

GRACE NOTES

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 7

JULY 2017

Independent or Interdependent

Very soon we will be celebrating Independence Day (4th of July). A day which we celebrate each year to remind us of our humble beginnings as a nation by rebelling from the reign of King George II and gaining independence from England. We as Americans are very proud of this day and great measures are taken to commemorate this event. We celebrate our victory over tyranny, oppression, and taxation without representation. We also are aware that this nation was established by Divine order and by God's prophecy.

Independence is a hallmark of America. We as Americans are fiercely independent. In fact we pride ourselves on this principle. We train our children to become independent at a very early age. And a certain level of independence is a very

healthy thing. We need independence in our daily lives. Taking care of our own physical, mental, emotional, needs requires a functional level of independence for the majority of people. But can we take independence too far? Has God created us to be completely and utterly independent from everyone and everything? I think not.

I believe that God has created us with a certain interdependency. This is not to be confused for co-dependency which is a dysfunctional form of interdependency. What I believe God is seeking for all of humanity, and more so for Christians, is healthy symbiotic relationships to exist among those who are of the body of Christ. Relationships which are mutually beneficial to all parties, individually, the church as



a collective whole, as well as the God Head.

Christ through the Bible writers has given us many examples of this interdependence, not the least of which being the metaphor of the church as a body. In Romans 12:4, the Apostle Paul says, "For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another." Here the Holy Spirit makes very clear that we are **ALL OF ONE BODY**. Each hav-

ing a separate function, yet all one body. It is important for us to remember, just like in our own bodies we may not like how these parts look, or even like how they function, but we must learn to understand how to make them all function together.

When a child is born, it possesses a certain level of motor control over its various body parts, however this is at a very primitive level. As the child grows and develops, this control matures and the child is able to go beyond gross motor control to fine motor functions. Children's brains grow and develop the ability to control some of the most minuet muscles of the body and each of them respond to its commands. For example, most adults have the ability to blink, however when a child attempts to mimic mom or dad, they often have to hold one eye shut with their little hand. Their motor reflexes are not fully developed, but as they grow and mature they learn how to make their bodies co-

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ELDER'S CORNER

The "Mother" of All Bombs

Pastor David Guerrero

On April 13th 2017, the news flashed on TV, radio, internet and lit up the Smart Phone world. The Mother of all bombs was employed to deal with a

group of people that threatened the safety of the United States and possibly the world.

CNN news reported the following:

A GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast Bomb (MOAB), nicknamed the

"mother of all bombs," was dropped at 7:32 p.m. local time, according to four US military officials with direct knowledge of the mission. A MOAB is a 30-foot-long, 21,600 pound, GPS-guided munition. President Donald Trump called it "another successful job" later

Thursday.

Before His ascension 50 days after his resurrection Jesus shared with His followers that He too desired to drop a "bomb" of incredible power to disrupt the power of the enemy and advance His kingdom. Jesus put it

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(Continued from page 1) Elder Joseph

operate and function at a much higher level.

As Christians, especially Seventh-Day Adventists, we have all been admonished in both the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, to collaborate with Christ as well as each other. Jesus Christ Himself believed this so strongly that He tells us that the sign of His church in these last days which the world will be able to use as a measure of our commitment to Jesus would be, our

great love for each other. The key to our interdependence is LOVE. For it is the lubrication of LOVE that we can keep from rubbing each other the wrong way. So let's be very clear, it is not the love that others demonstrate towards us, but the love of Christ in us which keeps the irritations at bay. Ellen G. White writes this in the Acts of the Apostles pg.548, "There is no surer way of weakening spirituality than by cherishing envy, suspicion, faultfinding, and evil surmising. On the other

hand, the strongest witness that God has sent His Son in the world is the existence of harmony and union among men of varied dispositions who form His Church.

I believe our unity in Christ Jesus is one of the Churches greatest strengths, this is why the adversary is working so hard to keep us enemies of Christ and each other. Therefore, if we join with the adversary, we ourselves become adversaries of God. May it never be true of God's last day people that we should rejoin the enemy

and therefore fall out of God's great mercy. I pray the love of Christ Jesus Himself shall make us truly interdependent upon Him and each other to His glory.

Yours in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior

Elder Joseph Perricellia

THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL

Over the last months, we looked at the character profiles of Reuben and Simeon, now, let's take a look at Levi.

Can you identify with him?

LEVI

Moses had been on Mt. Sinai for almost 6 weeks. As he made his way down the mountain with the tables of the law, he thought he heard noise in the camp. As he drew closer, it sounded like **singing?** Moses hurried closer. He then witnessed the scene of which God had warned him. He saw the Golden Calf with frenzied mobs of Israelites dancing before it in drunkenness and reckless abandon.

