

Cadillac Seventh-day Adventist Church  
Communications  
801 E Division St  
Cadillac MI, 49601  
PHONE: 231-775-9545  
www.cadillaccsda.org



<<Name>>  
<<Address>>  
<<City, Zip>>

## MONTHLY CALENDAR

1 - PATHFINDER REGISTRATION/  
YOHM MEETING - 6PM

2-5 - UP CAMP MEETING

7 - GYC REGISTRATION OPENS

7 - HOME COOKING WITH CHEF MI-  
GUEL LARCHER - 6:30PM (ONLINE)

8 - YOYM JR. MEETING - 6:00PM

9 - CHURCH BOARD MEETING  
6:00PM

10-12 - ADVENTURER FAMILY CAMP

15 - YOYM MEETING - 6:00PM

17-19 - PATHFINDER CAMPOREE

25 - PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER  
INDUCTION SERVICE/MEETING -  
11AM/1:30PM

29 - YOYM MEETING - 6:00PM

The Cadillac Update is published monthly (except May/June and July/August) by the Cadillac Seventh-day Adventist Church, 801 E Division St, Cadillac, MI, 49601. Tom Mejeur, Editor; Samuel Girven, Assistant Editor, Layout, and Design; Ariel Roldan, Contributor; Northview Seventh-day Adventist School, Printing. Additional proofreading, Jilane Fenner and Rosemary Smith. First Class Postage paid at Cadillac, Michigan, and additional mailing offices. Yearly subscription price is \$15.00. Vol. 02, No. 06.

Members of other Seventh-day Adventist Churches may subscribe by sending a check for \$15.00 (per year) to 801 E Division St, Cadillac, MI, 49601

Photo Credits: Samuel Girven (Front; Inside, Back to School), Robert Mohr Photography (Inside, Mejeur), Northview Adventist School (Inside, Mendoza), Tom Mejeur (Inside, STR; Back)



## The Church that Plays Together....

Tom Mejeur

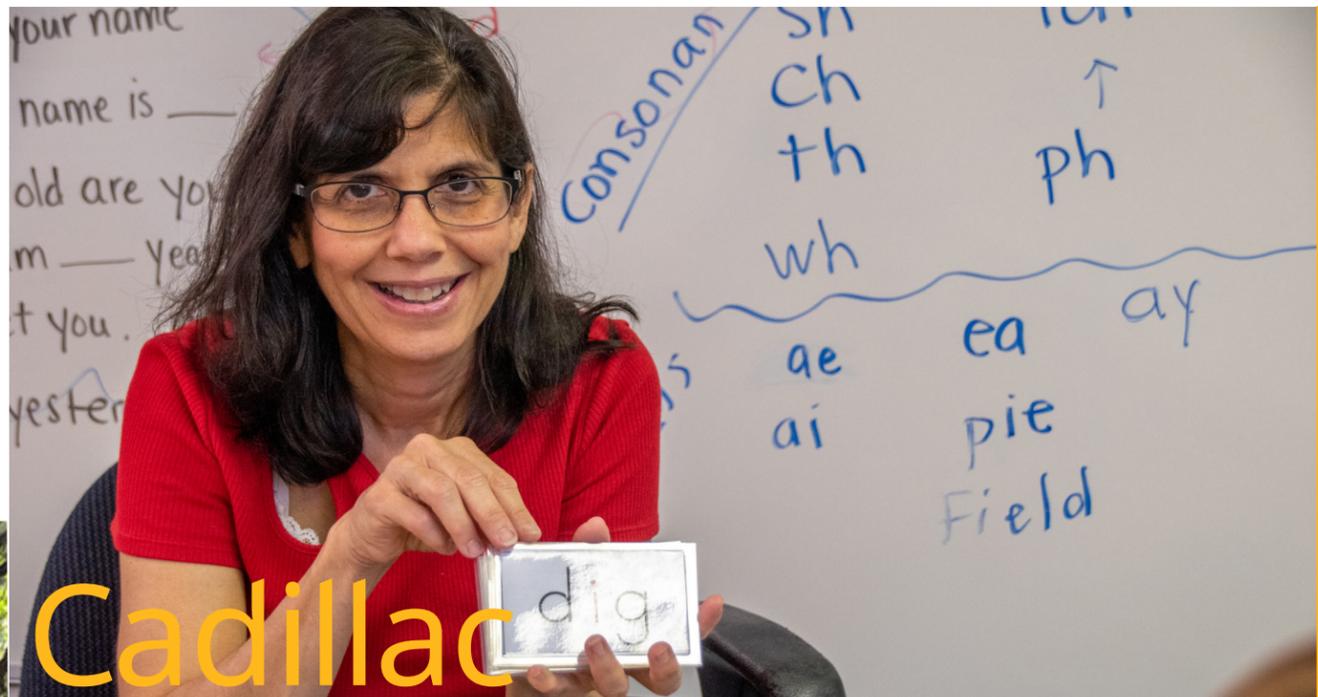
Consider this twist from the familiar phrase “A family that prays together, stays together” to “The church that plays together, stays together.” Ever since we started singing to shut-ins in we have been playing together quite well.

