

# Almond SDA Messenger

A L M O N D S E V E N T H D A Y A D V E N T I S T M E S S E N G E R

## FROM THE HEART OF OUR PASTOR

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pastor's Heart
- Personal Testimony
- On the heart of our elder?
- Prayer for Unity
- Schedules and Announcements
- New Birth

Well November has arrived, and it has come in like a lamb. The question I keep asking myself is; "how long will this last", and will we pay for this mild weather later? Will November go out like a Lion? As we all look forward into the cold months of winter, let us all remember that some of the best opportunities to witness to the power of God are during the "Holiday Season".

In just a matter of days many will be gathering with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving. This is a wonderful occasion to share with others how truly thankful we are for some many blessings bestowed upon us by God Almighty. We have blessings of family, friends, and other loved ones in our lives. Blessings of time, talents and abilities. Blessings which are all around us all the time that perhaps we

become complacent and forget to express our thankfulness for. God please help us all be more thankful every day for the great blessing of your Son and His great sacrifice which brings salvation, restoration and eternal life.

The greatest blessing we should all be so eternally grateful for is that of Jesus



**Pastor Joseph**

Christ. However, there are many who sadly don't know the love of God or the blessing of having Jesus as their loving Savior. We have a tremendous opportunity especially at this

time of year to share that love with others. I pray that God will open the doors of the hearts of others to receive His Son, and that He would use each and every one of us to share Jesus with a world which so desperately needs Him.

May the God of Heaven and Earth richly bless each family and may we all find ways to express our thankfulness to our Creator for the greatest blessing He has ever bestowed upon mankind. Jesus Christ.

God bless you all.

Your fellow servant in Christ Jesus.  
Pastor Joseph Perricellia

Almond, Stevens Point, and Wisconsin Rapids SDA Churches

## PERSONAL TESTIMONY OF KAREN FERGUSON



*"I praise God that He is gracious, long suffering, and powerful!"*

I have had the great privilege of always knowing Jesus and His eternal love for me! This has not in any way lessened my need of a transforming Redeemer. To illustrate this, one time I was resentful of someone I felt was taking advantage of me and just rubbing me wrong. I prayed for a change of heart. Almost immediately I was given a new way to see that person and my resentment left. Now that is what I call a great miracle. It was great because I know how stubborn, unbending, and hard hearted I can be. I praise God that He is gracious,

longsuffering, and powerful, and that He is in the business of changing hearts. We serve an exceedingly merciful God who never gives up on us, and we can claim with assurance the promise,

***"Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me." Psalms 51:10 "***

Hallelujah What a Savior."

**ARE YOU FISHING OR CRUISING?**

Jesus calls us all to be **“fishers of men.”** That means that our churches should be like fishing boats or vessels. Is your church a fishing boat or a luxury liner?

Please ponder these words by Ellen White:

The worth of a soul cannot be fully estimated by finite minds. How gratefully will the ransomed and glorified ones remember those who were instrumental in their salvation! No one will then regret his self-denying efforts and persevering labors, his patience, forbearance, and earnest heart yearnings for souls that might have been lost had he neglected his duty or become weary in well-doing. {Mar 330.4}

What is done through the cooperation of men with God is a work that shall never perish, but endure through the eternal ages. {Mar 330.6}

Let us do God’s work of leading souls to immortality and receive the soul winner’s reward!

Amen

*Submitted by Maria Frank*



Eric Anderson

**“THE SIN OF LYING”**

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following week, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up.

The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

**C H R I S T I A N P E R S E C U T I O N**

( Submitted by Eric Anderson )

Persecution of Christian is rampant in several areas of the world. Christians are losing their homes, family members and even being killed for their faith on a daily basis in the worst areas. Here at home, it is becoming increasingly difficult to share our faith. Prophecy says all this has to happen before the great day of the Lord. Wars will increase in their severity, families will turn on each other and long time loving relationships will turn bitterly cold (Matthew 24). With the time of trouble such as we have never seen approaching (Daniel 12), we need the stability and steadfastness of God for support. We must stay close to Jesus, because He is the only way we will make it through the soon coming crisis about to swallow the whole world. While reflecting on the recent terror events in

Europe I read this beautiful Psalm and saw new hope in it that I had never seen before.