Moses anger burned hot,

and he threw the tables out of his hands breaking them at the foot of the mountain. (Ex. 32:15-19). No doubt the same rage had seized him 40 years before when he had slain the Egyptian for abusing a Hebrew. He came by his fury honestly for he was a direct descendant of Kohath, the second son of Levi.

The tribe of Levi, would have a number of distinguished members, second only to those of the tribe of Judah. Without the leadership of the family of Moses, the exodus of Israel, from Egypt to Canaan, would have been inconceivable. The roster of Levite prophets is also impressive. There is Samuel, Abiathar, Jehoida, Jeremiah, and John the Baptist. To the list we must also add the warlike family of the priest-kings, the Maccabees.

Hoping for more affection from Jacob, Leah had named her **third** son, Levi, meaning, "to be joined to" (Gen 29:34). The only

recorded events of Levi's life, however, are his joining with his brother Simeon in the cruel and infamous massacre at Shechem and his death in Egypt at the age of 137. **With Simeon, he shared the same denunciation, and like the tribe of his brother, his tribe also found itself scattered in Israel.** Ironically the one who was to "be attached to or "joined" became fragmented. Simeon simply faded away into the multitude and lost his identity: however, **Levi's dispersion became a blessing to Israel in leadership and learning.** In the tribe of Levi, apparently there persisted, along with a zealous penchant for violence, a keen intelligence and a fierce loyalty to God. For this the Levites would have rich rewards.

Now, back to the affair at the Golden Calf: Speaking with Moses about the rebellion, God disowned Israel. "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves"

Moses, on the other hand, cried, "Why does thy wrath burn hot against thy people, who thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt?" But when he saw the extent of the apostasy, he understood God's disclaimer and simply prayed objectively for the forgiveness of "this people who have sinned a great sin."

Exo 32:26 So Moses stood at the gate of the camp and shouted, "**Everyone who is on the LORD's side come over here!**" All the Levites gathered around him,

Exo 32:27 and he said to them, "The **Lord God of Israel** commands every one of you to put on your sword and go through the camp from this gate to the other and kill your brothers, your friends, and your neighbors."

Exo 32:28 The Levites obeyed, and killed about three thousand men that day.

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(12 Tribes -Continued from page 2)

The bloody work complete, Moses commended the Levites: "Today you have ordained yourself for the service of the Lord, each one at the cost of his son and of his brother" (verse 29). No personal consideration had interfered with their commitment to God's service. Even as they had separated themselves physically and intellectually, now they would be set aside spiritually. Such men could be trusted with the spiritual welfare of the nation.

Moses final blessing clarified the priestly calling of the Levites. Levi had become, in a special way, God's tribe:

Give to Levi thy Thummim, and thy Urim to the Godly one,...

For they observed thy word, and kept thy covenant. They shall teach Jacob thy ordi-

nances,

And Israel thy law;... (Duet. 33:8-11 RSV)

They were "joined to" Aaron in the ministry of the sanctuary. The priestly duties that under the birthright blessing had originally belonged to the firstborn of every family, now transferred to the tribe of Levi. The tribe became a visible reminder of God's righteous requirements. By divine choice, they had been set aside from the rest of the nation for His specific use.

By the time of Jesus, however, the Jewish priests and Levites had become a difficult institutional bloc, an inflexible, antagonistic force. Such was the grip of the old priestly system that we have few references to Levites converting to Christianity. But there was one surnamed, "son of encouragement," the Levite Barnabas,

who was so fired with the preaching of the apostles that he sold a piece of land he owned and brought the money to the church (Acts 4:36,37). Like his ancestors before him, Barnabas was not afraid to step out alone and befriend the converted persecutor, Paul (Acts 9:26, 27). He urged others to accept Paul and finally joined him as a missionary partner. Also Barnabas showed remarkable patience and understanding in stabilizing his young cousin John Mark as a worker.

The church today would languish without the sons of Levi in its midst. Spiritual leadership demands a single-minded commitment to God, an intelligent teaching of the members, and strict honesty in managing church affairs. The Levite personality tends to see all issues as black and white, however, having little patience to differentiate the grays in between.

The Levite may tolerate opposition for a time, but will ultimately arrive at decisive - sometimes violent - action. For example, Moses striking the rock in the wilderness, or Barnabas' heated contention with Paul until they went their separate ways (Acts 15:37-41). In the apostasy at Baal Peor, too, we see Phinehas, grandson of Aaron, dealing with the apostate Israelite Zimri in a characteristic Levite manner (Num. 25:7, 8).

The Levite will persevere in righteousness as he sees it. And susceptible as he is to anger, we should commend him all the more for the times when he works peaceably among others. His innate vitality and purity of goals help many a weaker pilgrim toward the kingdom.

