



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are presently engaged as a church in the ten days of prayer which should lead us all to desire and to determine in our hearts, that by the grace of God and the constant daily impartation of the Holy Spirit we will all grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ.

Have you ever really taken time out to consider what it really means when Peter challenges the people of God to grow in grace in 2Peter3:18? We need to emphasize the basics of the gospel: salvation by the death and resurrection of Christ, by God's grace (his free gift), by faith (not by anything we can do to earn it). That is quite proper. But let nobody misunderstand: there is a lot more to learn in God's word beside these basics. And it's sad when someone who has been a Christian for a long time knows nothing else than the simple gospel. And sometimes you get into a situation when you just have to grow up, and grow up fast. Someone attacks your faith, or gets to one of your children in college. You have to grow up fast. The little book of 2 Peter deals with this kind of emergency situation. Let's look at it together.

Grow in grace: All growth is by grace; it's God's gift. We must Constantly ask him in prayer to make us grow. We need God's grace, not only when we first believe in Christ, but we need it again and again, to become the people God wants us to be. Are you as loving and kind as you wish you were? If not, you need to grow in grace. Are you hospitable? Do you open your home and share your belongings with others who are in need? If not, you need to grow in grace. Do you witness to the lost in some way? If not, you need to grow. Do you support the ministry of your church with your time and resources as you promised when you became a baptized member of the Seventh day Adventist church? If not, you need to grow. Do you keep the Sabbath of the Lord's holy, a special day for God and away from your own work and play? If not, you need to grow. Growth in grace is essential to life. There are many imitations but no substitute for grace, Growth in grace is not just gradually giving up sin, but becoming by grace what Christ is by nature. God never demands that you "repent a little bit." You can't find that in your Bible. Your growth is stunted whenever you pray in effect, "Lord, make me pure, chaste and holy — but not yet, please!"

The second part of spiritual growth of which Peter speaks is Growth in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior. There are two ways to grow in knowledge: knowledge *about* him and knowledge *of* him. The most important kind of knowledge is not information, but relationship. We are talking about the difference between knowing someone and knowing about someone. You can know about Socrates, but you can never know him. On the other hand, you can know personally the risen Christ. He not only died to be your Savior, he arose to be your friend and companion. Your knowledge of him can be both factual and relational

So commit yourself today! To grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever. Amen!

Yours in Christian Fellowship: Pastor Livingstone Aaron

CHURCH AT WORSHIP

JANUARY 16, 2016

Second Service

- Introit.....“We Have Come Into This House”.....Praise Team
- Call to Worship.....Elder Michael Douglas
- Doxology.....“Praise God from Whom”.....Congregation
- Invocation.....Elder Donna Wilson
- Welcome.....Elder Michael Douglas
- AnnouncementsChurch Clerk
- Pastoral Announcements..... Elder James Obegi
- Hymn of Adoration.....# 198.....Praise Team
- Scripture Reading.....John 15: 4 – 5.....Sister Deborah Smith
- Intercessory Prayer.....Sister Marilyn Powell

“I Must Tell Jesus”
- Special Music.....Praise Team
- Children’s Story.....Sister Grace Obmasa
- Offertory.....Elder Edward Smith

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”
- Praise and Worship.....Praise Team
- Sermon.....“Our Response”..... Elder Donna Wilson
- Hymn of Consecration.....#567.....Praise Team
- Benediction.....Elder Donna Wilson**

PLEASE REMAIN SEATED UNTIL USHERED OUT

PASTORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEN DAYS OF PRAYER - JANUARY 6-16 2016!!

Ten Days of Prayer at Stroudsburg Seventh day Adventist church?

We are inviting all our visitors, friends and church members to join us here at Stroudsburg for 10 Days of Prayer, a program in which hundreds of thousands of people worldwide have participated. Our goal in this program is to have a broader focus to provide support for both a personal and an interactive prayer community that unleashes God's power for His will in the world through united prayer. As we develop this website, participants will be able to share and receive testimonies, prayer requests, inspirational messages, and practical prayer resources. Our goal is to create a community of prayer where we are "praying every day with God's people and seeing God work."

God poured out His Spirit in Pentecost power after His church spent ten days together, pleading for His promised blessing. He is ready to do it again today! All around the world, Adventist churches are experiencing the renewal of the Holy Spirit by following the disciples' example and participating in Ten Days of Prayer.

