

 Jackson Seventh-day
Adventist Church

Newsletter

April 2020

3600 County Farm Rd - Jackson, MI 49201 - 517.784.2957 – www.jacksonsdachurch.org

Pastor's Page

Knowing Him

In his book *The Pursuit of God*, A.W. Tozer says “The shallowness of our inner experience, the hollowness of our worship, ...testify that we, in this day, know God only imperfectly, and the peace of God scarcely at all.” In another place Tozer adds “The sacred page is not meant to be the end, but only the means toward the end, which is knowing God Himself.”

The importance of knowing God is fundamental when it comes to the Scriptures. It isn't just one of the sub-themes, side agendas or less important subtopic of Scripture, but really is the preeminent focus of the Bible as a whole. All throughout Scripture, God gives hints here and there, that the answer to all of our problems, whether that be sin, strife, suffering or lack of serenity is the same...namely knowing Him.

A brief scan of the Bible from cover to cover makes this abundantly clear. In Genesis 2:7, as it reveals the details of man's creation we are told “And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.” Maybe you haven't thought much about this, but Scripture says that “God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.” But this kind of creation compared with that of speaking everything into existence in Genesis 1 is very intimate and personal. After God finished molding man and breathed into him the breath of life, the first face that Adam saw was God. The very first One that knew him, and that Adam knew was God. This intimate knowing of God is hinted at in Genesis chapter 3 after man's sin of disobedience.

Genesis 3:8 “And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.”

As God enters the Garden, Adam and Eve both know that it is God. This is the first time that instead of rushing to meet and embrace Him, they hide in shame. God calls out to them: “Where are you?” When Adam finally answers, he says “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.” The intimate knowledge that man had with God was good, restful, soothing and peaceful. And ever since man's fall, we have been seeking that rest, that joy, that wholeness and that peace. And yet that rest, that joy, that wholeness and that peace can only be known when we KNOW GOD. The rest of Scripture is filled with God seeking to reveal Himself to us if we will but listen.

When God pulled ancient Israel out of bondage, He said “I will take you as My people, and I will be your God.” (Ex. 6:7) In Ezekiel 34:24, when He spoke hope to rebellious Israel, He gave a

messianic prophecy foretelling “a new Davidic Shepherd who would take care of God’s people” “And I, the Lord, will be their God, and My servant David a prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.” And when God promised to His exiles the rebuilding of Israel, He said: “Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.” (Ezek. 36:28)

Friends, it doesn’t matter what has stolen our rest, joy, wholeness or peace. Maybe, we are like ancient Israel, it is the bondage of sin, perhaps it is a grudge, unforgiveness or animosity because of a perceived wrong. Perhaps like ancient Israel we are in need of the care of a loving and gentle Shepherd. Or perhaps we long for a day when all pain, heart ache, fear and worry are gone. Jesus promises a full restoration of all that our parents lost to those that will come and KNOW HIM.

Jesus assures us “And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth.” (Jn. 17:3 NLT) My friend, all the rest, joy, wholeness or peace the universe could offer is yours to have. It is a priceless gift that you could never purchase. A peace like nothing else can give...and it is found in knowing Jesus. Do you want to enter into a peace that rises above the storms of life? Then I encourage you, why not open His Word today, discover His “peace that passes all understanding” and unlock the storehouses of God’s goodness through the key of prayer.

Don’t forget my friends, Jesus wants to you know and you to know Him. In closing, God tells us in Jeremiah 31:33 “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel...says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

-Blessings, Pastor Ray Torres

April Offering Schedule

4	Local Combined Budget
11	Christian Record
18	Local Combined Budget
25	Michigan Advance Partners

Birthdays

2	Nelson Vance
	Gabriel Torres
3	Vicki Griffin
4	Curt Cooper
	Pat Daugherty
10	Kevin Cooper
	Karen Gyles
11	Marietta Torres
12	Robin Roberts
16	George Carvely
17	Neal Carlson
20	Brenda Bodde
21	Rene O'Jeda
25	Pastor Ted Struntz
	Thelma Painter
29	BethAnn Gagnon
	Kody Adams

Prayer Ministry

Please pray for Robyn Rose, Madlyn Hamblin, Nelson Vance, Mary Birchmeier,

David & Carol Craig, Cassie Stephenson, Richard Green, Carl & Gloria Kidder’s nieces, Vicki Stephenson, Bette Wozniak’s daughter-in-law, Marv Blackerby our shut-ins, our new church, Nancy Friend, Sonya Aardema, missing members, all those affected with the coronavirus & BibleStudyOffer.com

Save the Date!

