

Minnetonka SDA Church
3510 Williston Rd.
Minnetonka, MN 55345
(952) 935-2615

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
ID
PERMIT NO. 42
WAYZATA, MN

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Contact us via email!
Interim Senior Pastor Sherman McCormick—icanoe2@live.com
Pastor Benji Ferguson—one_lakatu@hotmail.com
Ken Dedeker—kdedeker@comcast.net
Ken Rannow—ken.rannow@mca-sda.com
Mary Stauner—secretary@mtka-sda.org
Our church website—www.knowgodmore.com
Our school website—www.mca-sda.com

Chess, Risk and Higher Order Thinking

Michael Smith - 3rd and 4th Grade Teacher at MCA

Greetings from the smallest class at MCA! Our six member group has tackled a lot of learning this year. We have some strong personalities that clash competitively a lot of the time. Channeling this energy has been my personal journey all year. How do you provide an outlet for students to constructively use their competitive skills in a real world way?

I was led to a few core ideas that I wanted them to pursue this year. The number one thing I have embedded in the core of our day is the Bible. We start our day with topical studies from the Bible that reinforce our understanding of God's book and prompt us to live a God-filled life. How do we have integrity? How does God help us to make our words and actions one in the same? Why are the Ten Commandments still important to us today? What does a spiritual life look like in my life? What does God say that gives us hope for the future? These and more are the questions we tried to answer from the Bible. They are looking for answers and I know that God will finish the work that He has been cultivating in their hearts at MCA. God has blessed our class with two students who were baptized this school year! May they continue to be spiritual leaders for Jesus wherever they go. **Core #1** - God's Word is the highest order thinking we can do.

When we aren't studying the Bible I have found time in the day to plant an interest in a few board games that expand their critical thinking skills. These strategy games have been fun for the students and a challenge of my ability to help them become better players. We started the year out with

chess. We had a few strong players right from the start and identifying key tactics helped the others become more formidable opponents. Looking ahead beyond the next move is a key. Practice makes perfect and translating that idea from chess to our daily lives proved an important object lesson. **Core #2** - God can see our life from beginning to end, so trusting Him with our next move is always the best choice.

I found a copy of Risk at a Goodwill store and decided to introduce it as the next game we would take up at school. The dynamics within the class changed because now everyone could play together at the same time. The wheeling, dealing, treaty making and breaking led us to a discussion of lying. How can you say one thing but do another? Are you letting your friendships effect the game? We are on our fourth game now and they now have surpassed the teacher because I was the first player eliminated. Just like in Risk sometimes we have to wait patiently to make our move, in life God asks us to wait on Him for His help. **Core #3** - Life is a risk, but Jesus is always on our side.

I am reminded of James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives *generously* to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him." This year has been about looking into God's mirror. Practice what is good in God's sight and ask for Him to give us what we lack. That takes a spirit of humility, which is another gift from God we need on a daily basis.

What a privilege it has been to learn these lessons with my students this year.

SHERMAN McCORMICK
INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR

BENJI FERGUSON
PASTOR FOR YOUTH & WORSHIP

KEN DEDEKER
PASTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION

KEN RANNOV
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

- Heidi Abramovich
- Dave Briscoe—Chair
- Rachele Ellis
- Patty Gadberry—Sec.
- Jared London
- Justin Lyons
- John Nicholson
- Dale Williams
- Ed Wines—V-Chair

Minnetonka Seventh-day Adventist Church Minnetonka Christian Academy

Good News!



Volume 69

June 2010

Dusting Off the Basics, 4

By Pastor Sherman McCormick

It is popular today for some of us to cast dispersion on the only one of our teachings whose understanding is unique to Seventh-day Adventists. I am referring to our teaching regarding the heavenly sanctuary and its earthly models: a portable model built under Moses' leadership, then Solomon's temple, lastly, there was what we commonly refer to as Zerubbabel's temple, built after the return of the exiles. This is the temple, remodeled, in which Jesus worshipped.