Sabbath, August 21st, over 40 members of the Cadillac and Lake City Seventh-day Adventist Churches gathered at the Lake Bluff Farm Bird Sanctuary and Arboretum north of Manistee, boasts over 1500 feet of Lake Michigan on 76 acres. Landscaped as an arboretum, many notable specimens have been preserved; California Redwood, Ginko, two Michigan Champion Trees, a Giant Sequoia and Sycamore.

Participants engaged in a nature walk and Lake Michigan shore stroll, prayed for each other, enjoyed sack suppers, and a worship thought in Garden of Eden temperatures. It was a little heaven on earth -- a foretaste of Sabbath in heaven. They took pictures of Michigan’s tallest Sequoia tree and children linked hands and circle the tree to “measure it.” They did a Bible-name memory game with all ages included and acted out Bible stories. It was heartwarming to see young and old collaborating and cheering each other on. More pictures of the skits can be seen on the Cadillac Seventh-day Adventist Church Facebook page along with videos.

Many said “I have been in Michigan all my life and never knew that we have Sequoias here!” “This is a perfect place to be in nature on a Sabbath afternoon.” “My family had an amazing time!” “This vespers program made our Sabbath afternoon so special. We can’t wait for our next nature vespers.” So the next nature event will be held at Arcadia Overlook Inspiration Point.

This event was organized and directed by the Pastor Ariel Roldan’s wife, Dalyn. Her goals for this event were to identify two Michigan Champion Trees, notice different bird species, pray for each other and do interactive Bible activities. She shared after the event: “My heart was thankful, full of joy as I saw the happiness in every face and saw our Lake City and Cadillac church families praying together and for each other.” The event ended with a devotional thought under the mature trees on the bluff. Our church will continue visiting, singing, and praying in their housebound members’ front yards, which we started during COVID-19 era. Come join us for any or all the future church events. “The church that plays and prays together stays together!”



# Cadillac Update

SEPTEMBER 2021  
VOLUME 02, NUMBER 06

A Publication of the Cadillac Seventh-day Adventist Church

## Editor’s Corner

This issue’s theme is “Back to School”. In most cases, a student advances to the next grade when they return the next school year. At the Worship Committee, we have realized how far we have advanced. From Sabbath to Sabbath, it seems very little has changed, but there we realized much has changed.

Pastor Ariel told the August committee meeting that most of the February minute items had been resolved. How could this be? It didn’t seem that much had changed in six short months, so he listed them. We were totally amazed how far we had come. These resolved issues included singing in church, and restarting fellowship meals just to name a few. Even our last four church board meetings and the business meeting were very amicable and productive. We need to reassess, seeing that we have come through the COVID-19 “rough patch” and have advanced to “the next grade”. A prime example was the August 21 Sabbath afternoon Lake Bluff Farms walk and interactive outdoor worship, reported on the back page. “Welcome back to school!”

TOM MEJEUR

## First Days are Everything

Samuel Girven

First days are always monumental. Every day is a first day for somebody—whether that be a first day of work, or a first day of retirement, or perhaps a first day of school. It’s around this time of year that we start to see more of the latter. All through someone’s childhood, and even into their young adult years, first days of school are prominent occasions for kids and parents alike. For the child, it shows that summertime is over, and it establishes a base for the next ten months of academic growth. For the parents, it’s a bittersweet day that signifies that their child is growing up and getting older.

“The first week of school really sets the foundation,” explained Northview Adventist School’s Principal, Idania Mendoza. “It starts setting the routine and habits that the students will have the rest of the school year.” Northview kicked off their first week of school on August 16th at 8:30am. To get to that day took months of preparation.

After a school year concludes, a wide assortment of tasks must be completed. The agenda usually includes multiple hours of cleaning, paperwork, and setup for the next school year. The work continues well through the summer. But with the change in leadership this summer, as well as a race against the clock, getting ready for the upcoming school year was a big task. Add to that a new math curriculum, hours of training, and family medical problems, you have got an overflowing schedule. Mendoza and the school staff were concerned that they wouldn’t be ready in time for the soon arrival of students. With lots of prayer and help, they were able to meet their target, and the start of the school year was a success.

