

spring 2012

# columns

the magazine of Southern Adventist University

## Mail Bonding

Homer Dever demonstrates the power  
of a letter from home | page 16







## **Sink or Swim (or Both)!**

Dana Hoxie, freshman biochemistry major, and Christopher Marshall, sophomore financial management major, paddle hard with their hands during the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Cardboard Boat Race on January 14 in the Iles P.E. Center pool. Student teams of four designed and built boats made exclusively of cardboard and duct tape. Each group then chose two members to paddle their boat as many lengths of the pool as possible before sinking. Team SS Archimedes placed first with 68 lengths, winning \$200, while other students won prizes for best-outfitted crew and most innovative boat design. The race was created by the School of Education and Psychology to have fun while fostering team-building skills.



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Cover Photo: Homer Dever sits on his porch in Dunlap, Tennessee. For the inspirational story of Dever and his faithful letters to student missionaries, turn to page 16.  
Photo by Andrew Aldridge.

# columns

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## facebook

I just had my portfolio reviewed by Nathan Greene. Arigato-gojemasu!

»Joshy Kasahara, '11

Headed to death valley with 10 BMW bikers. Shooting their story. Cool stuff!

»Bryan Fowler, '97



First ever alumni versus students College Bowl competition was held during Convocation today. Our thanks to the four alumni participants! And congratulations to the student champions team members on their win! College Bowl competitions have been a traditional part of student life at Southern for several decades, with the first documented competition being held in 1970. We are thrilled to see it move to a whole new level this year by including alumni.

»Evonne Kutzner Crook, '79  
director of Alumni Relations



We've been in Haiti for 3 full days and have done quite a bit. We've visited a medical clinic, 2 orphan-ages, 2 churches, a hospital, a university, and the beach. The students have assessed sick children, taught emergency preparedness classes, led out in church services, and used puppet shows to teach health principles. The SAU nursing students are awesome!!!

»Jillian Thedford Wills, associate professor, School of Nursing, and leader of the nursing group that traveled to Haiti over spring break

## flickr



Flowers greet the sunrise on Taylor Circle in front of Wright Hall.  
[flickr.com/photos/southernu/7021061753/in/photostream](https://www.flickr.com/photos/southernu/7021061753/in/photostream)



Doug Batchelor looks over the program with junior theology student Anthony Messer prior to speaking to more than 1,500 attendees at a Generation of Youth for Christ event held on campus.  
[flickr.com/photos/southernu/7021061047/in/photostream](https://www.flickr.com/photos/southernu/7021061047/in/photostream)



On March 24 Iles P.E. Center was home to The Southern Challenge, an Adventist Robotics League event attended by elementary school students from all across the southeastern United States.  
[flickr.com/photos/southernu/6874955934/in/photostream](https://www.flickr.com/photos/southernu/6874955934/in/photostream)



# twitter



So very excited to announce that I will be joining @Yammer as a Visual Designer! Can't wait to start changing the way you work :)

»Jason Lang, '11

Students, if you doubt that your professors care, please know how often and how much we pray for you.

»Kendra Stanton-Lee, assistant professor, School of Journalism and Communication

# worth a click!

## simpleupdates.com/article/46/features/mobile-apps



The new Sabbath School app, produced by the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, gives you access to content from Beginner through the Adult Bible Study Guide. It provides links to all lessons in PDF format, which are downloaded when you click on them. The app, which is available for both iPhone and Android operating systems, was developed by Southern alum Darryl Hosford, '89, who owns a web and interactive design company called SimpleUpdates.com with his wife Cheryl (Stuyvesant), '85.



# vimeo



Lisa Clark Diller, chair of History and Political Studies Department, lectures on Christ in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1844.

See the video at [southern.edu/columns](http://southern.edu/columns).



An artistic vision of Southern by student Brandan Roberts.

See the video at [southern.edu/columns](http://southern.edu/columns).

# youtube



Student Suzanne Ocsai reports from the Just Claim It convention in Greensboro, North Carolina.

See the video at [southern.edu/columns](http://southern.edu/columns).



Southern recognizes the importance of fellowship in the Christian walk. Follow Krystal's journey as she learns the power that comes when we meet to study God's word and pray.

See the video at [southern.edu/columns](http://southern.edu/columns).

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twitter: [twitter.com/SouthernNews](http://twitter.com/SouthernNews)



[leadership]

## President Bietz Travels to Dubai as Part of Peer Review Process

University President Gordon Bietz traveled to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates in March to peer review a university as part of a committee representing the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). SACS' accreditation work goes beyond southern states



and even includes a handful of foreign schools. The on-site review included two responsibilities. Bietz and the other visitors first reviewed the recommendations given to the university by an off-site review team that met in Atlanta. Second, they evaluated the university's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), a document describing the school's plan to address a specific issue related to education.

Peer review is a requirement for accreditation from SACS, and Bietz has been a part of accreditation visits like this for 10 years.

"These visits assure the education provided by the accredited schools reach a certain standard of quality," Bietz said.

SACS requires that the peer reviewers not be local to the institution being accredited, in order to prevent any bias that may come up during the process.

On-site visits are a part of Southern's accreditation process as well. This April, Volker Henning, associate vice president for Academic Administration, welcomed a team from SACS for document reviews and interviews with deans, vice presidents, board members, and students.

"The ultimate outcome is that the team will recommend us for reaffirmation," Henning said. "If we don't go through this critical process, students can't have access to federal aid, grants, or loans."

—Ingrid Hernandez

## Southern Welcomes Eight New Members to Board of Trustees

Southern Adventist University welcomed nine new members to the Board of Trustees at its first meeting of the school year in October 2011.

Kathy Schleier, one of the new members, believes that a successful board must work as a team. She is confident that the board's skills will be put to meaningful use in service to God through Southern.

### Trustees Added

John Chung lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee, and is a dermatologist at Skin Cancer and Cosmetic Dermatology. He is married to Linda (Im) Chung, '84. Their daughter Shauna currently attends Southern.

Franklin Farrow, '93, lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee, and is the owner of Independent Healthcare Properties. Farrow is married to Tamatha (Collson) Farrow, '93.

Dwight Herod, '75, lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee. He is a minister in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and is married to Janita (Robertson) Herod, attended. Their daughter, Jodi, currently attends Southern.

Jack McClarty, '99, lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee. He is an anesthesiologist at Anesthesiology Consultants Exchange. McClarty is married to Susie (Clarke) McClarty, '02.

Christopher McKee, '88, lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee. He is the executive vice president of marketing and sales

at McKee Foods Corporation. McKee is married to Janel (Hanson) McKee, '86 and '87. Two of their children, Nathaniel and Jordan, currently attend Southern.

Kathy Schleier, '79 lives in Dalton, Georgia. She is the executive director at White's Pediatrics and is married to John Schleier. Their son, Trevor, currently attends Southern.

David Smith lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee, and is senior pastor at Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists. He is married to Cherie (Merchant) Smith, '91.

Daniel Turk, '85, lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. He is an associate professor of computer information systems at Colorado State University. Turk is married to Carol (Hurley) Turk, '85. —Shana Michalek

## » by the numbers

**2,344**

friends president Gordon Bietz has on Facebook.

**292**

columns on building exteriors across campus.

**1,452**

intramural participants at Southern during 2010-2011.

## Origins Exhibit Opens, Highlights Creation Science Worldview

Southern Adventist University had a desire to take the lead role in helping educate people on the scientific evidence behind creation. This daunting task has begun, of all places, in their very own hallways. The grand opening of the Origins Exhibit took place in the North Entrance corridor of Hickman Science center on April 15, the culmination of more than four years of planning and \$300,000 in donations.

The project has three phases. The first phase was to hire professors who had origins expertise. The second phase was to find a way to provide origins education for the student body outside of classes. But even with a great plan in mind, faculty and staff were limited by a lack of available space to implement the ideas. Their solution? Use the hallways themselves as an exhibit space; a self-guided walking tour that would be available to both students and the community.

With that problem solved, Biology Department Chair Keith Snyder moved forward. He wrote to 20 prominent scientists in the origins field and asked them what they felt was the strongest evidence supporting short-term creation. Snyder wove their responses into narrative that, along with art director Ron Hight's guidance, brings the information to life. The exhibit features more than 25 displays, providing information on three areas: the cell, the geologic column, and intelligent design.

"We wanted the finished product to be professional, but not overpowering," Snyder said. "Our goal is not to tell people that their beliefs are wrong, but to provide



**ABOVE:** The Cenozoic period display in the new Origins Exhibit features a full-size model of an Allosaurus. **BELOW RIGHT:** The exhibit opens with a highly detailed journey through the intricate structures of a cell.

scientific evidence that substantiates the Bible's account of creation."