I believe that Satan wants us to misunderstand the teachings of the sanctuary because God's plan was to illustrate in a three-dimensional, real-life example just what He wanted to do for His people. His plan for them, and His plan for us, is that we have clean hearts that He may dwell therein. Notice what God said when He first instructed Moses to build the first earthly sanctuary:

Have the people of Israel build me a holy sanctuary so I can live among them. (Ex. 25:8, NLT)

Notice carefully what this verse does *not* say. It does *not* say, "so I can live in the center of their camp." The Good News is that God does not live in buildings. As Stephen said in his final address to the Sanhedrin:

The Most High does not live in houses made by men (Acts 7:40)

For this is what the high and lofty One says—he who lives forever, whose name is holy: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, . . . (Isa. 57:15)

God wanted to dwell *among* His people. My second favorite candy, next to chocolate, is licorice. Apparently, there are enough people who like licorice that those who package jellybeans find it profitable to provide bags filled exclusively with licorice jellybeans. But, if you buy a regular bag of jellybeans at the grocery store, you will find licorice jellybeans *among* the others. We don't find a corner of the bag where the orange jellybeans are, another area reserved for the red ones or the white ones. All of the jellybeans are mixed up—and the licorice ones are found *among* the others.

God wants to be involved with all of the activities of our lives. He wants to dwell *among* us. However, He has a problem—sin in our lives makes that impossible (see Isa. 59:2). So, God gave His people an earthly model of the heavenly sanctuary that they might better understand His plan for removing sin from their lives. All of this climaxed on the Day of Atonement. God made very clear what the purpose of special day was when He instructed Moses

because on this day atonement will be made for you, to cleanse you. Then, before the Lord, you will be clean from all your sins. (Lev. 16:30)

All of the rituals, all of the sacrifices, all of the offerings pointed forward to and climaxed in this special day—a day of cleansing, a day when the people were to celebrate the spiritual cleanness illustrated in all of the sanctuary activities.

Way too many of us have become all

Visit Our Website

www.knowgodmore.com

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

UPCOMING PREACHING SCHEDULE

June

- 05—Pastor Benji Ferguson
11:30 a.m. Service ONLY during Camp Meeting-
June 12 & 19
- 12—Bob Dahl
- 19—Kristi Carlson
- 26—Pastor Sherman McCormick

bogged down with the ritual services, the blood and the activities, so that we have overlooked the chief purpose of everything the sanctuary stood for—God wants to take away our sins so that He can dwell with us, *among* us.

And, this, I believe, is the chief reason that Satan delights if He can cause us to misunderstand and even dismiss what the sanctuary is intended to teach us.

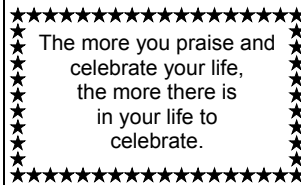


MINNETONKA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Principal Ken Rannow

DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor Sherman McCormick



Happy Birthday to You!

If we have missed your birthday, please contact the church office so we can update your information.

June

- 01—Amy Haugen, Van Holmgren
- 02—Aimee Harl, Teri Hauri
- 03—Ryan Johnson, Mayson Nkomazana
- 05—Linda Hecker, Keenan Hodgkin
- 06—Nathan Berglund
- 07—Marilyou Mintalar, Kandis

- Pettis
- 08—Luke Mathis
- 09—Diane Johnson, Uche Wamuo, Uzo Wamuo
- 10—Will Holmgren, Bonnie Mayer
- 11—Walter Erickson, Jason McCraw, Daniela Tank
- 12—Mikal Campanello
- 13—Mike Olson, Ashton Strain, Bryan Szafarski, Gautam Tank
- 14—Karen Gilbertson, Mandlenkosi Nkomazana
- 15—Keith Aslakson, Terry Burns,

