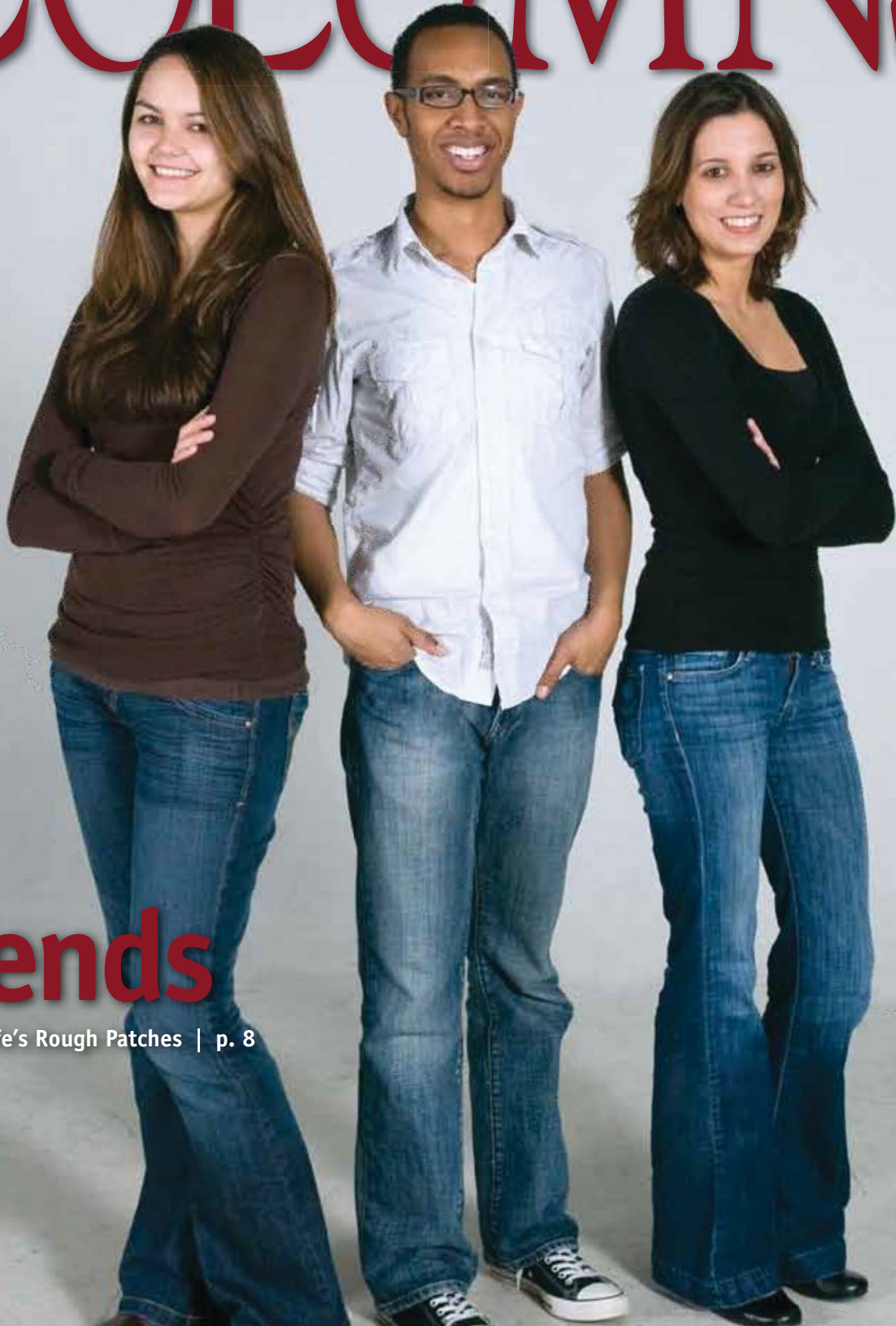


The Magazine of Southern Adventist University

COLUMNS



Friends

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Photo Album

Winter
2009

Southern Friends

Spiritually homeless—that's the way I described myself last summer. After years of worshipping at the same church, my husband and I realized that the Sabbath Schools were no longer meeting our children's needs.

Regretfully, we began shopping for a new church, keeping my online friends updated as we went. After three disappointing weeks, I wasn't sure what sort of update to give. "Lori Futchter is discouraged," I typed.

When I returned to my computer, I found a note from Travis Stirewalt, '94:

"I always remember you with such strong spirit. Seems you are going through some thoughtful times. ... Remember this: God did not make you a strong person for no reason. Whatever it is you are looking for will be found. It may take a bit longer than you wish, but take it for the adventure that it is. ... Try to be easy on yourself and relax. Sometimes what we look for is right under our noses. ..."

Those words were exactly what I needed. Throughout the week, I read and reread this message as I worked to build up courage for another church visit.

Travis and I hadn't known each other well in college. Yet 15 years after we had grabbed our diplomas and disappeared into the world, Travis was there for me when I needed it most. In a way, it was the fact that we weren't close friends that made his message mean so much. If Travis, who barely knew me, believed in me, then certainly I could believe in myself.

I couldn't help but think of Travis when I was working with this year's Magazine and Feature Article Writing students. As the class told me what they wanted to

share with COLUMNS readers, they started talking about their friendships at Southern, specifically how their friends had helped them through some tough times. (Three of them have shared these stories beginning on page 8). I had to agree with them. My friends from Southern have been—and continue to be—there for me when I need it the most.

And yes, Travis was right. The solution was right under my nose—or to be more accurate, right across the street, as we discovered the Collegedale Sabbath Schools had what our children needed.

Looking back, I know God had His hand in the journey. I'm grateful that when things were so dark that I could not see my way, He sent a friend to shine a light. I will always be thankful for my Southern friends.

Lori Futchter
Lori Futchter, Editor

P.S. Now that you know a little about my Sabbaths, be sure to check out what a typical Sabbath at Southern is like for one of our students on page 14.



Lori Futchter and her daughter, Sierra, have found a home in the Collegedale Cradle Roll II class.



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Southern friendships provide support for students facing life's challenges.

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Enjoy a photographic look at the 2008 Homecoming festivities, including the student opening of the new Hulsey Wellness Center.

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COVER: Students Adrienne Vernon, Chris Mateo, and Vivienne Martinelli share in this issue how Southern friendships helped them through rough times. PHOTOGRAPHER: Luke Miller

Newsorthy

I've just finished reading the fall 2008 issue of COLUMNS, which, I think, is the first I've received from Southern.

In addition to its slick appearance, which definitely draws one's eye, I found the content most interesting and well-produced.

I want to second the letter to the editor which came from your "fan," Jennifer von Maack. You certainly are doing a nice job with the publication.

As you might imagine, the article about Southern's archaeological library was of greatest interest to me. A treasure like that should be widely promoted and used.

Marcia Kling, News Channel 9

Out of Sight...

Many thanks for the excellent job you are doing!

However, as I have read the magazines through the years, there has been missing from COLUMNS information regarding those who have followed the Lord's leading to live and work in areas more distant from Southern Adventist University. Those who will still hear the "well done" said when the Lord comes but, due to circumstances, have not been able to live in the shadows of Southern Adventist University and have chosen, for various reasons, not to make an annual pilgrimage to "Mecca."

If it were possible to make a Google search of "Southern Adventist University alumni," I think it would show those close to home or who have friends and family close to Southern getting the most press.

It is probably an impossible task, but I would still love to hear more about those we do not hear about.

Bill Jones, '52

Missed Opportunity

As a loyal alum of Southern Adventist University, I was excited to receive the fall 2008 COLUMNS in today's mail. I appreciated the concise and insightful article by John Wesley Taylor on being Christians in today's postmodern society. He presented the difficulties we face as Christians in a postmodern society very well, but there wasn't much given to provide a path for answers or strategies.

I was disappointed to see a missed opportunity to let your readers know what our worldwide church is doing to stay authentic yet relevant in the face of a world that is more than 30 percent postmodern. People often feel trapped between the old and the new when they read about the challenges that exist without receiving information on how to adjust to those challenges or respond to them.

The Centre for Secular & Postmodern Studies (CSPS) offers research, education, and resources for Adventists around the world who want to live authentically and also evangelistically in today's society. A department of the General Conference Office of Adventist Mission, CSPS provides training events, discipleship materials, and cutting-edge media for church and unchurched postmoderns internationally.

I hope your readers who want answers can perhaps find them within the resources our church has begun to provide.

Sarah (Matthews) Asaftei, '03

InBox is a forum for reader feedback.

Questions, concerns, compliments, criticisms, and even discussions—all are welcome and encouraged. Letters may be edited for length or clarity. Please send InBox letters to: COLUMNS Editor, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370 or email columns@southern.edu.

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I had big dreams for the upcoming Gym-Masters home show. We had a great theme, "Go Against the Flow," a message about following Jesus' lead and not doing what the world tells us to do. I envisioned portraying our gymnasts as fish doing their routines "underwater" and planned to use my son's talents of choreography and artistic face makeup that he had acquired and working with Cirque du Soleil. Instead of requiring an emcee, the routines would flow from one act to the next. We even had a theme song written by a team member.

Though some pieces were coming together, I could tell that not everyone was on the same page. There was friction between team members, and they were arguing with each other while dragging their feet through routines. It honestly didn't look like the show would be anything close to what I had visualized.

Jessi's Advice

After one extremely discouraging practice, while the other coaches and I sat discussing how we pictured the show, a team member quietly hung by. Jessi is an intelligent student with a bubbly personality and a passion for tumbling. When I saw her, I thought she wanted to talk about the tumbling routine that I had asked her to arrange. I was not in the mood to encourage someone else's creativity, especially when it didn't seem like I could get any of my own ideas across. I was ready to start cutting the routines that we just didn't have time to learn. Jessi's tumbling routine was one I was considering cutting. All I wanted to do right then was complain.

Jessi listened to me rant for a few minutes then tactfully said, "Coach, the team wants to work to make the home show a success, but we don't see the vision. We don't know what we are supposed to do."

At first I wanted to defend my position, but after a few lame attempts, I had to agree that Jessi was right. The dream I had was still in my head. It had been shared in bits and pieces to a few but not in whole to the entire team. Before Jessi left, she encouraged me to share my ideas with the whole team. So after a sleepless night and some prayer, the next morning, I set off to write out my concept for the show. Writing doesn't come easy for me, so it was a painful process. I spent nearly three hours pecking it out, trying to explain on paper how each routine would flow. While I sat at the table writing, I realized how many details I hadn't explained to my team.

Sharing the Vision

by Rick Schwarz, School of P.E., Health, and Wellness
 with Suzanne Osoi, freshman mass communications major

Proving Her Right

At the next practice, I spent 20 minutes of valuable practice time reading through my vision for the home show. Part of me was doing it to prove Jessi wrong, to show that they should just follow me and I would get them there.

I started reading, and as I glanced up and looked around, their eyes were all on me, and I could see they were getting it. The light had come on in their minds.

Our practices weren't perfect after that, but they were much more productive, and our show turned out almost as I had pictured it.

As we were nearing the end of our home show performance, I thought, "We're almost done and everything has gone so well." The props were fantastic; there was seaweed in the background and fish hanging from the ceiling. The gymnasts had caught the vision, tumbling and jumping, with softer, more fluid movements to resemble how the moves would be done if they were actually underwater. The whole production was enjoyable, and

we received positive feedback from the audience about the show's variety and performance.

Gaining Insight

Being a coach and gymnast for almost 50 years has taught me a lot of practical life lessons. Home show 2007 helped me realize that for my team to follow my lead, they needed to be included in the creative process. I needed to share my ideas with them to

provide the right direction. When I talked things through with them, my team came up with solutions for how it could be accomplished, and their ideas and effort helped the process move smoother from start to finish.

