

The Good News

Roanoke Seventh-day Adventist Church
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August 2026



An Influence for Good

I've been reflecting on a book I read about the decline of Christianity and the rise of the postmodern world. The authors did an excellent job attempting to define postmodernism, even though it is a term that resists a simple, clear-cut definition.

It's a word we hear often, yet many people aren't quite sure what it means. In many ways, postmodernism describes the cultural climate in which we now live. It is commonly associated with moral relativism, the rejection of objective truth, increasing secularism, fragmented identities, and a growing emphasis on self.

The fruits of this way of thinking can often be seen in rising immorality, broken families, confusion, irrational thinking, and a lack of lasting purpose. Bible students cannot help but notice how closely these trends resemble Jesus' description of the last days (Matthew 24:12, 37–39).

The authors argue that postmodernism is not so much "a revolt against the modern age, but rather a natural consequence of the destructive forces which have caused such violent upheaval in society."

At its heart, postmodernism seeks to construct a worldview with humanity at the center and God pushed to the margins—or excluded altogether. Yet when God is removed, lasting meaning, purpose, and hope are often removed as well.

Could this help explain why so many today struggle with hopelessness, anxiety, depression, and despair? While many factors contribute to these heartbreaking realities, it is worth asking whether a culture that has largely abandoned God has also lost the very foundation that gives life meaning.

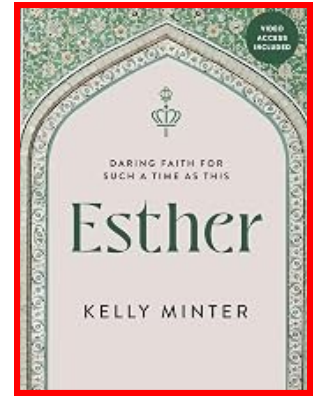
The authors describe the effects of postmodernism with words such as confusion, fragmentation, relativism, secularism, and disorder. Is it any surprise that our society seems increasingly fractured?

So how should Christians respond to an age that questions truth, celebrates moral uncertainty, and rejects God's authority?

Not by burying our heads in the sand. Nor by becoming angry, combative, or convinced that political victories can restore what has been lost.

Instead, we must be careful not to absorb this way of thinking ourselves, whether knowingly or unknowingly. We must faithfully teach our children and grandchildren the unchanging truths of God's Word.

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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Starting on Tuesday morning, August 11, at 11:00, the women will gather to study together the well-loved story of Esther to explore the daring faith modeled by Esther and her cousin Mordecai.

This series of studies held at the church will last eight weeks, from August 11 to September 29. The cost of the book is \$23. Please see Linda Janetzko for more details about the study and to let her know you plan on attending so she will know how many books are needed.



Breakfast Basics!

Thursday, August 6 @ 6:00

Healthy and Quick
Breakfast Foods

FREE PROGRAM!

Everyone is invited to come hear the mini-lecture, see the demo and taste the samples!

"An Influence for Good"

(Continued from Page 1)

We must never be silent, yet neither should we be harsh or insulting. Our words—whether spoken or written—should always be used as instruments for good.

We must refuse to give up on people. We must contend for the truth lovingly, winsomely, passionately, and with wisdom.

In a world increasingly marked by confusion, Christians are called to bring clarity. Where there is despair, we bring hope. Where there is fear, we offer courage. Where there is emptiness, we point people to purpose. Where there is hatred, we demonstrate Christlike love. And where joy has faded, we remind people that true gladness is found in Jesus.

After all, it is not merely my opinion. Jesus Himself said, "You are the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13).

May God help us to preserve what is good, season this world with His grace, and faithfully shine as lights until Christ returns.

~ Chris Buttery, Pastor

August Birthdays

May God Bless you
on your special day!

