Williamsport, PA Seventh-Day Adventist Church

November 2023



Williamsport SDA and MVCS connections



Oh, so close! Much progress has been made since our last building project update. Much of the floor epoxy coating is done. All of the sheet-rock is hung. Almost all the walls are taped and ready for the initial painting. The stone work is complete as far as it can be until the wood ceiling is installed. The wood for the ceiling has been delivered. PP&L has installed the 3 phase electrical power. Our water supply is now connected and the sewage line is being installed. In short, we are almost there.





Contacts:

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Church phone # 570-323-4230

Recurring happenings:

- Sabbath School for all ages each Sabbath at 9:30 AM (church)
- Worship services each Sabbath at 11:00 AM (church)
- Fellowship meal—2nd Sabbath of each month after the worship service .
- Pathfinders each Wednesday from 6-8 PM at MVCS
- Prayer meeting Wednesdays at 6:30 PM Rich & Joan Fulmer's

Pathfinders Corner

The Williamsport Bald Eagles participated in the Pennsylvania conference Pathfinders fall camporee. Almost all of the PA clubs were present and around 350 individuals attended. Even though there were some rain showers, it was a fun filled weekend with multiple worship services, honors, and good times with friends!







The Pathfinder club meets every other Wednesday from 6pm-8pm at MVCS.











Pennsylvania Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Our Pennsylvania Conference 2023 Constituency Session was a great morning of praising God for the incredible ways He has blessed us over the last five years. Our membership has grown to more than 13,680 members as we welcome an average of 500 new believers--many from the 100 or more evangelistic events--each year. Delegates to the session re-elected our officers, President Gary Gibbs, Executive Secretary Shawn Shives, and Treasurer Kevin Costello. A shoutout to Columbia Union President Dave Weigley and Treasurer Emmanuel Asiedu, and North American Division Vice President Rick Remmers who joined us and participated in the meeting. Thank you to all of the delegates who served the church by attending and voting--helping to take the next step in the work here in Pennsylvania. God has moved in powerful ways, and we are excited to see what He does in the next quinquennium!

Constituents from Williamsport SDA church this year were: Joan Fulmer, Rich Fulmer, Dale Walker, John Perrotto, Pastor Roy Weeden and Paula Wolf (alternate).







Principal's Corner Mr. Dale Walker

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise. (Psalm 100:4)

At MVCS, we encourage a perspective of gratitude and gladitude. There are so many benefits of choosing this approach to life. Gratitude improves physical health. Grateful people experience less aches and pains. Gratitude reduces depression and increases

happiness. Grateful people have healthier relationships with other people. They experience more sensitivity and greater empathy. Keeping a gratitude journal improves one's sleep patterns. Practicing the lifestyle of gratitude and gladitude reduces stress and fosters resilience during life's more challenging events. The next portion of this article will be a "guest editorial" as the students share that which makes them grateful. Two themes you will notice is that the students are grateful for their family and homes and they appreciate being at MVCS.

Myla is thankful for her dad and her mom, for Ms. Stoica, and for flowers.

Carson is grateful for his family, including his mommy, daddy, and grandparents. **Jaide** has two people in particular with whom she enjoys spending time. She likes snuggling with her mommy and learning from Ms. Stoica.

Sage is happy when she is helping people or playing with others. She is thankful when she can be outside.

Jahqwil appreciates his mommy (who is great) and his teacher (who is nice). He likes when he has green days at school. How many of you remember days of red (a not-so-good day), yellow (an average day), and green (a good day)?

Aralynn is grateful for her mommy, daddy, and brother.

Joseph is thankful for his dad and his mom and for his kitten.

Serenity appreciates her family which includes Daddy, Pappy, and Mom. She also enjoys Huskies.

Jax is grateful for free choice center time, brain breaks that Ms. Stoica builds into the day, and for lunch.

Kalon's list of favorite blessings includes life, family, forgiveness, and God.

Mayvin is thankful for his family (Mom, Dad, brother, sister), for his friends, and for his teacher.

Ricky is grateful for family and friends. He is also happy to be able to wake up each new morning.

Carmine appreciates his family and his pets. He praises God for the gift of salvation.

There you have it. What a delightful list of benefits and blessings God places in our

lives! Thanksgiving is a way of life that honors God, improves one's perspective, and provides an avenue for experiencing the abundant life God offers each of us. God bless each of you. Happy Thanksgiving from our Mountain View Christian School family to each of your families. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits. (Psalm 103:2)



Fire Safety Day









Teacher Feature!

Susan Gonczi Stoica was born into a Hungarian household where she learned to speak English as a second language. She grew up in Perth Amboy, NJ and attended the Perth Amboy Hungarian SDA Church. Her great grandmother's Sunday visits to Time's Square in Manhattan to hand out literature and sell apples and pears from her yard to buy more literature to give away has inspired Susan to one day do mission work.

