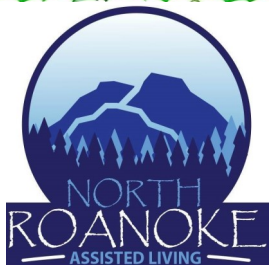


The Good News

Roanoke SDA Church

4120 Challenger Avenue, NE, Roanoke, VA 240125
540-977-0346 www.AdventistCentral.org

December 2023



Celebrating the Season! North Roanoke Assisted Living

On Sabbath, December 9, at 1:45, a group will be going to the North Roanoke Assisted Living to visit with the residents. We will gather outside in the central grassy courtyard area at the facility to sing Christmas Carols to all the residents. After a bit of singing, all residents will be invited to come out to pick up their Christmas gift! The school children will have helped with the preparation of 120 Christmas bags, one for each resident.

We will lovingly share the music, the giftbags and the love of Jesus with these residents. You are invited to join us on Sabbath afternoon after services at the North Roanoke Assisted Living, 6910 Williamson Road, Roanoke, at 1:45 on Sabbath, December 9, as we share in the joy of witnessing to others.



On Sabbath, December 30, during the worship hour we will once again celebrate together the wonderful reminder of God's saving plan for each of us.

All members, friends and guests who claim Jesus as their personal Savior are invited to join us for the Ordinance of Humility and the Lord's Supper on that day.

Sabbath Worship Sabbath, December 23

On Sabbath, December 23, we are looking forward to a wonderful Sabbath where we come together to worship and to commemorate the birth of the Baby Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Please plan to join us on this last Sabbath before Christmas. Come early for a Connections Breakfast from 9:00-10:00, Sabbath School at 10:00 and stay as we worship together starting at 11:00 in the sanctuary.



PRISON FELLOWSHIP
ANGEL TREE

The names have been selected. Gifts have been purchased and wrapped! A menu has been decided upon and shopped for and the cooking has begun! Fruit baskets have been readied! Let the fun begin!

On Sunday afternoon, December 10, we will celebrate the season with several families whose loved ones are currently incarcerated. We want to bring some joy to the children! Thank you for your generosity in supporting this wonderful outreach program.

Special Guest Speaker

Elder Randy Skeete
December 8 & 9



Randy Skeete is a self-supporting internationally known evangelist. His messages call God's people to prepare for the Second Coming through authentic Christianity.

Elder Skeete is a graduate of Oakwood University and the Theological Seminary at Andrews University. He has served as Counselor/Director of Medical School Programs at the University of Michigan, as evangelist in the Campus Ministries Department of the Michigan Conference and as associate speaker for American Christian Ministries.

You are encouraged to join us on Friday evening, December 8, 6:30 p.m., as we welcome the ministry of Elder Skeete. You are also encouraged to come and hear his messages presented on Sabbath, December 9, at 11:00, 2:00 and 3:15. Lunch will be provided immediately following the 11:00 service.

Worship with RACS Students and Connect

Sabbath, December 16 @ 11:00

The students of the Roanoke Adventist Christian School and the Connect homeschool students will present the worship service on Sabbath, December 16 at 11:00. The theme of the service will be "Waiting for Jesus."

Please plan to enjoy this special worship service in our sanctuary as the students bring honor and glory to God through a variety of music, readings and other features remembering the birth of Jesus.



Roanoke
Adventist
Christian
School

The Roanoke Adventist Christian School ("RACS") has grown by two new students. We recently welcomed Pasqual and Salatiel, who have moved to Roanoke with their parents from Angola, which is a country on the west central coast of Africa. Please see Jackie Powell-Long, our head teacher, if you, too, are interested in enrolling your child.

You may have missed the special program and Thanksgiving Brunch recently held by the school. The students had a wonderful time sharing their gratitude. See the pictures below of the RACS students and Connect students performing for their families and other guests during the Brunch. The Chime Choir is directed by Oraleatha Clarke.

The last day of school before this year's Christmas break (December 18 through January 1) will be December 15. On that Friday, the students will celebrate with a gift exchange and Christmas Party, but until then they are busily working on many projects to be completed.

The students will present a special Christmas worship service at the church on Sabbath, December 16. The theme of their program will be "Waiting for Jesus." We are looking forward to what they will share. Please plan to attend and let's worship with the students.



Woodhaven
Angel Tree

Have you seen the Woodhaven Angel Tree? You are invited to select a name or two from the tree to bless with a gift this Christmas. Woodhaven has 36 residents and our goal is the purchase a Christmas gift for each and every one of them.

Once a name is selected, you then buy a gift for the resident named on the angel and return the gift to the church no later than December 16.

The back of each angel selected has a list of gift ideas to help you with your shopping. Place your gifts in a giftbag (with no tissue paper) and return it to the church no later than Sabbath, December 16.