1	Personal Ministries
	Council Meeting
8	Elders Meeting
10	Good Friday
12	Easter
13	Church Board Meeting
12	Newsletter Deadline
22	Bible Study
	Partners Meeting
25	Compassion Sabbath

Throw-back April



Recognize anyone?

Treasurer’s Corner

We began March with our 2020 Combined Budget in balance. After March 7th we were just \$10.44 behind. BUT after two Sabbath’s not worshipping together, we are now \$1,567.28 behind!! You can give online by

going to the church's website: jacksonsdachurch.org, If you would like guidance in donating online feel free to contact me. If you are uncomfortable giving online or do not have internet you can mail your check to the church's address: 3600 Country Farm Rd. Jackson, MI 49201. A second mailing option is to mail your donation to me, my contact information and mailing address are in your church directory. You do not need to have a tithe envelope just enclose a note designating how your donation is to be used.

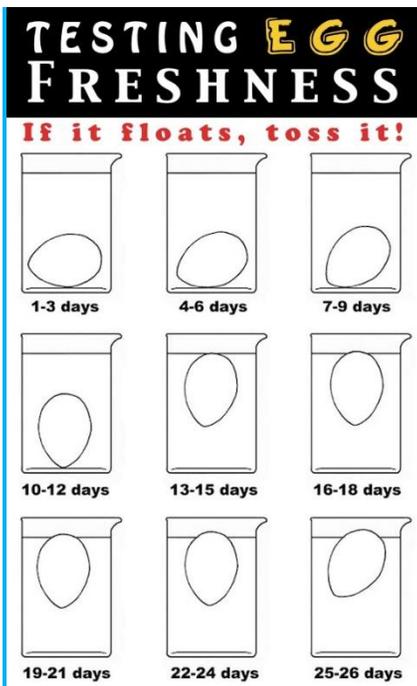
Betty Wozniak,
Treasurer

Kitchen Tip

Fresh Eggs?

How can you tell if your eggs have gone bad? Eggshells are porous and as eggs age air enters the shell. The more air, the

the lighter the egg becomes which means it begins to float.



Stewardship Ministries

“There is a gospel song that says, ‘Where Jesus is will be heaven for me.’ This is the ultimate attitude of the faithful steward. Stewardship is God-centered living, and this should be the goal of every believer, but it will be the inherent focus of the inhabitants of Heaven. The streets of gold, the beauty of the environment, the jeweled walls of the City, even the reunion of family and friends or the golden crowns placed upon our heads will pale in comparison to our desire to be with God. That is why stewardship is so important in this life.”

Stewardship Ministries, NAD

Betty Wozniak,
Stewardship Leader

Health Food Products For Sale!

Community Service Center has a variety of canned and frozen items for sale.

**Big Franks, Veggie Steak,
Vege-burger or Super Links**
\$6.50 per can

Skallops or Choplets
\$6.00 per can

**Diced or Original
FriChik**
\$5.50 per can

**McKay Chicken or Beef
Seasoning**
\$8.00 per jar

Frozen products include:
Wham Roll \$29.00
Dinner Roast \$15.25
Breakfast Strips \$5.50 pkg

Sabbath School News

I recently read a letter from Elder Ted Wilson, President Of our world church. One of the comments he made is that "our evangelistic and missionary work for others is to increase as we draw closer to Christ's soon return"

So, I am thinking today as most of us are isolated from one another and churches closed down, how can this be accomplished? Frankly I miss going to Sabbath School. I miss my friends-church family; I miss playing the piano for the children. I miss being involved in the outreach of our church. Is it possible to learn to connect our efforts to make soul winning more effective while we are on lockdown and not able to attend Sabbath School?

Yes, I believe it is possible. In fact, perhaps we are doing more good now than ever before. Because of technology, we can always be in touch. I am amazed at what I see people doing and posting on the Internet. There is a family in Michigan sharing their family worships. They are offering to pray for any requests. There are professional counsellors who are offering free on-line therapy sessions. I see pictures of neighbor's placing tables of groceries and paper goods out in the street so those in need can help themselves. I don't believe I have seen such an outpouring of love and sharing in a very long time.