After attending public school from K-8, she looked forward to becoming a student at Garden State Academy from which she graduated four years later. Then she graduated from Southern Adventist University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. From there she joined Adventist Frontier Missions as a volunteer missionary in Papua, New Guinea for two years teaching the Kent and Lackey missionaries' children while serving the needs of the Iwa tribe along the May River.

Once she returned from the mission field, Susan accepted the position of teaching 5th and 6th grades in Queens, NY at Jackson Heights SDA School and remained there for six years. On September 11, 2001 she watched the North Tower of the World Trade Center collapse and disappear in the city skyline from her classroom window.

After a double wedding with her brother and his bride in 2000, she was blessed with a son, Theodore, and then a daughter, Elizabeth. She returned to NJ to teach various grades at Lake Nelson Adventist Academy over a period of 18 years. Just before COVID she accepted a call to teach at Mountain View Christian School. This is her 4th year teaching at MVCS and her 1st year teaching K-2. She currently represents MVCS as representative for the Williamsport/Lycoming the Chamber of Commerce, facilitates an educator's support group for the PA Conference of SDA's and has recently accepted being a member of the PA Conference Board of Education.





Some of Susan's tasks:

- Teaches grades K-2
- Handles almost all MVCS Facebook posts
- Tells creative and fun children's stories in Williamsport church
- Represents MVCS at WLCC networking events to promote the school and it's mission.



Follow us on Facebook!

My wonderful body:



The Dangers of Glyphosate and the Importance of Choosing Organic Plant-Based Food.

Glyphosate, a widely used herbicide, has become a subject of growing concern in recent years due to its potential health and environmental risks. This chemical, commonly known as the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup is used in agriculture to control weeds and is also found in some non-organic food products. Understanding the dangers of glyphosate and the importance of choosing organic plant-based food is crucial for maintaining our well-being and safeguarding the planet.

Glyphosate, when applied in large quantities, can persist in soil and water, leading to harmful consequences for ecosystems. Runoff from fields treated with glyphosate can contaminate nearby water sources, posing threats to aquatic life. Additionally, the chemical can potentially harm non-target plants and disrupt the balance of local ecosystems.

However, the primary concern about glyphosate revolves around its potential impact on human health. Several studies have raised questions about the safety of glyphosate exposure. The World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified glyphosate as a probable human carcinogen. Though there is ongoing debate and further research is needed, the uncertainty surrounding glyphosate's safety is a significant reason to exercise caution.

Choosing organic plant-based food is a proactive step in reducing exposure to glyphosate and other synthetic chemicals. Organic farming practices prohibit the use of synthetic pesticides and herbicides, including glyphosate. When you opt for organic produce, you are reducing your risk of ingesting residues of these chemicals, which can accumulate in your body over time.

The Environmental Working Group (EWG) annually releases a list of 12 fruits and vegetables that have the highest level of pesticide residue. The EWG calls this list the "Dirty Dozen". For 2023 the following foods that make the dirty list are: #1 strawberries #2 spinach #3 kale #4 peaches #5 pairs #6 nectarines #7 apples #8 grapes #9 bell peppers #10 cherries #11 blueberries #12 green beans.

Even after washing these non-organic fruits and vegetables they contained nearly 75% residue pesticides.

How about the 15 clean produce? You will notice that most of the 2023 cleanest produce has a tough outer peel, house, or shell that is removed prior to eating which make sense. This list includes: #1 avocados #2 sweet corn #3 pineapple #4 onions #5 papaya #6 sweet peas #7 asparagus #8 honeydew #9 kiwi #10 cabbage #11 mushrooms #12 mangoes #13 sweet potato #14 watermelon #15 carrots. Almost 65% of these fruits and vegetables on the clean list have no detectable pesticide residues. While it is nearly impossible to avoid harmful pesticide residues which certainly can make better choices to guard our health.

Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. These beliefs constitute the church's understanding and expression of the teaching of Scripture. In this issue of our newsletter, we'll look at the doctrine of:



CREATION

God has revealed in Scripture the authentic and historical account of His creative activity. He created the universe, and in a recent six-day creation the Lord made "the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them" and rested on the seventh day. Thus, He established the Sabbath as a perpetual memorial of the work He performed and completed during six literal days that together with the Sabbath constituted the same unit of time that we call a week today. The first man and woman were made in the image of God as the crowning work of Creation, given dominion over the world, and charged with responsibility to care for it. When the world was finished it was "very good," declaring the glory of God. (Gen. 1-2; 5; 11;

(cont. from previous page)

Exod. 20:8-11; Ps. 19:1-6; 33:6, 9; 104; Isa. 45:12, 18; Acts 17:24; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2; 11:3; Rev. 10:6; 14:7.)

