

The Good News

Roanoke Seventh-day Adventist Church
4120 Challenger Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24012
AdventistCentral.org 540-512-4545

June 2026



Not Alone

A few years back, British researchers from Cranfield University launched a balloon from Sweden with on-board instruments to search for non-Earth bacteria and microorganisms. The reason for the quest for alien life on other planets was revealed when Dr. Juanes-Vallejo stated, "It would be nice to know we're not alone...even if it's just a little bacteria."

Since the invention of radio more than a century ago, mankind has been broadcasting into space in the hope that any listening aliens could learn of our presence. Yet, despite waves travelling 200 light years in all directions since 1895, they still have 118,800 light years to go until the entire Milky Way has heard the word! When you consider there are billions of galaxies like ours in the universe, the quest for extra-terrestrial life is not likely to end any time soon.

Science blogger Adam Grossman, who created the diagram of the "Humanity Bubble" and reflecting on the vastness of the universe, once said on his site: "This makes me feel small, sad, and alone. Hold me."

Cozying up against some out-of-space germ to know we're not alone isn't satisfactory. There is good news for Vallejo, Grossman, and anyone else that feels lonely or longs for the knowledge that they are not alone. More than bacteria, the "in the beginning" God is not distant, far off, or indifferent to our plight.

While we are small in comparison to the vast universe, we don't need to be sad or feel alone. "Compared to God, man is nothing. Yet we are everything to God." We are not alone.

With the renewed interest in extra-terrestrial life since the call of the U.S. Congress for more transparency on what the government knows or doesn't know regarding Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAPs) and the recent release of declassified government files on UAPs, one might begin to wonder whether alien life has come to us! Indeed, it has, but it happened two thousand years ago. Not in some strange hybrid form to do us harm, but in the Only Begotten of the Father, sent in human garb to come near to us.

"Unidentified" phenomena are distractions from knowing and living in the truth that the Son of God penetrated Earth's atmosphere to live as one with us so that He might reveal His longing to be with us. This God of the Holy Scriptures is named Immanuel—God with us. He is near. He is close. He loves you. He is your Savior.

"For thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isaiah 57:15

~ Chris Buttery, Pastor



On this Father's Day, June 21, 2026, our prayer is for all fathers - biological fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, and father figures — who have shaped our lives with love, faith and sacrifice.

We pray that their hearts will be filled with joy and their lives with abundant love and happiness.

We pray they are blessed for their guidance and the strength they provide and the inspiration they have shared with wisdom and kindness.

We thank you for your unwavering leadership, guidance, and love!



The Plant Powered Kitchen

Whole-Food, Plant-Based
Cooking Demo

by
Kristen McLennan
and
Julie Toler

Thursday, June 4 @ 6:00

Samples, Recipes and
Cooking Tips will be provided.

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



IN CONCERT

June 27 @ 7:00 at our Church!

The Emmanuel Quartet is an acapella gospel group which began in 1989 as the "Highland Academy Men's Quartet." In 1993 the quartet's name was changed and The Emmanuel Quartet was born.

The quartet's concerts are 100% acapella, featuring barbershop-style harmonies and a smooth blend of voices. The members of the quartet are not only musicians by desire, but also ministers of the gospel through music. The mission of the quartet is to reflect God's love through music, reminding His people that He is with us and that Jesus is returning soon. Over the years, the faces have changed but the smooth harmonies and genuine spiritual message remain.

The quartet tours the United States presenting concerts to audiences of all ages and religious affiliations. They have also traveled internationally, participating in several evangelistic events. We will welcome The Emmanuel Quartet to our church on Sabbath evening, June 27, at 7:00. Please join us for a wonderful evening of music! All ages are welcome! And don't forget to bring a friend, co-worker, neighbor and, of course, your family!

Weekly Prayer Meeting

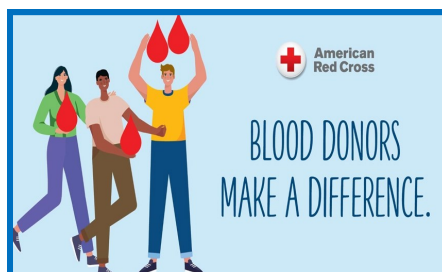
Online Access

Wednesdays @ 7:30

Prayer Meeting continues every Wednesday evening at 7:30. The meetings are online via ZOOM.