The third and final phase of the project will be to one day expand the exhibit into an institute that provides information for all who are looking to learn about the short-term creation worldview.

The exhibit is funded completely by donations, and Christopher Carey, vice president for Advancement, describes those financially supporting the project as a small but extremely dedicated group.

For more information, visit [southern.edu/faithandscience](http://southern.edu/faithandscience).

—Charles Cammack



876

students and faculty who participated in Community Service Day.

80

new entrees introduced in the Dining Hall this year.

712

artifacts in Southern's Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum.



## [around campus]

**Greenleaf Grant Assists History Majors with Thesis Research**

Floyd Greenleaf, retired vice president for Academic Affairs and former chair of Southern's History Department, still remembers the day one of his students went the extra mile for a thesis paper. After discovering a location in North Carolina that could be useful, the student took time off from work to drive there, conduct interviews, and gather information. Greenleaf said recollections like those are what inspired him to initiate a research grant.

"I will never forget the look of enthusiasm and sheer joy on his face when that student stopped by my office to tell me about his experience," Greenleaf said. "He was willing to pay whatever it took, but not everybody can do that."

For more than 30 years, senior history majors at Southern have taken Research Methods in History, a class that culminates in a baccalaureate thesis on the American Civil War period. The new Floyd Greenleaf Undergraduate Research Grant will assist students who wish to visit out-of-state museums and archives to gain information for this paper, or to present their theses at professional conferences.

One such student is post-baccalaureate history major Jason Dedeker. While working on his thesis on the North's free labor movement, he had to be creative in searching for sources; documentation showing new research was due weekly.

"I would have loved to visit the Library of Congress," Jason said. "It simply

doesn't get any better than that."

Once completely funded, the grant will also be available to help students travel to history conferences where they can develop a professional network to assist in job searches after graduation.

Greenleaf, who now lives and works in Florida, is confident the grant will help history majors with short-term research, but the veteran educator also has his hopes set on a broader and longer-lasting impact for students.

"I hope it helps light many fires of intellectual curiosity!" —Raquel Levy

*If you would like to contribute to the grant, contact Advancement at 423.236.2829.*

## [news briefs]

**Library Acquires Access to Top Academic Journals**

Southern recently purchased access to more than 1,800 different journals from the Springer Americas Package, substantially increasing the number of research materials available to McKee Library users on the subjects of science, technology, medicine, business, transport, and architecture. Springer is also known for publishing works geared toward graduate studies, and many of these titles will help meet the specialized research and clinical needs of Southern's master's and doctoral students.

**School of P.E., Health, and Wellness Awarded Grant**

The National Wellness Institute (NWI) recently awarded Southern's School of Physical Education, Health, and Wellness the first ever Academic Program Accreditation Grant. The NWI is the accrediting body for employee wellness degrees and the standard for excellence in the professional wellness world, said Phil Garver, dean of the school. The \$1,000 grant will assist with the cost of applying for accreditation for its undergraduate wellness degree from the NWI.

**Biology Trail Receives High Rating**

Singletracks.com recently ranked Southern's Biology Trail the ninth best mountain biking trail in Tennessee. The trail was also labeled black diamond in difficulty, one of only four trails in Tennessee to receive the coveted expert-level rating. Trail use

during the past year has skyrocketed as the Southern community, and residents from as far away as Knoxville, are taking advantage of this great trail system.

**Television Show Highlights Campus Grocery Store**

The Village Market, Southern's on-campus grocery store, recently had the opportunity to spread its health message to a broader audience through Chattanooga's WDEF Channel 12 program, *Eat Well! Feel Good! with Chip Chapman*. Kim Lett, a registered dietician, presented recipes made from products found at the store for 13 segments between November 2011 and January 2012. "This kind of education is part of our mission in life as Adventists," said Perry Pratt, assistant store manager for the Village Market.

**Students Prioritize Spring Break Mission Trips**

Several students from the School of Nursing and the Technology Department spent their spring break in Haiti, establishing an orphanage, giving follow-up care to children, and conducting disaster relief training. Students from the School of Business and Management visited an academy in Uruguay to check on the status of a SIFE project (a bakery that would help student workers earn 75 percent of their tuition). Another group from the Technology Department did vehicle maintenance for cars in the Tasba Raya Mission of Nicaragua.



## Summerour Renovations Increase Capacity by One-Third

Summerour Hall, home to Southern's School of Education and Psychology, is undergoing a complete building restoration that is expected to be complete by August 2013.

Built in 1971, Summerour had become overcrowded as enrollment steadily increased. Minor remodeling was done in 1992 and 1995, but no major renovations have ever been completed, according to Marty Hamilton, associate vice president for Financial Administration. The need for space and the opportunity to upgrade an aging building were primary motivators for the multi million dollar project.

The School of Education and Psychology moved in May 2011 to its temporary home at Herin Hall, the former location of the School of Nursing, and progress on Summerour has been under way ever since. Two new wings will be added to Summerour, increasing the total square footage by more than a third. Interior changes will include an elevator for handi-

capped accessibility, more classrooms and study rooms, as well as eco-friendly carpet, lighting, and air conditioning. Along with a facelift to the front of the building, the interior layout will be redesigned to accommodate the wide variety of programs housed in Summerour.

"The new design uses space more efficiently," Hamilton said.

The initiative to restore Summerour was brought forward several years ago by an anonymous donor who wished to see the building get a facelift. At the time, the university was involved in other building projects and was not able to immediately address the project. Once those prior commitments wrapped up, the Summerour work began. Southern initially planned for the undertaking to cost \$2.5 million, but while delving further into the project, more issues became apparent.

"We started seeing additional problems, so we decided to revamp the entire inside of the building," Hamilton said. "It's

no longer just a remodeling; it's now a total building restoration."

The unexpected shift in plans led to an increase in the cost, with anticipated expenses totaling \$4 million. The university invites others to join the anonymous donor in supporting this project, said Christopher Carey, vice president for Advancement.

"All of these changes are driven by a desire to create an environment that benefits students and enhances their learning," Hamilton said. —Shana Michalek



## Pacific Press Releases New Book by School of Religion Professor

For years, John Nixon contemplated writing about the book of Genesis, but the demands of working as a full-time pastor kept him from making much progress. When he joined Southern's School of Religion in 2010 as a faculty member, Nixon was finally able to set aside dedicated time for writing about the topic that has fascinated him for so long.

The results are *Redemption in Genesis: The Crossroads of Faith and Reason*, a new book released by Pacific Press in January.

"Every important topic in the Bible can be found in Genesis in seedling form," Nixon said. "Some of the topics exposed there are really important for the church in the last

days. I have always found it to be a fascinating book."

In *Redemption in Genesis*, Nixon searches for Jesus in the beginning of the Bible and brings new lessons to familiar stories. He also proposes that faith and reason work together—rather than opposing each other—to lead us to a deeper understanding of the truth.

Scott Cady, acquisition editor for Pacific Press, heard of Nixon's ministry and approached him about the possibility of publishing. Cady said that *Redemption in Genesis* offers a fresh perspective on Bible truths and has the potential to help people grow spiritually while developing a deeper appreciation for the Bible.

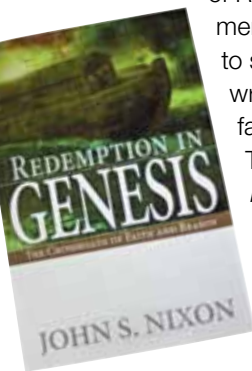
"I think that often times people don't have a picture of Jesus being present in the Old Testament, particularly in

Genesis," Cady said. "I think John does a nice job of identifying the metaphors and symbols in Genesis that point to Jesus Christ. It's something that's there, and he was able to highlight that perspective in a very engaging way."

Nixon uses *Redemption in Genesis* as a textbook in Christian Beliefs, a class he teaches. He hopes that after reading it, students come away with a sense of clarity over issues that may have puzzled them before. Kevin Reynolds, a junior accounting major, is currently taking this class and said the book gives a view about Bible stories different from many that are commonly heard.

"It's easy to understand Nixon's message, regardless of how far along you are in your faith journey," Kevin said.

—Sarah Crowder



## [graduate school]

## Southern Offering Classes Toward First Doctorate Degree

The idea for Southern Adventist University to pursue a Doctorate of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program quickly came up for discussion after the American Association of Colleges of Nursing moved the required level of preparation for advanced nursing practice from a master's to a doctorate degree. This transition must occur by 2015, but Southern will begin providing classes for this terminal degree beginning in the fall.