Submitted by: Freddie Ramirez

Ordination Service

On the 2nd Sabbath of Camp Meeting, there was an ordination service held. There were 2 Pastors ordained. They were Pastor Freddy De Los Santos and Pastor Joseph W. Perricellia. Pastor De Los Santos was accompanied by his family which included his wife and 2 sons. Pastor Perricellia was accompanied by his wife Elena, his daughter Bella and his mother Barbara. We pray blessings over both Pastors and their families that God would be with them in their ministry.



MONTHLY HEALTH NUGGET

Our Immune System

Our immune system is our body's defense system. Through a series of steps called the immune response, the immune system attacks organisms and substances that invade our body and cause disease.

The immune system is made up of cells, tissues, and organs that work together to protect us. One of the important cells involved are **white blood cells**, or leukocytes. There are two basic types of leukocytes. They combine to seek out and destroy disease-causing substances.

The two basic types of leukocytes are:

1. **phagocytes**, cells that chew up invading organisms
2. **lymphocytes**, cells that allow the body to remember and recognize previous invaders and help the body destroy them.

Leukocytes are produced or stored in many locations in the body, including the thymus, spleen, and bone marrow. These are called the lymphoid organs. There are clumps of lymph tissue throughout the body that house leukocytes, these are called **lymph nodes**.

The leukocytes circulate through the body via lymphatic vessels and blood vessels. In this way, the immune system monitors the body for germs or substances that might cause problems.

A number of different cells are considered phagocytes. The most common type is the **neutrophil**, which primarily fights bacteria. If doctors are worried about a bacterial infection, they might order a blood test to see if a patient has an increased number of neutrophils triggered by the infection.

The two kinds of lymphocytes are **B lymphocytes** and **T lymphocytes**. Lymphocytes start out in the bone marrow and either stay there and mature into B cells, or they leave for the thymus gland, where they mature into **T cells**. B lymphocytes and T lymphocytes have separate functions: **B lymphocytes are like the body's military intelligence system**, seeking out their targets and sending defenses to lock onto them. **T cells are like the soldiers**, destroying the invaders that the intelligence system has identified.

Here's how it works:

When antigens (foreign substances that invade the body) are detected, several types of cells work together to recognize them and respond. These cells trigger the B lymphocytes to produce antibodies. Once produced, these antibodies stay in a person's body, so that if his or her immune system encounters that antigen again, the antibodies are already there to do their job. So if someone gets sick with a certain disease, like chickenpox, that person usually won't get sick from it again.

This is also how **immunizations** prevent certain diseases. An immunization introduces the body to an antigen in a way that doesn't make someone sick, but does allow the body to produce antibodies that will then protect the person from future attack by a particular germ or substance. Although antibodies can recognize an antigen and lock onto it, **they are not capable of destroying it**. That's the job of the T cells, or killer cells, which are part of the system that destroys antigens that have been tagged by antibodies. These also tag cells that have been infected or **somehow changed**. (Causing autoimmune problems). T cells also are involved in helping signal other cells (like phagocytes) to do their jobs.

All of these specialized cells and parts of the immune system are God's design to offer the body protection against disease. This protection is called immunity.



Camp

Meeting



2017



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our theme for this year's VBS program was, The Creator is My Friend. We had a four station rotation along with an opening and closing assembly. Pastor Joseph led out in the opening assembly giving the theme talk for each evening. He took the children through each day of creation and helped them learn of the Creator's great love for them.

The opening assembly was followed by a four station rotation. Entering the Transformation Station the children were taken on an engaging bible story experience with an interactive memory verse. At the Craft Station the children made delightful crafts that reinforced the theme of the day. The Creation Health Station

walked the children through many of the principles found in the NEWSTART program. This health talk was very hands-on and the children seemed to have an enjoyable time learning about how to be a healthier person. At the last station, Creation Discovery, which was held outside, the children participated in different games from don't drop the cup relay to bee pollination. One child said, "The games were fun and I really enjoyed the Solar System relay".

Finally, the program concluded with a science experiment each evening in the closing assembly. Each science experiment was an object lesson teaching the children more about God's love and His desire to be their friend. There were bubbling eruptions, a journey through space, and realizing the miracle of making a

bouncy ball out of glue! And of course no program is complete without yummy snacks. The children always looked forward to the snacks that also reinforced the theme for each day of the week. Our kitchen staff did a wonderful job on the snacks. It was a delightful VBS. We had a total of 24 children, with a nightly average of 22 children.

On Sabbath, Pastor Joseph concluded with a final talk of the Creator as my friend. We were pleased to have four children from the Stevens Point community attend the Sabbath program, as well one family from Wisconsin Rapids. We presented a slideshow to the church family and each child was given a certificate of attendance and a gift bag. The children also sang the theme song, The Creator's my Friend, for special music on Sabbath. This VBS

was greatly enjoyed by staff and children alike.