We are covering the book, *"Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing."* Each meeting begins with a short devotional covering a verse or two from Matthew 5 and the Sermon on the Mount.

You are invited to join us online so watch your email for the ZOOM link every Wednesday!



Now is the time to make a difference in your community!

We will have a Blood Drive on June 20 from 8:30 to 1:30 and you are invited to participate by donating life giving blood to help your neighbors.

If this is something you would like to do, please contact Judy Hodgkin and set up a time!

Church Board News & Notes

The members of the Roanoke SDA Church Board met on May 11 to discuss the plans, mission and vision of our church.

Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- > Board discussion regarding plans to nurture members
- > Appreciation expressed for all those helping with the Wild Basil pop-up restaurant school fundraising event
- > RACS registration scheduled for Tuesday, August 4, 5:00 to 7:00
- > Emmanuel Quartet in concert at our church on June 27
- > Faithful support of church budget encouraged
- > Explored status of church rental

The next church board meeting is planned for Monday evening, June 8, at 6:30. Please keep the board and its members in your prayers.

Deacon Ministry

A sincere thank you to all of our Deacons for your faithful service, hard work and dedication. Because of your efforts, our church continues to grow, remain cared for, and stand strong.

A special thank you, as well, to our Deaconesses and church members who continually support the Deacons, especially during our first work bee of the year. Your help is truly appreciated.

Deacons, we also have one small project ahead: the church has received 10 new round tables, so we will soon need to organize storage space and possibly remove some older rectangle tables that are no longer in good condition.

Thank you all again for your continued service and support to our church family.

~ Schneider Mervil, Head Deacon

13th SABBATH SCHOOL PROGRAM

On Sabbath morning, June 27, you are invited to participate in a special quarterly event.

During Sabbath School time, we will focus on missions, both local and foreign. We will learn more about mission projects in different parts of the world as well as how we can be involved in local missions.

All children, youth and adults are invited to join us in the Fellowship Room for this special 13th Sabbath program! See you there!

CAMP MEETING IN THE VALLEY
New this year!!!
 RV spaces are available!
Hope
 INTERVING
 TIMES
 JUNE 10-13, 2026
 FIRST COME FIRST SERVED
 REGISTER YOUR SPACE NOW!
 PCSDA.ORG




Petra's Shoe Ministry and William's Sock Ministry

These two ministries started by two young church members have been busy once again! Together Petra and William Dodge, accompanied by their mother, Jennifer, donated sixty pairs of brand new shoes and socks! Their friends - Annalise, Brooke and Emma McLennan - helped support the ministry by making cards to go in each showbox reminding the recipients that Jesus loves them! .

The gifts were donated to the older students of Hope Tree Academy, formerly Virginia's Baptist Children's Home, a non-profit organization with Christian values. The Academy has 35 students who need help beyond what can be found in the state schools. The students are high school age with a principal and teachers dedicated to helping them with behavioral and learning challenges.

The Dodge's report that they were blessed by giving shoes and socks to the teens! We are blessed to be a part of this ministry through our gifts to the church designated for Petra's Shoe Ministry or William's Sock Ministry.

flagcamp
 Fun Learning About God
 9am - 4pm
 Ages 6-12
 Coming July 20 - 24, 2026!
 Registration now!
AdventistCentral.org




Save the Date! The Power of Persistent Prayer

Tamyra Horst will be our special guest speaker on Sabbath, July 11, 2026, at our church. That Sabbath will include three presentations: one during Sabbath School, one during the worship service and one in the afternoon. Fellowship Lunch will be provided.

Have you ever found yourself praying for the same thing over and over and then wondering if your persistent prayers were problematic? That will be the topic of Tamyra's presentations during "The Power of Persistent Prayer!"

You won't want to miss Tamyra's presentations, so please mark your calendars now! Friends and family are welcome!

Roanoke SDA Church

4120 Challenger Avenue
 Roanoke, Virginia 24012
AdventistCentral.org
RoanokeSDAChurch@gmail.com
 540-512-4545

The July 2026 issue of
THE GOOD NEWS
 will be distributed beginning
 June 27, 2026
 Next Deadline: June 20, 2026