

Elmira  
Seventh-day Adventist Church  
Newsletter  
October 2013



## FROM THE PASTOR'S CORNER

I consider it a great honor and a blessing to be part of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We are the people who live on the very edge of eternity, waiting expectantly for our precious Lord to return in the clouds of heaven and take us to be with Him. There's no more joyous event that we can look forward to than seeing Jesus, surrounded by the hosts of heaven, descending to this war-weary earth to bring deliverance to His faithful people.

In the meantime, we wait, and we work for the salvation of souls. Very many people throughout our neighborhoods and communities have at best a limited understanding of who God is, and what His character is like. Recently I was reading the account of a young girl who understood God to be a vengeful punisher of sinners; in fact, the current belief she had was that God was waiting for her to "mess up," so He could confine her eternal soul into a fiery pit called hell, there to burn her without rest throughout the eons of eternity. Tragically, this false belief about God has caused many thousands of people to reject God altogether, choosing instead to live their lives apart from Him.

The doctrine of eternally-burning hellfire is but one of several teachings about God that the enemy has imposed upon many Bible readers. The reason I rejoice in being a part of the Adventist Movement is exactly because the doctrines we teach and believe point us to a God Who is loving and gentle, not willing that any should perish. While it's true that

one day God will punish sinners for their destructive ways, we, as Adventists, believe He will simply destroy them for eternity, not torture them forever. The doctrines of a church, what I call "Healing Doctrines," are intended to display for us the kind of God we worship and serve. Correct doctrines lead to a right image of God; False doctrines destroy His image to us and make Him out to be Someone to fear rather than Someone to love.

The word "doctrine," I've read, is related to an old French word for "doctor," which describes someone who heals. The purpose of our doctrines – true doctrines – is to bring healing to our false concepts of God, His character, and His plans for us. That's why it's so important that we study the Bible carefully and prayerfully to be sure our doctrines (=teachings) are of such as to put God in the favorable light the Scriptures do, that we see the clear and symmetrical plan of redemption as the Bible describes it, and that we view the character of God in a manner that moves us to want to testify for Him. In this final generation, the truth matters. Correct doctrine is vital. God's end-time people are known as the pillars of truth, because they believe and practice it in their lives. May God help us to learn and follow His doctrines lovingly and faithfully.

Pastor Kevin Dunn

# CHURCH NEWS



## OPTIMAL BRAIN HEALTH – THE LOST ART OF THINKING

Join us in learning how to enhance brain function and obtain optimal brain health, Thursday, October 3, 7:00 p.m. at the Steele Memorial Library. Make lasting positive changes in your mental ability and mood. Find higher motivation, more energy, and better productivity. Leverage the effect of natural remedies, such as sunshine, rest, water, and exercise, to promote good thinking habits. For more information: Call Michael at (607) 398-0202.



## ALL ABOUT JESUS



Have you ever wondered how to . . .

Find what your soul is longing for? Be a Christian and love it?

Really give God your heart? Surrender your will to Christ?

Develop a personal relationship with Jesus? Become a contagious Christian?

Actually experience Christ's transforming power in your life?

Experience the latter-rain power? Build an exciting prayer life?

Our fall evangelism will be a ten night series presented by Pastor Kevin Dunn.

Beginning Friday, October 4, 7:00 p.m., the first five evenings (October 4, 5, 6, 8, & 9) will be in the Langdon Room at the Riverview Holiday Inn in Elmira.

Meetings will be each night except Mondays and Thursdays.

An extra feature will be nightly health segments to learn the latest on optimal brain health.

Flyers are available at the church. Invite your friends and family members!

## BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held Tuesday evenings, 7:00 p.m. at the church.



## BAPTISM

It is always a special occasion when we have a baptism. By Baptism we acknowledge Christ as Lord and Saviour, become His people, and are received as members into His church. Baptism is a symbol of our union with Christ, the forgiveness of our sins, and our receiving of the Holy Spirit.

Sabbath, August 31, Donald Cratsley, James Eames, and Gary Beach were baptized Pastor Kevin Dunn. We welcome them into our fellowship.

## SHUT-INS

Remember our shut-ins with your prayers, cards, and visits: Doris Burgess, Alice Congdon, Bill Kaiser, Frances McMillen, Lorraine Parker, Doris Stewart, Harold Washburn, Sr.

## FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS



Luncheons continue the first and third Sabbaths of each month. The first Sabbath is Soup and Sandwiches and the third Sabbath is a regular luncheon. All are invited to join us for lunch and fellowship. Please bring a dish to pass.

## HARVEST DINNER

This year's Harvest Dinner will be Sabbath, November 16, following the worship service. This is a planned meal for our fellowship luncheon. You will be contacted as to what you are to bring. Everyone is invited.