Genesis tells us the story of the 6-day creation week, followed by the first Sabbath. God's relational love is introduced right away as he creates a perfect world, then personally forms the first two human beings to populate this planet.

Seventh-Day Adventists hold to this creation account in Genesis and the idea of intelligent, loving design. The attention, foresight, and tender care God displays in this process inspires us to live grateful lives to honor our Creator.

The Bible's account of God creating the earth is more than just a documentation of the earth's divine beginnings. It tells us who we are, where we came from, and what amazing things God has planned for humanity.

When God created the universe, He did so with care and forethought. The order in which God created earth and all its inhabitants shows his masterful design.

THE GENESIS CREATION STORY SUPPORTS THE PROCESS OF LIVING THINGS

First, God made sure there was water and sky (atmosphere), then separated it out to reveal dry land. On the land, He created plants of all kinds that supported an oxygen-rich atmosphere.

After this, He created lights in the sky that supported the growth of the plant life. With dry land, water, plants, and heavenly lights created, God filled the sky with birds. He filled the waters with fish and sea creatures. The land He filled with roaming animals, including humankind.

The entire week of creation, God made spaces and then He filled them according to His divine plan. Each built upon the other until finished. When it was done, He rested.

Not only did God "rest" on the seventh day, but He set this day aside for rest. He made it holy and blessed it and commanded His living creation to rest as well.

The fourth commandment (Exodus 20:8-11) instructs mankind to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. That remembrance is talking about the culmination of this very week of creation, when God made time to enjoy this world with the human race He created.

Because the heavens and earth were finished, God paused. He asks us to pause with Hime each week, as a reminder that He is our Creator, and this world was given to us to live in and help take care of.

We owe our very being to Him, and by spending time appreciating His creation, we honor Him and grow closer to Him.

THE GENESIS CREATION STORY SUPPORTS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND LIVING THINGS

From the first light all the way through to the animals, God spoke His creation into existence. Then the Godhead agreed to create humanity.

God said, "let us make man in our image, after our likeness" (Genesis 1:26). He spoke His intent—but this time, the words did not make the man. God Himself gathered dust from the ground and formed man in his likeness. Then God breathed life into the human's lifeless form.

God came face-to-face with him, breathing into his body to give him life. Then God gave him a name: Adam.

God created Adam and gave him his likeness, gave him His breath, and gave him a name (Genesis 1:26).

Seeing that Adam had no mate, God created a female from Adam's rib (Genesis 2:21-25).

God blessed the man and woman. He told them to multiply and fill the earth. He told them to subdue the earth and have dominion over it and all the living things on it (Genesis 1:28). (cont. from previous page)

God planted a garden in Eden for Adam and Eve and filled it with every tree that is pleasant to see and good to eat (Genesis 2:8-9).

God gave mankind dominion over all living things on the earth. (Genesis 1:26). With this kind of order established, Adam and Eve were clearly distinct from the other animals. No other creature on earth was created in God's image. No others were named by God. In fact, God allowed Adam to name all the other creatures, letting him be part of the holy work of creation! God even entrusted the first humans with the stewardship of the earth.

No other creature was poised at creation to have a personal relationship with God or to hold any form of responsibility toward the rest of the world. God made human beings special, and He desires a special relationship with us.

You were wanted, planned, cared for, provided for, and designed with a purpose. Through Jesus Christ you have life, and that life started at the very origin of the earth.

In our daily lives today, we can live a life of gratitude toward our Savior and Creator. Even though sin came into this world through our free choice, we can know that our "Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth" (Job 19:25, ESV) that He so carefully created for us.

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 District church at Watsontown
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Fellowship meal after worship
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Discipleship Conference at Laurel Lake Education Sabbath
19 (cont.) Discipleship Conf.	20 Church Board Meeting 6:30	21 School Board Meeting 6:30 PM at MVCS (school early dismissal at 12:15)	22 School Thanksgiving Break	Happy Thanksgiving!	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Fellowship meal after worship
10	11	12	13	14	15 Young Adult Retreat	16 "The Gifts of a Disciple"
17 Refreshing Mountain Camp	18 Church Board Meeting 6:30	19 School Board Meeting 6:30 PM at MVCS	20 School Christmas Program	21 School Christmas break	22	23
24		26	27	28	29	30
31 Prayers for 2024	<u>}</u>					









To see more pictures of what is happenng at Mountain View Christian School, visit www.mvchristianschool.com, click on "current students" and then "gallery".



Williamsport, PA Seventh-Day Adventist Church

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