
N R A L T N E P L S T S E J S S E N N O N X E
I I R I O C R L M A U N C R H S R E D O O E L
Q T E H M E T I C M W N A I I O C S T H I R B
Y U N C Y V F C S L P S L T P N R S A D T E A
K A T E C N E I D E B O N I U L E V O L A H R
R L S F C V C T H B E Y W O G R I J R I C T A
O H G U E W A Y D S V D T E Z H E N B H U A P
W A Y V C V X E L T N E G G R D T C E C D F B
D U T I E S X K C U D I L I G E N T B C E V U
C J E X H T U R T D E V E L O P M E N T L L D

ASSURANCE
CHILDHOOD
CHILDREN
COMMAND
CREATION
DEVELOPMENT
DILIGENT
DISCIPLINE
DUTIES
EDUCATION

FAITH
FAMILY
FATHER
GENTLE
GROWTH
HARVEST
KINDNESS
LAWS
LESSON
LOVE

MAKER
MOTHER
NATURE
OBEDIENCE
PARABLE
PARENTS
PLANT
POWER
PRAYER
SEED

SIMPLICITY
SPIRITUAL
SUNLIGHT
TEACHERS
TRAIN
TRUTH
WAY
WORK
WORSHIP



Recipe Corner

2 Pizza Crusts

Mix:

1 cup warm water

2 Tbls yeast

1 tsp sugar

Then add:

1 tsp salt

2 Tbls oil

3 cups flour

Knead 5 min

Cut into two balls

Let stand

Roll out into two crusts

Bake at 425 for 15m on two lightly oiled pans

(Or bake for 8-10m and freeze)

French Toast Bake

The recipe listed below is for 1 pan (9 x 13). Happy eating!!

Ingredient Checklist

1/2 cup melted butter (1 stick)

1 cup brown sugar

1 loaf Texas toast

4 eggs

1 1/2 cup milk

1 teaspoon vanilla

Powdered sugar (for sprinkling)

Directions

1. Melt butter in microwave & add brown sugar....stir till

mixed.

2. Pour butter/sugar mix into bottom of 9 x 13 pan....spread

around

3. Beat eggs, milk, & vanilla

4. Lay single layer of Texas Toast in pan

5. Spoon 1/2 of egg mixture on bread layer

6. Add 2nd layer of Texas Toast

7. Spoon on remaining egg mixture

8. Cover & chill in fridge overnight

9. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes (covered for the first 30 minutes)

10. Sprinkle with powdered sugar

11. Serve with warm maple syrup

Letter from the editor...

After a lot of prayer, I have decided to suspend the publishing of "Grace Notes" for a while. I know that life gets busy for all of us and especially with the crisis of Covid-19, which may be the cause of loss of support from the readers and editor. If you feel led to share something with me for a future issue, please do. I will hang onto it and when I get enough to share in an issue of Grace Notes, I most assuredly will do that.

Publishing this newsletter over the past 6 years, has truly been a blessing to me and I hope it has been a blessing to you also.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has contributed to the success of Grace Notes, from the people that have submitted stories to the ones that have held me accountable and especially to the hard work of our proofreader, Dorothy Tess, who has been through some pretty rough times and very short deadlines, but she always came through and made me look good.

May God bless you all in this new year. Stay healthy and draw nearer to God. He is the answer to all of our problems.

Sincerely,

Rick Felts, Grace Notes Editor

GRACE NOTES

Mailing Address:
Grace Notes
c/o Rick Felts
286 Warren St.
Redgranite WI 54970

Phone: 920-240-6570
E-mail: gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com

Contribution deadline is the 23rd
of the month

Disclaimer:

The stories, views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the original authors and other contributors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Grace Notes or any of its staff. Thank you...

Pictures are best viewed on the website. <http://www.almondsda.org/district-newsletter/2019>



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.

What would you like to see in future editions of Grace Notes? Let us know and we'll see what we can do.

Letters to the editor...

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

Send emails to
["gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com"](mailto:gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com)

Thanks,
Grace Notes Editor

Special Days in the Portage District

Hans David Anderson	1/1	ALMOND
Michael Anderson	1/1	ALMOND
Angela Metzger	1/2	ALMOND
Angelina Diaz-Barriga	1/2	ALMOND
Mary Kalepp	1/3	REEDSBURG
Stanley Cottrell	1/5	OXFORD
Mike Tess	1/6	ALMOND
Wendell Springer	1/6	OXFORD
Rick Felts	1/11	ALMOND
Matt Riggle	1/12	ALMOND
Greg Hahn	1/15	REEDSBURG
Joe Martingello	1/23	OXFORD
Mary Boehm	1/23	ALMOND
Jane Gerndt	1/26	REEDSBURG
Beatrice Rabine	1/27	REEDSBURG
Rachel Tess	1/29	ALMOND
Brenda Scidmore	1/30	ALMOND