A Large number of Church elders, pastors, and lay leaders have led prayer groups of all sizes in homes, schools, churches, online forums, and teleconferences. Groups unable to meet during the designated days have chosen an alternate ten days and been just as blessed. Will you lead your church to join us in Ten Days of Prayer 2016? The dates voted for 2016 are January 6-16 (Wednesday evening through Sabbath morning).

CHURCH AT WORSHIP

January 16, 2016

First Service

Introit.....Sweet, Sweet Spirit"
(Please Remain Standing)

Call to Worship.....Elder Michael Douglas
(Congregation, Please Stand)

Invocation..... Elder Donna Wilson

Welcome..... Elder Michael Douglas
(Congregation, Please Sit)

ADORATION & PRAISE

Hymn of Adoration.....#198
(Please Remain Standing)

Intercessory Prayer..... Sister Marilyn Powell
(Those Able, Please kneel)

STEWARDSHIP & GRATITUDE

Offertory.....Elder Edward Smith

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Scripture Reading..... John 15: 4 – 5.....Sister Deborah Smith

Sermon.....'Our Response'..... Elder Donna Wilson

Hymn of Consecration.....#567

Benediction.....Elder Donna Wilson

THE CHURCH AT STUDY

January 16, 2016

9:15 AM — 10:45 AM

Theme – Each Journey Begins With A Step

- Welcome.....Sister Jean Marie Williams
- Opening Prayer.....Sister Stacey Charles
- Opening Song.....Revive Us Again
- Scripture Reading (Psalms: 85)Sister Stacy Charles
- World Mission Emphasis.....Sister Lenora Aaron
- Welcome to Visitors.....Sister Jean-Marie Williams
- Special Music.....Sister Herline Raphael
- Lesson Study: First Quarter, 2016: Lesson #3**
- Closing Remarks..... Sister Jean-Marie Williams
- Closing Prayer..... Sister Jean-Marie Williams

HEALTH NUGGET

"Be honest and ask yourself:

1. **Do I really want to change?**
2. **Why is this change so important to me now?**
3. **Do I understand the benefits of healthy choices?**
4. **Do I recognize the risks of not making those choices?**

Wise Decisions Equal Good Information

An important factor in making wise decisions is good information. The more you read and understand about your health, the more likely your willingness to change."

<http://creationhealth.com/Articles/>

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." James 1:5 KJV

PASTORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

How to worship with difficult people in Church and still love them

The Bible shows that God gives mankind freedom to choose. And some people choose to cause trouble for others. When Jesus Christ lived as a human, He had to deal with many difficult people. But Christ dealt with these difficult people in the right way. His examples, along with other instructions in God's Word, teach us how to handle those who cause strife.

We should never treat someone in a way we would not want to be treated. Just because someone may mistreat us, we have no right to mistreat him or her. God says vengeance is His, simply because He alone can carry out righteous justice. In fact, when we overcome evil with good, it makes an impression on those who mistreat us!

The wise man Solomon says in Proverbs 22:3A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself, but the simple pass on and are punished.

Proverbs 17:27-28 He who has knowledge spares his words and a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; when he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive. Whenever possible, we should try to avoid confrontations. If we have to be present, then we should say as few words as possible. The last thing we need to do is provoke someone. Even Christ walked away from situations that were getting out of hand (Mark 3:6-7). We have to remember that we all are difficult at times and we all have sinned and fallen way short of God standards. That is what the cross is about! That is why it is so important to prepare yourself spiritually and keep your focus on God-not people or situations-so His fruit can work in you. Prayer is the most important act for us in any manner. Also, remember, your obedience is what counts, not how others respond to you. We are even called to bless these unreasonable people, and we do that by remaining true to His Lordship in our maturity. You cannot be responsible for how others respond and treat you when you are acting in godly character (Romans 12:14-21). Do not let the situation or the bad people get you down, or cause you to compromise biblical precepts or your character! Never close the Bible or neglect prayer; your spiritual journey and your trust and growth in Him will be your anchor to weather the storms. Do not allow yourself to suffer in your spiritual pilgrimage because of someone else. You are still God's special child (Colossians 3:1-4)! Do not let yourself fall to the world's way, regardless of what the other person does. Give them over to God; He is the one who dispenses justice and revenge, not you (Hebrews 12:6)! These are the times you need to especially control your tongue and attitude. Focus on the Lord, not the situation. Do not allow yourself to get into a *pity party* so it is all about you; it is not; it is all about Him. You may not be able to do anything to resolve the problem in a relationship, but that does not mean you are to give up-especially in marriage. Your purpose is to take the focus off yourself and onto Christ as Lord. That way, the bitterness and resentment you got from others will not become a virus that affects you! Repentance and reconciliation may still come. Remember His timing; I have seen miracles of reconciliation long after I had given up hope. God is still at work, even when we do not see Him. God may use your character to speak to them down the road; no relationship or attempt at reconciliation is ever wasted in His Kingdom!