The D.N.P. differs from a Ph.D. by focusing on clinical care rather than academic research. Southern's School

of Nursing will offer the D.N.P. as a five-semester online degree with two tracks available: lifestyle therapeutics and acute care-adult/gerontology.

According to Barbara James, dean of the School of Nursing, it was a long process to get Southern accepted for a D.N.P. . Originally, Southern was approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation agency as a Level III institution, which meant a master's was the highest degree it could offer. The proposal for a D.N.P. included an application for Southern to move up

to a Level V, allowing for two to three doctoral programs. The School of Nursing had to get approval from numerous on-campus committees and also worked with the Tennessee Board of Nursing to write a proposal to the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission to become candidates for the D.N.P..

"It was and still is a huge undertaking, but the process has gone smoothly," James said.

For more information, visit [southern.edu/graduatestudies](http://southern.edu/graduatestudies).

—Raquel Levy

## Students Train Pastors in Spousal Abuse Awareness, Counseling

Studies indicate that as many as 20 percent of couples in the United States experience intimate partner violence—a figure consistent among both the church and unchurched—yet some Seventh-day Adventists still have a hard time believing that those victims might be sitting in the pew next to them on Sabbath morning. Graduate students from Southern Adventist University's School of Social Work are working to debunk this myth and provide tools for church leaders to better counsel members when the abuse does occur.

Several years ago, René Drumm, dean of the School of Social Work, conducted regional studies of spousal domestic violence in the Pacific Union. Results showed that victims often approached pastors, but in many cases their stories weren't believed or they were given poor advice. From this research was born the Christian Abuse Response Education team (CARE), headed by Drumm. Graduate assistants Amanda Chase, Jennifer



Attendees listen intently as a lecturer discusses the care and treatment domestic violence victims.

Reynaert, Amy Koffler, and Lisa Koffler are a significant part of the group. They provide key research information for CARE team training materials and coach pastors and other leaders about the best way to respond in these situations.

"This program helped solidify in my mind that there is a specific need for my line of work in the church," Amanda said.

In February, more than 50 people came out to the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists, where the CARE team provided training. President Gordon Bietz attended the training session, along

with 35 Adventist pastors. The five-hour session included a victim's testimony, signs of abuse, appropriate and inappropriate responses, how to work with abusers, and a call to action.

"Our goal was to help make pastors first responders," Drumm said. "We're not trying to make them experts."

The graduate assistants also encouraged pastors to form abuse teams at their local churches and to address domestic violence from the pulpit. For more information, visit [sdaabuseresponse.org](http://sdaabuseresponse.org).

—Charles Cammack





# Celebrating Sabbath, Serving Like Jesus

By Andrew Vizcarra, senior journalism major

I stared at the empty couch on the other side of our living room. The Sabbath day was upon us, and my parents chose to nap that day after church. I was used to this routine but longed for a more meaningful way to spend the holy day. Was it a day of rest? Absolutely. I've taken more than my fair share of much-needed naps. But to me, Sabbaths at home were hardly a time of heavenly celebration.

## Removing the Joy

Celebrations defined the Sabbath for Old Testament Jews, but over the centuries, the Pharisees developed their own traditions about keeping the Sabbath commandment. Their new laws bound real Sabbath enjoyment, dampening much of the spirit of the celebrations. They did things like limit how far one could walk on the Sabbath, then created more rules to get around the first rules. I imagine their children might also have sat purposeless in an empty living room.

Jesus repeatedly violated the Pharisees' tradition by making plaster from spit and mud, healing a cripple, and picking grains of wheat on the Sabbath.

"Jesus was trying to show acts of mercy, acts of compassion, setting people free," said Edwin Reynolds, professor of New Testament studies and biblical languages at Southern. "These are some important aspects of what the Sabbath should be about."

I felt set free when I first experienced Sabbath at Southern. Students, university staff, and local churches have created multiple opportunities for Saturday-afternoon ministries. Programs like Flag Camp, God Is Our Song, Bread of Life, Patten Towers, Hungry for Jesus, Westside 4 Jesus, and others exist because people have caught on to one of the key messages of this special day.

## Faith in Action

Bread for Life is a homeless ministry organized jointly by Southern and the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists. On one memorable trip, Shelby Tanguay, student leader for the ministry, left Southern to feed the homeless with a plastic bag full of heart-shaped Little Debbie cakes and an assortment of sandwiches. She found a man

who appeared to be in his 60s and offered him the food. He accepted but said the food would be shared between him and his pet raccoon, Spanky. Unabashed by his statement, Shelby replied that she too had a pet raccoon, Rambo, at home. The two were still talking about their pets when the man's cadence began to change. He told Shelby about his hard life on the street, his loneliness, his suicidal thoughts, and his prayers to meet someone with whom he shared a common ground. The man shed grateful tears as Shelby took the time to pray with him.

## Healing Hugs

Perhaps the best example of Southern's significant Sabbath-day influence is an experience that senior health science major Maida Hage had as director for Fun Learning About God (FLAG) Camp. Students who help with FLAG Camp travel to low-income areas in downtown Chattanooga and spend time playing with children, creating small crafts, and sharing stories about God with them. Maida vividly recalls a story she told about the importance of sentimental gifts like hugs, kisses, and smiles. She told the children that a hug can go a lot further than any material gift in showing that you care. During the story a small boy sat up, ran to Maida, and gave her a hug.

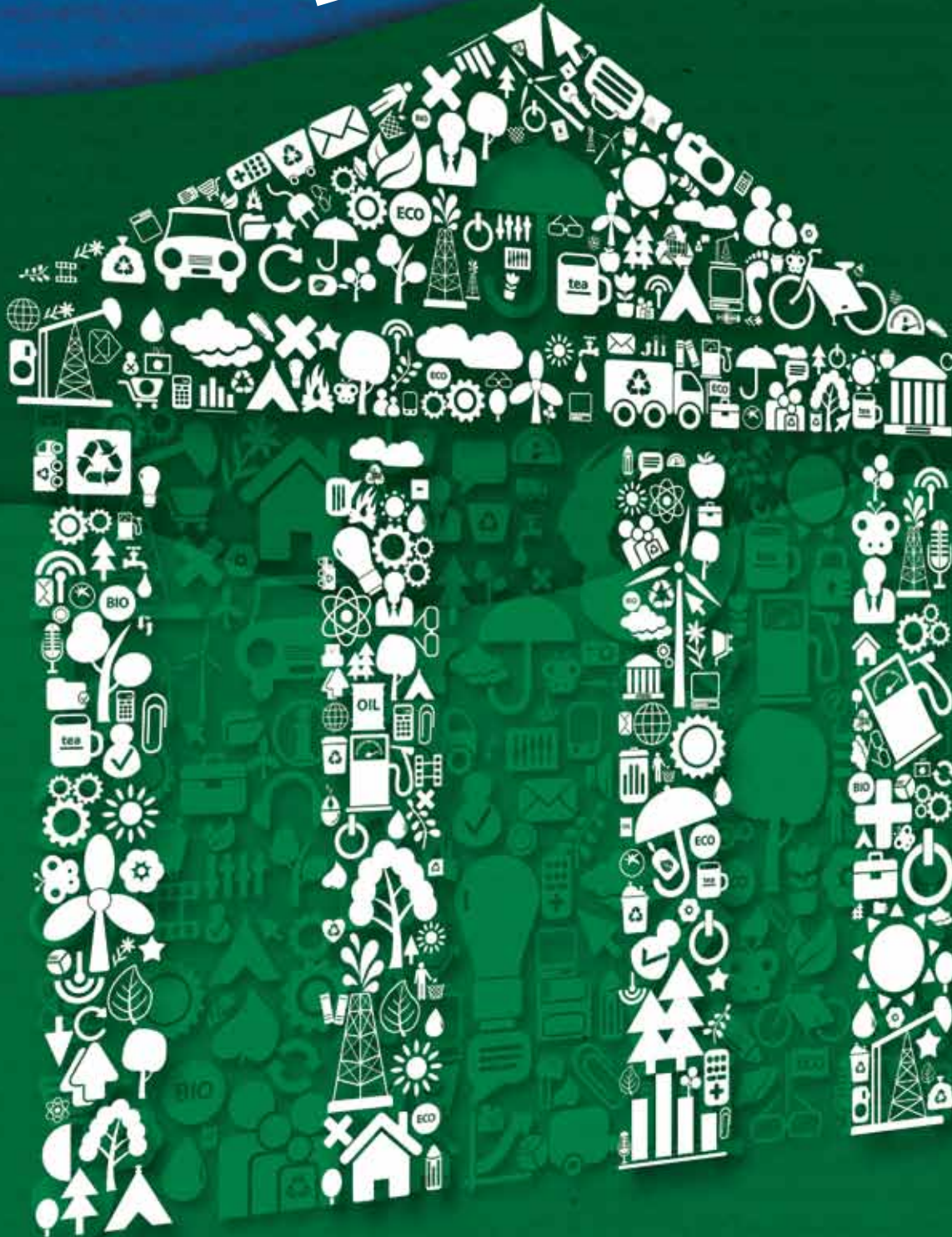
"Is that how you show love?" he asked.