It's performances like this with input from team members like Jessi that help me catch the vision of how a team can succeed and together produce a dynamic show. ✧



Rick Schwarz is willing to put in the extra effort to help his Gym-Masters catch the vision.

Hannah Kuntz Finding Her Story

Hannah Kuntz, print journalism major, needed an internship—fast. As the summer before her senior year drew closer and closer, Hannah hoped that at least one magazine would contact her. It was a phone call on the last day of her junior year that turned her desire into a reality. During just one summer, Hannah would not only perfect her interviewing and writing skills, but she would also have the opportunity to meet professional athletes, establish new friendships, and learn to have greater confidence in herself.

With an exciting exclamation of, “Yes, I’ll do it!” Hannah agreed to an internship position at *Gold Coast* magazine in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Nila Do, managing editor of *Gold Coast* magazine, expressed that Hannah stood out from the internship’s many other potential candidates, not only through her many writing samples but also “through her attitude and willingness to seek us out, instead of us seeking her out.”

Hannah launched into her internship equipped with basic reporting and interviewing skills she had learned from News Reporting class. A typical day for her at *Gold Coast* magazine included copy editing, verifying facts, archiving old issues of magazines, and her passion—writing stories.

After pitching her

own idea for a feature about competitive ice-skating, Hannah awaited her editor’s approval. Amazed by Hannah’s work ethic and ability to find the “right” story, Nila Do proudly agreed to the piece. “It’s incredible for someone new to find stories,” explains Do. “Finding the right story is another level, and she had it.”

At the completion of her story, Hannah was able to say she had met and interviewed professional skaters Kimmie Meissner and Todd Eldredge as well as their coach, Richard Callaghan. “It was so exciting meeting them and being able to finish this story,” Hannah says. “I felt a sense of accomplishment because I had pitched the story and my hard work was paying off.”

“This internship cemented in my mind that this is what I really want to do in the future,” Hannah adds.

Hannah’s editor is supportive of these plans. “I know,” she says, “that Hannah will make a tremendous journalist someday.”

—Lauren Ysseldyke



Kevin Kibble Rooted in Ministry

When Kevin Kibble, assistant chaplain, made a hospital visit to Tamar Duke, sophomore social work major, she was surprised.

“It’s neat to see that the chaplains know what’s up in my life and that they care what happens to me,” says Tamar.

Throughout Kibble’s life, he’s had many experiences where he was able to show just how much he cares about the youth around him. Growing up in a family that was devoted to ministry (his grandfather, father, and three uncles were pastors), Kibble had a desire to work in the same field. “It was kind of our family business,” Kibble says.

After working with youth on the West Coast for most of his career, Kibble and his wife, Gennevieve Brown-Kibble, director of choral activities, moved to Collegedale in 2005 when both were offered jobs at Southern.

Kibble’s position deals less with administrative demands and more with student needs, a

task for which he is well-suited. Here, he has been able to expand the reach of the Chaplain’s Office to students and alumni with new campus ministries.

Recently, he launched Senior Transition and Graduate Enrichment (STAGE) to help recent graduates transition smoothly into the next stage of their lives. “Statistically, all throughout Christianity, there’s a five- or six-year gap when young adults reconsider all their options including church,” Kibble explains. “We believe that if Southern can be a resource for our graduates, we’ll be able to shorten that gap.”

STAGE connects recent graduates with other alumni and also helps them find a home church in their new location. On campus, current students keep in touch with graduates, praying for their specific requests.

“What I’m doing now is the apex—watching individual students being connected with a great and mighty God,” says Kibble. “He sent his Spirit for a reason, to be our connection to God. He gave us something that connects us.”

—Raz Catarama and Suzanne Ocsai

Garrett Nudd Following His Passion

Last fall in the south side of Chattanooga, a crowd gathered inside the newest addition to the neighborhood: Cobblestone Rue, a couture portrait studio, opened by wedding photographer Garrett Nudd, ’00.

The opening of Cobblestone Rue marked a new chapter in Nudd’s career, which already has taken him to weddings from coast to coast and abroad. Since they started photographing weddings in 2002, Nudd and his wife, Joy (Pecaoco), ’00, have been shooting weddings and engagement sessions almost non-stop.

Surprisingly, he never intended for photography to be anything more than a hobby. After graduating, Nudd was the editor of COLUMNS for three years before moving to Orlando, Florida, to work for Adventist Health System. While in Florida, he absorbed himself in his photography, and demand for his work increased.

Nudd remembers the evening when everything changed. Joy approached him as he

sat at his computer editing wedding photos after a full day at his regular job. “I know how badly you want to leave behind your corporate job and pursue photography full time,” she said. “I want you to know that I’ve thought about it and prayed about it, and if it’s what you want to do, I’ll support you 100 percent—under one condition: we will not be starving artists.”

And indeed they have not been. Business boomed, with 45 weddings in 2006 alone. At the beginning, all of their clients came only from referrals, a testament to how successful Nudd’s theory of building relationships with his clients has been. Since then, the couple has gradually been cutting back and moving toward portrait photography.

In addition to shooting wedding photos, Nudd has served as an adjunct professor at Southern since 2006. Students who have taken Nudd’s Introduction to Photography course appreciate his experience and being able to see his talent and success firsthand.

“He has so much experience for someone so young,” says Emily Young, a junior mass communi-



cations major who took his class in 2006. “The fact that he has come so far so quickly is inspiring.”

For Nudd, his inspiration comes from living a life driven by a passion for photography and

for working with his family.

“Each day I wake up and follow my passion,” he says. “I can’t imagine anything better.”

—Jennifer Meyer

A photograph of three students sitting on a light-colored floor against a plain background. On the left is a young woman with long dark hair wearing a brown top and blue jeans. In the center is a young man with glasses wearing a light blue button-down shirt and blue jeans. On the right is a young woman with dark hair wearing a black top and blue jeans. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera.

WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

College can be tough. There are tests; projects; and the juggling of classes, work, and extracurricular activities. Even without any sort of unusual trauma, friendships can make the difference between whether a student just survives or thrives through the experience. But when tragedy steps in, these friendships become a lifeline.

Vivienne Martinelli,
Chris Mateo, and
Adrienne Vernon are three students from this year's Magazine and Feature Article Writing Class who agreed to share their stories of how their college lives were impacted by tragedy—and how Southern friends came to the rescue.

"There's a certain breed of good people who come to Southern, and I think that's been very helpful in helping me make good choices and keep good friends in a Christian atmosphere." —B.J. Taylor, junior, religious studies

"My friends provide an escape from all the pressures of class and homework." —Daniel Alvidres, freshman, biology

"They mean a lot to me because they're a safe haven." —Kyle Humphrey, freshman, sports studies management

A DROP OF COMFORT

By **Adrienne Vernon**
junior/public relations major



ANGELS ON (AND OFF) THE ICE

By **Chris Mateo**
senior/public relations major



FRIENDS IN THE DIVIDE

By **Vivienne Martinelli**
senior/broadcast journalism major



FRIENDS IN THE DIVIDE



By Viviane Martinelli
senior broadcast
journalism major

Madness, frustration, and anger overwhelmed me as I sat in the hallway waiting for my next class. A classmate walked by and noticed the look of despair on my face. “Are you all right?” she asked. I tried my best to pretend everything was great, but this time, I just wasn’t strong enough.

After a year studying abroad, I had returned home to the States. I felt ecstatic about my brother’s summer wedding festivities, but the summer’s end was not so bright as I discovered that my parents were divorcing and my mom was leaving us to move back to Brazil.

Soon after the news hit, I started my junior year. It was my first semester at Southern, and being in a new place didn’t help me adjust to what had happened to my family. As I cried my heart out while explaining this to my classmate, Shirley, I was overtaken by the fact that this girl, with whom I had only exchanged occasional greetings, was willing to listen and comfort me.

Neither Shirley nor I attended class that day. She walked beside me on the promenade as I cried and cried and cried. “It’s okay to cry,” Shirley said. “Just let it out.” Although the embarrassment and anguish didn’t go away, those simple words were what I needed to hear.

Half a year passed since the divorce and I still hadn’t spoken to my mom. Other people often received calls from their mothers, and not having a close relationship with mine discouraged me. I was quieter than usual in class one day and my classmate, Kimberly, noticed something was wrong.

“Are you okay?” she asked.

“Not really,” I replied.

Kimberly invited me to the cafeteria to talk over lunch. She listened at length to all I had to say. My mother’s shoes were unfillable. My dad was facing a difficult time, and I didn’t want him worrying about me on top of it. I bottled up my feelings because I didn’t have anyone to lean on. That day, Kimberly provided the shoulders I needed.

After we finished lunch, Kimberly helped me make an appointment with Southern’s counseling center. The counselor gave me great advice on how to cope with having divorced parents and how to restore the lost relationship with my mom.

Even as I tried to hide my pain, my new friends at Southern were attentive enough to perceive that I needed help. Through their kindness, I’ve learned that when life divides people, God unites others. ✧

ANGELS ON (AND OFF) THE ICE



By Chris Mateo
senior public
relations major

“Chris!” my roommate, Matt, screamed as my body convulsed on the ice. Seven friends and I were in Michigan for the weekend. Our plans were to have fun, but when ice skating turned into a ride on a stretcher, my friends followed.

First diagnosis: brain aneurysm. My family arrived from Ohio and joined friends around my hospital bed to pray and sing as I lay unconscious.

Final diagnosis: subarachnoid hemorrhage, internal bleeding from my head hitting the ice.

I woke up in a state of confusion. *What is this aching pain? Why am I lying in a hospital?* Standing by my bed, my mother and an aunt told me the story. That’s when it hit me. I had missed two days of life, and my friends were back at Southern.

As unfamiliar faces passed through my room, I lost track of time. The door’s creaking signaled what I expected to be another doctor. *Oh great,* I thought, dreading another series of questions.

“Surprise!” shouted my best friends, Laurel and Mindy, as they leaped into my room wearing “I Love Mateo” shirts.

“I can’t believe you guys drove all the way up here to visit me,” I said with a huge grin.

It was a bright spot in my agonizing recovery. After leaving the hospital, my time was spent confined to my bed, isolated and depressed.

My once-social life of friends, classes, even the simple act of driving, turned to gloom and solitude. But there was one thing to look forward to every day—encouraging phone calls from friends.

When my doctors advised me to remain home and postpone graduation, I felt discouraged. But when Matt called, he cheered me up by reminding me that he had another year left too. “We can room together again,” he said.

After three long months, I returned to campus to retrieve my belongings and my car. All week I visited with friends. I didn’t want it to end.

Dreading the ride home, I was surprised to find a letter from Laurel in my glove compartment. “I’m here sitting in your car, and I don’t know what to do,” it said. “I want to tell you that I love you and I miss you! And I know God is with you right now, so don’t give up.”

That note hit me straight in the heart. All this time, I had felt so alone, but God had been with me. And though we were separated by miles, my friends were really with me too—just like they were that one evening on the ice. ✧

A DROP OF COMFORT



By Adrienne Vernon
junior public
relations major

My shoulders sank into the frame of my freshman body as I sat on Thatcher Hall’s porch. My arms were trembling from the adrenaline coursing my body. My soul wanted to cry harder, louder, but my body could only release a hiccup as evidence of the phone call I had just received.

Minutes earlier, my mother had called to tell me that my uncle had died in a freak job accident. He fell through a skylight, 40 feet to his death. He was 46 years old.