- Kathy Just, Joel Langer
- 16—Shari Baxter, Alex Briscoe, Sergei Kobzev, Dan Sutherland
- 17—Gary Hecker, Kenny McTaggart, Steven Odenthal, Ben Pierce, Amy Roehl
- 18—Pat Anderson
- 19—Olivia McTaggart, Jose Mintalar, Oscar Naustdal
- 20—Angie Nyamburi, Judy Richey
- 21—Cassandra Arneson, Iliia Kobzev
- 22—Brenda Kuchynski
- 23—Bret Godfrey, Janice Haberer,

- Mariya Kobzev
- 24—Quentin Sands, Zachary Villamizar
- 26—Ken Bieber, Paul Hooper, Anthony Wicklund
- 27—Roger Dorf, Burt Elmer, Elsie Pierce
- 28—David Hannan, Michel Pak, Haley Prewitt, Bonita Ramos
- 29—Jennifer Berglund, Traci Prewitt
- 30—Joanna Blood

July

- 01—Christopher Labelle, Brandon Tenold
- 02—Shar Jesse, Ed Prewitt
- 03—Nancy Olson
- 04—DeeAnn Blanchard, Anna Marie Ellis

(Continued in next newsletter)

Governing Board Report—May 2010

Housekeeping / Announcements

- Rachelle Ellis opened the meeting with devotion and prayer.
- After review, a motion was made and passed to accept the April minutes.

Pastor Report

- Sherman McCormick submitted his resignation to the MN Conference as interim pastor effective June 30, 2010. The governing board expressed great appreciation for Sherman's service and spiritual integrity. A tangible expression of gratitude is being planned.

Pastoral Update

- Pastor Doug and Susan English plan to be moved by early June with Pastor Doug presenting his first sermon on July 10.
- Pastor Benji Ferguson will present the July 3 services.
- The next church newsletter and a postal mailing will include communication updates.

MCA Update

- Dale Williams provided MCA's updates which include highlights for upcoming May events (see attached).
- The financial report reflects unpaid tuition and some expense overages for various classrooms. (see attached).
- A motion was made and passed to extend invitations to Ken Bieber, Eric Chaffee, Mike Carlson, Kathy Williams and Matt Jakobsons for positions on the School Operating Committee. Other open committee positions will be addressed by the SOC.
- Interested individuals are asked to contact Dale for a staff appreciation event.
- A staff recognition breakfast is being planned and another recognition event is being planned at a future church service.

Worship Services

- The Morning Psalm service protocols (format, content, type of media use, time parameters, role of worship coordinators, etc.) is being reviewed by the MorningPsalm worship coordinators. Future development of the service protocols will most likely be developed very soon and done in coordination with Pastor English. Development of the service protocols will be focused around prayer, preaching, singing, and music. Our church has a very committed/passionate group of members that want to ensure that our MorningPsalm service is focused on prayer, preaching, singing and music. They most likely will be developing worship protocols that will be implemented and tested. These may eventually be brought to the GB for a report. In addition, the GB may be asked to adopt policies related to the MorningPsalm worship service.

Finance Committee Report

- Rachelle Ellis presented the finance committee report that showed a strong cash and tithe position. The church budget offering remains lower than expectations. A needs awareness effort will be planned

- The 2010-2011 budget was presented and includes a Northstar Camp scholarship fund and a budget for an associate pastor.

- The associate pastor position will be on a "hire hold" and revisited after Pastor English has had time to transition into his position. Pending church budget realities, it is estimated that filling this part time position can be reconsidered in January, 2011

- A motion was made and passed to accept the finance committee report and the 2010-2011 budget.

Mission/Vision/Ministries

- Governing board backed ministries were evaluated and volunteers were assigned active involvement roles.
 - MCA – Dale Williams
 - ICA – John Nicholson
 - Sanctity of Life – Ed Wines
 - Congo Frontline Ministry – Jared London and John Nicholson
 - Building Our Church Family – Heidi Abramovich, Patty Gadberry, Justin Lyons

Governing Board Positions

- Dave Briscoe resigned from the governing board effective June 30, 2010. The nominating committee will be notified of the open position for 2011. In addition, the governing board positions held by Jared London, Rachelle Ellis and John Nicholson terminate June 30, 2010.

