

JANUARY 2024



Wake Up, Don't Sleep

BY ELAINE PINNT

The world is as much opposed to genuine religion today as it ever has been. The spirit of persecution will be aroused against the faithful ones, who make no concessions to the world, and will not be swayed by its opinions, its favors, or its opposition. We are living in the most solemn period of the world's history. The destiny of earth's teeming multitudes is about to be decided. Our future well-being and also the salvation of other souls depend upon the course which we now pursue. We need to be guided by the Spirit of Truth. Every

follower of Christ should earnestly inquire, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?"

We need to humble ourselves before the Lord, with fasting and prayer, and to meditate upon His word, especially upon the scenes of the judgement. We should now seek a deep and living experience in the things of God. We have not a moment to lose. Events of vital importance are taking place all around us: We are on Satan's enchanted ground. Sleep not, sentinels of God. The foe is lurking near, ready at any moment, should you become drowsy, to spring upon you and make you his prey.

Satan's plan for ensnaring the last generation: 1. Satan deceives through the science of the human mind. 2. Satan deceives through the tongues

**Rapid City Seventh-day
Adventist Church**
1636 Concourse Court
Rapid City, SD 57703

Email: rapidsda@gmail.com
Phone: 605-343-7369

Saturday Morning Services
Sabbath School: 9:45 am
Worship Service: 10:45 am

JANUARY SPEAKERS

January 6 - Communion
January 13 - Pastor Brian
January 20 - Pastor Brian
January 27 - Pastor Brian

movement. 3. Satan's plan against the testimonies. 4. Satan's plan for labor unions. 5. Satan's strategy against Sabbath keepers. 6. Satan's valuable tools: the television, the phone, the computer. 7. Satan's masterpiece of deception: spiritualism. 8. Satan's crowning act in the drama of deception. God offers protection from Satan's deceptions to all who choose it.

We should heed the Three Angels' Message: "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters. And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever, and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus (Revelation 14:6-12).

The Bible has some sobering things to say about the subject of lingering over the call of God. King Agrippa was

deeply convicted as he listened to Paul's testimony about Christ. He cried out, "Almost thou persuades me to be a Christian," (Acts 26:28). What a tragedy that, with all the trembling and conviction, that King Agrippa actually moved to obey what he knew to be right. "Almost" is not enough.

Men and women do the same thing today. They wait for more convenient circumstances, a different job, retirement, or financial security. They make promises to themselves and others that they will surrender to Christ and obey the truth just as soon as the time is right. But somebody else (Satan) hears these promises and he immediately begins to manipulate events that will make the right moment impossible. No wonder the Bible declares that now is the accepted time. "Behold, now is the day of salvation," (2 Corinthians 6:2).

Time is now, my friend. The door is still open and its only one small step inside. Why not settle the uncertainty this very moment? Christ is waiting for you to surrender your will and say "yes" to your loving Savior, who longs to give you His peace and assurance. God bless you one and all. God is waiting for your answer. I wish you all a very blessed New Year, one filled with Christ as your Savior.

Peace and blessings.



Women's Ministry Cookie Exchange

"Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God"

ROMANS 14:10

January Birthdays

- 1 - Hines, Arlene
- 2 - Ferguson, Melinda
- 3 - Krebs, Don
- 6 - Lopez, Eva
- 15 - Larson, Rebekah
- 16 - Kunishige, Aki
- 23 - Aldrich, Derek
- 24 - Bender, Carson
- 24 - Williamson, Jen
- 25 - Bissenden, Lorene
- 31 - Rice, Tamie
- 31 - White Bear Claws, Nicole

"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these."

-Corrie Ten Boom

The Pastor's Corner

BY PASTOR BRIAN MUNGANDI

Dear church member,

If you have been sensitive to the divine energy in our congregation, then certainly you have noticed the Rapid City Seventh day Adventist Church energy is shifting and intensifying. I am sensing that God is beginning to build a people of power and a people of praise. I am thinking that in 2024, God will have a people in this church moved by the power of His Spirit, as witnesses throughout this city. Church, I think God is wanting us to do something in this city, that will glorify His precious Name.

Well, I will be the first one to admit, I am not able to predict the future, but this one thing I can say, if we align ourselves with God's Holy Spirit then I am certain will be able to experience individually and collectively the power of the Holy Spirit in this church. God will make us strong; he will join us to his Son, Jesus Christ. We will be a one people, in one accord, from all nations in God's kingdom.

As we launch our revitalization initiatives, we are calling on you all to be engage in the church life, in our commitment to a life of evangelism in our Conference, regions, communities, city, and families.



The World church has put together reading material for a ten-days prayer, January 10-20, 2024. You will find the material in the link below; you can read them for family worship or group worship but please get involved. . . <https://www.tendaysofprayer.org>

I ask, if you are a departmental leader, with our children, young people, family ministry, young adults, couples, singles, let's all engage in the ten-days of prayer to jumpstart our involvement in the mission that will see God's kingdom growing, discipling others for Jesus and preparing for His soon coming.