"Yeah, that's it!" she replied.

The boy then ran to children and students, hugging each one of them.

It's stories like these that make me look forward to returning to Southern each year. Here, I encounter students who are creative and passionate about following the example of Christ. Here, I'm encouraged to get off the couch and befriend the homeless, play with a child, or simply tell someone of Jesus' love. It is through this type of joyful, service-driven worship that my understanding of Sabbath celebration continues to grow. ■

# FOREVER





# GREEN

Southern's school color is evergreen. But it's much more than just a color; it's a philosophy that has led to the installation of more than 800 solar panels on campus.

By Lucas Patterson

Standing on top of the Service Department warehouse roof, it's hard to grasp just how quickly this considerable project happened. Nine months ago, there wasn't a single solar panel here; they were just a twinkle in the eyes of ambitious students with big hearts for making the world a better place. Now there's an 806-panel array converting sunlight into electricity. In less than a year's time, Southern Adventist University has gone from an institution with little to show for its environmental efforts, to the generator of green energy destined for millions of homes in multiple states.

Making the transition even more remarkable is the fact that this idea was seeded by Southern's chapter of the international Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) organization, and early momentum was maintained primarily by just two members: Karla Coupland, Master of Business Administration student, and Michael Daily, junior marketing major. Each spent more than 100 hours on the project, conducting feasibility and vendor research; meeting with the university's Energy Management team, Sustainability Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee; and preparing their proposal for Cabinet.

SIFE considered taking up the mantle of other environmental projects instead—windmills, water conservation, and bloom energy, to name a few—but settled on a 60-kilowatt solar panel system because it seemed like a good fit for Summerour Hall, currently under renovation for the School of Education and Psychology (see article on page 9). After discovering a small window of opportunity for an increased buy-back rate, students dreamed big and revised their plans to accommodate a larger installation.

This also meant they had to move the panels' proposed location to the Service Department warehouse roof in order to accommodate the increased size. No worries. The bigger project, shorter timeline, and new location were only minor deterrents for a determined group of SIFE students and Southern staff.

"There was now a March 2012 deadline, and we knew that our project would either happen fast or not at all," Karla said. "I'm very impressed with how quickly the contractors and university administrators made everything fall into place. They did a great job working around time constraints."

Power produced by Southern's new system—enough for 40

average-size homes—will be purchased from the university by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), a corporation providing electricity for 9 million people in parts of seven southeastern states. TVA will then put the power on its transmission grid for delivery to customers by local distributors such as Electric Power Board, a non-profit agency serving the City of Chattanooga.

According to Dave Allemand, associate director for Plant Services and head of the university's Energy Management team, the buy-back program at TVA was key in making the solar panel array possible. TVA will purchase the electricity from Southern at 12 cents per kilowatt-hour above the retail rate. Multiplying those profits out on the 200-kilowatt system, and taking into account a small tax credit, puts Southern on track to pay off the installation in seven years or less. After that, energy savings are projected to be around \$6,000 per month.

The solar panels have a 25-year warranty, and with profits beginning after less than a third of those years, it's easy to see why the school was quick to join in SIFE's enthusiasm for the concept. Financially speaking, this green idea was black and white. But those involved see the panels

as providing far more than simply a monetary benefit.

"I believe the project will help students recognize that Southern is doing its part to take care of the resources that God has given us, including their tuition," Karla said. "I hope that they see that effort and join in. The more current students conserve energy, the more future students at Southern will benefit."

For a view of the solar panel's lifetime and current energy figures, as well as conservation equivalents as measured by carbon dioxide, trees, and gasoline, visit [southern.edu/green](http://southern.edu/green) and click on "live solar panel statistics."

## Beyond the Rooftop

The solar panel installation was not the university's first green success story, and it certainly won't be the last. Numerous other resource-saving projects continue to grow under strong student and administrative leadership.

**Verve Living Systems.** Occupancy sensors in the Verve Living System can tell if no one is in the room or apartment and reduces energy consumption by adjusting temperature,

Financially speaking, this green idea was black and white.

lighting, and hot water heater controls accordingly. The system itself uses no batteries or electricity, pulling current instead from magnetic fields and solar energy already present in the room. Verve has been wired into two Southern Village apartment buildings on campus, with plans for further installations.

**Outdoor Lighting.** Southern looks for every opportunity to replace existing outdoor lighting around campus with more energy-efficient LED bulbs. Plans are in place to install a wireless system that will allow all of our LED lights to be uniformly scaled back at off-peak hours, further lowering the electricity's strain on natural resources.

**Recycling.** Student-led recycling efforts—in place at Southern for many



Dave Allemand, associate director of Plant Services, goes over the details of the solar panel installation with visiting SIFE students.

years—recently expanded to include more bins around campus. Single stream recycling has also just begun. The process allows all materials to be collected in one container without sorting. Statistics bear out that this convenience will lead to increased recycling participation.

**Organic Farm.** An organic produce farm is being developed to provide quality food for use in campus eateries and the Village Market grocery store. Student workers will harvest the crops

—grown without herbicides, pesticides, or genetically modified seeds—on the morning of consumption or sale. The farm encompasses four fenced acres with plans for 30 additional greenhouses.

**Vegetarian Campus.** A recent United Nations study, “Livestock’s Long Shadow,” found that 18 percent of greenhouse gas emissions can be traced directly back to the production of meat. As a vegetarian campus, Southern serves almost 90,000 meat-free meals each month, contributing very little to the environmentally-damaging demand for animal products. Turns out that the Adventist health message helps our planet, as well as our bodies.

## In the Classrooms

While solar panels are a tremendous opportunity for the university to shine for the community, it’s in the classroom setting that students are most likely to gain a new perspective about the value of going green. With that in mind, Southern makes every effort to instruct accordingly across multiple disciplines and to reach as many students as possible with this valuable message. And as Southern continues its sustainability push, students in some of these hands-on courses will have the advantage of getting an up-close look at green projects around campus.

**Wilderness Stewardship** is an intensive backcountry camping course taught as part of the outdoor education program. It provides students with basic knowledge and understanding of minimal environmental impact while pursuing recreational activities. Students in the class study the works of environmental luminaries such as Thoreau, Leopold, and Muir.

**Sustainability Studies** focuses on examining sustainable agriculture through the lens of health and education as a means for maintaining ecologi-

cal, societal, and spiritual balance. This class is part of the new Global Policy curriculum.

**Environmental Toxicology** is a Biology Department lab research course that surveys major pollutants, focusing on their sources and interaction with the atmospheric, terrestrial and aquatic habitats. By the end of the course, students can recognize various classes of environmental contaminants and understand how they affect organisms, populations, communities, and ecosystems.

**Solar Power** covers both design and installation methods for the most common alternative energy solution. Students learn to calculate loads, analyze a site for shade problems, size panel arrays, calculate the system’s payback period, and more. This course also emphasizes Third World applications relating to mission service.

**Green Construction** explores a process that minimizes impact on the environment both during construction and over a building’s useful life. Topics discussed include sustainable materials, energy efficiency, and practices that reduce waste.

**Practical Technology for Developing Countries** provides students with information on water filtration and distribution issues, sewage handling for disease control, quick building set-up (rammed earth bricks, straw bale construction), solar ovens, and the use of bicycle machines for power generation. These are technologies that Third World countries desperately need and that service organizations use when assisting in devastated areas.

Bob Young, vice president for Academic Administration, sees tremendous value in these activities and acknowledges that this kind of variety doesn’t happen by accident. It’s the result of Southern’s resolve to follow through on a commitment to become better care-



takers of all that God has given the university.

“These courses and other activities support our Vision 20/20 Strategic Plan, which contains a ‘Living and Learning in God’s Natural Abundance’ theme,” said Young. “Green initiatives on campus help the students and help the institution achieve its goal of good resource stewardship.”