## IN MEMORY

We extend our sympathy:

... to the family of Orest Roshak, former principal/teacher in Elmira, who passed away August 4. Condolences may be sent to: Mary Ellen Roshak, 505 Blue Jay Road, Chattanooga, TN 37412-4107; Phone: 423-305-1825.

... to the family of Pastor Henry Uhl, former pastor in Elmira, who passed away August 30 at the age of 89 in Ooltewh TN.

... to the family of Donald Congdon, who passed away September 13. In years past, Don was an elder in our local church.

## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



20 units whole blood were collected at our drive September 24.

## CREATION/HEALTH SEMINAR



Creation/Health Seminar continues each month, led out by Debby Montopoli the first Sunday of the month and Melissa Conrad the third Sunday of the month, from 2:00 – 3:30 P.M. at the church.

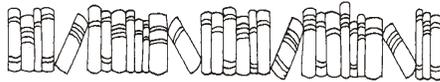
## RELIGIOUS-THEME MARIONETTES – CHARACTERS FROM THE BIBLE

Cameron Macdonell has been helping the Pathfinders in a marionette project. A marionette is a skeletal structure with a carved head, manipulated by strings. This is an undertaking with adults and children working together in a team effort, using many materials – such as: dowels, eye hooks, wire, fishing line, paper mache, and Styrofoam balls – and much creativity.

When they are completed, they can be used as visual aids to represent different characters from the Bible.

If you would like to help in this project, from hands-on building marionettes, to making scenery, to reading scripts, please contact Cameron Macdonell.

## FALL BOOKMOBILE



The Adventist Book Center Bookmobile will be here Sunday, October 27 from 10:00 – 11:00. Come browse the selection of books, Bibles, music, children’s items and more. Call or email if you have a special order: 1-800-832-2665; [Hamburg.abc@pacificpress.com](mailto:Hamburg.abc@pacificpress.com).

Check out our Church website at: [www.elmirasda.com](http://www.elmirasda.com)

Downloadable sermons are available at this site.



## LABELS AND BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



Please continue to save your General Mills Boxtops and Campbell’s UPC symbols for the Holbrook SDA Indian School in Arizona. Boxtops and UPC symbols can be given to Joyce Cmelko. Thank you for your help.

## PRAYER LIST

Doris Burgess  
Alice Congdon  
Bill Kaiser  
Frances Mc Millen  
Lorraine Parker  
Linda Probst



Alta Raymond  
Doris Stewart  
Harold Washburn, Jr.  
Harold Washburn, Sr.  
Ongoing Bible Studies  
Our Shut-ins

*Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray,  
when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven's storehouse,  
where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence?  
Without unceasing prayer and diligent watching  
we are in danger of growing careless and of deviating from the right path.  
Steps to Christ, pp. 94, 95*

If you have someone to be added to our prayer list, please let us know.

# SABBATH SCHOOL



Our Adult Sabbath School lessons during the last quarter of 2013 will be a study of “The Sanctuary,” both the earthly model and the heavenly original. All are encouraged to study daily and join in for our class discussion on Sabbath morning.

Please join us each Sabbath morning. Song service begins at 9:20. Classes are provided for adults and children.



Mission DVDs are shown each month, coming to us this quarter from the Euro-Africa Division.

## INVESTMENT



Thank you for saving your newspapers, magazines, cans and bottles, and health food labels for Investment. See Alvin Jackson, our Investment leader, to donate magazines and newspapers. Please be sure the UPC symbol is on the food labels. Labels that are accepted are Worthington, Loma Linda, Morningstar Farms, Morningstar Farms Organic, and Natural Touch. Labels not accepted are: Cedar Lake and Vibrant Life.

## NATURE'S GARDEN

STORE HOURS Thursday, 4:00-6:00 p.m., OR by appointment,  
Call Larry Taft – 732-0463, Or Mac Dwyer – 739-7748.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – November 20 – CONTACT Sharon and Jim Reynolds at 734-1560 with newsletter information. You may also send your articles to: 813 Maple Avenue, Elmira, NY 14904 or e-mail us at: [shareyn@gmail.com](mailto:shareyn@gmail.com)**



*As your senses delight in the attractive loveliness of the earth,  
think of the world that is to come,  
that shall never know the blight of sin and death;  
where the face of nature will no more  
wear the shadow of the curse.*

*Let your imagination picture the home of the saved,  
and remember that it will be more glorious  
than your brightest imagination can portray.*

*In the varied gifts of God in Nature  
we see but the faintest gleaming of His glory.  
It is written, “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard,  
neither have entered into the heart of man,  
the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.”*

*I Corinthians 2:9  
Steps to Christ, pg. 86*



But they that wait upon the LORD  
shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings as eagles;  
they shall run, and not be weary;  
and they shall walk, and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31



**Elmira Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
c/o Jim & Sharon Reynolds  
813 Maple Avenue  
Elmira, NY 14904

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

