

EDITORIAL  
"We Need You!"

FEATURE  
"An Adventure for Jesus"

NEWS  
"Week of Prayer at Three  
Angel's Fellowship"

INFORMING MEMBERS SINCE 1988

# Memo

MAY 2023



## AN ADVENTURE FOR JESUS

ADVENTURERS CLUB IS A HOME AND CHURCH PROGRAM FOR PARENTS AND THEIR KIDS.





## We Need You!

**W**e like to plan vacations, or special times of fellowship. Many spend time planning their retirement with the hope of living out their days on earth in peace and comfort. But is there real peace anywhere on this earth? Jesus said, "My peace I leave with you not as the world gives" (John 14:27). The Bible warns that in the end of time when people claim they have peace and safety, sudden destruction will come (1 Thes. 5:3).



Jim Micheff

The Bible tells us war began in heaven with Satan's desire to rule the Universe. God expelled him and his supporters from heaven. Satan found a more receptive place for his rebellion on this earth (Rev 12:7-9). Now the earth is in rebellion and at war with God. We have read and heard about countries

with similar ambitions to rule, not the Universe, but this world. Nations like Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome accomplished it for a short time. In our more recent history, conflicts like World War I and II were fought over the same issue.

### The Dunkirk Miracle

In the late 1930's Adolf Hitler was determined to rule the world. Germany invaded Belgium, then France. England joined in defending these countries and tried to push the Germans back. But instead, the German army pushed their combined forces back to the port city of Dunkirk, France.

With the German army on three sides and the ocean behind there was no place for the Allied armies to go. German air attacks had virtually destroyed most of the port facilities making it impossible to evacuate the army by ships. The beach at Dunkirk was so shallow that the big

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**Memo**



"Dunkirk 1940" by Archives New Zealand is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

# Prayer Focus

Every Monday morning, the Michigan Conference staff meets for worship and prayer. Please join with us as we pray for these churches and ministries.

**MAY 2**  
**Belgreen/Ionia/Portland**  
Ryan Counsell  
**Ionia ACS Center**  
**Ionia SDA Elementary**

**MAY 9**  
**Cedar Lake**  
Jacob Gibbs  
**Cedar Lake SDA Elementary**  
**Great Lakes Adventist Academy**

**MAY 16**  
**Alma/Ithaca**  
Nathaniel Oregon  
**Ithaca SDA Elementary**  
**Ithaca Food Pantry**  
**Gratiot County ACS Center**

**MAY 23**  
**Big Rapids/Bristol/Reed City**  
Luis Mafnas  
**Ludington/Shelby**  
Elijah Ringstaff

**MAY 30**  
**Edmore/Frost/Lakeview**  
EJ Wolf  
**Frost Food Pantry**  
**Heartland ACS Center**  
**Lakeview ACS Center**

ships of the Royal Navy couldn't reach the stranded soldiers. They were in danger of either complete annihilation or having to surrender.

The British Royal Navy sent out a call for help to all England for boats to transport their soldiers the mile or so out to the big ships. The people responded with every kind of boat they had—all working for one goal: SAVE THEIR MEN!

On May 20, 1940, the Navy began arranging for these small vessels to be ready to proceed the 47 miles over water to France. By May 31, 400+ small crafts voluntarily and enthusiastically took part: speedboats, pleasure crafts, car ferries and motor lifeboats.

Under the circumstances, this incredible rescue plan was humanly impossible and could not have happened without divine intervention. Because of the strange command from Hitler himself to halt the German army, time was given for the evacuation. Even the weather cooperated by allowing the small boats to navigate in calm waters. As a result, 338,000 soldiers were rescued in nine days. It became

known as the Miracle of Dunkirk.

A few days later Winston Churchill gave a speech to the House of Commons addressing the defeat and near annihilation of the army in France and the continuing threat of invasion into England. He ended his speech by expressing the determination and resolve necessary to achieve victory.

"We shall go on to the end. We shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be. We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender."

In his speech he identified a common enemy that threatened the peace and safety of the whole world. This enemy spread tyranny and untold havoc, heartache, and pain wherever it went.

The message was delivered in person but was never shared (until years later) with others except by news outlets that printed it or read

**(continued on page 7)**

## An Adventure for Jesus

Adventurers Club is a home and church program for parents and their kids. It includes age-specific learning involving both parents and children by Bible study, crafts and recreational activities. Adventurers sets the stage for church participation and spiritual growth by encouraging early personal relationships with Jesus.



**U**nder the direction of Ms. Rula, Metro Explorers participate in Adventurer curriculum to complete and earn stars, chips, and awards. At each meeting we have a devotional thought, sing songs together, and share classroom time for learning new skills, exploring our world, getting to know God, and discovering ourselves as children of the Creator.

In the Metro Explorer Club, we have a range of ages including Eager Beavers, Sunbeams, and Builders. Many of our club members attend Sabbath services at neighboring Adventist churches. We meet about twice a month to learn and study, growing together in Christ.