Students commenced the school year with a special morning worship with parents and students, as well as the pastors of constituent churches.

(Continued on page 2)



## News Briefs

The Cadillac Mighty Oaks and Little Acorns, our Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs, will be meeting on September 1st for registration. If you are interested in joining the club for the 2021-2022 year please plan to be present. If you are unable to be at registration, please contact Jill Shaffer at (616) 291-0553 to make other arrangements.

The next YOHM Jr. meeting is scheduled for September 8 at 6pm at Northview School. All children between the ages of eight and eleven are invited to join us!

Can you receive text messages? If so, we will soon be rolling out a text messaging notification service, a compliment to our One Call service.

Join Camp Cuisine and the 13th Street SDA Church online on September 7th at 6:30pm for "Home Cooking with Chef Miguel Larcher", a plant-based, vegan online and interactive cooking program LIVE from Camp Au Sable! Learn how to cook healthy, delicious food right from the comfort of your home. Chef Larcher will be focusing on breakfast foods this month. Visit online at [www.campcuisine.org](http://www.campcuisine.org) for more information or visit the Camp Cuisine Facebook page.

Are you receiving our weekly email update? If not, check your spam and junk folders, and be sure to mark the emails as "not junk". Gmail users, please make sure the email is not going in your "Promotions" folder. If it is, move it to your "Primary" folder. To ensure you receive the weekly emails, consider adding "news@cadillacsdachurch.org" to your contacts list. 📧



CADILLACSDA.ORG

Afterwards, there were several new additions to the schedule, including a morning exercise period. "Exercise helps wake us up, and also helps us focus better on schoolwork for the rest of the morning," Mendoza told the students. Later, they also started a new science unit about birds and the scientific method. Students set two bird feeders in separate areas around the school, on the hypothesis that one area would have more bird visitors than a separate, different area.

"This year, we have 19 students in grades one through eleven," Mendoza noted. "We also have several students from our newest constituency member, Irons, as well as students that are not part of a constituent church. There is clearly a niche for education where God is the ultimate focus." This growth has energized the school's constituency and board, and they are hoping for more. Public opinion polls show an increasing displeasure with the quality of education or curriculum at public schools, and school leaders are hoping that can be to their advantage. During the Annual Meeting of Northview's constituency, chairman Gunther Schwartz said that the board hopes to increase the community's awareness of Northview, and successfully market the school.

The students have had an excellent start of the school year. You can stay up to date by visiting their website, [northviewsdaschool.org](http://northviewsdaschool.org). Please continue to support Adventist Education, with both your prayers and donations. 🙏



## Fellowship and the Gospel:

~Editorial~

The New Normal (Part 1)

Pastor Ariel Roldan

Phrases like "the new-normal" have been used quite frequently through the various communication channels of our society. Yet as Christians, we are also presented with statements such as "there is nothing new under the Sun." (Eccl. 1:9). So which statement describes our present reality correctly? Perhaps our rather limited lifespan allows for the "new-normal" statements to appear accurate in describing our reality. But the Bible's long arching perspective provides a reference point for the Christian to relate to "new-normals" no matter what events may seem to be new to us.

Humanity universally has been created by God with two major needs; needs that surpasses nutrition and reproduction. The need for a two-fold relationship. A relationship with God and with each other (humans). Some may be quick to point out that the present pandemic has isolated us and prevented us from worshiping, singing, eating, and enjoying fellowship as we should. I would challenge that notion though on this premise: we did not need a pandemic nor mandates to isolate ourselves from each other. Our Western way of life had already done that long before COVID ever came into the international scene.

In fact, globally we can be isolated from each other while being in the same room, house, or church. The two-fold fellowship we are designed for cannot exist apart from the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is the gospel that confronts that which separates and isolates us from each other - sin. In all honesty that word means nothing to many Christians. It is foggy and blurry, and unfortunately in many circles, caricatured as simply a "bad" behavior - while never really explaining why it is "bad." The Bible certainly uses that word but never apart from the context of how it has affected human relationships.