A big thank you to our staff, they transformed the church into a beautiful reflection of the creation week, led out in the various stations, including registration, helped with the audio and sound, prepared snacks, photocopied, photographed the children, shepherded the children, and the list goes on. It was a great program and the hope is that the children learned that Jesus is not only their friend.

Written and submitted by:

Natalie St. Bernard



To Moriah

To Moriah's mount I ascend.
I will not change my course or descend.
Have I wood for the dross to burn,
And from all selfish desires turn?
Jesus, dear, give me Your Fire.
So You can keep me for Your hire.
I will stand with You, give me Your Light,
For You and Your Truth, I will always fight.
Jesus, keep me in Your Grace;
Day by day I'll keep Your pace.
Jesus, to Your wonderful Name,
Belongs all fame!
Jesus, yesterday, today and forever
You are always the Same.

Written and submitted by: Dolores Shudarek

Happy Birthday!



July Birthdays

- 1 Nadine Churkey
- 7 Harry Mason
- 15 James Rothenbach
- 18 Richard Lucas
- 22 Eleazar Rodriguez
- 28 Chela Fuentes (Mrs. Juan)
- 28 Cheryl Anderson
- 30 Barry Boettcher
- 30 Raymond Tess

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



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this way:

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high, (Luke 24:49) and He spoke these words as well: But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

The results of this explosion? It was a success! The day of Pentecost goes down in history as an explosive event that changed the world. It unleashed such power on the waiting throng that in one day by the power of the Holy

Spirit three thousand souls were added to the company of the disciples. By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit Jesus Christ blessed His church with power. And, it was by this same power that the followers of Christ "turned the world upside down!" Acts 17:6. God's Kingdom advanced greatly back then and today our Lord desires the same. Today, my friend, the Christian church needs the same power. The power that advanced God's kingdom over 2000 years ago is needed today. So, how can we receive this power? Just like the disciples did.

First, we must pray for the Spirit to help us remove the obstacles that prevent us from receiving Him in all His fullness and power. When we read Acts 2:1 we discover that "when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one ac-

cord in one place." This happened because as Acts 1:14 tells us, these all continued with "one accord in prayer and supplication." These disciples came together and allowed God to help them remove anything that would prevent them from receiving the promised blessing. We too must come to God asking Him to reveal to us what is keeping us from receiving the Spirit, and once He does, ask Him for the power to remove the obstacle. Once this happens the Spirit will come into our lives.

Then, once this happens we must be willing to be used by the Spirit as He pleases. Yes, self must be removed for God to truly, authentically and with power use us. On the day of Pentecost that is what happened. Each disciple was ready and willing to be used of God for His glory so that when the Spirit was poured out, each was able

to speak and act for God in a mighty way. (see Acts chapter 2).

I believe God desires to see Pentecost take place once again. Yes, the true "mother of all bombs" awaits to be unleashed on the Christian. Let us pray for the Spirit to aid us in identifying and then removing anything that may be getting in the way of this experience. And then, once He does, may we remain in a humble posture to engage in life as He desires and for His glory! Then, may our commander and chief from heaven be able to say "another successful job" well done my good and faithful servant! (Matthew 25:21).

Pastor David Guerrero, Family Life and Health Leader of the Stevens Point SDA Church

Thankful for Pain

I'm sure that statement ranks me right up there with the mentally deranged, insane, should be locked up sort of folks. But hear me out once, before you just rank me there. If you can read through this, and still feel that I'm insane, then I will gladly wear that label. But if you think about it, when you buy a truck, and hear all about it's abilities, yes, it sounds awesome-it sounds fun-it sounds reliable. But, until you've driven that truck into the deep mud, rocked in it side to side, and gone bumping over the hidden rocks and trees, the thought that it's strong enough to come out

the other side of the mud hole, is just a nice theory. But, once you've driven that truck, through horrific conditions, and seen it pull out repeatedly, it no longer matters that the wax is fading, and there's a dent in the back, and the rust is creeping higher, because you've traveled in that truck and you KNOW that you'll come out the other side. Going out on a sailboat, (or any other boat) is great and everyone loves to when the conditions are perfect. The sun and wind, just right, it's amazing. It's a perfect day. But, until you've faced a storm with that boat, and tested it's ability to hold up, to navigate the tough waters, you cannot fully trust the advertisements of how

strong it really is. When you build a house, and the contractor tells you, it's rated up to 90mph winds, again, that sounds reassuring and satisfying. But does it really build security, when the weather bulletin reports that storms are rolling in @ 90mph? You HOPE it will make it, he said it would, and yet there is a bit of doubt in the background of your mind, as you huddle with your family, praying that it holds up to the winds of strife. On the other hand, once you get to the other side of that storm, you KNOW your house will withstand the winds, the rain, the hail, because you've lived through it. When I say I'm thankful for the pain in my life, it's not exactly

that I want another death threat, or any more betrayals, or for my precious family to be further abused and hated, or to endure any more than they already have. Far from it. Living through it all, was truly a hellish experience. And yet, like these examples, my God might sound nice, when someone says he's strong and mighty, that he can save, that he will be with you no matter what happens. These all sound sort of like cliché's. Like the advertisements on these items though-it's all talk to me. Oh I can read the Bible, and I can know mentally the promises. But until I've tested them out, they're not able to ring true for me the same,