- The nominating committee will be encouraged by the governing board to extend invitations to Rachelle Ellis, Jared London and John Nicholson to serve again for a three year term that would begin July 1, 2010 and end June 30, 2013.

Church Membership Updates: Transfer Out: Terrilee Nennich to the Lafayette, IN, SDA Church; **Baptism:** Evelyn Guter on June 5.

A motion was made and passed to accept the membership updates.

Strategic Planning

- A property appraisal is planned as a step in strategic planning for next year. Integra Realty Resources will perform a site visit in the near future; the appraisal should be completed by July 1, 2010.

Next Meeting

- June 16, 2010. Start time will be 6:30 p.m. and Patty Gadberry will provide the devotion.
 - The sub committee for Building Our Church Family will bring strategic plan ideas.
 - Jared London will provide a brief update on the Congo Frontline ministry.
- Closing**
- A season of prayer was held for the pastoral transitions.

OUR FIVE STEPS FOR GROWING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

- S—Study God's Word Every Day.** Get to know God personally.
- T—Talk to God Intimately Each Day in Prayer.** Let God's perspective change yours.
- E—Experience the Joy of Worship.** Gather on Sabbaths to focus on the holiness of God, humble yourself before Him, confess your sins, receive the assurance of being saved by God's grace through the cross of Jesus, return His tithe, bring Him an offering for the church budget, and praise Him for His wonderful works.
- P—Participate in Fellowship with Other Christians.** Befriend someone new who comes to church. Start a small group. Be forgiving. Speak only positively about others.
- S—Share Jesus with Others.** Support our church and school. Have a list of people for whom you pray and work so that they will become followers of Jesus.

June 2010 Church Calendar:

Weekly Reoccurring Activities:

- Wed. 10:00 a.m. J.U.L.I.E.T.S.

June Calendar:

11-19 Camp Meeting in Hutchinson, MN
For more info, go to www.mnsda.com

13—6:30 p.m. CHIP Alumni Meeting

16—6:30 p.m. Governing Board Meeting



Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
Psalm 119:105
(King James Version)



Future Dates:

July 5-9

Vacation Bible School (free)
Day Camp (\$20/day)

July 18-23

Rock Climbing Trip (\$225)
Contact Pastor Benji

August 1-6

Boundary Waters Canoe Trip (\$125)
Contact Pastor Benji

To better serve you please update your information at the church office. You can do this by filling out a **Welcome Card** at church, calling the church secretary or email secretary@mtka-sda.org.

We need your email address so we can send you the newsletter and other announcements via email.

Also, please check our website <http://www.knowgodmore.com/> for latest updates.

Thank you

Summer Programs

I hope that you have gotten a chance to look over the summer Youth/Jr. High Schedule. I'm putting it below so that if you haven't seen it you can. I really hope that you strongly encourage your student to attend our summer programs. This is a very critical part of our ministries. Our summer programs give students a chance to couple fun, God's Nature and leadership with their walk with God.

As always while there is significant cost to our programs scholarships are available, you'd be amazed at how creative I can be as far as financing students to go on trips. Finally, there are minimum numbers for our trips, it just isn't cost effective for us to run trips for a very small number of students, so please fight your procrastination urges and get your applications in ASAP.

July 5-9: Vacation Bible School (Free)
Day Camp (\$20/day)

July 18-23: Rock Climbing Trip (\$225)

August 1-6: Boundary Waters Canoe Trip (\$125)

Contact Pastor Benji for registration forms or download from our website www.knowgodmore.com



Children's Sabbath School

One of the things that Minnetonka has always been known for is our strong Children's Sabbath School programs. However RIGHT NOW we are at a crossroads. Almost half of our Sabbath Schools' leaders want to change ministry positions within the church. We are in desperate need of teachers in all of our Sabbath Schools, but especially in Kindergarten and Primary. If those rooms do not get leaders soon there is a strong possibility that we will be closing the doors to those Sabbath Schools.

If you are a parent of one of the children in these rooms or feel called to minister to 1st-4th graders, please step forward to help so we do not have to take drastic measures.