Psalm 67 from the NASB

**1. God be gracious to us and bless us,**

*And cause His face to shine upon us—*

**2. That Your way may be known on the earth,**

*Your salvation among all nations.*

**3. Let the peoples praise You, O God;**

*Let all the peoples praise You.*

**4. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy;**

*For You will judge the peoples with uprightness*

*And guide the nations on the earth. Selah.*

**5. Let the peoples praise You, O God;**

*Let all the peoples praise You.*

**6. The earth has yielded its produce;**

*God, our God, blesses us.*

**7. God blesses us,**  
*That all the ends of the earth may fear Him.*

After reading this psalm I had to ask myself some hard questions. Can I pray this Psalm, even in bitter persecution? Even when I feel Discouraged? Even when the devil seems to have the victory? When there is bloodshed? When there is betrayal? When everyone I know and love are gone, can I still say this prayer?

1. Help me to walk in your way. Help me to see your path, even when death looms near.

2. You are the only salvation we have. You are the only path through the devastation of sin.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## **COUNTRY LIFE NATURAL FOOD ORDERS**

Country Life Natural Foods, a division of Oak Haven, Inc., is a wholesale and retail distributor of natural, organic and vegetarian foods as well as a resource for physical and spiritual health. Orders are coordinated through Pam and Dean Thomas. Minimum orders are \$400 with free delivery. Order deadlines are noon on the following days in 2015:

- December 16

Delivery and pickup is the following week, with pickup coordinated with Dean or Pam. The 2016 order and delivery schedule for 2016 will be released in December.

If interested in ordering, contact Dean @ 715-644-8183 or Pam @ 715-644-8399 or email

[sdafmly@gmail.com](mailto:sdafmly@gmail.com)

For more information on Country Life Natural Foods, visit: [www.CLNF.org](http://www.CLNF.org)

## **Why do we pray for Church Unity**

Submitted by: Ken Wilson

We have the most wonderful time praying about church unity. This will be largely based on Ephesians 4. It has to do with the simple things, but very solid doctrine about the Church. Listen closely to Paul's opening statement. The first of these are humility:

*1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Eph. 4:1-3)*

This humility is and has been, that which is required for praying for the Church. I have learned that when one prays, one must be meek:

*8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Mic.6:8)*

It is proof of righteousness in plain sight of man's propensity to be humble.

*1 "The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. 2 And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. (Deut. 8:1-2)*

God is so great that He had mercy on those who had chosen to follow Him through the dessert. He knew it would require much to be able to give His only son for them. The blessings from the Lord are able to be multiplied and focused on a person until one is perfected. The benefits of following humility are numerous:

*29 For when they are humbled you say, 'It is because of pride'; but he saves the lowly. (Job 22:29)*

Job is the most careful of the prophets and Matthew says:

*"But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant." (Mat. 23:11)*

This is repeated throughout the New Testament, in Luk 14:11, Jam 4:6, 1Pet 5:5 to name a few. The Old Testament has many references which relate the reader to humility, but by far the most clear on the Church is by Isaiah:

*15 For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite. 16 For I will not contend forever, nor will I always be angry; for the spirit would grow faint before me, and the breath of life that I made. 17 Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry, I struck him; I hid my face and was angry, but he went on backsliding in the way of his own heart. 18 I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners, 19 creating the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to the far and to the near," says the Lord, "and I will heal him. 20 But the wicked are like the tossing sea; for it cannot be quiet, and its waters toss up mire and dirt. 21 There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked." (Isa 57:15-21)*

*It says it all about praying for Church unity in his time, and for us.*

## 91.7 WRAO RADIO

*24/7 Gospel Ministry reaching those in need.*

It's close now...Since the last update we have made big strides in becoming a full power station. We have started the change in our programming by going from Radio 74 to 3ABN. We will broadcast only 3ABN for a while why we determine where some of Radio 74's programming would fit best. We are also planning on doing some local programming as we progress. Along with the programming change, we also started the tower construction. We were hoping to have it done by the 20th of this month but the rains and high winds caused problems. Because of the weather and the Thanksgiving holiday coming up, we will need to adjust our projected tower completion date to the end of the first week in December. While this delay is disappointing we are very close to full power and before you know it we will have WRAO spreading the truth to much of Central Wisconsin. We continue to ask for your support with prayers and helping with the operational costs as we are now going into a whole new radio experience with the Lord!



Visit us on the web at:

[www.WRAOChristianRadio.org](http://www.WRAOChristianRadio.org)



*(Christian Persecution-Continued from page 2)*

3. I praise you Lord, even when surrounded by enemies. Let your light shine forth before them.
4. Thank you for being so fair with us. You are a perfect and just judge. Praise the Lord that sin does have a limit, that sin will have an end.
5. Lift up the trumpet and give forth a certain sound, in faith, praising our God.
6. You will see us through, even when we have nothing. Whenever we suffer pain or want, it is only temporary. The pain will only last a short time while we are here on this earth because soon Jesus will come and put an end to pain tears and death (Revelation 21:4).
7. God is ALL Powerful. He rules all.