The Metropolitan Explorers recently shared the Sabbath together with a sister church. Gathering with Belleville church, Adventurers brought excitement and energy to a special Adventurer Sabbath event. The Belleville Pathfinder club joined us, and together we celebrated the Sabbath much like we envision Sabbaths in eternity to be. Each Adventurer brought something special to the service.

In Sabbath School we learned about God's love from 1 Corinthians 13, focusing on how it does not delight in evil but rejoices in truth. We studied the story of Adam and Eve having a choice in the Garden of Eden. Caught by the Serpent's enticing lies, the created couple suffered tremendous consequence. Through the deep love of God, which rejoices in truth, a plan of salvation was created for each one of us. We rejoice to know that when we make mistakes, God still

loves us and has a plan to save us.

During the main church service, Adventurers entered the sanctuary carrying flags and banners while singing the Adventurer Song. The song highlights that wherever we are, we choose to be like Jesus. Ian McGrath shared an opening prayer for service. Several Adventurers, including Kaspian Hannan as Moses, acted out the story of the parting of the Red Sea to bring the Israelites safely through the waters. Chi-Lan Stevens narrated the biblical story of deliverance for the Israelites. Naomi Peach and Aila McGrath recited Revelation 14:7 for scripture reading. All of the Metro Explorers sang "If I Were A Butterfly" for a special music selection.

The Adventurer Law, recited by all of the Metro Explorers, reminds us that Jesus can help us to model character attributes that glorify Him. Eloise Pomo shared the Adventurer Pledge with the congregation, reminding us that in response to His love for us, we strive to always do our best.

Ian, Kaspian, and Eliana Mitchell each shared about a specific award they earned in their Adventurer program. Ian told of the obstacle course and how God cares for us even when our situation is tough to navigate. Kaspian shared that the lady bug lifecycle show us how God is a God of detail and cares for each stage of our lives. Eliana recalled the



"Adventurers sets the stage for church participation and spiritual growth by encouraging early personal relationships with Jesus."



Rainbow award which teaches us the promise of God to never flood the Earth again.

Belleville pastor Victor Vaughn's sermon inspired us with a profound realization of the reverence God deserves from each of us in all situations. Eliana Kim offered closing prayer.

The Adventurers gave each church member a small card and glow stick, reminding us to shine brightly for Jesus that He might be glorified in all we do. We would like to extend the same invitation and reminder to each of you. Be a light to your community. Be a light for Jesus. Be willing to take an adventure with Jesus, wherever it leads you.

For information on Adventurer clubs near you, please contact the Michigan Conference Youth Department. 📞

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*Lori Peach is a member at the Belleville church.*

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**Top:** Adventurers shared a special music selection, praying God for their smiles by singing "The Butterfly Song." (PC: Natalie Woolf)

**Middle:** Pathfinders joined and assisted with song service, leading the congregation in hymn singing. (PC: Natalie Woolf)

**Bottom:** Adventurers presented a short drama of crossing the Red Sea during the service. (PC: David Forrest)



# Week of Prayer at Three Angel's Fellowship



Wes Bush, the head elder, shares his testimony on the closing night of the week of prayer. They celebrated with an agape feast and communion service.

I am excited to share with you about the recent Week of Prayer held at the Three Angel's Fellowship church in Rockford. It was a wonderful opportunity for church members to come together and share their personal experiences with God. Throughout the week, we heard many powerful testimonies of how God has been working in people's lives and the impact the church community has had on their spiritual growth. Church leadership, under the guidance of Pastor Garhett Morgan, set the tone for openness, which was evident in the vulnerability and authenticity of the testimonies shared. Each night, two individuals or couples shared their stories, creating a diverse range of experiences and perspectives. We heard about

journeys through difficult times and how faith in God was tested. We also heard about moments of spiritual growth and how church family members have been supportive in their spiritual lives. The nightly small group prayer sessions were a great way to bring everyone together and create a sense of unity. Various church members led out in the various sessions. Each night had a specific focus, starting with Monday's focus on revival. We were reminded that revival starts with us and that we must seek God's presence with a contrite heart. Tuesday's focus was on our relationship with Jesus, and we were reminded of the importance of putting Jesus first in our lives. Wednesday's focus was on church community, and we were encouraged to build deeper

"The Week of Prayer created a safe space for people to be vulnerable and open up about their spiritual journey."

relationships with our fellow church members. Thursday's focus was on relationships in general, and we were reminded of the need to forgive and show grace to others. Finally, Friday's focus was on the ordinance of humility, where the elders washed church members' feet. We finished with a special agape feast and even more church member testimonies.