Tears crawled down my cheek as I observed my surroundings: people scurrying to class; girls lounging on freshly mowed lawn, soaking up the last rays of summer sun; and birds whistling delightful melodies. I glanced at my roommate and another friend sitting dutifully beside me. Here they were, but I silently wondered if anyone else cared.

Meagan, my roommate, gently touched my shoulder. “What do you want to do, Adrienne?” she asked. “Do you want to go home?”

“Home?” I questioned, as though I had never heard of the place. Did I want to go home and face my grieving family? Could I be strong enough to comfort my mother in the loss of her brother?

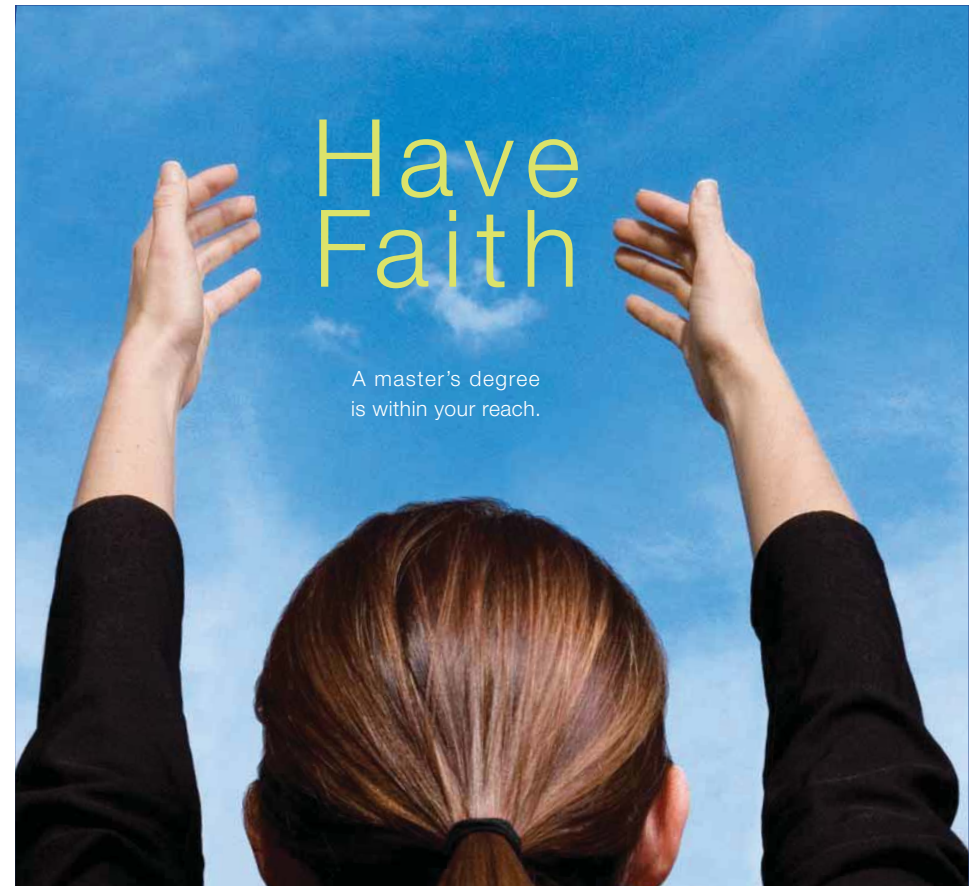
I silently nodded. Meagan led me to our room to gather some things I would need to pack.

During the hourlong drive, I prepared to delve into the emotions. Then I muddled through the afternoon trading condolences, sharing memories, and supporting my family. As soon as I got the chance, I slipped to my room for solitary relief.

I sank into my desk chair to check my email. One new message. The sender’s address puzzled me. It was Shane, a friend I’d met in the cafeteria a week before. “Strange,” I thought. We had spoken only a couple of times, and I don’t think I gave him my email address. I opened the message.

Hey,
I’m not sure if you remember me or if this is the right email address, but I wanted to tell you that I’ll be praying for you. I saw you crying today and would have talked to you then, but I saw you had friends with you. I don’t have any idea how serious the problem is, but either way I hope it can be an encouragement for you to know that you have friends who are praying for you, including me. God bless, Shane

My eyes filled with tears yet again, but I felt peace. God sent a drop of comfort from someone I hardly knew, and it was exactly what I needed to get through the rest of that painful day. ✧



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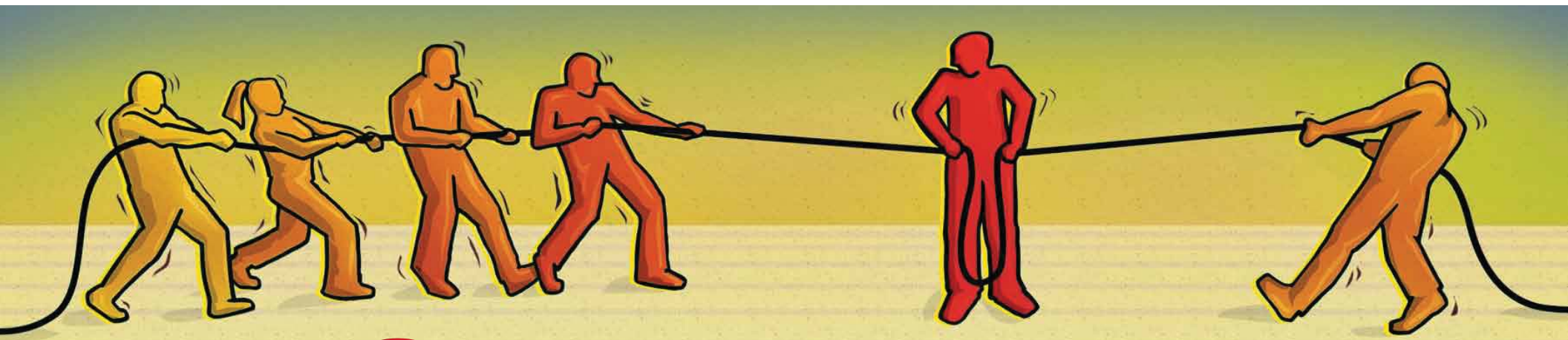
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UNDERSTANDING SERVANT LEADERSHIP

by Michael E. Cafferky, School of Business and Management

Nurse manager Susan* stood in my office doorway, question marks sprouting from her eyes. She had just reported to me what some of her employees had proposed and was unsure whether their idea was good.

Their idea: instead of Susan doing the scheduling, let the nurse aides take responsibility as a team, who did their best to accommodate individual scheduling needs of employees.

One of the informal leaders took on the task of "encouraging" fellow employees who called in sick. The encouragement quickly took on the form of: "You made a commitment to us for this shift. If you are really sick, then stay home and get well. But if you are just calling to take today off, that is not acceptable. We are all in this together." It wasn't long before employees who played hooky for a scheduled shift got the message from the team: Don't leave us in the lurch! We will support you, but you support the team.

What happened next was remarkable. Turnover dropped, and the number of "no shows" declined. Morale improved. Quality of care improved. The quality of Susan's work life improved. The nursing home spent less on overtime pay and employee recruitment.

Individual vs. Group

You may have experienced the same tension as Susan did—that of meeting the needs of the individual at the same time as meeting the needs of the group. Sometimes called individual-community tension, this is a problem that exists in every organization and at every level of society around the globe.

What Susan witnessed is that the essence of leadership is not leadership from a manager to front-line employees but leadership with front-line employees.

In the Bible, Moses faced this tension point when the tribes Reuben and Gad came to him with a proposal: let them settle on the east side of the Jordan River, since it offered the best land for raising animals (Numbers 32:1-32). The trade-off to this would be that Reuben and Gad

would be less able to help or be helped in common defense. In the end, Moses granted Reuben and Gad's request to settle on the east side of the Jordan River but only on the condition that these two tribes would first assist the other 10 tribes in securing their new homeland.

Paul was a proponent of freedom in Christ (Romans 6:18; Galatians 5:1), but freedom does not mean license to become a burden to the group.

It All Begins With Creation

The Biblical teaching on wholeness goes all the way back to creation. God created Adam as a whole being; body, mind, spirit were interconnected. However, wholeness by nature is not complete when seen only in terms of an individual human.

"It is not good that man should be alone" (Genesis 2:18, NKJV) applies as equally to the marriage relationship as it does to the relationship between the individual and others in the community.

As a leader (whether official or unofficial), God gives you the privilege of continually standing in front of this great work of social-

structure "art" as you carry out your work. Caring for the needs of one person while also respecting true wholeness by watching out for the needs of the group (and not forgetting your responsibility to humanity) gives tangible expression to the idea of what it means to be made in the image of God.

The Example of Covenants

It has been suggested that Christians use the Biblical covenant as a model for leadership. Indeed, these covenants were both individual and communal in nature.

For example, consider the covenant between Jacob and Laban (Genesis 31:43-55). The men made individual promises not to harm each other. But why? Look at verse 43: "And Laban answered and said unto Jacob, 'These daughters are my daughters, and these children are my children...what can I do this day unto these.'" The purpose of the covenant was to protect a community that was loved by both men to make sure neither would do something to bring pain and grief to the group.

What affects one affects all, and the commitments made in the covenant are commitments made to all who are affected.

The Incarnation Model

Through the incarnation, when Christ became both fully human and fully divine, an example was given on how we should relate to each other.

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something

What's a Leader to Do?

Here are some guidelines to help you balance the tension between the individual and the group.

1. Pray for God to give you wisdom from thoughts others have to share as well as your own thoughts.
2. Take each situation as a process that is unfolding, and remain open to consider the needs of the organization and the needs of the individual as these come to be understood.
3. See in every complicated leadership situation the opportunity to explore your own humility by sharing leadership with followers.
4. Recognize that in every complicated leadership situation, God is calling you to participate with Him as co-creator of innovative solutions that will help both the individual and the organization.

to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness" (Philippians 2:4-7, NIV).

Just as Christ was fully human and fully divine, Christian leaders can be fully individual and fully members of the group. As such, a leader has personal interests as well as group interests. In following Christ's model, leaders will humble themselves toward both the individual and the community as a servant.

A Calling Like No Other

As a servant, your work is to encompass the mind, heart, and soul of the company as well as that of the individual employee. Only in this broader context of creation, covenant, and incarnation can true servant leadership in an organization be understood.

Sometimes you, like Susan, let front-line employees take the lead. You become follower. This does not require that you give up authority. It simply means sharing leadership with followers. At the end of the day, it's not your authority

that makes the difference; it's through sharing both the leadership and followership process with others in the organization that the most effective means can be found to manage the needs of individuals and the needs of the group.

The calling of the Christian leader is like no other calling. True, many can serve as leader under particular circumstances and as follower in many circumstances, but not everyone is cut out to be a covenantal leader. Not everyone can in humility serve both the individual and the organization (especially when the goals of each conflict) over the long haul across many issues.

When you accept the call to lead, like Solomon your prayer life takes the journey toward wisdom because you know that you don't have all the answers to the big questions. This is truly a spiritual work. The work of leaders watching out for the needs of the organization and at the same time caring for the needs of the individual, willing to lead and willing to follow, is the same kind of humble ground upon which Moses and Joshua stood when God called them to serve. ✧

*name has been changed

A SABBATH

AT

There are 24 hours each week that are like no other. At Southern, these Sabbath hours are celebrated as students turn from their coursework and focus on their Creator. This is the story of one student's Sabbath here.

by Emily Young,
junior mass communication major

SOUTHERN



Each Sabbath begins with a time to reflect and worship.