This week I was wondering what I could do because I am one of

those immunocompromised who needs not to have contact with people. I saw on the Internet a person who had purchased 1000 oranges and was giving them away. I decided to have a friend, who is shopping for me, purchase several bags of oranges at Sam's. She told me that fruit was in abundance. Yesterday I dropped a bag of oranges on the porch of each of my neighbors with a note. Three of them have major health issues and are social distancing. They seemed very grateful.

Today I decided to share our church services (and there are several) on Facebook. One of our neighbor's is the pastor of another denomination and has never expressed an interest in our doctrines. Today I noticed he "liked" one of the services I shared. This is a small thing, but it is something I can do from home.

If you don't mind, I will share some suggestions of what our SS members can be doing to be missionaries to those around us: Cook a meal and deliver it to an older member.

Thank a healthcare worker for what they are doing. Offer to shop for someone who cannot get out. Share wet wipes and paper products with someone who is running low on supplies. Remember to tip. Call a shut in on the phone. Write cards to people who need encouragement. Buy a gift card from a struggling business or restaurant. Call someone and offer to pay for them.

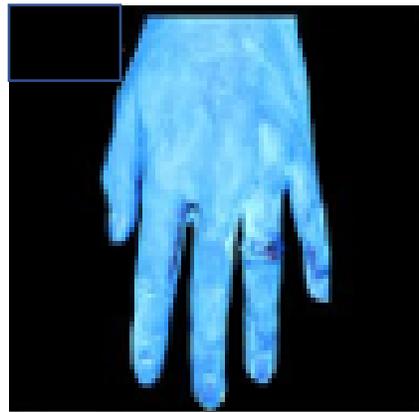
If each Sabbath School member does one thing a week to reach out while we are isolated, what a blessing we will be. Out SS theme, Total Member Involvement, can make a difference in the lives of those we minister to. In return, we will be blessed beyond measure. Madlyn Hamblin, Sabbath School Superintendent

Did You Know?

So now we are faced with the Coronavirus and everyone is yelling "Wash your hands!" and "Use a tissue when you cough or sneeze!" These are thing we are taught as children not only by our parents but learned in school in some kind of health class.

I ran across an illustration that really drives the point home and thought you'd be interested. These infrared pictures are of a person's hand in various stage of washing.

The first picture shows an unwashed hand. The white area is bacteria.



The next picture shows a hand that was rinsed and shook.



Not too much difference. The next picture shows a six-second rinse – no soap.



This fourth picture shows hand washing six seconds with soap.



This next picture shows hand washing with soap for 15 seconds.



And finally, this last picture shows hand washing with soap for 30 seconds. Virtually no bacteria.



Eye-opening, isn't it. And the beauty of it is, it keeps you safe from illnesses! So, the next time you want to cradle your baby, touch your wife's face, play with your grandchild or shake hands with your pastor, think about which hand you want to be using.

Bible Study Partners
This is a perfect time to hold a study on the phone

Recipes from Alyssa
Healing Broth

Healing Broth is a powerful antiviral mineral-rich liquid that carries the essence of vital, immune-supporting, nutritious vegetables, herbs, and spices in a way that is easy for the body to digest, assimilate, and utilize. You will find this recipe as comforting as it is nourishing. The ingredients in this simple recipe help to provide tremendous healing benefits to both the body and soul.



Ingredients:

- 4 carrots, chopped or 1 sweet potato, cubed
- 2 stalks of celery, roughly chopped
- 2 onions, sliced

- 1 cup parsley, finely chopped
- 1 cup of shiitake mushrooms, fresh or dried (optional)
- 2 tomatoes, chopped (optional)
- 1 bulb of garlic (about 6-8 cloves), minced
- 1 inch of fresh ginger root
- 1 inch of fresh turmeric root
- 8 cups of water
- Optional: Chili peppers or red pepper flakes

Directions:

Place all the ingredients in a pot and bring to a gentle boil. Turn heat down to low and allow to simmer for about an hour. Strain and sip for a mineral rich, healing, and restorative broth.

This timely recipe comes from the recipe box of Alyssa Martinez

ACSC

We are closed until further notice. However, if you are 65 or older and/or have a health condition and are in need of necessary food or essentials, please contact Janet Allen and someone on her team will be happy to pick them up and deliver to you. Before delivery, sanitize your hands and place the payment (cash or check) in an envelope.



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