God is Love.

(Submitted by Elder Eric Anderson - Almond Church)

### Church Plant Meeting

**Where we are:** The Wautoma church planting meetings are continuing on schedule. We are finalizing a location for where the church will be meeting. During the meetings, we have looked at some of the demographics of the city to help point out where our ministry focus should be. We discovered that Wautoma specifically, and Waushara county as a whole is a lower income area with a growing Hispanic community. The city also has a large percentage of the population made up of young families. This is good to know because these are exactly the kind of people the current Wautoma Seventh-Day-Adventist Community Center serves. The Community Center is a ministry that has been in operation in Wautoma for generations and provides very inexpensive clothing and other household goods to the community at a very low price in hopes of helping families in need.

**Where we hope to be soon:** The Wautoma Seventh-Day-Adventist Community Center has been running for years but the building needs some improvements. It is my hope that as our small group of worshipers begins to meet somewhere in Wautoma, we can begin fixing up the Community Center building and make it a beacon of light in the city for Jesus.

We are still in the beginning stages of planting but Wautoma already has seen people going door-to-door making friends in the community. Prayer is the primary thing that we need. We need all the prayer that we can get. As we look to the future, it is the Lord that will provide. It is the Lord that will bring souls to salvation. We all need to be willing to move when Jesus comes calling our name. Our meetings are scheduled to move to Wautoma in January.

### How to get into heaven

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, 'How do you expect to get into Heaven?' The boy thought it over and said, 'Well, I'll run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake, Jimmy, come in or stay out!'

## WISCONSIN RAPIDS CHURCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



### SCHEDULE

Dec 1 Radio Committee meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
 Dec 2 Bible study, 6:30 p.m.  
 Dec 5 Our Home a Witness study, 2:00 p.m.  
 Dec 7 Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
 Dec 9 Bible study, 6:30 p.m.  
**Dec 12 Elder Fox (Presents a message on reaching out to the community)**  
 Dec 12 Pathfinder/Adventurer meetings  
 Dec 16 Bible study, 6:30 p.m.  
 Dec 19 Our Home a Witness study, 2:00 p.m.  
 Dec 30 Bible study, 6:30 p.m.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Pathfinder Bible Experience – January 30**

- Potluck each Sabbath-Please join us
- Bible study each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
- Pathfinder and Adventurer meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sabbaths
- “Our Home a Witness Study”, 1st & 3rd Sabbath Afternoon

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Adventurers and Pathfinders** will be caroling in the area and passing out hand-made cards on Sabbath, December 12<sup>th</sup>. They will close out the Sabbath with Vespers and an evening meal. All are welcome to join in!  
**Wisconsin Rapids' Adventurer's and Pathfinder's Clubs** meet at 2:00 on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sabbaths each month.  
**How would you like your home to be a witness?** Please join us next Sabbath at 2:00 as we study topics to learn how to be a witness for the Gospel in our homes. Contact Andrea Hamilton or Natalie St. Bernard with questions.  
**Food Drive:** We are collecting non-perishable food items for our fall/winter food drive.  
**Did you know we have an emergency food pantry and clothing supply for those in need?** If you know of a person or family in need, contact Joe Ann Cephas (Community Service) or Trudy Stephenson (Head Deaconess). We would like to help.

Visit us on the web at "<http://www.wrsdachurch.org>"

## STEVENS POINT CHURCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



### SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Dec 1st – 7:00p.m.	Prayer meeting and lesson study at church.
Wednesday, Dec 2nd – 12:15 – 1:00p.m.	Conference telephone prayer call, Call 1-805-309-2350, access number 5853 - 1022#
Sabbath, Dec 5th – 9:20 a.m.	Church services. The Elder is Lem Lowry, message given by Bart Kuhlmann.
Sabbath, Dec 5th – around 2:00 p.m.	We will have a prayer meeting in the Sanctuary.
Sabbath Evening, Dec 5th – 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Gym Night at Goerke Park Gym, corner of Sims & Michigan Avenue in Stevens Point. Athletic shoes only please, no street shoes.
Tuesday, Dec 8th – 7:00p.m.	Prayer meeting and lesson study at church.
Wednesday, December 9th – 4:30 p.m.	Holiday Quilting in the fellowship room. Yield for the reindeer!
Sabbath, Dec 12th – 9:20 a.m.	Church services. The Church Leader is Doreen Lowry, message given by Doreen.
Tuesday, Dec 15th – 7:00p.m.	Prayer meeting and lesson study at church.
Sabbath, Dec 19th – 9:20 a.m.	Church services. The Elder is Darrell Brown, message given by Darrell.
Tuesday, Dec 22nd – 7:00p.m.	Prayer meeting and lesson study at church.
Sabbath, Dec 26th – 9:20 a.m.	Church services. The Elder is Harvey Churkey, message given by Samuel Lopez.
Tuesday, Dec 29th – 7:00p.m.	Prayer meeting and lesson study at church.