Friday Vespers: God in the Peace

I'm sitting next to my suitemate in a crowded row in the front of the Collegedale Church. I listen to the opening prayer and try to recall my high school Spanish to understand it. I pick up a few words. "Thank you for..." the speaker says in Spanish, and then I'm lost. But it's alright. I just keep my head bowed and listen to the words roll off each other. I sigh as I think about my week. The highs and lows flash through my mind's eye. And when we say amen, I set those worries aside and lift my head. I'm ready to focus on God.

The Latin American Club is putting on the Friday night worship service at Southern this week.

We sing "He is Exalted" for our opening song. Singing at vespers isn't quite like any other time. The lights are dim. Most people are exhausted. Yet as I look around, no one is sleeping. They're singing. I think people let their guards down the most when they're tired. The people around me are singing unguardedly.

Some have their eyes closed. Others have their hands lifted. Everyone is praising God in his or her own way, in a genuine way.

Five rows back, a friend of mine is having a similar experience.

"I find a real peace at vespers here," Jessie Zollinger, a junior art and education major, tells me later. "The school week wears me out, and then I can just come and praise God with my friends. I love it."

Sabbath Church: God in the Silence

I am sitting in the front of the Collegedale Church again. A girl slips into the row behind me, and I overhear her conversation with the guy beside her. He asks how she's been. She groans before saying, "Thank God for Sabbath. Sabbath has taken a whole new meaning since I came to college."

I smile to myself, knowing exactly what she means.

Before the stressors of college life hit me, I enjoyed the Sabbath, but I didn't anticipate it all week the way I do now.

It's Sabbath morning, and I'm here to experience Renewal, a new worship service at the Collegedale Church that is led by students.

Students lead out in the music, take up offering, and are involved in just about everything except for the sermon.

"Renewal gives students the opportunity to use their gifts and talents to create and present a worship experience that honors God and endeavors to build up the entire community in the faith of Christ—young and old, member and non-member, both genders, and all races and cultures," says John Nixon, senior pastor of the Collegedale Church.

Leaders believe that the church members and the student body will both benefit from the new service.

"Students need the wisdom, guidance, and continuity that a more experienced generation can provide, while the Collegedale Church needs the passion, fresh ideas, and energy that students bring to the table," says Donnie Keele, assistant chaplain at Southern. "It is an effort to form a symbiotic relationship between worshipping generations."

Many students are embracing the change. "Now we have a large consistent group of students who come and bring worship to God," says Eduardo Cornejo, the leader of Renewal and a senior theology major.

Though students lead out in Renewal, Pastor Nixon still preaches for the services. Students feel that Pastor Nixon is powerful at bridging the generation gap at the Collegedale Church.

"I'm a die-hard Nixon fan," says Joselyn Ghulam, a junior nursing major who attends Renewal almost every week. "He isn't afraid to step on toes and say things the way they are. He challenges us to think of things in ways we never have before."

Pastor Nixon stands at the podium to welcome us to church. He tells us that we are going to begin with seven minutes of silent meditation. The idea seems strange to me, but I go along. I can tell by looking around that

Sabbath Choices

Southern students have many options for worship and community outreach on Sabbath. Here is a brief overview of some of those options.

Sabbath School Options

- » **SaltWorks Sabbath School:** designed to explore faith-sharing in contemporary culture and to equip Seventh-day Adventist Christians for lifelong spiritual influence
- » **9:75 Sabbath School:** a student-led, small group, discussion-based, collegiate Sabbath School
- » **SMC Sabbath School:** explores the Bible in its most basic format, by reading through a chapter and then opening discussion. Relying completely on students to lead and support, SMC is looking for members who do not want to sit idly and are ready for an active role.

Collegedale Church Options

- » **Adoration:** a family-oriented traditional worship experience built around Christ-centered preaching
- » **Connect:** a multi-generational, contemporary, informal worshipping community
- » **Renewal:** the newly formed student-led worship service planned with the entire community in mind
- » Students may also attend any of the 26 other churches within 15 miles of Southern.

Sabbath Afternoon Service Options

- » **Bible Workers Outreach:** giving Bible studies to interested people
- » **FLAG Camp:** a ministry to the children living in the housing projects of downtown Chattanooga
- » **Patten Towers:** a ministry to the residents of Patten Towers—a high-rise in downtown Chattanooga that is home to low-income individuals and families
- » **Random Acts of Kindness:** students seeking creative ways to brighten other people's days
- » **Sabbath Ministries:** making visits to nursing home residents and people confined to their homes
- » In addition, student clubs and organizations sometimes plan special outreach programs.

people are uneasy. A girl whispers and someone loudly shushes her. After a minute or two, my mind begins to wander. Back again to those best and worst moments of the week before. One by one I give them over to God. The paper due on Monday, the guy I hope notices me, the deadlines at work. An incredible calm comes over me as I realize I don't have to worry about these things. God has it under control, and that gives me peace. A scripture reading from Psalms breaks the silence. "Shout for joy to the Lord," it begins. *A strange way to end seven minutes of silence, I think.*

Sabbath Afternoon: God in the Meek

The afternoon comes, and I'm faced with many options. I debate over my top two choices: whether to go to visit people confined to their homes or go to FLAG Camp. Because of the positive experiences I've had with FLAG Camp, I decide to go there.

I'd never heard of FLAG Camp before I came to Southern. On alternating weekends, a group of students go down to the housing projects in Chattanooga to play with the children who live there. The kids do crafts, sing, have snacks, and hear a Bible story.

For some of those kids, the students who come are their only positive role models.

One particular little girl, Stephanie, captures my attention. As soon as all of the kids get there and start to play, she runs up and grabs my hand, looking shyly up at me.

"Can I do your hair?" she asks, flashing me a snaggletooth grin.

"Sure you can," I reply. I pick up a piece of glass from the ground and throw it into a nearby trash can before sitting down.

I take the ponytail holder out of my hair and hear a tiny gasp from behind me. Stephanie grabs a fistful and proceeds to jerk it. She assures me that she is doing a beautiful job and that I won't believe how it looks when she's done. She pulls a purple plastic butterfly clip from her own pigtailed and digs it into my scalp. Before long, a

small crowd of little girls are watching Stephanie. They offer their own hair clips to the cause—pink, blue, green.

"It's done," Stephanie proclaims after a painful 10 minutes.

I look at the finished product in the reflection of my friend's sunglasses. My formerly straight hair has regressed to its naturally curly state after being handled by sweaty little fingers for so long. Clips hold some of it up in braids. The rest of it is jammed haphazardly in several ponytail holders on the sides of my head. I stifle a laugh and then turn to Stephanie. Her expectant gaze meets my eyes.

"Beautiful," I say, mustering up as much genuine enthusiasm as I can.

Her face beams. She hops in my lap and throws her arms around my neck. I hug her back, expecting her to get up and go play with her friends. She lays her head on my shoulder and closes her eyes.

"Stephanie, don't you want to play Duck Duck Goose?" I ask, pointing to her friends who are laughing and playing a few yards away.

She buries her head against my neck. "No," she says quietly. "Can you please just hold me?" The way she says it breaks my heart.

I pull her small frame closer, and she sighs contentedly.

As I hold her in the middle of the playground, I hope that my embrace is making her feel safe.

My mind can only imagine what this sweet



Some Sabbaths bring the unexpected.

little girl might have gone through in her short years of life that would make her choose being held tightly by me over playing with her friends. Has she ever before been hugged like this? I do not need to know the answer; I just need to hug her.

This little girl wants to be held safe in someone's arms. And she chose me.

Even though my feet are falling asleep from sitting cross-legged, I don't think for a moment of asking her to get up. I am happy to be the one to give her some comfort in the middle of her crazy world.

I think this is how God must feel when Sabbath comes each week.

He longs for us to put our arms around His neck and lean on Him. He wants us to feel safe. He hopes all week that when Sabbath arrives, we'll come to Him so He can protect us from our crazy world. ✧

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HOMECOMING 2008

As alumni gathered for the life-lengthening activity of reuniting with friends,* many also participated in other healthy activities at the 2008 Homecoming Weekend, themed "Fit for Eternity."

From a financial health seminar on Friday to plenty of

spiritual health and physical health activities, the weekend provided a balance for the interests of an estimated 800 attendees.

Among the highlights were a Gym-Masters gymnastics reunion show and the annual Southern Shuffle run/walk, which grew this year to around 100 participants.

*Friendships help you live longer, according to a 2005 study published in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*.

Fit for Eternity

Photos by Nick Evenson, Suzanne Ocsai, Merlin Wittenberg, and Ian Zimmer



Above: Elsie (Steele) Blair-Davis, '56, hangs by after Thursday's banquet to chat with David Bauer, '56, and his wife, Marilyn.



Left: Lisa (Howe) Parrish, '84, and Judi (Boles) Hartman, '82, sing together at the Sabbath afternoon concert.

Below: Ken Rogers, '78, preaches the Sabbath morning sermon.



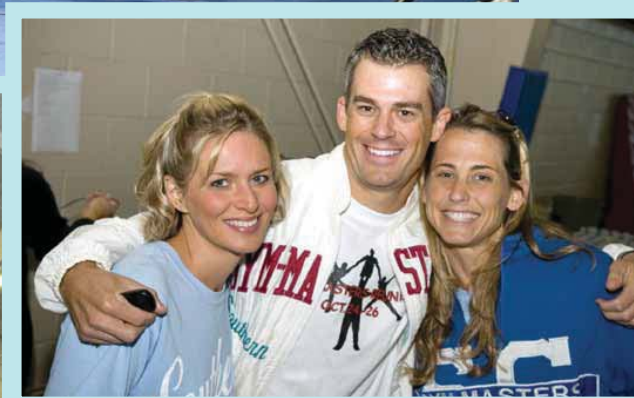
Right: Reed Krause, '76, and Associate Nursing Professor Dana (Reed) Krause, '80 and '82, chat with Karin Covi, '81, and Max Berueffy after vespers.



Right: Gym-Masters from the '90s perform an anti-drug skit. Drug abuse prevention is part of the mission of the Gym-Masters.



Below: Jay, attended, and Tamara (Lowman) Ritterskamp, '94, team up with former classmate Chad Nash, '94, to practice an elevator pyramid in preparation for the Gym-Masters gymnastics reunion show.



Above: Jennifer (Elliott) Lowman, '96; Brian Lowman, '94; and Kim (Fraser) Nash, attended, display Southern College Gym-Masters attire from the '90s.

Below: Current and former Gym-Masters gather on Friday to practice for Saturday night's reunion show.





Left: Alumni and community members admire classic and antique cars during the annual car show held near the music building on Sunday morning.



Below: Richard, '71, and Coleen (Sietz) Stanley, '71, get a glimpse into the past at the classic and antique car show.



Above: Former Journalism Professor Lynn Sauls, '56, shares favorite stories with his tablemates during Thursday evening's opening banquet.

Right: Joann (Aushman) Rozell, '58; Ruth (Howard) Keltner, attended; and Betty (Howard) Hughes, '43, visit at the Ladies Luncheon.

Below: Leslie Pendleton, '59, is happy to be part of Homecoming.



Above: Tracey (Cross) Anderson, '02, joins her mother, Jenny (Williams) Jewett, '72, to celebrate Homecoming Weekend.

Left: Roy Shoupe, '60, chats with former Nursing Professor Carolyn Achata, attended.



HULSEY WELLNESS CENTER STUDENT OPENING

Above: School of P.E., Health, and Wellness Dean Phil Garver shows the campus' largest classroom to the Hulsey family, for whom the center was named.

Below: Attendees get their first glimpses of the wellness center's interior.

Homecoming concluded with a student opening celebration for the Hulsey Wellness Center, after which students, alumni, and community members were able to tour the new facility.

