

The Good News

Roanoke Seventh-day Adventist Church
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Golden Gift

Dispatch videographer Doral Chenoweth III knew Ted Williams was special when he met him. Ted Williams was standing at the Hudson Street ramp off northbound I-71 in Columbus, Ohio, holding a sign asking for financial help for his homeless condition and claiming he had a God-given gift of voice. Doral Chenoweth asked him to prove his talent on video.

Ted Williams had trained in radio years prior. Problems with drugs and alcohol landed him on the streets for several years, but he never lost "the voice." The video Chenoweth produced of Ted Williams' voice for Dispatch.com quickly went viral, making its way around the world. Ted Williams suddenly began getting job offers and was sought by national news shows.

None of this would have happened had not a "Good Samaritan" seen something beyond Mr. Williams' unkempt looks and pitiful circumstances. Doral Chenoweth had seen potential in Ted Williams.

Doesn't this story remind you of another "Good Samaritan" that looked past our pathetic predicament to see our possibilities?

In that remarkable book on the life of Christ, *The Desire of Ages*, the author states that Christ looked past our faults and failings to see what we could become when transformed by His grace. If He hadn't, we would have been easily passed over. But thank God that He took us to Himself!

We are not what we were because Jesus saw us and had compassion on us. We are not what we were because Christ picked us up, cleaned us up, and made us whole. We are not what we were because the Creator reinstated us.

Knowing what you know and realizing what your life could have looked like, how have you shown gratitude to your Redeemer? If Christ had not loved you as you were when He found you, could you say you would be where you are today?

Ted Williams insisted that his "golden voice" was a gift from God. He put it to work. What are the spiritual gifts God has given you? Are you using your gifts for His glory? Are you using them to advance God's cause? Are you engaging them to "each one reach one"?

You and I have been redeemed for service. "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." (1 Peter 4:10). Let us each put, or keep putting, that "golden gift" into God's service. Someone needs the expression of your gift today.

~ Pastor Chris Buttery

Shoots AND Roots

**Better Health on a Budget
Eat Well, Spend Less &
Live Better**

Thursday, April 2 @ 6:00

Speaker: Dr. Ryan McLennan

Refreshments provided.
Please join us and bring a friend
along! All are welcome!



UNASHAMED: MAKING FRIENDS FOR GOD Parts 3 & 4

Parts three and four of this four-part training workshop for our church family, presented by Pastor Chris Buttery, will continue on Sabbath, April 4, and Sabbath, April 18 - after lunch on the 4th and after Connections on the 18th!

We warmly invite everyone to come and be part of these encouraging and practical workshops as we learn together how to build meaningful friendships and share God's love with others. All are welcome! Please bring a friend and join us!

Celebrating Our Volunteers



April 19-25 is a time set aside in our community to honor and celebrate the incredible services provided by volunteers. Many volunteers are serving our church. Whether its preparing and presenting Bible study lessons, ministering to the sick and grieving, leading the children in Pathfinders and Adventurers, sharing talents during the worship services, witnessing of Jesus' love to seniors, donating blood for our community, or taking care of the administrative tasks involved in ministry, we find dedicated men and women, youth and teens, and boys and girls of all ages voluntarily serving God, their church and their community.

Each volunteer effort is a way of fulfilling our call to be servant leaders for our Lord. Let's celebrate how very blessed we are for every volunteer as they honor the Lord and fulfill their calling!

If you aren't already involved in ministry, add your name to the list! Everyone is a special gift and everyone has a gift to share!

Thank you!

~ Susan Timmons



Roanoke Challengers PBE Team

This year's Pathfinder Bible Experience ("PBE") Team continues to score very well on their rounds of testing! They were successful at the Conference Level in February and at the Union Level in March! On April 17-18 the PBE Team will be in Hawthorne, Florida, testing at the Division Level!

Please keep the Team in your prayers as they study their Bibles and demonstrate what they have learned. Pray also for their safety as they travel to and from Florida for this upcoming final event.



Coming July 20 - 24, 2026
to our Church!

Registration opens in May so
watch for more details and
register early!