Following our visioning framework, my hope is to see many members of this church participating in personal outreach initiatives with the goal of more member involvement in God's missions and spreading the gospel message. I want to ask you to personally be involved in our worship ministry, let's build loving relationships with people.

Faithfully,

Your pastor

Kids Church

Pictures from Kids Church this past December. We were all indeed blessed to see our young people leading out in ministry!



Pictures from our annual Christmas party and gingerbread competition

Get To Know Your Students

We are proud of our students and teachers. Throughout the year, we would like to introduce you to our church school kids to learn a bit more about them and to learn what keeps our kids, and our school, ticking!



Jacob – 6th Grade

Birthday: July 3

Favorite Activities: Sleeping, Hanging out with friends, Playing with dogs

Favorite Snack: Popcorn

Favorite Book: “Ohio”

Favorite Subject: Science

Favorite Summer Memory: My favorite memory was when I went to Fuji with my dad and got 7 bars of sushi.



Odin – 6th Grade

Birthday: June 29

Favorite Activities: Biking, Playing video games, Playing sports

Favorite Color: Red

Favorite Book: Fever

Favorite Subject: Social Studies

Favorite Summer Memory: My favorite memory was my birthday.



Tucker – 1st Grade

Birthday: August 2

Favorite Activities: Recess, Hide and seek, Playing tag

Favorite Song: Believers

Favorite Snack: Lunchables

Favorite Book: Star Wars books

Favorite Subject: Recess

Favorite Summer Memory: My favorite memory was my birthday.

Pictures from the school Christmas program, “Stolen Christmas”



Baptisms

This past month we witnessed the blessing of having 4 individuals baptized into the family of God! We are so excited that they have made the public decision to follow Christ and we embrace them as our brothers and sister in Christ!



New Members:
Amber Dalton, Emmett Giersberg,
Daniel Dant, Timothy Frohme

ACS Report

BY ANN HANEL

It has been an interesting and productive year. After many meetings, in person and over Zoom, I have begun to weed out the ones that are no longer relevant to us anymore and focus on the important ones and that information. I have become very active with SDVOAD (South Dakota Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster) and I have had in person meetings with the Emergency Managers in our state and county. There have been many meetings with the NAD (North American Division) for ACS/Disaster Response and FEMA over Zoom. Pastor Bob Forbes and I have been attending more of these meeting together and introducing ourselves to the new emergency managers in different counties. Pastor Bob has also been participating on the phone for all of the meetings. There have been quite a few disasters over this past year that we have been following and briefed on. The latest one now is in California with the flooding and mudslides and much of the west coast is affected.

The Food Pantry had been busy this past year as we had 112 visits for 84 families. I also looked over the number from 2018-2023 and we have had 851 visits for 424 families. We have had many referrals and have helped with bus tickets for one individual, tires for another. We have helped with personal care supplies, cleaning supplies. We have had donations of food, bibles, clothes books, etc. We have partners that we refer clients to, and they refer clients to us.

On the first Wednesday of every month a group of us help prepare and serve haystacks, bread and butter, and cookies to those who come to the Cornerstone Rescue Mission. This last time we had almost 120 come through the line and many had seconds. We have a time for music, devotional and we give out bibles to those who would like one. If anyone is interested in helping, contact Ann Hanel for more information.

Beginning this month, I would like to start a series of articles on Adventist Community Services, Disaster Response, ADRA, and Dorcas. Not all are familiar with the different ones and the more I look into them the more interesting things I find out about them. My hope is that by writing about these that I spark some interest and some new ideas on how to get our church passionate about community service and personal ministries again. We do have things that people are doing but I am looking at the small groups for example, Sabbath School classes doing projects for outreach and inspiring others to do the same. All that we do is in the name of Jesus Christ and discipling his people. This can be a great fellowship opportunity as well.

Here is a brief introduction to ACS and ADRA to start with:

This is the Mission of Adventist Community Services

Adventist Community Services is the official community outreach ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist church in the North American Division territories which comprises of North America, Guam and Micronesia, and Bermuda. ACS serves the whole person, a concept known as holistic ministry whose mission is to “serve communities in Christ’s name.”

ADRA – Adventist Development and Relief Agency

We are the global humanitarian arm of the Seventh-day Adventist Church —part of the 21.9-million strong Adventist community, with hundreds of thousands of churches globally and the world’s largest integrated healthcare and education network. We deliver relief and development assistance to individuals in more than 120 countries—regardless of their ethnicity, political affiliation, gender, or religious association. By partnering with local communities, organizations, and governments, we are able to deliver culturally relevant programs and build local capability for sustainable change.

For more church info, recorded services, or to access prior newsletters and bulletins, visit www.rapidcitysd.adventistchurch.org

Got something newsworthy? Send an email to:
Stephen Wasemiller
sewasemiller@hotmail.com