## Unique Perspective

But not all of the instruction time takes place in the classroom. Cindy Tutsch, associate director of the Ellen G. White Estate, visited campus last fall for convocation and made the case that our church’s founder had an ecological message ahead of its time. The talk contained several selections from White’s writings to back up this point. To view her “Was Ellen White Green?” presentation in its entirety, visit [southern.edu/columns](http://southern.edu/columns).

As a Christian institution, Southern has the opportunity to frame all of our campus’ green efforts in a biblical context. Genesis 2:15 (KJV) reads, “The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.” According to Steve Bauer, professor in the School of Religion, the Hebrew words for “dressing” and “keeping” are more properly translated “to serve” and “to guard.” Dominion gave humans a responsibility to protect, not the freedom to exploit. This fits the ethical principles of how God uses His power and shows Christians the ultimate example of how to mimic His love.

From classrooms to the cafeteria, Southern is providing an increasing number of opportunities for people on campus to do just that. As faculty, staff, and students work toward a better understanding of their relationship with the environment, they’re also working toward a better understanding of God. This holistic approach to education has always been Southern’s goal, and solar panels are simply the most recent tool with which the university teaches young people to recognize the Creator’s steady hand at work all around them.

“There were so many times when I felt like this project was too much work and would never happen. Having it completed is a testimony to how hard work, correct motives, and prayer bring ideas into reality,” Karla said. “Many times when we felt like giving up, we would remind ourselves that if God wanted the solar panels here, this would all work out. It helped a lot to leave it up to Him!”

While no new projects are currently under way, both Al-lemmand and the SIFE team are encouraged by the year’s successes. And if the solar panel installation is a model of what student and administrative partnerships can accomplish, the future looks bright green. ■

# The Biblical Case for Going Green

Question and answer session with School of Religion Professor Steve Bauer

## ***How should the Bible’s teaching about the ultimate fate of the Earth impact the way we consider creation care?***

I know the ultimate fate of my car is to wear out and that I will eventually need to replace it. Its perishable nature does not make me view it as devoid of value. I still maintain and fix my car even though it will eventually wear out. It’s no different with the Earth. And since I cannot replace the Earth the way I can my car, it becomes all the more important to be a responsible steward. On the other hand, our recognition of the fact that one day God will destroy the present Earth means we should not invest in environmental causes to the point that they become a quest for apocalyptic salvation supplanting our eternal concerns.



Professor Steve Bauer’s 2006 Ph.D. dissertation (Andrews University) explored the moral implications of Darwinism for Christian ethics and argued that just because God gave humans greater rights than nature, this does not logically entail that nature is granted no protection at all.

## ***How might our own selfishness impact how we treat the environment?***

As Seventh-day Adventists, we should see the connection between Philipians 2, where Christ empties Himself of His divine rights, and the implications of the fourth commandment. The commandments address each of us as agents of power, and call us to use our power in a Christ-like manner. We keep the Sabbath not only by observing the seventh day, but also by a daily lifestyle of non-exploitation in reference to what we have authority over. And that includes nature. (Listen to an entire sermon by Bauer on this topic by visiting [southern.edu/columns](http://southern.edu/columns).)

## ***How would you like to see Adventists responding to creation care concerns?***

Due to our belief in a literal reading of Genesis 1 and our promotion of the Sabbath, we should have more grounds for being good stewards of the Earth than other Christians. That societal shift toward belief in evolution weakens the sense of the Earth being the Lord’s, weakens the view of last-day events, and engenders a different philosophy of personal power than promoted in Scripture. I would hope that Adventists could be a strong voice for responsible creation care while avoiding the more desperate forms of environmentalism.





MAY



A hand holding a white envelope against a background of red, white, and blue striped caution tape. The word "LEBONDING" is written in large, white, serif capital letters across the top of the image.

# LEBONDING

*Southern students serving overseas faithfully receive notes of encouragement from a man they've never met—and witness a love they'll not soon forget.* By Angela Baerg, '06



**W**hen Homer Dever was 21 years old, he left friends and family behind to serve in the Korean War. Although he was gone for two years, his mother wrote to him every day. Being away from home that long was difficult, but the letters were a steady source of encouragement.

"I'll never forget the way they made me feel," he said. "They really helped me keep going."

A retired elementary school teacher, Dever, '57, has always done his best to encourage young people in their service to the Lord. Inspired by his mother's correspondences with him as a young man, Dever began his own writing project by penning letters to student missionaries.

Even 40 years after returning from Korea, it was all too easy for Dever to relate to those who were overseas and in need of a few kind words from home; and that connection led to quite a commitment. Since the project started in 1997, Dever has consistently written 50-100 letters or postcards each year to student missionaries from Southern Adventist University and other agencies.

### **ONE LETTER AT A TIME**

So far, more than one thousand students have had their lives blessed by Dever's letters. One such student is Southern's Tekoa Penrose, a senior social work major who served overseas in Nicaragua as an English teacher with eight other missionaries from 2008-2009. One day when their mission work

was going through a particularly rough patch and they were all feeling discouraged, she and her eight fellow student workers received a letter from Dever. None of the students had any idea who he was at the time, but as they opened it and read through its contents, their hearts were encouraged.

"When you're a missionary, getting anything in the mail is like Christmas," Tekoa said. "Many of our friends and family hadn't even written, so when we got this letter from Mr. Dever, we were really overwhelmed with emotion."

Inside the letter Dever provided a little insight into his life, talking about his garden, his wife's death, and his current activities. He said that although they didn't know him, he wanted them to know that they were in his prayers.

The group of young missionaries loved that Dever cared so much for their generation, and they

felt a real connection with him. Every single one of them wrote him a letter in return, telling about their lives in Nicaragua, their garden there in Central America, and how meaningful his letter had been to them.

After she finished serving overseas, Tekoa returned to Southern where she got a job in the Chaplain's Office while continuing to work on her degree. One day at work she was delighted to get the opportunity to speak with Dever and thank him personally when he called in to get a new list of student missionaries to whom he could write. Tekoa was elated to help him get the next list of students who would receive this unexpected encouragement. She loved the idea of being a part of the process that had brought such a blessing to her.

"I just think it is so sweet when an

older person takes the time to write young people and encourage them," Tekoa said. "I wanted him to know that his ministry had a significant impact. Of all the letters I got while serving overseas, his is the one that stood out to me the most."

### **OVERCOMING OBSTACLES**

In 2009, Dever encountered an unforeseen obstacle to his ministry—a stroke. Writing and speaking became very difficult for him, and he soon realized that continuing to craft lengthy letters as he had for the previous 12 years was no longer a realistic goal. Even in good health, it had taken him an hour to write a hearty letter filled with personal details and prayers. Now, it took him half an hour of intense concentra-

tion to write only a few sentences. Despite this frustrating turn of events, Dever was not about to let his mail

***"I wanted him to know that his ministry had a significant impact."***

ministry be silenced.

"My stroke slowed me down, but it didn't stop me," he said. "I still do most of the same things I ever did; it just takes longer now than before. So I've begun writing postcards instead of letters."

Julie (Alvarez) Norton, '96, student missions coordinator at Southern, has a unique vantage point to see how meaningful written communication of any type is to student missionaries who are starving for contact from home as they are serving overseas. Although letter-writing in the United States has diminished with new technologies, handwritten letters often remain the best way to contact and uplift these students.

Julie believes Dever's ministry is a lost art that has a special place in the hearts of her student missionaries.



Julie is amazed at Dever's faithfulness to his ministry in spite of his personal challenges.

"If he were in perfect health, finding the time to write these letters would still be a beautiful ministry," she said, "but the fact that he continues writing even when it is so difficult for him shows what a kind, self-sacrificing spirit he has."

### GOING THE DISTANCE

Although the form of Dever's ministry might have changed after his stroke, its impact remains the same. Samantha Richardson, one of many missionaries from Southern who has received Dever's postcards, can testify to that fact. Samantha served in Malawi from 2010-2011, teaching grades one through eight with another missionary from Walla Walla University. When Samantha initially received Dever's letter, she had no idea who he was. At first she thought that he must be a friend or relative whom she had never heard about; it was hard for her to believe that a complete stranger would have taken the time to write to her.

"His postcard was special because it wasn't just generically addressed to a

missionary," she remembered. "It was so specific—to my name, my address, my hospital, and my school in Africa. I was surprised; receiving mail was so uncommon."

It was around Valentine's Day when Samantha received Dever's postcard. Like Tekoa, she received it at a time when she needed it the most.