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as when I have weathered the intense, horrific storms. Now that I've lived through them, I KNOW that my God is faithful. I know beyond a shadow of a doubt, that He is mighty. I know that His promises are true because in those long and lonely years, when I had no-one to turn to, He was there. I've seen miracles that I never would've witnessed, had my life been the sweet, serene, beautiful life I wanted. I've seen God work in ways he never would've needed to, if it weren't for the dark, deep pain that we endured. Can I say I'm happy that I went through horrific and painful things, things beyond description? No, and yes. No-one in their right mind would say, yep, sign me right up for pain, and make it as hellish as you can. Neither would I. And yet, coming out the oth-

er side of it all, I can tell you, that I've tried my God, and found him faithful in so many ways that many will only ever read about. The incredible security of knowing that my God is strong enough, big enough, loving enough, just plain Enough, to get me through is something that money can't buy, and reading and believing, just can't happen. It doesn't become MY truth the same, when I'm reading about Esther, or Daniel. But when I've lived through the proverbial lions' den, now I KNOW what my God can and will do. So maybe it's not so much the pain that I'm thankful for, but rather the God whose might, power, and faithfulness got me THROUGH those horrific storms in my life. As I read through 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 I could resonate with Paul's thoughts that God's grace is truly sufficient for

me, and His strength is made perfect in my weakness. I really like the Blanco Clear Word version of translating the thoughts. It goes like this: "God knows how naturally subject to pride I am, so to keep me humble and dependent on Him, He has allowed me to continue to have poor eyesight and other bodily weaknesses. These infirmities are like a thorn in the flesh which Satan uses to beat my spirit to the ground, yet this is what keeps me from being too independent, which I tend to be. Three times I've pleaded with the Lord about this and asked Him to heal me and return my full eyesight. I told Him I needed it to get around and could function better for Him. Each time He has said, 'My grace is all you need. My power is seen best through people who have limitations. Your handicap will make you depend on

me, and that's when you'll be the strongest.' So now, I am thankful for physical limitations, because when I realize how weak I really am, that's when I must fully depend on Christ. As strange as it sounds, I'm thankful for the insults, hardships, sufferings, persecutions, and all the pain and difficulties I've had for Christ's sake. If people can see the power of Christ helping me through all these difficulties instead of seeing me, then I praise the Lord for all these trials. When I realize my own weakness, then I'm the strongest in Christ." SO what I'm REALLY thankful for, is the relationship with God, and the way he's taught me to depend upon him. And if that classifies me as insane, then I'm ok with that.

*Written and submitted by:
Emily Thurman*



*Sabbath
Fellowship
After
Potluck
on the
Campground*



FROM THE INSIDE, WITH KEN WELLS

Broken Pieces

Lord, are your Bloody Finger prints still on my Broken Heart,
 Since you came to renew a life the world has torn apart
 For there were broken bloody pieces lying scattered everywhere,
 Too broken by this trauma to call your name in prayer.
 Lord, I thought about just giving up when I heard about your
 grace,
 About heart surgery you do each day and never leave a trace.
 I heard You came to seek and save such broken Hearts as mine,
 By Your royal bloody sacrifice you gave of love divine.
 Lord, I never knew someone to care so much to take the time
 And pick up all the broken parts, to mend this Heart of mine,
 Oh Lord, these broken bloody pieces remind me that we are
 A heart so badly broken that You repair without a scar.
 For Lord, you know I'm not perfect but was flawed from birth's
 design,
 To receive everlasting life, it took Your blood instead of mine.

ANGELS

I hear the angels up in the sky
 they sing sweet songs as I pass by.
 I hear them sing of God's great glory,
 telling me His whole life story.
 They tell me how He made the earth,
 of how much love this life can be worth.
 I hope I always hear them sing,
 I love the joy of God they bring.
 His love has freed us from all our sins,
 how next to Him a new life begins.
 Right next to God, I want to live,
 to Him my life, I want to give,
 so let those angels sing my way,
 to help me live a brighter day.
 When they fill my heart with songs,
 they lead me where my heart belongs,
 right back here where I'm walking by,
 to hear the angels way up in the sky.

Written and submitted by: Kenneth Wells, Jr.

Camp Meeting 2017

Pastor Perricellia had the honor of performing 5 Baptisms during this years camp meeting. Praise God for these souls and the many other baptisms that were performed by other Pastors today!