The Week of Prayer was a significant blessing to everyone who attended. We were encouraged and inspired by the many testimonies shared, and left with a renewed sense of purpose and commitment to our faith. We were reminded of the importance of community and the impact that we can have on each other's lives. The Week of Prayer created a safe space for people to be vulnerable and open up about their spiritual journey. We were blessed to hear the many testimonies and to be reminded of the importance of our relationship with God and with each other. 🙏

*Audrey Johnson is a member at the Three Angel's Fellowship church in Rockford, Michigan.*



(continued from page 2)

his speech or portions of it over the radio. It resonated so strongly that even though people heard the message only through the voice and pen of others, they received it as if Mr. Churchill himself was speaking to them. The message went to the heart and later many truly believed they had heard the actual voice of Winston Churchill deliver this speech. But I believe the power of God accompanied the message to inspire and strengthen people who heard it, so they would wake up to the danger and join in fighting the common enemy who threatened their existence.

### A War Still Rages

The absence of physical war does not mean there is peace. There is a war still raging—a battle over human hearts and minds. God doesn't accept peace treaties, only full surrender! Satan lost his attempt to overthrow God's government and rule the Universe. Now he has turned his efforts to destroying mankind by keeping them from accepting God's offer to deliver them from his tyranny. Salvation is about removing the rebellion/resistance/war from our hearts. No one still warring against God will be allowed in heaven.

God commissioned His remnant church, those who have ended their personal war and are now at peace with Him, to give the loud cry message of hope to help bring peace to a dying world. We need your help! Perhaps you are serving in church positions as elders, deacons, Sabbath School or Personal



"No Known Restrictions: Prime Minister Winston Churchill, 1942 (LOC)" by pingnews.com is marked with Public Domain Mark 1.0.

Ministries leaders, etc. or you may not have a specific office. God needs all of us, not just to serve in church offices but to be a living demonstration of what peace with God looks like.

The Michigan Conference is planning a statewide effort to provide Bible-based answers to a world that's becoming increasingly unhinged in every way possible. We see natural disasters abounding, morality and decency steeply deteriorating, and tensions increasing between various nations. The signs of Jesus' soon return are fulfilling before our every eyes. In the month of October,

we will be launching a statewide evangelistic initiative entitled "Discovering Revelation" to provide biblical remedies to a sin-sick world.

Just as England united for a singular purpose and gave all they had to defeat the enemy, we, too, must be imbued with the same determination. We need to share and invite those in our communities, our friends, and neighbors to the event so they might hear God's answers to life's most important questions. As we approach the end of all things, we're called to the highways and byways; everyone needs to hear the everlasting gospel.

We wrestle not with flesh and blood. The enemy is at work, and we must provide a counter offensive. Under God's direction and with His might we are to "fight the enemy on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender." 📌

By Jim Micheff, President, Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists



# MICHIGAN Camp Meeting

# Annual Fun Run



Sunday, June 11, 2023  
\$20 registration fee

All proceeds go towards the GLAA Worthy Student Fund to enable students to experience Adventist education.

Pre-register by May 22 to receive a memorabilia T-shirt at [misda.org/funrun](https://misda.org/funrun)





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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## NATURE NUGGET



### The Optomotor Response

If you ask an ASPIRE student what they learned at Outdoor Education this winter at Camp Au Sable, most of them might respond, "the fish experiment." This experiment was designed to observe and test the optomotor response. The procedure was as simple as placing a minnow in a bowl, situated on a rotating platform. Surrounding the platform on all sides, but not touching it, was a piece of paper. On the piece of paper, we used sharpies to color a straight vertical line to resemble a tree or stick.

In the wild, fish living in a stream visually lock in on an object, such as a tree on land or stick in the water, to ensure they fight the current in a way that keeps them where they want to be rather than being washed down stream. They can adjust their swim strength or speed based on where they need to be.

We tested this optomotor response in various ways, such as using multiple lines rather than just one, making different sizes of lines, and drawing colored lines. What seemed to work best was a singular, definitive, straight, dark line. The fish would find that line, and orient themselves toward it, despite the current created by the rotating bowl. They swam against all forces to stay pointed towards that line.

As followers of Christ, the devil tries to throw similar resistance at us. The world will do anything it can to wash us away. The only possible way we can fight that current is by locking-in on the straight and narrow. If we fix our eyes on our immovable God and move constantly in His direction, we will not be overcome by the current of society or get lost. A great lesson from "the fish experiment." 🐟

By Tyler Morgan, Nature Intern, Camp Au Sable

## MONTHLY CALENDAR

### May

- 5-7 Marriage Commitment Retreat (CAS)
- 7-11 Camp Au Sable Work Week (CAS)
- 7 Literature Ministries Empower Workshop
- 12-14 Pathfinder Fair
- 21 Adventurer Fun Day
- 26-28 GLAA Graduation Weekend
- 26-28 Hispanic Camp Meeting (CAS)

### June

- 4 Youth Rush Program Begins
- 9-17 Camp Meeting
- 11-17 Adventure Camp (CAS)
- 18-24 Junior Camp (CAS)
- 19-20 Office Closed
- 25-July 1 Tween Camp

\*CAS = Camp Au Sable