"It was a hard time of year," Samantha recalled. "I was ready to go home, and I needed encouragement for several things I was dealing with in my position. Just knowing that somebody at home was thinking about me made me feel better and brought a smile to my face."

Dever wrote to Samantha about how glad he was that she was serving God, how difficult he knew it was to go away, and how being a missionary was a very important experience. He wished her well and told her that she was in his thoughts and prayers. Samantha read his postcard aloud to her roommate and put it up on her wall. Even after she arrived home, she saved it as a keepsake from her time overseas, reminding her of one of the many unforgettable moments she had experienced.

"I can't even imagine how long it

takes him to write all those postcards," she said, "but I will never forget the way he wrote in the one I received, almost like a grandfather who was beaming with pride. His letter lifted my spirits and helped give me the strength I needed to fulfill my mission overseas."

### LEGACY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Ever since he was a little child, Dever has had a special reverence for missionaries and their precious gifts of service. He believes it is his privilege to encourage student workers out there in the field and has taken the instructions found in Hebrews 10:24-25 to heart: "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ...encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

When Dever's mother dutifully wrote to him as he was serving in Korea, she had no idea what kind of a passion for writing she would kindle in her son and how many lives his letters would touch. He may not be able to travel overseas himself, but the missionaries who receive his letters will tell you that they believe Dever is with them in spirit—a true missionary by mail. ■

## JOIN THE MAIL MINISTRY

Feeling inspired by Dever's impressive efforts? Consider joining in this critical mail ministry by writing postcards or letters of your own. We've provided a list (right) of all the countries where Southern Adventist University students currently serve and the specific area where their talents are being put to use. Please pray for them and consider what you might share to brighten their day. Contact Student Missions Coordinator Julie Norton at 423.236.2442 or julienorton@southern.edu with additional questions.

A broad range of information, including donation opportunities and the names and pictures of current student missionaries, can be found at [southern.edu/studentmissions](http://southern.edu/studentmissions).

- Bolivia** (teachers)
- Chad** (clinic workers)
- China** (teachers)
- Ebeye** (teachers)
- Ecuador** (teachers)
- El Salvador** (teachers)
- Honduras** (orphanage workers)
- India** (clinic workers)
- Indonesia** (translators)
- Kenya** (deans, teachers)
- Korea** (teachers)
- Majuro** (teachers)
- New Zealand** (youth ministry)
- Nicaragua** (nurses, teachers)
- Nigeria** (nurses)
- Palau** (teachers)
- Philippines** (clinic workers, teachers)
- Pohnpei** (teachers)
- Saipan** (teachers)
- Spain** (teachers)
- Tanzania** (construction workers)
- Thailand** (church planters)
- U.S.** (deans, chaplains, teachers)
- Yap** (teachers)
- Zambia** (clinic workers)



# Degrees of

*New global policy major comes with kingdom mission to help students*

by Janelle Sundin, senior English major

Sophomore Sashenka Brauer wants to change the world, but until recently she wasn't sure she could do that through any of her studies at Southern Adventist University. She began school as an intercultural communications major with a minor in archaeological studies, but soon she discovered that the major didn't fit what she wanted to do and started exploring other options. Cultural anthropology was a possibility, but something important was still missing.

"I really want to help people, not just study them," Sashenka said.

She had already begun researching other colleges and their political science degrees when, while talking to her adviser Mindi Rahn, Sashenka discovered that the major she'd been looking for all along was right here at Southern—global policy and service studies.

## Years in the Making

Global policy and service studies (GPS) is a new, cutting-edge political science major or minor that will be offered beginning in Fall 2012. It is intended to give students the historical and political context, along with the technical skills, to change the world for the better. The major has been in development for more than two years, going back to when the History and Political Studies Department hired Mindi Rahn.

"Until we hired Rahn, Southern did not have a professor who specialized in political studies," said Lisa Diller, History and Political Studies Department chair. "And we've never had a political science major on campus, which

is unusual for a school our size."

While History and Political Studies Department faculty knew that a new major was in order, the shape it would take did not become clear until several months later.

"I sat down one day and wrote out a curriculum. I didn't know why; it was just for fun," Rahn said. "I checked to see if other Adventist schools had a similar program and researched what secular universities were doing; no other university offered anything quite like this."

Rahn then spoke with the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, the United Nations, World Vision, the General Conference, and Adventist Frontier Missions about the idea, and the organizations' responses were overwhelmingly positive. They wanted employees with the skills this new degree would provide.

History and Political Studies Department leaders were excited for a deeper reason beyond the immediacy of a new major; this degree would help embed their courses deeper within the university's vision for spiritually equipping graduates to enter adulthood.

"Our main question was, 'How can we incorporate political studies in a way that furthers the mission of the church?'" Diller said. "Rahn's curriculum answered that question."

## Required Classes

In consultation with nonprofit and government organizations, universities with political science master's degrees, and other departments on campus, the History and Political Studies Department moved forward. Specific classes



# f Kindness

*Combines academic training, service ministry, and encourages “be the change” they want to see in the world.*

required for the new degree include Human Rights and Service, Policies in Global Health, Global Politics, Sustainability Studies, and Cross-cultural Experience. Students will be required to take at least one foreign language. World Missions is a key class, as is Christian Missionary Entrepreneurship.

Students will also take a sustainable technology course, designed specifically for the major by Technology Department Associate Professor John Youngberg, that will teach them how to use green technology, such as solar electricity and bicycle machines, to filter and distribute water, handle sewage, and build houses.

The major has four specific components. It teaches students to understand the politics of the international arena and how they affect ordinary people. It enables them to assess and understand the development challenges people face in issues of health, education, and poverty. It helps them to develop practical skills that can be used to serve in a community anywhere. And it encourages students to follow Jesus’ example of meeting people’s physical needs so that they can share Him in a way nonbelievers can understand.

“Our overarching objective is to teach students to meet people’s physical needs while sharing the eternal need of a relationship with Christ,” Rahn said. “This is our way of following the Great Commission.”

## **Versatile Degree**

With this major, graduates will be able to move on to a variety of fields.

“Global policy and service studies is cutting edge and interdisciplinary

at its core,” Diller said. “It would function well as a general foundation or springboard for specialization in graduate school. It can be a double major ideal for pre-medical, dental, or law students. It is also meant to be practical enough to use on its own as a bachelor’s degree, which means students would be a good candidate for work in a variety of fields.”

Sashenka plans on using her global policy and service studies classes to figure out what she wants to do long-term. She has a heart for missions and is looking forward to the volunteer component of the major. She recently took an interdepartmental mission trip to Haiti and considers it a foretaste of the work she will take on after graduation.

“My dream job would be going to different countries and helping communities plan effective healthcare and education solutions,” Sashenka said. “I believe that God has put me in the right place to make this come true.”

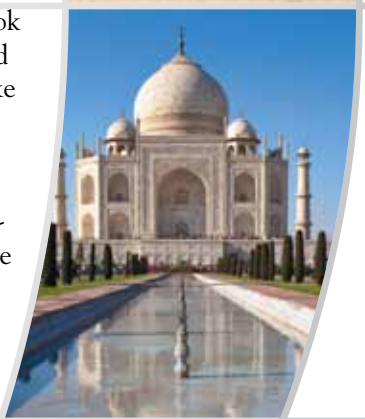
Diller is confident that the new major will attract additional Christ-centered students like Sashenka.

“This is about being salt and light in the world,” Diller said. “It’s a ministry of reconciliation in line with both our university’s and our kingdom’s mission.”

Rahn agrees, especially considering who’s in charge.

“Ultimately, I want this to be God’s program. Nobody else’s—just God’s.”

To learn more about the global policy and service studies degree, visit [southern.edu/global](http://southern.edu/global). ■



# ANYTHING BUT BUSINESS AS USUAL

By Angela Baerg, '06



The careers of these five Southern alumni represent a living testimony to the university's mission: the pursuit of truth, wholeness, and a life of service.



Most of us spend a large chunk of our lives at work—more time than we spend sleeping, eating, or bonding with loved ones. Many give back to society by donating a portion of the money they earn to causes about which they are passionate, and ministries might not survive without that income. But for these five entrepreneurs,

their careers themselves are their greatest gift to society. These alumni use their talents daily in service to others and to the glory of God. From food and families to art, music, and disaster relief, these Southern Adventist University graduates are constantly searching for ways to use their talents to touch lives.

## DAVID CANTHER, DISASTER RELIEF

Theology, '79

David Canther never planned on founding a disaster relief organization, but as a pastor in Florida during the hurricane season in 2004, the need for assistance was undeniable.