Stepping into the wellness center, the first thing everyone saw was a 30-foot climbing wall equipped with a self-belaying system. As the self-guided tour of the new facility continued, participants were also introduced to a state-of-the-art fitness area, an indoor walking track, a performance lab, and the campus's largest classroom.

Students began using the center the following week as construction workers added the building's finishing touches, including the addition of a therapy pool.

The Hulsey Wellness Center is the first of two buildings being built through funds raised in the Campaign for Health and Healing.

To find out about the progress of the new nursing building, Florida Hospital Hall, and how you can contribute, turn to page 24.



HULSEY WELLNESS CENTER STUDENT OPENING



Left: Preparations begin for the Hulsey Wellness Center student opening ceremony.

Below: President Gordon Bietz is congratulated by Bill Hulsey, '55, as the opening ceremony comes to a festive conclusion.



Above: High-tech fitness equipment can sync with a "digital personal trainer" to customize one's workout to meet individual needs.

Right: Kevin Spaulding, junior business administration major, demonstrates some of the free weights.

Right: The rock climbing wall, located near the front entrance, is equipped with an automatic belaying system.



Business Learning Beyond Books

by Carrie (Garlick) Harlin, '01

When Marianela Osorio, '06, became a CEO at the age of 22, she was hired straight from the classroom. But that's not to say she didn't have experience. She was a graduate of Southern's School of Business and Management, where students to go beyond the books to learn real-world practices.

"In a job market such as the current one," says Don Van Ornam, dean, "job applicants need a strong résumé that includes real-world experience."

Local and International Visits

Whether through a trip to China or a jaunt to Chattanooga, students are able to see concepts they learn put into practice in real businesses.

After returning from a New York City tour, senior financial services major Kristie Sullivan commented, "Going to the Mercantile of Exchange gave a visual of the stock market we learned about in class."

Many business students choose to learn beyond the books by participating in Adventist Colleges Abroad (ACA) or by volunteering as a student missionary (SM). This year, the school has eight ACA students and 12 SMs.

"As students prepare to work in the global environment," says Associate Professor Verlyne Starr, "their ACA and SM experiences provide a breadth and depth to their education."

Networking

One popular way for business students to interact with potential employers is through the Meet the Firms job fair held on campus twice a year.

Stefani Linna, '07, recalls her experience with Meet the Firms. "I discovered positions that were available in my field," she says. "As a result, I found a position with Wells Fargo Financial and have been with them ever since."

Another chance for students to engage in networking with business professionals is through the annual School of Business and Management alumni networking banquet and professional seminars. These events are geared toward business alumni returning to campus to gain professional growth within their field. Juniors and seniors are invited to participate in the seminars and network with alumni. Breakout sessions have included topics in management, marketing, long-term health care, investing, business law, human resources, entrepreneurship, and accounting.

Speakers

The School of Business and Management offers occasions for business professionals to share their knowledge and experience through guest

speaking engagements such as the E.A. Anderson Lecture Series, which brings in guest speakers from all over to speak on business topics and entrepreneurship endeavors.

Clubs

Four departmental clubs provide the opportunity for involvement and leadership.

Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) is an international nonprofit organization. Southern's SIFE program offers hands-on experience through projects such as a trip to Africa to build greenhouses for those who are afflicted with AIDS/HIV. While there, the SIFE team will teach entrepreneurial skills so the families can sell the remaining vegetables in order to restock the greenhouse and eventually make a profit. "SIFE has provided me with an opportunity to make my entrepreneurial ideas a reality," says graduate student Alex Mihai, '08. "Implementing a business endeavor gives students like me a chance to show our creativity and knowledge of the steps necessary to start a business."

Other departmental clubs include the international business club and long-term health care club for students majoring in these concentrations and the business society club, which focuses on investing, networking, and providing a social experience for students majoring in business.

Master's Programs

When business students complete a bachelor's degree, their educational

experience at Southern Adventist University can continue through the school's graduate program.

"One reason our Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is so attractive is because of our flexible schedule," says Linda Wilhelm, graduate coordinator. "We offer our complete MBA degree to students in a one- or two-year program, both in the classroom and online."

Whether graduate or undergraduate, there is a consistent thread that sets Southern apart from other business programs. "Any school can teach someone how to run a business," says Christina Whary, freshman management major, "but Southern is one of the few schools that makes students contemplate Christ's role in every aspect of our lives." ✦



Professor Cliff Olson has been teaching and mentoring students at Southern for more than 18 years.

Construction Continues on Florida Hospital Hall

Growth is continuing on campus as construction progresses on Southern's new nursing building, Florida Hospital Hall.

Since the groundbreaking in December 2007, progress has been made on the footings and foundations, and the walls have been poured for the first floor of the building. The



Southern's new nursing building is being constructed in the old Jones Hall parking lot.

workers are hoping to have the building enclosed in by the end of next summer.

Florida Hospital Hall will have many new features that will be able to enhance Southern's already-well-reputed nursing program. Among the new high-tech facilities the new building will offer are two simulation labs. The labs will have a control room between them where instructors can control the actions of simulated patients to test the skills of nursing students. These labs will allow students to have a more real-life experience.

"Simulated experiences can be a valuable addition to the curriculum," says Barbara James, dean of the School of Nursing. "Desired outcomes are an increase in students' confidence level, critical thinking, and clinical judgment abilities."

Other features will include larger classrooms, more computers in the computer lab, and several "smart" classrooms that will allow live conferencing between professors in the classrooms and students at remote sites. There will also be a small museum to show archived photos, old uniforms, and other artifacts from the long history of Southern's nursing program.

"Southern has needed a building for the School of Nursing that matches the excellence of the program," says Kimberly Sheel, junior nursing major. "I think it's safe to say that everyone related to the School of Nursing is eagerly anticipating the finished product."

Southern needs your help to make the completion of this building a reality. To make a financial gift, visit advancement.southern.edu or call 1.800.SOUTHERN. ~ Jennifer Meyer

Experiences at Southern Lead Alumni to Frontier Mission Work

When Christopher Sorenson, '01, signed up to be a student missionary after his sophomore year at Southern, he had no idea his time in the mission field would stretch from one, to two, to three consecutive years—and eventually into a lifetime of service.

"Southern, through its student missions program, gave me the opportunity to see firsthand what the mission field was like," Christopher says. "It was during my student missionary experience that God confirmed my calling in life to the mission field."

While his student missionary experience confirmed his calling, it would take a spring break mission trip to Cancun, Mexico, to affirm his partner in this calling.

When Christopher saw Shannon Diamantopolos, '01, whom he had recently started dating, keep up with the guys on the work site, he knew she was a woman who could share his life in the mission field.

Today Christopher and Shannon, along with their two children Alina and Jeshua, are missionaries with Adventist Frontier Missions in Surin, Thailand.

Their job description is to learn the language and culture of the Northern Khmer, to share Christ to these people and train believers to do the same, and to plant local churches in the region.

Over the last five years since arriving in Thailand, the Sorensons have gone from a small Bible study group of seven or eight people who met in their living room to now having three churches in this previously unreached area.

They have also started radio stations in Surin and Bangkok and are working on writing a Bible study curriculum that will address some of the local issues and problems that the Northern Khmer people face, such as dealing with relatives who believe in spirits.

As they continue to follow God's leading, Christopher says they are clinging to the promise God has spoken to them many times: "I will make it up to you, I will more than make it up to you!" ~ Katie Hammond



Christopher and Shannon Sorenson, along with their children Alina and Jeshua, are serving as frontier missionaries in Surin, Thailand.

Upcoming Events

Spring Break	February 27-March 8
Senior Art Show	March 12
SA Talent Show	March 14
Symphony Orchestra Concert	March 22
PreviewSouthern	March 26-28
Gym-Masters Home Shows	March 28 and 29
Dusk 'til Dawn Challenge	April 4
SonRise Resurrection Pageant	April 11
"Faces of Power" archaeological exhibit	Through May 3

McKee Library Displays Art Exhibit

The McKee Library is currently displaying nearly 40 paintings by Melissa Hefferlin, daughter of Research Professor Ray Hefferlin.

Many of these paintings are originals from private collections, which have never before been seen in public.



This painting greets visitors as they arrive at the McKee Library. Other works by Melissa Hefferlin are on display on both the first and second floors of the library.

"She is extending tremendous kindness to our library," says Joe Mocnik, director of libraries. "This exhibit is a wonderful opportunity to open our institution to the community."

Hefferlin studied art at The Academy of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg, Russia, and attended the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga and the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles. Her artwork has been showcased in Zurich, London, New York, Los Angeles, and Denver as well

as around Tennessee. Currently Hefferlin's art is exhibited in Ohio, Arizona, and Chattanooga.

Hefferlin's artistic work reaches not only international levels but also local ones.

Chattanooga officials chose Hefferlin to paint a commemorative mural celebrating the opening of the 21st Century Waterfront Development. Hefferlin is also working on three murals for the Collegedale Church's youth wing. Her paintings will be displayed throughout the McKee Library until May 2009.

Those interested in visiting the library to see Hefferlin's artwork may want to time their visit to take advantage of some special events happening in March. On March 17, Lynn Sauls will be presenting selected readings by Robert Burns, and on March 31, Bruce Hopson, regional storytelling champion, will be sharing tall tales. Both events will take place at 7 p.m. in the library's new Knowledge Commons. ~ Manuela Asaftei

Father and Son Graduate Together

Fifty-eight-year-old Ken Mathews, '72, an occupational medicine physician, used to label himself an "armchair archaeologist," always looking for things in history and archaeology that confirm the Biblical account. This December, after walking down the aisle with a bachelor's in archaeology, the label "real archaeologist" is a better fit for this two-time graduate of Southern. His son, Tim, also walked down the aisle with a bachelor's in history and a minor in Spanish. "It felt pretty cool to graduate with my dad," Tim says. "I mean, who gets to do that?"

Ken first met Michael Hasel, professor and director of Southern's Institute of Archaeology, during an Alumni Weekend. They became friends, and Ken's interest in archaeology soon led him to become a member of the Institute of Archaeology Advisory Board.

His interest didn't stop there. Ken realized that with his religion degree and two years of Greek, he already had the basic requirements for an archaeology degree. One challenge was the fact that he lived three hours away from Southern's campus. To tackle this challenge, Hasel found a way to video the classes and download them to Ken's home.

"I watched the classes, took the quizzes, wrote the exams, and completed the papers one

class, one semester at a time," Ken says. "Dr. Hasel did a wonderful job explaining everything for the camera as well as the students."

Ken plans on being an active archaeologist and venturing out on several digs to Israel within the next few years. "God's Word in scripture is true and very real to me," says Ken, "and I rejoice to see it confirmed every time something of Biblical value is unearthed in Israel."

Meanwhile, Ken's expansive library of historical books helped develop his son's love of history from an early age. When the time came to choose a major, history seemed the right fit. Besides majoring in history, Tim had always wanted to learn Spanish. For his sophomore year he went to River Plate Adventist University in Argentina, where he learned a different culture and language that contributed to his education.

"My dad definitely influenced my interest in history," Tim says. "Although he wanted me to pursue it further, he encouraged me to go in



When Tim Mathews told his dad, Ken Mathews, about an archaeology class he was taking, Ken returned to school for an archaeology degree. Father and son graduated in December.

whatever direction I wanted for my career." Although a history-lover, Tim feels that his future calling is in the dentistry field and plans on attending the Loma Linda School of Dentistry starting the fall of 2009.