3 DeJagaye Burnell
3 Luzia Raleigh
4 Brooke McLennan
5 Jennifer Buttery
5 Veronica Faz
13 Josette Hatega
18 Tim Hogan
19 Darren Hackley
20 Amun Kharel
23 Ingrid Akers
23 Rachel Barnett
23 Glenn Muncy
24 Mela Julin
26 Anne Celestin
27 Bud Atkinson

The Lord's Supper (or Communion Service) Sabbath, August 15

We, as followers of Christ, have the privilege and honor of participating in a very special and meaningful way in the worship service on Sabbath, August 15.

As we prepare to celebrate the Lord's Supper, let's examine our hearts, confess our sins to God and ask forgiveness from others.

Please join us on August 15 as we recall, and give thanks for, the sacrifice made on our behalf.

Is your # on our list?

If you would like to receive up-to-the-minute messages from the church, reminders of events, or changes to program details, or urgent prayer requests, please join our text list!

You can simply text the word "JOIN" to 844-382-8786 to be added to the list. Or you can call or send a text to our Communications Team at 540-580-1589 and request that you be added. You won't be bombarded with texts, we promise!



Church Board News & Notes

The members of the Roanoke SDA Church Board met on July 13, 2026, to discuss the plans, mission and vision of our church.

Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- > School has had new mulch delivered to the playground area
- > New school year starts August 17
- > Successful Prayer Ministry Sabbath reviewed
- > "The Power of Prayer" books are available
- > Outreach opportunities are being developed by Sabbath School leadership
- > FLAG Camp plans and needs reviewed
- > Splash Day, a follow-up program of FLAG Camp, to be held August 2
- > Finances of church reviewed and positive report given by Treasurer
- > New replacement HVAC systems to be installed in Sanctuary and Fellowship Room
- > HOLD put on dumpster plans
- > Master Key Box in church office

The next church board meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, August 10, 2026, at 6:30. Please keep the board and its members in your prayers.



Online Prayer Meeting

Every Wednesday evening we gather online for a time of devotions and prayer.

Some join us while sitting on their porch, some in their car and some at the kitchen table or favorite chair in the living room! We do have room for you to join us via ZOOM so don't worry about not having space! Watch your email on Wednesdays about noon for the ZOOM link!



"Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones. Proverbs 16:24

The mother should cultivate a cheerful, contented, happy disposition. Every effort in this direction will be abundantly repaid in both the physical well-being and the moral character of her children. A cheerful spirit will promote the happiness of her family and in a very great degree improve her own health. - Reflecting Christ, 191.2

Let the husband aid his wife by his sympathy and unfailing affection. If he wishes to keep her fresh and gladsome, so that she will be as sunshine in the home, let him help her bear her burdens. His kindness and loving courtesy will be to her a precious encouragement, and the happiness he imparts will bring joy and peace to his own heart - Reflecting Christ, 191.3

Great is the honor and the responsibility placed upon fathers and mothers, in that they are to stand in the place of God to their children. Their character, their daily life, their methods of training, will interpret His words to the little ones." - Reflecting Christ, 191.4

~ Submitted by Oraleatha Clarke
Co-Leader of Family Life Ministry

Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss *The King's Heralds*! This quartet of men will be at our church on Sabbath, September 26, and you won't want to miss them or their music!

The King's Heralds have received twenty-three Silver Angel Awards© including one for being the oldest continuous Gospel Quartet in America!

Dear Church Family,

I'm reaching out to ask for your prayers and, if anyone knows of a place, your help.

I am looking for an inexpensive mother-in-law apartment, garage apartment, or a room with a private entrance and bathroom that I could rent. Because of my limited income, I can only afford about \$300-\$400 per month. I do have a small dog and a cat, both of which are service animals.

If anyone in our church family - or someone you know - has a small place they would be willing to rent at a price I can afford, I would be incredibly grateful.

Please see me at church one Sabbath, and we can talk. Thank you for your prayers and your kindness, and for considering my request. I trust that if the Lord opens a door, it will be through His grace and the compassion of His children.

God bless you all,
Jenn Brady



Roanoke Adventist Christian School

Registration: Tuesday,
August 4 @ 5:00

First Day of School:
Monday, August 17



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