Prayer Meeting every Thursday @ 6:45 p.m. Come and join us!

Visit us on the web at "<http://stevenspoint22.adventistchurchconnect.org>"

ALMOND SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST MESSENGER



**Editor:** Rick Felts  
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**Editorial Coordinators:** Pam Thomas, Kevin Ruehl, Maria Frank.

If you would like to become a part of this publication, we would be honored to have your help. Please contact us...  
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**Mission Statement:** To share the good news of Jesus Christ through our testimonies and through open communications, spreading our love so that people everywhere will be ready for the soon coming of Jesus.

**Vision Statement:** To bring the churches of our small district together as one, by openly sharing communications and enjoying significant relationships among the churches and then sharing this love throughout the community.

The Helper

A pastor is walking down the street one day when he notices a very small boy trying to press a doorbell on a house across the street. However, the boy is very small and the doorbell is too high for him to reach.

After watching the boy's efforts for some time, the pastor moves closer to the boy's position. He steps smartly across the street, walks up behind the little fellow and, placing his hand kindly on the child's shoulder leans over and gives the doorbell a solid ring.

Crouching down to the child's level, the pastor smiles benevolently and asks, "And now what, my little man?" To which the boy replies, "Now we run!"

**Birth Announcement**



William Leif Anderson

Eric and Carrie Anderson were blessed with the birth of their first child. William Leif Anderson, was born on November 23rd, at 12:34 PM. William weighed in 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20" long. Mother and baby are doing fine, so is the proud father!

**Almond Church November Events**

(Look for our new website, coming soon!)



- Dec. 2 Community Bible Study (Great Controversy) 7:00
- Dec. 4 Prayer Mtg. (Unity) 7:00
- Dec. 5 Sabbath—Vegetarian Potluck after (Msg. by Matt R.)
- Dec. 5 Church Plant Mtg. 3:30
- Dec. 6 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
- Dec. 9 Community Bible Study (Great Controversy) 7:00
- Dec. 11 Prayer Mtg. (Unity) 7:00
- Dec. 12 Sabbath—Vegetarian Potluck after (Msg. by Bill B.)
- Dec. 12 Church Plant Mtg. 3:30
- Dec. 13 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
- Dec. 16 Community Bible Study (Great Controversy) 7:00
- Dec. 18 Prayer Mtg. (Unity) 7:00
- Dec. 19 Sabbath—Vegetarian Potluck after (Msg. by Pastor Joseph)
- Dec. 19 Church Plant Mtg. 3:30
- Dec. 20 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
- Dec. 23 Community Bible Study (Great Controversy) 7:00
- Dec. 25 Prayer Mtg. (Unity) 7:00
- Dec. 26 Sabbath—Vegetarian Potluck after (Christmas Program)
- Dec. 26 Church Plant Mtg. 3:30
- Dec. 27 Bible Study (Anderson Home) 5:30
- Dec. 30 Community Bible Study (Great Controversy) 7:00

**Community Bible Study - Wednesday 7PM**

We are currently studying The Great Controversy by Ellen G. White

**Unity Prayer Meeting - Friday 7PM**

"Christ is leading out a people, and bringing them into the unity of faith, that they may be one, as He is one with the Father." EGW, Testimonies for the Church, v1, p324, p1

**Bible Study - Anderson Home - Sunday 5:30PM**

This study begins with fellowship and potluck before we dive into the book of John for an in depth study.

**Hymn Melodies**

The melody of hymn 348 ("The Church Has One Foundation") can be used for the following hymns: 219, 244, 351, 383 and 638. All the words of these hymns are beautiful and great to sing with this melody. For Sabbath, you can sing hymn 668 to the melody of "Abide with me." That's really a nice one to sing too! These songs are very uplifting and praising God.

(Contributed by Nona Schmidt)

**PRAYER**

The worlds greatest wireless connection



LIVE SIMPLY  
 LOVE GENEROUSLY  
 SERVE FAITHFULLY  
 SPEAK TRUTHFULLY  
 PRAY DAILY

*"Leave everything else to God"*