Sin led Cain to feel rage that led to murder his brother. What is sin? Sin caused thousands of people to refuse to enter the ark Noah was told to build. What is sin? Sin induced all the recently redeemed Israelites from Egyptian slavery to dance and worship a baby cow made of gold. What is sin? Do you know what it is? If you're not sure, how do you know you've been saved from its power? We will explore this and more in our upcoming newsletters. 📧



## Keeping You Informed:

Birthdays:

1 - Ella Schwartz  
1 - Anayah Roldan-Garcia  
1 - Levi Cowley  
2 - Martin Sluiter  
3 - Matthew Cowley  
9 - Erica Paddock  
9 - Sally Sinnett  
12 - Jackie Longstreet  
12 - Marcia Mohr  
15 - Robert Sinnett  
16 - Nancy June  
16 - Brenda Nelson  
18 - Eric Skinner  
23 - Ovidiu Brinzeiu  
24 - Roy Danford  
28 - Jasper Cadwell  
28 - Butch Longstreet  
30 - Noah Vogler



Offering Schedule:

- September 4 - Church Budget
- September 11 - World Budget
- September 18 - Church Budget
- September 25: Michigan Advance Partners

September Budget Goal:  
\$9,035.00

Speaker Schedule:

- September 4 - Tom Mejeur
- September 11 - Pastor Roldan
- September 18 - Pastor Roldan
- September 25 - Pastor Roldan

## Michigan Teacher retires after 36 years

Samuel Girven

As communities nationwide gear up for the 2021-2022 school year, Northview Adventist School in Cadillac, Michigan has finalized a major leadership change. Brenda Mejeur, principal and head teacher at NAS, retired from her decades-long teaching career at the beginning of August. Her desire to teach began innocently enough. "It all started because as a child, I wanted to write on the chalkboard," Mejeur recalls.

After she graduated from Cedar Lake Academy in 1974, Mejeur received formal education at Andrews University. She graduated in 1982 with a master's degree in Arts and Teaching. Mejeur has taught in many institutions across the Great Lakes region, including Cedar Lake Adventist School in Michigan, Battle Creek Academy, and several other schools in Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio. Later, Mejeur served at Grand Rapids Adventist Academy for 27 years as the music teacher, as well as a teacher for various grades. In 2017, she applied for and was accepted as the Principal and Head Teacher at Northview. Combined, her career has spanned over 36 years, four states, and several hundred students.



During her time as Principal at NAS, she reinvented the music curriculum by starting a band, led a major investment in classroom technology, including new Chromebooks and integration with Google Classroom, and added seasoned perspective to the school's operations. Students will remember Mejeur for her energy, fun ideas, and her many learning techniques.

During her retirement celebration, Sally Smith, associate superintendent of schools for the Michigan Conference remarked, "She is the epitome of Adventist Education!" Mejeur says she looks forward to spending more time with her husband, Tom, sons, daughters-in-law, and growing number of grandchildren. She also hopes to assist her husband with his garden-greenhouse business.

In May, Northview's Board of Education voted to select Idania Mendoza as Mejeur's replacement. Mendoza has a master's degree in Religion with a concentration in biblical languages from Andrews University, and a bachelor's degree with a focus on English and Spanish from William Carry University.

She began her teaching career at Bass Christian Elementary School in Lumberton, Mississippi, and in 2011 became the Spanish and assistant teacher at Northview. Later, she became an adjunct professor at Baker College in Cadillac, Michigan. In 2016, Mendoza left Northview and returned to Lumberton, Mississippi, where she became a high school Spanish teacher at Bass Memorial Academy. She says she is excited to return to Northern Michigan with her daughter Alathia, and her mother. If you would like to find out more about NAS, please visit their website, [northviewsdaschool.org](http://northviewsdaschool.org). 📧

## Strong Tower Radio: From the Broadcast Center



Last month Strong Tower Radio (STR) did more radio public listeners events than usual. On August 14th we hosted a fellowship dinner and Scott Michael Bennett Concert on our back deck drawing 140 people. On Sabbath, August 28th we held our third Family Nature Walk at the Michigan State University's Clarence E. Lewis Gardens. Supporting churches added us to their Barry, Ionia, and Jackson fair booths. We did our own booth here at the North District Fair. STR's presence is a draw which churches realize and appreciate.

STR often records radio program at the Michigan Campmeeting. This year we broke our own record by producing 11 weeks of interviews. Our guest included Adventist school teachers, principals, a school board chair, and the associate superintendent, Indonesian satellite ministry founders, Gem Castor, Adventist World Aviation, outdoor educator, pastors Chris Holland, Dennis Page, Ron Kelly, Amazing Facts Jean Ross.

Back at the studio we recently interviewed the Strong Tower Radio "Ministry News" feature article writers Pastor Ron Kelly on education, Pastor Daryl Bentley on the Ten Commandments, and Lake Region Conference Ministerial director Michael Horton on October's heavenly sanctuary.

Our TV-23 returned to the air August 24 when the repaired amplifier was installed. June 1st, we added the Strong Tower Radio smartphone app that plays our radio feed on phones giving listeners access were ever they are. Our radio feed called; "streaming" has been available from STR.fm. STR.fm is a new easier to remember and read website address that also saves precious space on promotional material.

Tom Mejeur, Strong Tower Radio