

# Faith talk



A publication of Crossville Seventh-day Adventist Church

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### September 2018

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## Chicory Chicanery?

Last fall I had a great idea. I purchased 3 pounds of chicory seed. Now, that is a LOT of seed. You see, one of my most favorite plants (actually a weed) is the chicory (*Cichorium intybus*) because of the beautiful periwinkle-blue flowers. Just as a side note, the dandelion is its cousin (which I prefer not to have around). You've seen these chicory flowers on the side of the road before; aren't they just beautiful?

So in late fall I started planting the seeds, just about half of the bag. I finished planting the rest of the seeds in early spring. I planted them around our house, along our driveway, and along the road to our house. Some seeds I covered with soil, and other seeds I just broadcast on top of the soil.

Well, it's summer now and I have been enjoying seeing the flowers again beside the highway. The only thing is—in looking at where I have planted the seeds around our house, along our driveway, and along the road to our house—I

do not even see one chicory plant, and of course, no flowers. (Remember that I had used 3 pounds of seeds.) Doesn't it seem that I should expect AT LEAST one chicory plant from my labors? No, that did not happen.

What spiritual lesson can we learn from my experience? Luke 8:11 says, "The seed is the Word of God." And of course, Jesus IS the Word. What results are you seeing as you share Jesus and His teachings in the Word? At times it seems that we see no results. But don't be discouraged! Continue to sow seeds (of love, care, compassion, and of course truth), and leave the results to the Holy Spirit. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Galatians 6:9).

Let us each continue in the Word daily, and seek to help others to do the same. Jesus says, "If ye continue in My Word, then are ye My disciples indeed" (John 8:31).

- David H. Knapp



Prayer Meeting - every Wednesday at 6 p.m.





## A New Year Begins at Inez Wrenn

The 2018–2019 school year at Inez Wrenn Seventh-day Adventist School began on August 13, when students, with backpacks and supplies in tow, eagerly settled into their classrooms. Currently, 26 students are enrolled at the school; most of the children are return students, but we are very happy to welcome six new scholars to our school.

In preparation for the new school year, a work bee was held on August 5. Several adults and almost as many young people showed up and spent several hours polishing up our campus. We really appreciate those who came and made it a productive and, yes, fun day. In addition, we want to thank the gentlemen from the church who, during the summer, endured Tennessee heat and humidity to install new drain lines and make adjustments in our plumbing and thermostat situations.

This year head teacher Mark Anderson's homeroom consists of grades 1–5. Wanda Moore teaches grades 6–8 in the mornings, and then the fifth-graders join the rest of the older students for afternoon classes. Shadelle Haley is continuing on as our school office assistant, Helen Dooley will again be teaching several

of our students in guitar classes, and Laura Krum will return to lead out in two sections of chimes classes. These gifted ladies, along with other volunteers, bless our staff and students greatly.

Our school is scheduled to be evaluated during this school year. In order to be prepared for this important event, much work still needs to be done. There will be many opportunities for friends and church family to continue to make repairs and improvements in our facilities and playground areas. Stay tuned for more announcements along these lines!

The board and staff of the school are very grateful to the church for making God's children such a priority. We covet your prayers on behalf of our students and overall program. God has proven Himself over and over again regarding our school, and we know that He has many great things in store for us in the future as we dedicate our time, talents, prayers, and means to furthering His cause here.

~ Wanda Moore

### Newsletter Suggestions Welcome!

This is your church newsletter. Let us know what you would like to see included. Your ideas and suggestions are welcome.

What a great way to make connections with shut-in members by visiting and sharing a copy of *FaithTalk* with them. Or commit to mailing a copy to someone you miss seeing at church.

Also, if you have items to include in future *FaithTalk* issues, please e-mail them to: [mamaples424@gmail.com](mailto:mamaples424@gmail.com).

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## Godspeed to the Sitler Family

On Sabbath, July 21, we bade farewell to the Sitler family. Following a very personalized, thoughtful, family-oriented commendation to the church members, the Social Committee sponsored a church fellowship lunch.

Pastor David and Cinda Lea came to us four years ago from the Chicago area as their son Nehemiah began high school at nearby Heritage Academy (David also served as pastor at Heritage).

In addition to normal pastoral duties, Pastor David and Cinda showed outstanding creativity in working with children and young people—a real blessing to our church, Inez Wrenn School, and Heritage. Church members also have appreciated the Sitlers' genuine willingness to visit homebound members who sometimes just needed an understanding ear. Few pastors exercise this gift as effectively as they did.

Pastor Sitler recently answered a call to undertake head pastoral duties at Standifer Gap, near Collegedale; meanwhile, Nehemiah soon begins studies at Andrews University. In the process of procuring a new “shepherd,” we need to be praying for God's leading during the search so that we continue to function smoothly, while lifting up the elders who now have expanded responsibilities in the oversight of the “flock” during the interim.

We have greatly appreciated the Sitlers, and will miss this loving family, yet know they will be a genuine blessing in Standifer Gap as they minister to their new church congregation.



~ Jerry Stevens, Faith Lyons, & Marilyn Maples

### Thoughts From His Word

*“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord,  
thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”*

Jeremiah 29:11

Early mornings are a joy to me. I seem to do some of my best devotions when it's early, quiet, and private. I have been reading Jeremiah, a book that I know I have read in years past. And yet when reading God's words to His people whom He admits He allowed to be captured and taken to Babylon, I thought to myself: I don't remember verse 11. It was like reading it for the first time. Tears filled my eyes as I realized His words were tender and encouraging to a “chosen” people who continuously rebelled and ignored this wonderful, living, Creator.

I have been and am capable of being just like those rebellious, stiff-necked peoples of old. That's why I am so very grateful that He is a patient, tender, loving Redeemer; or I would still be lost.

Time after time, chance after chance, the Lord gave them—and gives to us to this day. Jesus died for us. He is a serious, loving, honest God with us. I think He has a right to expect the same. As one of my favorite authors states: “To love as God loves is moral perfection, and this perfection Christ tells us to aim at” (C. R. Swindoll).

~ Linda Mihalus



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Visit us online at our  
**Web site:**  
[www.CrossvilleSDA.org](http://www.CrossvilleSDA.org)

*We'd love to have you come and  
worship with us this Sabbath!*

**9:15 a.m. Study & Praise**

**11:00 a.m. Worship**



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