Left: Hannah Bergeon
 Right: Destyn Rueden



Left: Brent Tronchinski
 Center: Melvin Schmidt
 Right: Serena Tronchinski



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Almond's July Events

July 1 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 July 2 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 July 5 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages)
 July 7 Prayer Mtg. 7:00
 July 8 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 July 9 Church Breakfast/Devotion 9 AM
 July 9 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 July 12 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages)
 July 14 Prayer Mtg. 7:00
 July 15 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 July 16 Tubing Trip (Contact Mike Tess for more information)
 July 16 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 July 19 Business Meeting @ 6:00 pm
 July 19 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages)
 July 21 Prayer Mtg. 7:00
 July 22 Sabbath - Vegetarian Potluck
 July 23 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
 July 26 Community Bible Study 7:00 (Desire of Ages)
 July 28 Prayer Mtg. 7:00
 July 29 Sabbath - District Rally at Stevens Point
 July 30 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30

Important Dates

Sunday the 9th - Church Breakfast 9:00am
 Sunday the 16th - Tubing Trip
 July 19 Business Meeting @ 6:00 pm
 Sabbath the 29th- District Rally at Stevens Point 9:30am

Stevens Point's July Events

Sabbath, July 1st - 9:20 a.m. -	Sabbath services. Sabbath school at 9:20 a.m., Lesson Study is at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 10:50. The Elder is Lem Lowry, Beth Ruehl is leading the lesson, and Maria Frank will present the message.
Monday, July 3rd - 6:00p.m. -	Church Board meeting.
Tuesday, July 4th - 7:00p.m. -	Bible Study and Prayer meeting. Jasper is leading the discussion in the book of Revelation.
Thursday, July 6th - 7:00p.m. -	Community Bible Study in the fellowship room. Maria is leading the discussion.
Sabbath, July 8th - 9:20 a.m. -	Sabbath services. Sabbath school at 9:20 a.m., Lesson Study is at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 10:50. The church Leader is Doreen Lowry, Leroy Dissing will facilitate the lesson and Jasper St. Bernard will present the message.
Sunday, July 9th - 8:00 a.m. -	Work bee at church. There will be a breakfast pot luck so bring a breakfast item to share. We will be looking to take care of siding on the shed, washing windows, inside cleaning, weed pulls, which isn't at all like tractor pulls or horse pulls, and anything to make the place look nicer.
Tuesday, July 11th - 7:00p.m. -	Bible Study and Prayer meeting. Jasper is leading the discussion in the book of Revelation.

SCHEDULES, CONTINUED

(Schedules, Continued from page 10)

Stevens Point's July Events, Continued

Thursday, July 13th - 7:00p.m. -	Community Bible Study in the fellowship room. Maria is leading the discussion.
Sabbath, July 15th - 9:20 a.m. -	Sabbath services. Sabbath school at 9:20 a.m., Lesson Study is at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 10:50. The Elder is Darrell Brown, Harvey Churkey will facilitate the lesson and Marc Cephas will present the message.
Sunday, July 16th	Almond sponsored tubing trip. Contact Mike Tess for information
Tuesday, July 18th - 7:00p.m. -	Bible Study and Prayer meeting. Jasper is leading the discussion in the book of Revelation.
Thursday, July 20th - 7:00p.m. -	Community Bible Study in the fellowship room. Maria is leading the discussion.
Sabbath, July 22nd - 9:20 a.m. -	Sabbath services. Sabbath school at 9:20 a.m., Lesson Study is at 10:00 a.m., Worship at 10:50. The Elder is Harvey Churkey, Darrell Brown will facilitate the lesson and Pastor Perricellia will present the message.
Tuesday, July 25th - 7:00p.m. -	Bible Study and Prayer meeting. Jasper is leading the discussion in the book of Revelation.
Thursday, July 27th - 7:00p.m. -	Community Bible Study in the fellowship room. Maria is leading the discussion.
Sabbath, July 29th - 9:20 a.m. -	District Rally Sabbath services in Stevens Point

Wautoma Church Plant's July Events

7-1-17	Sabbath School and Church @ 10:00 am/11:00 am
7-2-17	Sunday Bible Study and pot luck at the Andersons @ 5:30 pm
7-6-17	Thursday Women's Group @ Andersons @ 10:00 am
7-8-17	Sabbath Sabbath School and Church @ 10:00 am/11:00 am
7-9-17	Sunday Bible Study and pot luck at the Andersons @ 5:30 pm
7-13-17	Thursday Women's Group @ Andersons @ 10:00 am
7-15-17	Sabbath School and Church @ 10:00 am/11:00 am
7-16-17	Almond Sponsored Tubing Trip (See Mike Tess for more information)
7-16-17	Sunday Bible Study and pot luck at the Anderson's @ 5:30 pm
7-20-17	Thursday Women's Group @ Andersons @ 10:00 am
7-22-17	Sabbath School and Church @ 10:00 am/11:00 am
7-23-17	Sunday Bible Study and pot luck at the Anderson's @ 5:30 pm
7-27-17	Thursday Women's Group @ Andersons @ 10:00 am
7-29-17	Sabbath School and Church @ 10:00 am/11:00 am
7-30-17	Sunday Bible Study and pot luck at the Anderson's @ 5:30 pm

WAUTOMA CHURCH PLANT

Greetings from Wautoma.