Principle Scriptor to How to Understand, Solve, and Prevent Conflict: Genesis 4; Psalm 37:4; Proverbs 3:4-6; 18:13; Matthew 5:9; 7:5; 15:18-20; 18: 15-20; Luke 6:27-36; 19:1-9; Romans 8:28-29; 1 Corinthians 6:1-8; 10:31-11:1; 13; Galatians 5; Ephesians 4:22-32; 5:1; Philippians 2:3-6; 4:2-9; Colossians 1:17-20; 3:12-17 James 4:1-3; 1 John 14:15

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Up-Coming Events

Prayer Line: Beginning Sunday, January 10, 2016 @ 8PM. Phone number 712-432-0175 Access Code 853923#

Family Life: The PA Conference Marriage Retreat will be held on February 26-28, 2016. The theme this year is A Night at the Carnival. Registration is now open!!

Adventist Youth Society(AY) Today at 4:30 PM

Sabbath Prayer Session: Immediately after Divine Service in the Kindergarten class room, all are welcome

Bible workers Certification Program –Time Change

We are extending an Open Invitation to Attend Bible Study every Sabbath Afternoon from 3:30 to 4:30PM. The time change is necessary because Sun sets much earlier and when we get back to longer days we will change it accordingly. Let us all be flexible, because we all want to be supportive of our youth. So when 4:30 comes its will exclusively be AY Time.

You are warmly invited to a Bible study and Bible workers training program, where we are exploring the Bible, the living word of God. When you come, please bring a friend or relative with you to share in the blessing of studying, the scripture together. Come and experience God for yourself.

The program follows a lecture/discussion format with weekly Biblical themes of Spiritual leadership themes for personal study. There are many beneficial reasons why God gave us His Word. You might also want to use it to encourage someone else to read God's Word

Theme Song: Revive Us Again

We praise Thee, O God!
For the Son of Thy love,
For Jesus Who died,
And is now gone above.

Refrain:

Hallelujah! Thine the glory.
Hallelujah! Amen.
Hallelujah! Thine the glory.
Revive us again.

We praise Thee, O God!
For Thy Spirit of light,
Who hath shown us our Savior,
And scattered our night.

All glory and praise
To the Lamb that was slain,
Who hath borne all our sins,
And hath cleansed every stain.

All glory and praise
To the God of all grace,
Who hast brought us, and sought us,
And guided our ways.

Revive us again;
Fill each heart with Thy love;
May each soul be rekindled
With fire from above.

CHURCH BUSINESS

Choir Rehearsal Schedule

- *Sanctuary Choir – Sabbaths at 4PM*
- *Youth Choir (12 years and up) – Sabbaths at 2:30 PM*
- *Children’s Choir (2 years thru 11 years) - Sabbaths at 3PM*

Medical Personnel on Duty. Sis. Herline Raphael & Sis. Grace Ombasa

This Bulletin is also available on-line @ <http://www.stroudsburgsda.org>

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Please send all Requests for Church Related Information to.....
stroudschurchclerk@gmail.com

SICK & SHUT-IN

Richard Adams 1361 Resica Falls Rd, East Stroudsburg 570-223-7727
Bro Drakes (Brookmont Health Care Center) Effort, PA 610-681-4070
Nemesia Rance 267 King St, Stroudsburg, 570-619-5338
Norma Leap 570-992-4970

Financial Report as of 01/09/2016

	This Month	For The Year
Amount needed***:	\$10,500	\$126,000
Amount collected:	\$ 3,811	\$ 3,811
Amount under:	\$ 6,689	\$122,189

*** Based on last year’s budget, subject to change

“Do all church members realize that all they have is given them to be used and improved to God’s glory? God keeps a faithful account with every human being in our world.” Counsels on Stewardship pg. 111

STEWARDSHIP MOMENTS

Faith Challenge part Two

Many Christians struggle with giving. They fail to see that giving to the Lord is a matter of faith and that God always honors one's faith. If a believer overcomes the problems he has with giving, he makes a great leap forward in spirituality and his relationship to the Lord. God says, *"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."* (Romans 1:17) Living by faith refers to every area of a believer's life, and that includes giving. How often have I heard believers say they could not give to the Lord. They had too many bills and expenses.