“At one point our church had about 60 outreach ministries going on,” Canther said. “The conference saw that what we were doing was uniting our youth, and they asked me to keep on doing it.”

That’s when Canther established ACTS (Active Christians That Serve) World Relief. He places a special emphasis on empowering youth by giving them significant responsibilities and a chance to make a difference alongside adults. Since 2004, ACTS has given \$66 million in emergency supplies and medicine, served 1.1 million hot meals, removed 5,640 pounds of debris, repaired 2,489 roofs, met 81,600 medical needs, and utilized 80,100 volunteers. Southern is participating in multiple service-learning opportunities with ACTS in Haiti, where more than 6,000 have been deployed since the 2010 earthquake, and in Alabama and Mississippi, where more than 5,000 volunteers responded to tornado damage in 2011.

Along the way, Canther has seen

a lot of miracles. One morning during Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, his team prayed and asked God to go out and help them find people in need. Two girls from Southern knocked on a door, and an elderly woman opened it and said, “Look, God did send angels to come and bring us water today.” She told the girls that she and her husband had prayed that day for water. It was more than 100 degrees outside, and they had been without water, food, and electricity for more than a week. That morning they drank the little they had left and prepared to die together. Little did they know the precious relief that God had in store for them.

On another occasion during Katrina efforts, the volunteers who were serving hot meals counted their inventory and found that they had only 1,200 hot dogs left. This meant they would have to turn people away since they fed, on average, 5,000 people each day. The roads were closed, and additional supplies could not be brought in.

“We prayed and asked God to multiply those hot dogs, and every time we reached into the cans, thinking they would be empty, there were more hot dogs inside,” Canther said. “Before that



day was over, we had fed 5,500 people. It was one of those powerful moments when you realize you don’t have to go to Africa to see miracles!”

Looking back, Canther said he never would have guessed where God was leading his life, but his time at Southern helped prepare him for his journey.

“I learned a lot about theology at Southern, but even more so I learned that the most important thing is to live out my Christian values,” Canther said. “Christianity is not just theoretical; it is practical and real, and it transforms lives.”

To learn more about ACTS World Relief, visit [actswr.org](http://actswr.org).

## JARED THURMON, HEALTH MINISTRY

Business, '04

Jared Thurmon became passionate about health ministry when he learned that his dad had seven inoperable tumors in his liver. After researching and sharing with his father simple health elements such as regular exercise, a plant-based diet, and increased prayer time, Thurmon saw firsthand what a difference these changes could make in someone's health. The tumors disappeared.

Inspired by the results, Thurmon, his father, and another partner started The Beehive in 2009. The nonprofit's goal is to be like a real beehive, full of bustling activity on diverse projects all aiming to lead people closer to Jesus. The group's current projects include mission-based business consulting, a health evangelism tour, agricultural schools in Haiti and India, and lifestyle education featuring biblical insights addressing stress, sunlight, nutrition, exercise, water, and fresh air.



Thurmon's health seminars are attended by people all over the country and have a real impact on the way they view a healthy lifestyle.

Another major focus of The Beehive is the Daniel Challenge, an initiative that is especially popular on college campuses and leads to better physical, mental, and spiritual health. Just as in the Bible Daniel took a 10-day challenge in ancient Babylon to seek better health, the Daniel Challenge invites modern people to take on a 10-week challenge to improve their lives. Each week, participants are called to new challenges such as exercising outside for 45 minutes each day, not eating meat, drinking eight glasses of water daily, abstaining from carbonated and caffeinated drinks, and finding four hours a week of quiet time to study their Bibles. Since the program was first tested at Arizona State University in January 2010, it has been replicated more than 175 times on campuses such as Kenesaw State, Tufts, Berklee, Bowie, and even the University of South Africa in Pretoria.

With his newfound understanding of health and its relation to diet, Thurmon has also recently helped market a line of oat-based, dairy-alternative products called WayFare Foods. He loves to



The WayFare Foods brand provides healthy, tasty products that fit a plant-based diet.

watch people's lives change as they say goodbye to dairy and the health problems that come along with it.

"It is astounding how many of the health problems that are plaguing our world are absolutely preventable," Thurmon said. "We are sharing information that the world is literally dying to hear."

Thurmon thanks Southern for the many ministry connections he acquired in college and believes that without those partnerships, his work would not be moving forward as rapidly as it is today.

Learn more about these efforts by visiting [beehivevision.com](http://beehivevision.com), [thedanielchallenge.com](http://thedanielchallenge.com), and [wayfarefoods.com](http://wayfarefoods.com).



## LINDA SINES, CREATIVE WORSHIP

Nursing, '83

In 2003, Linda (Woolsey) Sines stepped out in faith to launch a non-denominational creative worship group called Red, a name dually based on the color of the walls where they met and the color of Jesus' blood. Red's Saturday worship gatherings always involved reading the Bible, making group art, and sharing about God's working in their lives. There was plenty of interaction, but nothing about their meetings was formulaic or set in stone. They believed that by leaving their format flexible, they were leaving it open to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

As the group grew, they began to need a larger space in which to meet and in 2009 began home-hunting on the south side of Chattanooga. Recently they were both excited and perplexed when they found a building on Main Street in the heart of the community. If they leased this location, it would mean that they would need to use the building as something more than a worship center once a week; it would need to operate as some sort of business that would be open all of the time.

After much brainstorming, they came up with a name, Planet Altered, and a mission: to connect artists with consumers who understand the value of creativity by hosting a local art gallery and special events venue. Planet Altered also sells artwork from Third World countries at fair trade prices, meaning artists earn enough to take care of their families properly.

"We wanted to encourage people to think globally about people outside of their neighborhood to make our world a better place aesthetically, socially and spiritually," Sines said.



The Planet Altered workshop has become a haven for creative, God-seeking people in the downtown Chattanooga area.

Along those same lines, Planet Altered donates money to a group called Charity Water (builds wells in Third World countries), Adventist Development and Relief Agency, Nothing But Nets (provides mosquito nets to help prevent malaria in Africa), and many other worthy agencies.

Sines said that these efforts are a direct result of one of the biggest lessons

she learned in her time at Southern—how to be a compassionate person.

"The teachers there cared very much about their students and always had time for them," Sines said. "For them it was not a job, but a mentorship. It cemented in my mind the importance of showing God's love in real time."

Learn more about Planet Altered by visiting [planetaltered.com](http://planetaltered.com).



The space is filled with fun, funky, and inspirational artwork.

## ALEXANDREA WILSON, FAMILY OUTREACH

Family Studies, '10

Some might think age 24 is too young to start a business, but Alexandra Wilson couldn't wait any longer to help other families in her community reach their full potential. Family had always been an integral part of her life, and Wilson felt a calling to start The Mt. Ephraim Center.

"I never could have grown into who I am today without my family's support, but not everyone has that privilege," she said. "To make society better, you have to start in the home."

Wilson said the goal of her business is to teach families how to lead God-centered lives in their marriages, parenting, education, work environments, dating relationships, friendships, and daily decisions. The Mt. Ephraim Center offers seminars on topics including budgeting, resumé writing, conflict resolution, time management, sexual purity, and avoiding abusive personal relationships.

Wilson believes that the Bible has practical solutions for our daily struggles. One way she shares that message with people is through her radio show, which is broadcast every Thursday night at 6 p.m. on [blogtalkradio.com](http://blogtalkradio.com). One series she did was on facing depression and learning to combat negative thinking with positive truths from the Bible. In that series, she challenged listeners

to work on "demolishing arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, taking captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:5). She received a lot of feedback from listeners who thanked her for her advice and told her how it had made a difference in their lives.

Wilson said she cannot thank Southern enough for the preparation she received, including learning how to do proper research, create seminars, and be more comfortable with public speak-

ing. At the time they just seemed like assignments, but now they are a part of her day-to-day professional life.

"Most importantly, it reinforced what I'd spent my whole life learning with my family at home: how to be a Christian in a non-Christian world," said Wilson. "Really, that's the essence of what the Mt. Ephraim Center is trying to teach as well. What could be more important than that?"

Learn more about The Mt. Ephraim Center by visiting Alexandra online at [themtphraimcenter.org](http://themtphraimcenter.org).



Wilson's lean budget means she likes to take advantage of the free Wi-Fi and studious environment at local bookstores, where she often does her work during the week.