"Tim demonstrated a breadth of thinking early on in his time at Southern—even though he was planning on being a health care professional," says Lisa Diller, associate history professor. "He saw his education as so much more than job preparation. Having a father-son duo demonstrating the importance of being lifelong learners is a real gift to the other students." ~ Manuela Asaftei

Paintings Inspired by SonRise

Holding her camera in her hand, Sherry Boettcher, attended, looked up at Jesus, battered, broken, and dying on the cross. As *Via Dolorosa* played through speakers, worry filled the face of a 5-year-old girl who sat on Sherry's lap. "Why did they hurt him?" the girl asked.

Sherry was one of more than 7,000 people to attend the annual SonRise Resurrection Pageant put on by the Collegedale Church with the help of Southern Adventist University students, professors, and community volunteers every spring on campus. The pageant chronicles the final days of Jesus' life on earth, progressing through the crucifixion and finally the resurrection.

Sherry had driven from Knoxville specifically to attend SonRise. However, she wasn't only there to attend. She was there to capture the experience with photos for several paintings, one of which was a request from a dying friend to paint Jesus on the cross.

As she attended SonRise, Sherry snapped photos to capture different scenes: the market, the crucifixion, and the resurrection. However, it was only when she started to paint the scene of Jesus on the cross that she really got the picture.

"When I painted Jesus on the cross, that really touched me deeply because it was almost like I was doing that to Him myself," Sherry says. "It brought home the reality that our sins killed Him."

Sherry did not always plan to paint. She started her career as an occupational therapist, but when fibromyalgia complications almost killed her, she couldn't go back to work as an occupational therapist. She turned to drawing and painting for employment.

"I feel almost like God put me in a corner and said, 'Guess what? This is what I want you to do.' It's scary trying to do that, being the starving artist in a way," she says, "but I always say we're the richest poor people in the world."

Sherry, who primarily creates portraits, always wanted to do a painting to illustrate God's love in a very concrete way. She said her trip to SonRise was the perfect inspiration for that goal.

As people see her paintings, Sherry emphasizes, "I want them to see Jesus in some way or to see how precious we are in God's eyes. I want their soul to be touched not by me, but by God."

~Christina Weitzel



Francesca Costerisan, a model for one of Sherry Boettcher's SonRise-inspired artwork, reunites with the artist at the SonRise marketplace.

Southern Takes Steps Toward Being an All-Steinway School

Professors, students, and alumni alike shared excitement and refreshments as they mingled in the lobby of Ackerman Auditorium in late January. Soft music drifted across the lobby as some took turns playing the piano nestled in the corner. There was a reason these music enthusiasts were gathered in celebration. The first shipment of 21 out of 30 new Steinway & Sons pianos had been delivered. This first step toward becoming an All-Steinway School means that Southern will be the only Adventist school as well as the only school in Chattanooga with this designation.

After an inventory of pianos in Mable Wood Hall, Peter Cooper, piano professor; Scott Ball, dean of the School of Music; and Ted Summitt, '63, a retired local Steinway dealer, saw that the pianos were beyond repair after having been used for 30 years. This situation, common among the vast majority of college-level music programs, provided an opportunity to replace the pianos with high-quality instruments and gain Southern the prestigious title of an All-Steinway School, one of three in Tennessee and the 100th in the world. "When I heard the idea, I was thrilled," says Joy McKee, corporate and foundations relations director for Advancement. "This would set us apart amongst other similar education facilities."

Each Steinway requires up to a full year to be handcrafted, resulting in an instrument of rare quality. "I am humbled by the excitement this project is generating," says Cooper. "I truly believe that this is a great moment for the School of Music and for all of us at Southern." A second delivery of Steinway & Sons pianos were shipped after being individually chosen from a showroom in New York City. Cooper,

accompanied by several key influencers of this project, participated in selecting these instruments. In addition to the new pianos that will be placed in teaching studios and select practice rooms, a 9-foot grand will go in Ackerman Auditorium to be used for everything from student degree recitals to guest artist recitals. Funds for this endeavor are being raised through Southern's "Keys to Excellence" Campaign. "These quality instruments will serve our students, our university, and the larger community as well," says Ruth Liu, campaign chair. "The students' musical preparation here at Southern will enable them in turn to enrich the lives of people around the world."

~Manuela Asaftei



Students Help Make the Invisible Visible

Imagine a war-torn country where children weather into adults, molded and scarred as child soldiers, robbed of their childhood and left without education or hope for a future. This is the result of 23 years of bloodshed that has ravished Uganda. These unforgettable faces burned their distant reality into Southern's campus when the documentary film "Invisible Children" was shown to a packed Ackerman Auditorium. "Unreal," students said afterward as they dispersed onto the promenade, mingling, and blending their way across the vast well-kept campus.

But the effects of this film did not end when the credits began to roll; instead this was only the beginning as hundreds of students began working in collaboration with the Invisible Children organization to raise awareness and funds for children in Uganda.

Students held a number of fundraisers for Schools for Schools, a nationwide effort to support 10 schools in Uganda. These fundraisers included selling T-shirts and bowls of rice, auctioning art, and hosting a 30-hour fast. During the 2007-08 academic year alone, more than \$12,500 was raised for this cause.

Both last year and this year, an internally displaced persons camp model was set up in front of Brock Hall, giving students a glimpse of what life is like in a Ugandan camp. The huts were filled with quotes, facts, and pictures

of Ugandan children. This year the latest documentary, *Go: The Schools for Schools Movie*, was shown.

While students continue raising awareness on campus, Adam Litchfield, a senior business administration major who led the activities last year, was so moved by the experience that he is now taking a year off from classes to tour with Invisible Children, showing the *Go* documentary to schools across the country.

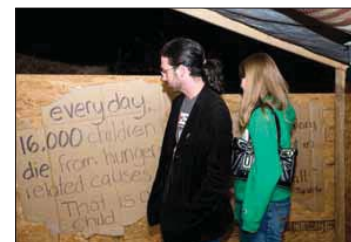
"The reason I volunteered for the organization is because I saw how much people want to do to help and be involved. They just need somewhere to start," surmises Adam. "Invisible Children showed me where to start, and I wanted to share that with as many people as I could."

Adam says that meeting the Invisible Chil-

Southern Has Lowest Tuition Increase in 12 Years

In an economy where some schools are cutting costs and shutting down departments to stay afloat, Southern announces the lowest tuition increase in 12 years for 2009-2010.

Southern has been proactive about keeping tuition low by researching ways to minimize costs while maintaining quality. "Our faculty and staff will not receive a cost-of-living pay increase next year," says President Gordon Bietz.



Students read facts about Ugandan children as they tour a makeshift refugee camp.

dren founders and staff has confirmed his belief in the organization and its work.

"I genuinely believe that God is using this organization in a powerful way," Adam asserts. "We are changed as we seek to help change."

~ Hannah Kuntz

Student Missionary Program Makes Strides Toward Realizing Goal

In the spring of 1991, Brennon Kirstein, '94, returned from his mission experience in Yap with a better understanding of himself and how to depend on Jesus.

"It was such a raw experience," recalls Kirstein. "I was stripped of the relationships of home and had to rely on God every day."

His passion for student missions brought him back to Southern in 2006 to serve as chaplain.

Kirstein brought with him the goal of sending out 10 percent of the student body as student missionaries (SMs).

With Southern's current enrollment, that would be approximately 275 students serving each year. Already, there has been an increase in SMs, with 100 currently serving, compared to last year's total of 75.

"Brennon is very open about his passion for student missions," says Student Missions Coordinator Gayle Moore, who came to Southern shortly after Kirstein's return. "His positive role on campus has inspired students to want to serve."

But Kirstein doesn't take all of the credit. "The best recruiters," he says, "are students who have just come back from a trip."

Jessi Turner, senior business major, is now one of those recruiters after having spent a year teaching high school English in Cairo, Egypt. "We're paying it forward," she says. "My cousin encouraged me to go, and now I want to encourage others to go because I had such a great experience."

As interest in missions grows, Student

"Because of this action, we can pass the savings forward to our students and their families."

Students and parents have expressed appreciation for the low increase. Sally Snyder Jewell, mother of junior psychology major Emily Jewell, says, "At a time when bill collectors abound for most tuition-poor families, it was indeed refreshing to know that not everyone has his hand out in these difficult economic times."

~Emily Young

Missions Club president and senior theology major Nate Dubs reports that every day he has the privilege of meeting with at least two new students interested in possibly serving as student missionaries.

With the energy and passion of the student missions team and the returning SMs, it appears Kirstein's goal will probably one day become a reality.

Ultimately, however, the work of calling students is God's.

"I am a firm believer that God will bring the people He wants into the SM program," says Moore. "We can be His instruments to raise awareness, but He alone will touch the hearts of our young people and impress them if He wants them to serve."

~Jacqueline Liles

WSMC Classical 90.5 Hosts Holiday Read With Me Event

WSMC, the classical radio station owned and operated by Southern Adventist University, hosted a special holiday version of its Read With Me program for long-term patients and "Miracle Children" from T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital on Monday, December 15. Miracle Children are those who have overcome tremendous odds and are chosen by T.C. Thompson to represent the hospital for a year.

A Southern tour bus escorted by police brought the children and their families to the WSMC offices on campus, where they were given a tour of the station and treated to a lunch catered by the Acropolis Grill.

The Read With Me program, which was aired live on WSMC FM 90.5 as well as online via webstreaming, included a reading of *My Penguin Osbert* by Erlanger Hospital CEO Jim Brexler and a performance of *Cozoo and the Goblin* by the Marzians from Marzipan

Studios Reader's Theatre.

Southern's School of Journalism and Communication provided the television studio, production crew, and live streaming equipment to enable this event to be seen by more than 100 viewers over the Internet.

Hamilton County Mayor Claude Ramsey and City of Chattanooga Mayor Ron Littlefield were present for the festivities. In celebration of the event, Ramsey made an official proclamation declaring December 15, 2008, "Read With Me Day" in Chattanooga and Hamilton County.

Before the bus ride back to the hospital, the children were surprised by a visit from Santa (Former Business Professor Bert Coolidge), who spent some one-on-one time with each of the children and presented them with gift bags containing presents from Barnes & Noble, McKee Foods, McDonalds, and others.

"I'm so amazed at how that many moving



Erlanger Hospital CEO Jim Brexler reads to children for WSMC's Read With Me Holiday event.

parts came together," observed David Brooks, station manager for WSMC. "The whole thing worked out just great."
~ Lori Futcher

Record Enrollment Continues at Southern

Despite the economic climate, Southern Adventist University continues to see growth in its student body.

"While we are hearing from many students and families that the economy is definitely affecting them in numerous ways, overall our students remain very committed that Southern Adventist University continues to be a very large part of their long-term plans," says Marc Grundy, associate vice president for Enrollment Services. "Southern is also very committed to helping our students achieve their goals, especially in this time of economic peril."

Currently, more students are attending than have ever before been enrolled during the winter semester.

With a head count of 2,685 students (2,478 undergraduate and 208 graduate), Southern has 111 more students than were enrolled last year at this time.

"Our continued increase in enrollment, even in difficult times," says President Gordon Bietz, "indicates that our students understand the importance of getting a good education so as to be a well-prepared applicant in the job market."
~ Lori Futcher



President Bietz Flies Across Campus

As Southern Adventist University celebrated Spirit Week, students from the outdoor leadership program set up a zip line that started at Lynn Wood Hall, went down "Jacob's Ladder" past Wright Hall, and ended on the lawn in front of Talge Hall.

After students spent a day of "flying" between classes, faculty and staff—including President Gordon Bietz—joined the fun.

This is the second year Southern has operated a zip line during its annual Spirit Week.