Hope you all attended Camp meeting and were blessed by the speakers.

By the time you receive this edition of Grace Notes, our new furnace should be installed and we will be getting ready to put up sheet rock, both upstairs and downstairs. We hope the church is complete by the end of summer so that we can proceed with evangelism and outreach to the souls in Wautoma.

God hasn't given up on Wautoma, so how can we?

Alan Anderson

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wisconsin Rapid's July Events

Sabbath School & Sabbath Services each Sabbath, beginning at 9:30. Potluck follows the worship service each week. We hope to see you there!

Bible study and prayer-Wednesday evenings at 6:30

Board meeting- July 10 at 6:30

Almond Sponsored Tubing Trip-July 16—Contact Mike Tess

Work bee - July 23 at 8:00

Finance committee meeting- July 24 at 6:00

District Rally - Being held at Stevens Point

Country life order due-July 12 by noon



Are You In Need of ?

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 those who have a use for them. May God Bless you for your generosity. If you have items to donate to someone, please let us know.

Let's think of it in this way, a way that could help everyone involved. Let's just imagine that you have an area of your home, basement, yard or garage that could really use some cleanup. Let's also suppose that someone would be willing to come over and lend a hand. This could be a ministry of the heart. You both get to spend time with a fellow Christian, helping each other, maybe giving thanks over a small meal and ideally you would find some things that are just no longer needed. We could then assist you by finding someone that needs those items that are just taking up space. It's not charity, it's people helping people. It's love!

Give us a call and we'll help you put together a team of Angels to work with you, for you or side by side together.
715-572-0650 or gracenotesnewsletter@yahoo.com

2017 Annual District Tubing Adventure

Where: Point Bluff Resort on the Wisconsin River

www.pointbluff.com

When: July 16, 2017

What to bring: Swimwear (Shorts, T-Shirts, Sandals), Sunblock, Towels, beach toys, lunch and drinks, dry clothes and/or anything else one might want to bring along. Remember that **glass is not allowed on the river!**

Cost: Tubes: \$21 per person

Canoes or Kayaks: \$35 each

Cooler Tubes: \$16 each - larger size fits several coolers

Length of trip: 3-4 hours by tube & 1.5 hours by canoe/kayak

We plan to arrive at Point Bluff Resort by 10:15 am, enough time to catch the 11:00 am shuttle bus to take us upriver.

Any questions: Call Michael Tess @ 715-570-2179

Following the tubing adventure, we will enjoy a get-together at Alan & Cheryl Anderson's. Come at 5 pm for a wonderful time of fellowship and great food. Please bring a dish to pass for a potluck style meal. Look forward to seeing you all there.

91.7 WRAO

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24/7 Gospel Ministry reaching those in need.



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www.WRAOChristianRadio.org

Finale and New Beginning
By Josh Jersek

We are doing well over here in Asia. We've had a whirlwind of activity these past two and a half weeks. On May 28th we loaded staff and students onto a bus and headed to India for a baptismal program. We had eighteen of our students get baptized from our two schools! Eight ladies from the women's ministries course in Nepal and eight men from the Men's seminary program in India. It was extra special for my family because Azaliah was one of the baptismal candidates! I had the blessing of being able to baptize my own daughter! It was a wonderful and joy-filled experience to be able to participate in!

We quickly followed the baptism program with the end of our six month women's ministries course. Graduation was scheduled just three days after the baptismal program on May 31st. We had a lot to accomplish before the graduation ceremony. We had to finish classes, make grade reports, and make certificates for the graduates. Emily along with Elishava, our faithful co-worker, made really beautiful color certificates, complete with lamination. Elishava drew a beautiful logo and Emily did all the computer work. In the end each student received one for tailoring and one for the class portion of the program. We had a great graduation ceremony and had a meal following it for all the guests

that came. After graduation we had another hurdle to surmount - closing up the school buildings for the next two months. We had to clean, organize, pack the foods to protect from rats, and put all valuable school resources into lockable rooms to protect from thieves. We had only the afternoon after the graduation to complete this because the next morning everyone would be leaving for their homes, staff and students alike. By the grace of God we pulled it off and even got our families personal belongings packed for our departure. The next morning we had a teary good bye as everyone departed. My family packed our many things and headed to India. We have come to

Darjeeling, India to help the local church and to learn more Nepali. The Lord blessed us with a Nepali speaking SDA family in the U.S. offering us their home to use here in Darjeeling. The house even has a western toilet and a washing machine. God is so loving! Now we are making new friends in the community.