Thank for your willingness to help the Woodhaven residents have an enjoyable Christmas knowing that someone cares for them and remembers them!



Happy Birthday
Baby Jesus!

It's December! Time to plan activities to celebrate Christmas with your family!

Click [HERE](#) for 25 days of daily activities and devotionals that will take you and your family through the first 25 days of December.

These short daily devotionals and activities, in both English and Spanish, have been prepared by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists for family worship time.

Although December 25 may not be the actual day of Jesus' birth, these daily devotionals will help you and your family remember Jesus, the real reason we celebrate this Christmas season.

Here's the web address:
www.childmin.org/happybirthdayjesus

Special Request for Prayer

Please pray for our PASTORAL SEARCH which is ongoing. Pray that the Lord will bless the person He has chosen.

Please pray for our NOMINATING COMMITTEE as they finish their work and for those who have accepted positions of leadership for 2024.



In January, our Health Ministries Team led by Ryan and Liz McLennan will begin its third ROSC: Revive Your Life series! The first two series were very well attended and received great reviews!

There is a large team of people working together on this outreach ministry. They spend time prepping before the series begins working to make sure each series is better than the last. So far, they are hitting the target!

There may still be a seat or two available if you would like to attend the upcoming ROSC: Revive Your Life series which includes cooking demos and delicious meals as well as nightly presentations. See Ryan or Liz McLennan as soon as you can to secure a seat!



Social Committee presents:

Christmas Vespers

December 23, 2023

4:30 - 7:30

All are invited!

Church Board Meeting

The 2023 Church Board met on November 13, 2023, to address some of our church ministries and business.

The following are highlights of some of the items the board discussed:

- > Church to purchase literature boxes from *Signs*.
- > Prison Fellowship Angel Tree will be Sunday, December 10 at 4:30 with gifts and a meal.
- > Christmas Caroling and gifts on Sabbath, December 9 at the North Roanoke Assisted Living.
- > Church to give \$500 to each young adult registered to attend GYC in December.
- > Angel Tree for WoodHaven Residents
- > Next ROSC series to be January 23 through February 27, 2024.
- > November Coat Drive and Backpack Collection
- > Students and Pathfinders to participate in Vinton Christmas Parade.
- > Clean up required at retention pond Areas

All church board members are encouraged to attend the next meeting on Monday, December 11, at 6:15 p.m.

Connections Breakfast!

Sabbath, December 16
9:00 - 10:00

Connections' goal is to use our hearts, hands and feet to reach people and build bridges for the Kingdom of God!

Come early on Sabbath morning, December 16, as we gather in the Fellowship Room for a Connections Breakfast! We will greet our guests, friends and members as we renew friendships and create new ones!

Please bring your favorite holiday breakfast item to share and let's spend some time together as we learn more about programs and ways to build bridges with those we meet!



*May the Lord light your way
in the coming year
and fill your days
with His peace
and the joy of His presence!*

December

- 2 Anjeli King Wuergler
- 4 Jim Akers
- 6 Mary Jane Taylor
- 7 Deb Dovidio
- 8 Hannah Doudiken
- 8 Fawn Kesselring
- 8 Lucas Royal
- 9 Michelle McCloskey
- 10 Lizabeth Saunders
- 15 Mykayla Lundy
- 16 Addy McLennan
- 16 Eli Ratliff
- 17 Lee McLennan
- 20 Ron Ihrig
- 20 Stephen Dixon
- 20 Sarah Payne
- 22 Ryan Long
- 22 Myla Lundy
- 22 Sean Squier
- 27 Nathaniel Muncy
- 28 Heather Moore
- 29 Megan Booth
- 29 Samantha Pleasants

HOLIDAY APPLE PIE



BAKE SALE FOR BRAZIL

1 frozen take & bake
apple pie = \$12.00

Regular and no sugar
options available.



Analise McLennan is making holiday apple pies to raise money for her mission trip to Brazil in March. They will be building a church in a village along the Amazon River.

Your donations can be made payable to Far Out Missions. Please do not place Annalise's name on the check; attaching a separate note to the check will make sure it is applied to her account. A receipt for your donation will be sent to you after the new year. You can place your donation in Ryan McLennan's mailbox at the church or mail to: Far Out Missions 171 Gordon Road, Newnan, GA 30263

E-mail

lizmcLenna@gmail.com
to place order.

Delivery to your
home or the church
kitchen freezer on
December 7

The January 2024 issue of
THE GOOD NEWS

will be distributed beginning
December 30, 2023

Please send info and pictures to
RoanokeSDAChurch@gmail.com
Next Deadline: December 20, 2023

Who to Contact?

Head Elder: Gregory Gooden
540-309-8798

Clerk: Carol Doudiken
540-580-1589

Treasurer: Mona Robinson
757-880-0377

School: Marc Buch
540-776-0328

or
Jackie Powell-Long
540-798-6061