Biology Department Researches Ancient Plant DNA

Dressed in white lab coats, junior biology students Ruthie Gulley and Janessa James along with Biology Professor Joyce Azevedo inject a DNA sample stained with blue dye into what resembles a dish of clear gelatin. They later put the small dish into an apparatus that will electrify the gel, separating larger pieces from smaller pieces of DNA.

These students and their professor are practicing the process of extracting DNA from a plant sample, something that will take place often as the semester progresses. They must have the process perfected before Biology Professor Lee Spencer and other team members travel to Banks Island, Canada, next summer to collect ancient plant samples that have been hidden away in the snowy wilderness.

Although ancient DNA extraction has been attempted before, particularly from dinosaur remains, it has not been very successful because the samples used were deemed contaminated by other scientists. Spencer and his team chose plant DNA because plant tissue is less likely to be contaminated by humans or other animals after being frozen for so long.

Ruthie and Janessa are the two students chosen to help discover if DNA can be extracted from these ancient samples. They joined Spencer and Azevedo in conducting preliminary research, and when Spencer and his team returns to Southern from collecting frozen plant samples, Ruthie and Janessa will be able to identify the family to which each ancient sample belongs (if they are successful in extracting DNA).

"I love that Dr. Spencer includes us in the brainstorming sessions as to what to do next in

our research," says Ruthie. "It's all of us working together to answer the ultimate question: Can DNA be extracted from ancient plants?"

These students are training for more than just ancient plant DNA extractions. They are learning sound research methods that will be useful once they enter their careers.

"I've learned so much along the way about research methods," says Janessa. "My goal is to be a physician, and I know that in that career, learning never stops. Learning research methods will help me to differentiate good research from bad research in the future."

Janessa, Ruthie, Spencer, and Azevedo are all thrilled at the possibility of being among the first to get DNA out of ancient plant material.

One Praise Choir Holds Benefit Concert

Members of Southern Adventist University's One Praise Gospel Choir raised their voices to help victims of Hurricane Ike at a benefit concert in October. The concert attracted about 600 attendees and raised more than \$1,000 for the Red Cross to distribute in the Galveston, Texas area.

"Our main mission," says Alexandria Cooke, assistant director for the choir and senior chemistry major, "is not just to sing and reach out to people with our voices but to reach out with our hands and efforts too."

One Praise Gospel Choir holds an annual choir clinic and concert at the beginning of every academic year. About three weeks before this year's concert was scheduled, Hurricane Ike ravaged parts of Texas. Members wanted to help



Janessa James and Ruthie Gulley practice extracting DNA.

"Science can be an adventure—fun and exciting," comments Spencer. "It is the excitement and the adventure of 'anything is possible' that keeps us on our toes."
~ Natalia Lopez-Thison and Katherine Wilson

and decided to turn the concert into a benefit for the victims.

Sean Johnson, sponsor for One Praise Gospel Choir and student finance counselor at Southern, was thrilled at their decision and fully backed the members in their effort.

"The choir members planned everything for the benefit and allowed God to be seen through them," says Johnson. "They let His light shine out."

Choir members were amazed by the success of the concert and how God had blessed their hard work in such a large way.

"Through the whole experience I learned that when you do stuff for God with the right spirit, you just have to stand back and watch," says Alexandria. "You never know what He's going to do in return."
~ Suzanne Ocsei

Southern Benefits From Sabbath Blessings

I used to be angry that I had to work on Sabbath," says David Brannon, an anesthesiologist at Gordon Hospital in Calhoun, Georgia.

But one day all that changed as he was reading *The Desire of Ages*, chapter 21. There, Ellen White recounts one Sabbath morning when Jesus was on a mission. Jesus was walking the streets of Jerusalem alone in prayer. As He drew near the pool of Bethesda, the plight of every hurting soul tore at His heart, but one man in particular caught His attention. "Rise, take up

your bed, and walk." Jesus told him. This man grasped hold in faith to the line of hope Jesus stretched out, and in one beautiful moment his life was changed forever.

"I came under conviction," Brannon says, "that I shouldn't profit from taking care of people on the Sabbath."

Now he gives his Sabbath earnings to people who are in need. Brannon finds it exciting to view patients he sees on Sabbath as a way of God providing in advance for His children.

Brannon's giving extends to Southern Adventist University's Southern Fund and the Jeff Evans Memorial Scholarship. The Southern Fund helps keep tuition low by supplementing campus funding to the areas that need it most, while the Jeff Evans Memorial Scholarship aids incoming freshmen from the Southern Union.

"God is in control, and He is working in ways that we have no idea of," says Brannon. "He is providing for the needs of the people around us."
~ Rachel Heft

Ancient Coins Displayed in Archaeological Museum

For the first time at Southern, a collection of more than 50 coins from the Greco-Roman era (50 BC-300 AD) is showcasing the connection between money and politics in the “Faces of Power” exhibit at the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum. The exhibit had its grand opening on October 8. The coins will be on display at the museum throughout this academic year.

In Greco-Roman times, the link between money and power was made tangible in a unique way; each coin issued was inscribed with the image of the emperor who issued it. The gold, silver, and bronze coins spanning a time period of 600 years originated in Greece, Rome, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, and Israel. The exhibit relates the wealth and prosperity shown by the coins to the biblical stories of the widow’s mite, the 30 pieces of silver given to Judas for his betrayal of Jesus, and others.

“We’re hearing a lot about the economic recession and crisis,” says Michael Hasel, curator of the museum, “and, of course, Jesus had to

deal with these relevant topics too. This exhibit takes us back to the beginning of the monetary system to look at what was done in biblical times and how we can apply lessons learned from that era today.”

About 250 people attended the grand opening, and the exhibit has been well-received by students, faculty, and community members.

“They’ve done an outstanding job of finding ways of displaying coins to show the historical context,” says Bob Young, senior vice president for Academic Administration.

Jasper Gaunt, curator of Greek and Roman art at Emory University, gave a lecture after the open house. Gaunt was impressed by the

student interest in his lecture and the exhibit. “I was surprised by the large turnout and by the intelligent questions. It is good to hear that the students found something to enjoy in the presentation,” he says.

For hours, directions, and information about the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum, visit archaeology.southern.edu. ~Emily Young



Librarian Dan Maxwell studies a display of Greco-Roman coins shown in historical context.

Adventist Students Unite in Effort to Save Malamulo College

Malamulo College of Health Sciences is a small Adventist college and hospital in Malawi, Africa. The school is overcrowded and too small. The government of Malawi has threatened to close the college if the facilities are not updated—an undertaking that will cost \$300,000. The threat is made worse by the fact

that the hospital is famous for its efforts to fight AIDS in a country that has one of the highest AIDS rates in the world.

In response to this need, Southern Adventist University has joined 12 other Adventist Intercollegiate Association (AIA) colleges in a common goal—saving Malamulo.

Each of the AIA colleges and universities agreed to raise \$8,500 during the 2008-2009 academic year to make a total of \$100,000—an amount that, if raised, will be matched by a grant from Hope for Humanity.

Southern exceeded the \$8,500 goal by raising more than \$11,000 during spring semester. In addition to offerings and a collection box, one of the creative fundraising events the Student Association

held was a “Muffins for Malamulo” bake sale.

Kari Shultz, director of student life and activities, asked the staff and faculty to bake muffins to give to donors. The faculty provided about 700 homemade muffins for the “Muffins for Malamulo” project, and the students loved them.

“They were saying, ‘Somebody made these? Somebody took all that time?’” Shultz says. “One student even said, ‘These are like gourmet muffins!’”

Katie Partlo, planning and project manager for Marketing and University Relations, baked a batch of gingerbread muffins.

“It was great for the faculty to get involved,” Partlo says. “I thought, *I can afford the flour and molasses to make gingerbread muffins*. It was fun to be a part of the effort.”

Another creative effort was the signing of a banner for Malamulo by Southern students. The Committee of 100, a philanthropic group that supports many of Southern’s endeavors has pledged \$1 for every student who signs the banner.

With the success it has seen so far, Southern has increased its goal to raise \$15,000 by the end of the academic year. ~Melissa Swanson



Above: Students signed a banner for Malamulo College of Health Sciences in order to raise funds to update the African intuition’s facilities and save it from being shut down.



Right: Employees baked muffins to give to students in exchange for a donation.

What to Do With a Cheat?

by Renee Cerovski, senior print journalism and music major

I’m sorry for my dirty work; it will be my last time.” I looked at the note scrawled across the bottom of Ivan’s* workbook. I couldn’t make sense of it. What was he apologizing for? I thought about it and pondered all the possibilities hidden in his choice of words. With my ESL students, one couldn’t take their exact words at face value.

It was a puzzle, another mystery to add to what I’d been struggling with ever since arriving in this Southeast Asian creative access country. Why had God sent me to explain grammar to people who desperately needed His grace instead? I quickly found that mission work was not a set of water-to-wine transformations and that I’d have to dig deeper to find my purpose.

Several minutes later, as I was grading some other workbooks, a sudden thought came to me. Quickly I grabbed Ivan’s workbook and the workbook of his friend and opened them to the same page. And of course, now it all made sense. Word for word, their answers were the same. The mistakes and answers to subjective questions were all a carbon copy.

A sickening dread started to settle on me. What was I going to do now? I had already addressed the issue of cheating, both to the class and to Ivan. I hated confrontation, and I hated having to be an authority figure, especially to teenage boys who towered over me. *What did he mean by “I’m sorry”?* I fumed. Ivan had caused more problems than any other student. He and his two friends had been a recurring source of discipline issues: cheating, talking, and outright ignoring me. If these discipline problems hadn’t been enough to put a strain on our teacher-student relationship, the crush he’d developed on me at the start of the school year was. That had eventually fizzled out but not before he’d sent me a text message of epistle length expressing his feelings. He was just a 16-year-old kid, and I had no idea what to do with him.

Confrontation

The next day, I explained the situation to my mentor. Since he had confessed to the crime, to not speak with him about it would destroy any chance of helping him, she advised. Begrudgingly, I admitted she was right. Although this would mean even more work for me, I had to do it, for his sake. That evening, armed with his workbook and an extra assignment, I walked up to Ivan’s desk and asked him to stay after class. I sensed that he was inwardly rolling his eyes, *here we go again*.

Before I knew it, class had ended. I had to get this over with. “Why did you do this?” I asked, showing him his workbook.

“I don’t know. I was busy and didn’t have time,” he muttered sheepishly. “I want to thank you for telling me about it, but I can’t give you credit for this. You know the rules,” I said, hoping my voice wasn’t shaking.

“Yeah,” he replied, looking down.

“I know you are a good student, and you don’t need to cheat; it’s only hurting you.” Suddenly I remembered he played soccer (known as “football” in Asia). “It’s like football. You have to follow the rules.” I handed him back his workbook and the extra assignment. “If you do this assignment, I can give you some of your points back.” Inwardly I wondered if I’d ever see it again, but about a week later, he handed me the completed assignment.

Results

For the midterm exam, I decided to not give a seating chart as I usually had in the past. I watched to see what he would do. Ivan and his friend walked in—together as always—and his friend sat in the middle of the classroom. However,

Ivan walked over to the far corner of the classroom, away from the other students, and sat in the place I’d made him sit for all the previous tests. His friend looked at him inquisitively, but Ivan shook his head. There weren’t many times that year when I felt more proud than I did as I watched him take the initiative to stop cheating.

The term flew by, and because of a family trip, Ivan had to take his final exam early. He came and took his test alone in the classroom. As I monitored the test, it occurred to me that I was going to miss him—a lot. He handed me his test and then walked out. Ten seconds later, Ivan stuck his head in the door, said “Thanks for teaching me,” and ran off.

