

Minnetonka SDA Church
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Our church website—www.knowgodmore.com
Our school website—www.mca-sda.com

Thank You For The Music

By: Stephanie Ferguson
MCA Music Teacher

If I asked the congregation of our church to raise their hands if they ever played an instrument, I bet that at least half would raise their hand. And I also bet that most, if not all, of those with their hands raised would feel a little proud that they could raise them. I believe God gave us music purely to make our lives more beautiful and to help us experience Him more deeply.

Minnetonka Christian Academy is dedicated to music. Every class receives some sort of music education. Our band program begins in 5th grade. Students in 5th & 6th grade are able to experiment with several different instruments and then choose the one that they want to learn to play. They then spend the rest of the year learning about the instrument, the different notes and the fingerings or positions for each of those notes. In 7th and 8th grade every student continues to play so that by the time they enter high school they have already been playing for 4 years!

Many other schools require students to rent an instrument if they want to participate in band, but at MCA we own the instruments and provide them, free of charge, to all students who want to learn. I can tell you that at least half of the students in my groups could not be in band if they had to pay for the instrument. What a privilege for us to be able to provide such a wonderful

experience for our students!

There is, however, a down side. And that is that the instruments are put through a lot. Two to three students may play them in a day and that wears them down. Many of them are quite old and a few of them are, quite frankly, falling apart. So far these instruments have been repaired and returned to fairly good working order. But several of them are beyond help. If you have an instrument sitting in your basement or are a music lover who wants to see the band program continue to grow at MCA, please consider giving a monetary donation or an actual instrument. We especially need trumpets and saxophones but can definitely use anything.

There are things that we *have* to learn in school: English, Math, History. But then there are the things we *get* to learn: drawing, painting, singing, playing an instrument. These are the things that make life worth living, that make God feel close. I hope that together we can continue to give that gift to the students of MCA.

And to say thank you for your support, we would like to invite you to our annual Christmas program on Tuesday, December 15, at 7:00pm, in the MCA gym.

Let us share the gift of music with you!

IVAN BLAKE
SENIOR PASTOR

ELVERA BLAKE
PASTOR FOR DISCIPLESHIP,
CHILDREN/WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

BENJI FERGUSON
PASTOR FOR YOUTH & WORSHIP

KEN DEDEKER
PASTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION

KEN RANNOW
PRINCIPAL OF MCA

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Minnetonka Seventh-day Adventist Church is to passionately KNOW God as our personal friend and intentionally SHARE God as caring disciples.

VISION STATEMENT

Our response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ compels us to become a growing Adventist congregation. We will impact our community through God-directed worship, selfless service, and a culture of active participation by every member.

Minnetonka SDA Governing Board

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- Dale Williams
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Minnetonka Seventh-day Adventist Church Minnetonka Christian Academy

Good News!



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WHEN YOU NEED IT MOST

By Pastor Ivan Blake

What do you need most right now?

I once bribed my two boys when they were in high school. "If you will read Scripture from the platform at church next week, I'll take you to a football game." (If you're an introvert knowing that most people would rather die than to get up in front of a crowd to speak, you'll know that this was a big deal!)

After numerous reminders of the reward (they were avid football fans—never mind what team) they relented and bravely kept their end of the deal. I got the tickets and we were off. They were excited! It wasn't their favorite team, but it turned out to be a once-in-a-lifetime game (another story for another time—maybe).

I kept the tickets 'safe' in my pocket. If they got lost, I wanted the blame. When we arrived at the ticket gate, each of my boys asked, "Where is my ticket?" They needed their tickets to get into the arena.

I stood between them and the ticket collector. As each boy passed me, I placed a ticket in his hand. They, in turn, gave it to the ticket collector. My boys received their tickets in the nick of time, just when they needed it most.

God is like that to us too. His help is timely. He helps us as a father gives football tickets to his sons. Often His help comes in the nick of time, after we have been waiting and watching. He will do the right things at the right time.

Just picture God right now. He places Himself between you and your need. And at the right time, He gives you the "ticket".

Here is the reinforcement: "This High Priest of ours (Jesus the Son of God) understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do....

So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most" (Hebrews 4:14-16 NLT).

God always gives us what we need at the right time—His right time.

He sent His Son, Jesus, when the time was right (Galatians 4:4). The world was in need of THIS help, salvation and reconciliation with God, for a long time. The wait seemed endless, until many gave up waiting and went on to establish their own kingdom. They began to lean on their own understanding (Proverbs 3:5,6). That's when we make life difficult for ourselves.

Try to personalize and internalize these words: "For since the beginning of the world people have not heard nor perceived by the ear, nor has the eye seen any God besides You, who acts for the one who waits for Him" (Isaiah 64:4-5).

What do you need most right now? Employment. Financial security. A healed relationship with your spouse, your parent, your child. Wisdom to make a weighty decision. Better health. Forgiveness. A new heart. Victory over addictive behavior. Peace of mind and heart.

Make a choice, and say, "I believe God knows what I need most right now. I believe He knows the right time for me to receive what I need. I believe He is standing between my need and me. I believe He will give me what I need at the right time, just as He sent Jesus to earth at the right time."

Now, watch Him act for you!

Visit Our Website

www.knowgodmore.com

- ♦ Online giving of Tithes and Offerings
- ♦ Calendar of Events
- ♦ Weekly Sermons to download and share

UPCOMING PREACHING SCHEDULE December

- 05—Pastor Benji Ferguson
- 12—Elder Justin Lyons
- 19—Pastor Ivan Blake
- 26—Pastor Ivan Blake

*Wishing
You
And Your family
A
Blessed
Holiday Season*



MINNETONKA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Principal Ken Rannow

DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor Ivan Blake

