

The Good News

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

July 2026



America 250: A time for Gratitude & Reflection

This year, the United States celebrates its 250th anniversary. For two and a half centuries, our nation has experienced remarkable blessings, endured significant trials, and demonstrated a resilience that has inspired much of the world. As Christians, this milestone provides an opportunity not only to celebrate but also to reflect with gratitude and humility.

One of America's greatest gifts is liberty. Among the freedoms we cherish, religious liberty stands at the top. We worship God openly, preach the gospel freely, gather in churches without fear, and teach our children the truths of Scripture. These freedoms should never be taken for granted. History and present-day reality remind us that not all believers have enjoyed or do enjoy these privileges and that liberty, once neglected, can be lost.

We can also be thankful for the wisdom reflected in the United States Constitution. There is no other document like it in the world! While the Constitution established a framework of limited government, checks and balances, and protections for individual rights that has served our nation well for generations, it's genius in separating both the civil and religious powers have given us a land free from the rule of king and pope.

Yet our anniversary should also remind us of an enduring biblical truth: nations rise and fall not merely because of economics or military strength, but because of their moral and spiritual condition. Proverbs 14:34 declares, "Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a [disgrace] to any people." When a people honor justice, truth, humility, and the ways of God, He will elevate them. When they abandon righteousness, they invite division, decay, and decline.

As we celebrate America's 250th birthday, may we thank God for His many blessings. Let us cherish our freedoms. Let us seek to live as faithful citizens of both this nation and God's eternal kingdom.

~ Chris Buttery, Pastor



Meats Reimagined

The next Shoots and Roots is planned for Thursday evening, July 2, from 6:00 to 7:00. The topic for discussion will be making your own plant-based "meats." The speakers will be Ryan and Liz McLennan. They will guide the group in making and sampling *Meats Reimagined*!

Church members are needed - see Liz McLennan to find out why! Please join us and bring a friend along! All are welcome!

Sabbath School



John Hodgkin, Sabbath School leader for the adults, recently shared the following observations, "I have recently had the opportunity to invite a few individuals to come to our Bible Café and stay for Bible study (Sabbath School)."

He went on to say, "As I studied my Sabbath School lesson, I began to wonder what would happen if on a given Sabbath morning 15 to 20 guests showed up around 9:15 to enjoy our Sabbath School."

One of the main objectives of Sabbath School is outreach. What could be better than witnessing to our friends, neighbors and acquaintances and inviting them to Sabbath School lesson study!

The Bible Café, opening at 9:00, is a great place to visit with one another from week to week. It's also a great time to start building a relationship with our guests before we start the study session.

Sabbath School begins promptly at 9:30, with about 15 minutes or less for singing a theme song, praying together and sharing the good things God is doing in our lives! Won't you join us and bring a friend? We'd love to see you at 9:30 on Sabbath morning!

The Power of Persistent Prayer

Roanoke SDA Church
4120 Challenger Avenue, Roanoke, VA
Sabbath, July 11, 2026
Presentations at 9:30, 10:55, 2:00

*Inspirational Messages—Beautiful Music
Book Give Aways—Delicious Lunch*

Speaker: Tamyra Horst is an international author, popular speaker, and leader with a passion for God's Word and sharing Him with others. Tamyra also serves as Director of Family Ministries, Women's Ministries, and Communications for the Pennsylvania Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

~ Sponsored by Prayer Ministry, Roanoke SDA Church

Witnessing in Action

In mid-June we had another successful blood drive! Several of our members interacted in a very positive way with donors from our community.

Two donors expressed an interest in Bible studies at the church and were invited to come any Saturday morning to the Bible Café and stay for Bible study. They both eagerly accepted the new quarter's Bible study lessons and we hope to welcome them one Sabbath morning soon!



Another one of our members interacted with, and witnessed to, one of the blood drive workers, Ryan. It was wonderful to see and experience the exchange of information regarding our church and some of our beliefs. The exchange was captured in the picture to the left.

Copies of the little book, "Steps to Christ," were made available and donors helped themselves to several copies. Let's pray the Holy Spirit will touch the hearts of those who have taken those books and that they will read them and their lives will be changed.

In addition to the 46 units of blood that was collected and the understanding that each unit is capable of helping three individuals in a health crisis, the opportunity to build relationships and share Biblical truths is the real purpose of our drives and it is wonderful and exciting to see!

Something New is Coming!

We will soon have some nice new round tables in the Fellowship Room! These tables will be used for church family meals, and more! It's exciting to see positive changes taking place in the building, and more are still to come! Stay tuned!



Church Board News & Notes

The members of the Roanoke SDA Church Board met on June 8, 2026, to discuss the plans, mission and vision of our church.

Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- > Ideas explored: What are we doing of value in our community: What new ideas/suggestions to meet peoples felt needs and develop relationships?
- > Follow Up: What are the needs in our territory?
- > Jennifer Dodge is director of the Connect program at RACS
- > New Pathfinder director will be needed
- > Petra's Shoe Ministry and William's Sock Ministry are buying shoes and socks for donations
- > Giving is strong in the church and all are encouraged to support the ministries financially
- > Bedrock Church will terminate its use as of August 31
- > Susie Shumate to transfer her membership to our church

The next church board meeting is planned for Monday evening, July 13, 2026, at 6:30. Please keep the board and its members in your prayers.

Roanoke SDA Church

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