In August we are to help teach for awhile with the men's seminary program and then, God willing, we'll be going to the States for nearly four months, mid-August to early December.

Please keep us in your prayers as we are here, that God would bless our efforts for the next two and a half months.

-Josh

Father Knows Best

Ok, you say, Father's Day is over so it's a little late to talk about fathers. But what I want to talk about is our Heavenly Father and how He knows best. I had a very nice conversation with Karen Ferguson during camp-meeting. Since we don't have a chance to talk much, it was a rare and welcome treat. In the course of the conversation, we talked about "morning people" and "night people". Karen touched on this some but I thought more about it later. God engineered us to be morning people. Until gas and then electric lights, we awoke with the sun and went to bed when it set.

That was the way God intended it. You never heard of Abraham burning the midnight oil. When we burn the candle at both ends, we feel like....well, a burned-out candle. God knew what He was doing when it came to rest and Father Knows Best.

We've all heard how the French government and some companies have tried to change the seven-day cycle, changing the work week to ten days or other alternatives. As we know, it never worked out the way they planned. People function better with six days working and resting one, then starting over again. God knew what He was doing when it came to our body clocks and Father Knows Best.

It's not surprising that those who eat a healthful, plant-based diet according to God's plan have more energy and rarely get sick. We may think we really want that donut, bag of potato chips or whatever, but after we've eaten it, how do we feel? Besides the guilt, our bodies feel badly, too. It's amazing how even the secular world today advocates eight hours rest and a diet with lots of fruits, vegetables, nuts and whole grains. Something that God has said all along. God knew what He was doing when it came to healthful eating and Father Knows Best.

A little apart from the subject but still in the same vein is what Doug Bruder spoke about in his sermon at Ste-

vens Point a few weeks ago. Doug reminded us how important our words are and how they can either uplift or damage. You know an article I write, seldom goes by that I'm not quoting from or recommending a book I've read. There's a book "The Forty-Day Word Fast: a Spiritual Journey to Eliminate Toxic Words from Your Life" by Tim Cameron. As soon as I saw it, I knew I needed it! The back cover of the book relates "At some point in your Christian walk you may have fasted from food, television or other things in order to refocus and rekindle your relationship with Christ. Fasting may even be a frequent part of your prayer life. But have you ever fasted from words? The truth is

(Continued on page 14)

GRACE NOTES

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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...



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!

Kenneth Wells Jr. #414034
Red Granite Correctional Institute
PO Box #925
Red Granite WI 54970-0925

Five-Finger Prayers

Prayer is a conversation with Go, not a formula. Yet sometimes we might need to use a "method" to freshen up our prayer time. We can pray the Psalms or other Scriptures (such as the Lord's Prayer), or use the CCTS method (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication). I recently came across this "Five-Finger Prayer" to use as a guide when praying for others.

- When you fold your hands, the thumb is nearest you. So begin by praying for those closest to you—your loved ones (Phil. 1:3-5)
- The index finger is the pointer. Pray for those who teach—Bible teachers and preachers, and those who teach children. (1 Thess. 5:25).
- The next finger is the tallest. It reminds you to pray for those in authority over you—national and local leaders, and your supervisor at work (1 Tim. 2:1-2).
- The fourth finger is usually the weakest. Pray for those who are in trouble or who are suffering (James 5:13-16).
- Then comes your little finger. It reminds you of your smallness in relation to God's greatness. Ask Him to supply your needs (Phil. 4:6, 19).

Whatever method you use, just talk with Your Father. He wants to hear what's on your heart. **It's not the words we pray, but the condition of our heart!**

Written by: Anne Cetas

Submitted by: Nona Schmidt

(Continued from page 13) Father...

that even if you consider yourself to be a positive person, you still use damaging words that plague your life and rob you of the spiritual growth you desire." The Depression Recovery course recommends you go thirty days avoiding negative speech. If you fail, you must start over. A lot harder to do

than it sounds; in fact, for me, it was impossible!!

We need to watch our words carefully for negativity, criticism, gossip, and complaining. It's part of God's plan for us. Paul said "Do everything without complaining and arguing" and "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to

Christ." We need to be more like Christ. I heard a speaker the other day say "Can you imagine going up to an angel in Heaven and saying 'What'd you mean by that??!!'" Think about it!! I've had this book for a long time but I need to read it again. I've had occasion to regret my words many, many, many times—sometimes, the words are

"only in jest" but it can be just as hurtful.

God wants us to be mindful of our words and to treat others with love and respect. God knew what He was doing when it came to loving our neighbor and being careful what we say and remember, Father Knows Best.

- Submitted by Koreen Boettcher