What he never knew was that he was the one who taught me. My job had never been about teaching grammar. What was my purpose in Southeast Asia? I wasn’t there to change the water to the wine. God would do that. I simply had to be a willing servant—a vessel to show grace. ✧

*name has been changed



Renee Cerovski wasn’t sure what teaching English had to do with sharing God’s grace—until she had to face a cheater.

50s

Marjorie (Romans)

Spiller, attended, lives in Nevada County, California, where she works as a real estate broker.

Odie, '55, and Carolyn (Haines) Weir, '55, live in Angwin, California. They attended their granddaughter Ansley's graduation from Southern Adventist University's School of Nursing in 2008. Ansley received her bachelor's in nursing and is now a missionary in Chad. After her graduation, Odie and Carolyn went to Costa Rica with ShareHIM.

Juanita (Jones) Hamil, '58, and her husband, Roy, are retired in Collegedale. Juanita recently published the book *From a Nobody to the Daughter of the King*.

60s

Tena (Anderson) Bachm,

'60, and her husband are active Maranatha volunteers.

Rich Martin, '63, retired in Seabeck, Washington.

Ila (Fristad) Smith, '63, lives in Springfield, Oregon. She is mother to three stepchildren and an adopted son.

Barbara (Hoar) Tand, '64, is working for Analysts International in Jefferson City, Missouri.

70s

Steven, '77, and Sharon

(Clifton) Torgerson, '74, live in Fairfield, California, where Steven is an Air Force chaplain and Sharon is a registered nurse. Steven and Sharon are parents to 8-year-old twins, Samantha and Skylar.

Carmen Miranda, '78, is a full-time mother to her 10-year-old son and is sharing her life with her 88-year-old mother.



80s

Sharon (Wilcox) Fritzsche,

'80, is a family nurse practitioner at Loma Linda University Medical Center. She and her husband have one son, who is a sophomore at Mesa Grande Academy.

Mark Hyder, '82, is based in Collegedale as an associate director with the General Conference Auditing Service. He and his wife, Lisa, have been married 16 years and have two sons who attend A.W. Spalding Elementary School.

Roger, attended, and Katrina (Lorren) Bisson, '85 and '87, adopted a son, Nathaniel Joshua, born July 11. They own a computer repair business in the Chattanooga area.

Kelly Bishop, '87 and '88, has been appointed to the position of trust officer/trust administrator at Glens Falls National Bank and Trust Company. She is working toward a master's degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix.

90s

Thomas Knoll, '95, and his

wife, Deanna, welcomed a son, Judson Dean, into their home on April 7. They live in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Jim, '96, and Chana (Sleeth) Milks, '97, welcomed their second child, Allison Renee, to the family on July 27. Jim and Chana are also parents to 5-year-old Matthew.

John Beckert Jr., '98, is director of the General Conference's Office of Global Software and Technology. He was honored during the 2008 Global Internet Evangelism Forum for fostering awareness of technological advances to expand the ministry and mission of the Church.

Ryan, '98 and '00, and Suzanne (Eyer) Standish, '98 and '00, live in Rocklin, California, with their two children, baby Elizabeth and 4-year-old Brayden. Ryan is a float nurse specializing in cardiac intervention, and Suzanne works per diem as a postpartum nurse, spending most of her time with their children.

Jason, '98, and Debbie (Batin)

Sasser, '02, live in Friendswood, Texas, where Debbie is working as a webmaster and copy writer/editor for a large Baptist Church. She also does freelance writing and editing and has been published in a variety of Adventist publications. In addition, Debbie is working on a master's degree in professional writing and graphic design.



00s

Hans Olson, '00, married

Shannon Star on September 28. Hans works as communication project manager for the General Conference Office of Adventist Missions.



Angela (Cripe) Teague, '01, along with her husband, Jeremy, and 2-year-old daughter, Molly, welcomed a baby boy, Jesse Eugene, into their family on March 21.



Stephen, '01, and Jamie (Griffin) Herr, '02, welcomed a baby daughter, Savannah Michelle, into their family on June 28.

Chad, '02, and Christina (Holm) Stuart, '03, live in Visalia, California. Chad is the senior pastor of the Visalia Adventist Church, and Christina is a CRNA. They welcomed a boy into their family in October.



Shannon (Hayward), '04, and her husband, Jon Gabbard, '03, welcomed their son, Tyler Jon, into the family on April 29. Tyler has joined his parents in their Athens, Georgia, home.

Sam, '07, and Marlane (Costa) Heiser, '07, were married in April. They are making their home now in San Diego, California.



Marlon Costa, '07, has become a United States citizen and changed his last name to Seifert in honor of his grandmother. He married his wife, Vanessa, on August 5. Marlon is an associate pastor for the Weslaco English Adventist Church. He plans to go to Andrews University to study toward his master's of divinity degree in July 2009.



Remembrance

Charles Davis, former librarian, passed away on July 7. Charles had worked for the Adventist Church for 44 years.

Mary Sue "Petey" (Martin) Giroux, '06, passed away on July 30. Petey graduated from Southern's graduate program in outdoor education at the age of 60.

Patricia (Hall) Black, '63, passed away on August 20 at the age of 95. She is survived by two daughters, a son, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Bill Iles, charter member and first president of the Committee of 100 and former member of Southern Adventist University's Board of Trustees, died on October 11.

Send your updates: We'd love to hear from you (and so would your classmates). Send your updates to columns@southern.edu or COLUMNS Editor, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370.

Travel Memories

Mountain Climbing

I was only 15 in 1979 when I was invited to join Southern's orchestra on its first world tour. At 5:37 a.m., realizing I had missed the rendezvous with some college students to climb a mountain in Hong Kong, I decided to try to catch up. I was bushwhacking through the mountain's underbrush when it dawned on me that I was clueless to recognizing poisonous Hong Kong insects, spiders, and snakes. Finding those cool college students at the summit assured me that I hadn't gotten lost. This was but the first part of a legacy of experiences with Orlo Gilbert and his orchestra—lifetime memories of friends and timeless music.

Rusty McKee, '87

Island Living

After December 1990 exams, about 20 of us flew to Roatan to build a market. We stayed in a house on stilts. The first night, it seemed like 50 roosters woke us up at 5 a.m. After working hard each week, we spent Sabbath afternoons exploring. The water was so clear I could see the fish shadows on the ocean floor. We came back tired and sore but knowing we had helped bring a better life to the island.

Luc Sabot, '93

Playing in the Snow

On a Destiny Drama Company tour in 2006, we encountered snow—a novelty to most of us. We ran around in it every chance we got. We explored the woods that had quickly transformed into a wintery wonderland that mirrored Narnia. We threw snowballs, shook trees, and tried to build snowmen. This was just another episode to add to my many memories with Destiny.

Sonya Reaves, '07

Your memories could be here. For the next issue, share your photos and stories of Southern friendships.

Send your photos and brief stories to columns@southern.edu or COLUMNS Editor, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370.



Hold On, God

by Stephanie Edward, senior journalism major

The sound of bleating sheep rouses me from my peaceful slumber. I slowly lift my head off the pillow, and I struggle to open my eyes, only to be temporarily blinded by the sun glaring at me. I glance at my clock; it's about 9:30 a.m. A bit disoriented, I survey the room and see my roommate looking out the window with a smile, her face practically pressed into the glass.

What in the world? Curiosity overtakes me. Groaning, I climb down my bunk bed to join her. I see a huge crowd filing slowly past our window. A few children wave at me as they walk past clinging eagerly to their parents' hands. I smile as I return their waves and watch them skip happily behind the "locals" dressed in traditional Hebrew garments. I look beyond them and see the source of my rude awakening: sheep, goats, and even a camel are grazing contently in a little pen across the street. I realize that today is SonRise, something I've anticipated since I came to the United States from Pohnpei to study at Southern.

Another thought enters my head that erases the smile from my face; I don't have a ticket! I had been putting off getting tickets because I had been bombarded by tests, papers, and intramurals. As I'm mulling over this fact, my phone rings.

The Invitation

"Hey, watcha doin'?" my friend Jason Horinouchi, '06, greets me. Jason had been a student missionary on Pohnpei, where he taught my little sister. When I came to Southern, he became my "big brother."

"Nothin'," I respond. "Just watchin' the huge mass of people walking into Jerusalem."

"Okay," he says. "Well, get ready 'cuz we're goin' to the next show."

"Um...okay," I say. Click.

I glance at the clock and realize the next show is in about half an hour. I dive into the bathroom for a quick shower and then hop around the untidy room throwing on clothes. I trip a few times as my roommate looks on with amusement. I run out of the room, and as I'm closing my door, realize that I didn't have my morning prayer. *It's okay, I shrug. I'm going to a religious event anyway.*

Jerusalem

"Hey," I pant as I meet up with my friends at the church.

"Hey," Jason answers, handing me a ticket. "I hope you brought some tissue or a towel."



Stephanie Edward remembers a transforming experience during the SonRise Resurrection Pageant in Southern's "Garden of Gethsemane."

He laughs at my puzzled expression but doesn't say much more on the subject. The introduction features a silent play where Jesus brings all His suffering children to His side, accompanied by an orchestra right in front of the pew I was sitting in. The atmosphere is solemn and peaceful as I watch Jesus' angels lead His children to His side. By the end of the introduction, I wish I had brought some tissue; I'm blubbering like a baby.

I probably look like an overexcited tourist as we stroll through the church yard and on through "Jerusalem," entering through the front gates and meandering through the different shops along Southern's Promenade and sampling their wares. It almost feels like the real thing as I stop to watch some little girls dancing on the porch of Herin Hall.

The crowd slows to a stop to watch reverently as Jesus shares the Last Supper with His disciples. Jesus sits on a wooden stage with His disciples on either side, sharing the bread and the wine. I watch, knowing the ending, yet not fully realizing it as I witness that sacred gathering.

Gethsemane

I feel content and comfortable as we follow Jesus to Southern's "Gethsemane," on the little hill beside Talge Hall. The morning sun glares down at me, but I am transported to that endlessly dark

night as Jesus stumbles to a boulder and crumbles into a pile of brokenness beside it.

I watch as a dark figure looms over his prey. "Why would You give Your life for *them*?" The words, laced with venom, hit me hard. "These people won't even remember You. They'll be too busy with their own lives to even *think* of You!"

My throat closes up and my tears flow freely as I realize Satan is right. I have become too busy with my own life to think of the One who made it all possible. I remember shrugging off my morning talk with Him only hours before, and remorse courses through me.

As I watch Christ fight for His life and ours, clinging to the rock, I am overwhelmed with love. I feel God's presence, surrounding me as His child as I watch Christ surrender Himself to a destiny of agonizing, undeserving pain. It is here that Jesus becomes more real to me than He has ever been in my life. Even as I watch Jesus drown in despair because of His love for me, I feel God's loving arms around me, blessing me with a new life. ✧



Andrew and Kaveri Jimenez, the children of Karen (Alvarez), attended, and A.J. Jimenez, '90, admire the lights on the campus Christmas tree after enjoying an evening of festive music along Southern's promenade. PHOTOGRAPHER: Isaac James



“When you are finished at Southern, remember to give back for someone else in the future.”

These words, spoken by then-President Don Sahly when my husband and I were students at Southern, changed our lives. Mark, '90, and I haven't forgotten that we would never have had the opportunity to experience Southern without those who gave their time and money to invest in us. We are passionate about the opportunity to give to the next generation.

— Christine (Jenkins) Waldrop, '92

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You may not teach a summer course like Mark or volunteer for a black-tie event like Christine, but the opportunities to give your time and talents are abundant.

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Mark and Christine believe God has blessed them so that they can be a blessing to others. This is why they encourage others to join them in giving back to Southern.

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