When we tithe, we are saying, “This is God’s money.” It’s like a commission we owe for the gift of life itself, for without God’s grace, we wouldn’t be able to earn money at all. The rate was set by God with Moses on Mount Sinai. Jesus endorsed it and it hasn’t changed in all these years.

Why is tithing so powerful?
Well, tithing helps break down the ego’s thought that “I am in charge.” It challenges us to answer the question, “Where does my security come from: Money? Or my relationship with God?”

People with small incomes naturally think it would be easier to tithe if they earned more. People with large incomes are often so dismayed by the size of a 10% tithing check that they, too, hesitate! But our very hesitation tells us how much we could learn from gathering our courage, plunging in and trusting that God will provide.

Tithing is a way for us to show God that we believe and trust in him. If you believe that your church is not spending the tithe correctly; then you are at the wrong church. To those who give and share,” he says, “whether they have much or little, will attract prosperity. That is the law of God. The more one sacrifices for God’s work, the greater will be his reward. We encourage you to consider tithing as a spiritual practice. It will help build a strong foundation of faith in your own life, and help expand the light of God love and grace teachings throughout Stroudsburg and beyond.

There is a story about a businessman who was sitting in his office when his clergyman came in, soliciting funds for the church. The businessman wrote a generous check and had just handed it over when a messenger rushed in and announced that the man’s business had suffered an enormous financial setback.

“Give that check back to me,” the businessman demanded.
The clergyman had no choice but to hand it over, saying, “Of course, I understand. This news has changed everything.”

You bet it has!” the businessman said, tearing the check into little pieces. Then he wrote another check and gave it to the clergyman for twice the original amount!

Perhaps only a few of us would have the faith to act so boldly, but all of us can stretch a little bit and try out this practice of tithing for the next six months or a year, and see what happens.

WHO ARE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS?

WHAT SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS BELIEVE

We believe that Jesus Christ;

Is found throughout the entire Word of God. (John. 5:39; II Tim. 3:16, 17)

Is the divine Son of God and our personal Savior. (John. 1:1-3; Heb. 7:25)

Offers His righteousness to all who accept Him by faith. (Rom. 4:3-5)

Soon coming will be visible to all, and at that time He will raise the dead.
(I Thess. 4:16, 17; I Cor.15:52)

Is the source of a new birth experience. (John. 3:3-5)

Is the Creator of the world, and established the 7th day Sabbath for His people to remember

His creative power. (Heb. 1:1, 2; Ex. 20:8-11)

Is our example that the Ten Commandment Law is a reflection of God's perfect character, and that it is our pattern for successful living. (John. 15:10, James. 2:8-12)

In the Old and New Testaments, outlined the free giving of tithes and offerings to support the work of the church. (Mal. 3:10; Matt. 23:23)

Through His baptism, gave an example of His death and resurrection, and new life through our baptism. (Mark. 1:9; Rom. 6:3-5)

Through the Holy Spirit, makes our body His temple. (I Cor. 3:16, 17)

Gives the gifts of the Spirit for the unity of the faith and the perfection of the saints.
(Eph. 4:8-11; I Cor. 12)

Expects modesty and deportment in His children. (I Tim 2:9, 10)

Is now our heavenly Priest, and gives His last message for all mankind that,
"the hour of God's judgment is come." (Rev. 14:6-12; Heb. 8:1-6)

COME AND WORSHIP WITH US	OUR PEOPLE
<p>Prayer Meeting - Wed. 7:00 pm First Service - Sat. 8:30 am Sabbath School - Sat. 9:45 am Second Service - Sat. 11:00 am Adventist Youth Society Sat. 1 hour before sunset</p>	<p>Pastor: Livingstone Aaron 570-355-5762 416 Tranquility Ct. Long Pond, PA 18334 Email: laaron@paconference.org Church Clerk: Stacey Charles 570-534-5311 Head Elder: James Obegi 201-423-3227 Community Services: Jamala Asiyó - 570-369-5213 Pocono Adventist Christian School- 570-421-5577</p>