Ages 6-12



April

- 3 Geraldine Hodges
- 4 Alexia Atkins
- 4 Cody Scott
- 9 Nellie Anderson
- 9 Oraleatha Clarke
- 10 Emma McLennan
- 12 Samuel Clarke
- 13 Kofi Amo-Mensah
- 13 Beverly Scott
- 13 Josette Hatega
- 14 Mark Dillard
- 17 Danielle Atkins
- 18 Doris Amo-Mensah
- 19 Ethan Muncy
- 21 Deanna Tembo
- 23 Brandon Anderson
- 24 Lynn Downey
- 25 Pastor Chris Buttery
- 26 Micheal Hurt
- 29 Cindy Harlow
- 30 Raphael Mervil



Adventurers

The Adventurers continue to grow and remain active, providing spiritual, social and character-building experiences for our children. The ministry fosters faith, service and friendship among our children ages 4-9.

Pictured above is one of the six groups of children, this one led by Edith Busienei. Currently there are 16 children participating in Adventurers and six dedicated teachers.

We are grateful for the leaders of this ministry and the support of the church family as we nurture our young Adventurers.



Roanoke Adventist Christian School (RACS) students and staff are going into April and May with full schedules. These schedules include:

- ♦ A special fundraising dinner on Sunday, April 26 at the Wild Basil Restaurant. Our Fellowship Room will be transformed into an Italian restaurant serving a five-course Italian dinner. The students from the school will be the restaurant staff, greeters and servers. Invitations are available at the Welcome Desk at the church or from any RACS board member. Dining times will be staggered and reservations are required. A suggested donation of \$25 for adults and \$15 for children will be appreciated, with all proceeds benefiting the school. *Bon Appetit!*
- ♦ RACS students and Connect students are building rockets! You are invited to see their handiwork and experience firsthand the launching of the rockets on Sunday, May 3. Refreshments will be enjoyed, picnic style! Watch for details about the time and the food as we get closer to T- 0.
- ♦ The older school students are learning about rock climbing, using physical strength and agility. Climbing even artificial walls tests skill and endurance. While developing these skills, the students are learning some practical applications of physics including forces, friction, center of gravity management and Newton's laws of motion. Rock climbing is a great example of combining science and learning while having fun!
- ♦ The end of this school year is fast approaching and student recruitment is gearing up. Recruiting to increase student enrollment for the 2026-2027 academic year is the goal. Everyone is invited to share the good news about our school and the benefits of Adventist education. Brochures for sharing information about RACS are available at the Welcome Desk of the church and from the school staff and board members.
- ♦ The staff and board of RACS acknowledge the continuing financial support of the school through the church budget and the generous donations to the Lambs Offering during the church's weekly worship services. Thank you!

~ Susan Timmons

Church Board News & Notes

The members of the Roanoke SDA Church Board met on March 16 to discuss the plans, mission and vision of our church. Here are some highlights from the meeting:

- > Harry Janetzko will serve as Teaching Principal for school year 2026-2027
- > Model rocketry new offering at RACS
- > School fundraiser on April 26
- > Blood Drive outreach program has been offered for 11 years and flourishing
- > Strategic Planning Committee for Church Renewal in the works
- > Dumpster pad to be prepared once better weather is here to stay

The next church board meeting is planned for Monday evening, April 13, at 6:30.

Online Prayer Meeting Wednesdays @ 7:30 PM

Please join us for the thirty minute Online Prayer Meetings each Wednesday evening in April! The meetings will be held via ZOOM at 7:30 PM. Watch your email for the ZOOM link each Wednesday!



Why Should I Participate In Sabbath School?

Christianity is not merely a religion of rituals; it is, at its core, a relationship with a loving and personal God. The Bible teaches that God desires an intimate friendship with each of us, demonstrated through His love, guidance and sacrifice. Growing in this relationship transforms our character, informs our decisions and fills our lives with purpose and hope.

Our second quarter lessons, ***Growing in a Relationship with God***, offer a fresh opportunity to renew our commitment to seek God more intentionally.

If you have not attended Sabbath school lately, this would be a suitable time to join us. Our meet & greet Bible Café opens at 9 AM and gives you an opportunity to fellowship before we sit down at 9:30 to praise God and study together.

It is my prayer that we in the Roanoke SDA Church shall be as the Bereans of Acts 17:11:

“... more noble of character. . . studying the scripture daily. ..”

I am looking forward to seeing you in the Bible Café Sabbath morning!

~ John Hodgkin

BUT, OH, THE FUN THEY HAD!

The day was cold and snowy on the mountaintops of West Virginia! But that didn't deter the smiles and squeals coming from all those rosy cheeked friends having fun in the snow!

It all happened at Winterplace Ski Resort on a Sunday in late February! We may not be able to recognize some of their faces in their cold-weather gear, but aren't their smiles and sparkly eyes a delight!