## JENNIFER LAMOUNTAIN, MUSIC MINISTRY

Music Education, '90

Jennifer (Eaton) LaMountain's earliest memories were of wanting to be on-stage singing in church with her sisters. They finally let her join them in special music at age three, and she was hooked for life. Right out of college, LaMountain went to work as a music teacher, but in her free time she was always willing to sing for anyone who asked. Special music performances were the norm for her until Mark Finley asked her to sing for Net '95, a worldwide satellite meeting that gave her vast exposure.

"The world saw me and thought I knew how to do concerts," she laughed.

It was then that the performance requests really began rolling in. When she and her husband moved to Florida, she didn't have a teaching job lined up.

"I said I would just do concerts for a few months and see what happened," she said.

That was 15 years ago, and the concerts haven't stopped. Since then, LaMountain has heard many encouraging stories about how her ministry has changed lives. There was a little boy named Travis who was in the hospital dying of leukemia. When the pain was the worst, he would play LaMountain's "No More Night," a song about the hope of heaven, over and over again.



LaMountain has been sharing her talent for praise and worship since early childhood.

Not only did it provide him with peace, but one night while overhearing that song in the hallway, a pediatric nurse knelt down in the hallway and gave her heart to the Lord.

The singer also recalls the story of a girl who had been preparing to end her life when suddenly she heard someone in the house. She looked around and discovered that the CD player had turned on by itself and was playing "I Am Determined," one of LaMountain's songs. A key phrase from the song is "I am determined to live for the King." When she heard those words, the girl decided to give life another chance.

But it's not just her listeners' hearts that have been moved. On a trip to Indonesia in 1997, LaMountain was devastated by the circumstances of many children she met. She returned with a desire to make a difference in their lives and began to work with World Vision, a humanitarian organization assisting children, families, and communities all across the world in cases of poverty and injustice.

"Some of the things I saw and experienced there changed my heart," LaMountain said. "I realized that when I gave concerts, not only did I want to share Christ and enhance my listeners' personal spiritual journeys, but I also wanted to give them an opportunity to be moved to do something for somebody else."

Since then, LaMountain has used her concerts as a venue to encourage people to help feed hungry children via World Vision. Through her efforts, her listeners' generosity, and the working of the Holy Spirit, thousands of children have been fed.

LaMountain said that professors at



LaMountain's association with World Vision has taken her all over the world, creating awareness of the devastating effects of child hunger.

Southern both deepened her discipline and passion for her music and helped her prioritize what was truly important.

"My teachers were godly people who had a commitment to a purpose that was greater than themselves," she said. "That was the most important lesson anyone could have taught me."

To learn more, visit [wvartists.org/jennifer-lamountain](http://wvartists.org/jennifer-lamountain).

### Team Effort

As varied as these ministries may appear, like a good sports team, each player brings a different skill to the task at hand and works with others to win the game. Of course, this fight has much higher stakes than an athletic championship. Rather than team rings or trophies, these alumni are fighting for the salvation of those whose lives they touch. Through the earnest efforts mentioned here and the generous financial support of those called to work in other sectors, we can all continue pressing toward the true prize. ■





# Needle <sup>in</sup> the Haystack

By Mia Lindsey, senior public relations major

Students of other faiths who attend Southern often discover they have more similarities than differences when compared with traditional Adventist students here. That is, until the first time haystacks are served in the Dining Hall.

Hannah sat in Southern's Dining Hall surrounded by some of her friends when she casually commented on the food.

"This is so yummy. I've never had haystacks before!"

Almost immediately, all her friends stopped eating and turned to look at Hannah, each wearing a puzzled expression.

"How long have you been an Adventist, Hannah?" one of them asked.

"I'm not," she quietly replied.

As a Baptist attending Southern, Hannah Ballard has had a handful of encounters like this. At first the sophomore general music major tried to hide her religious affiliation, thinking that because she was in the minority she would be judged.

Hannah has since learned, however, that she is treated the same whether or not people know she is Baptist.





Hannah (in white) pauses for a moment of prayer at the end of a religion class.

## Getting to Southern

Hannah grew up in the small town of Inverness, Florida, with her parents and three older brothers. Before attending Southern, Hannah was home-schooled her entire life and only became aware of Seventh-day Adventists three years ago when she began attending Friday night Bible studies with some of her mother's friends, the Milliron family. Cherie Lynn Milliron, a sophomore theology and archaeology major, often led out in additional youth Bible studies on Saturday evenings at the beach, and the two young girls soon became close friends.

When the time came for Hannah to look for a college, Cherie Lynn suggested Southern, the school Cherie Lynn was planning to attend. Hannah narrowed her choices to three schools. She visited Southern and decided to go after having a great experience during her campus visit.

"They were so friendly," she said. "I couldn't get over it!"

Once at Southern, Hannah had little trouble fitting in. Although it was very different from being home-schooled—she was around people her own age and had structured class times and assignments—everything seemed very familiar. As for the religious differences, the topic rarely came up in conversations with classmates and teachers.

On the weekends, Hannah spends the majority of her time at church. She attends Friday night vespers and Sabbath morning worship at the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists, while Sunday mornings and evenings find Hannah at Calvary Independent Baptist Church in Hixson, Tennessee. That's a lot for a busy college student to squeeze in, but Hannah doesn't mind.

"I feel very religious," she joked.

## Learning About Adventists

Hannah enjoys learning more about the Adventist faith in her classes and at church.

"It's kind of cool to

see everything explained," she said. "It makes me question my beliefs a bit—but that's a good thing."

She has discovered many similarities between Baptist and Adventist beliefs. The two denominations share an understanding of the Trinity and baptism by immersion, for example. Adventists and Baptists also both recognize that people can be saved only through Jesus Christ, and not by works.

As for the differences between the two denominations, some concepts are easier to accept than others. For example, Hannah does believe that Saturday is the true Sabbath.

"I don't think it ever changed," she said. "That's something I agree with Adventists on."

After hearing differing views from Southern and from her church, Hannah knows that she has the final say in deciding what to believe.

"Sometimes I'm not really sure what to think," she said. "I just need to figure it out for myself. It's good hearing both sides before making these decisions."

## Keeping an Open Mind

When members of her church find out that she attends Southern, they are very curious to know what Hannah is being taught. She said they ask questions such as, "Are they a cult?" or "Why do they do such crazy things?" Hannah has no problem sharing the new insights she's learned about the Adventist faith.

"I describe Adventists as Christians and that we have similar fundamental beliefs," she said.



This approach to tolerating others' faith is respected by her friends.

"She knows we all serve the same God despite our different faiths," said Cherie Lynn. "She is very open-minded."

That flexible attitude extends beyond the chapel and the classroom. It even includes the Dining Hall, where these delicious taco salads with a funny name continue to amaze her.

"I haven't told anyone about haystacks, but I probably should," Hannah said with a laugh. "I bet my family and Calvary Baptist Church friends would like them a lot." ■



# Miraculous Journey

## Nanette McDonald Coggin's transformation from 1920s wild child to scholarship fund sponsor

By Raquel Levy, junior mass communication major



Nanette's photo from the 1926 edition of Southern's yearbook.

When Nanette McDonald walked onto the campus of Southern Junior College in 1924, she had never heard of Seventh-day Adventists. Little did she know that this faith—this school—would change her life forever. Nanette was a witty, flamboyant 14-year-old from Chattanooga who grew up with three brothers and three male cousins. Out of fear that she was becoming a little "wild," her parents planned to send her off to school but had no idea where.

One hot summer's day, Nanette walked down to the local grocery store and jumped up on an ice chest to cool down. She began to tell the store owner about her parents' plan. A woman standing nearby overheard the conversation and handed Nanette a piece of paper saying, "Tell your parents to try this." The paper read: "Dr. Lynn Wood, Southern Junior College."

Her parents sent for the Southern Junior College catalog. Upon receiving it they looked at the price and what items to bring, but nothing else. So on a Friday afternoon, Nanette arrived at Southern Junior College with anticipation in her heart and cigarettes in her pocket. That evening the Sundown Bells began ringing, and Nanette began a year of what her daughter calls "full-blown culture shock."

The food was different, the dress code was different, and the rules were very different. So different, in fact, that Nanette spent most of her first year on restriction—unable to attend school events.

When Nanette traveled home for break, she told her parents about the school's Seventh-day Adventist orientation, to which they responded, "You can stay there, but don't get too involved with those people." However, by the end of her first year, it was easy to see how much Nanette was changing. Her father said if she went back a second year, he wouldn't pay a penny. But she did go back, paid her own tuition through student jobs, and was baptized. She even fell in love, marrying Charles Coggin, her college sweetheart.

When speaking about her time at Southern Junior College, Nanette often said, "I owe everything to that school, I'm so grateful I was sent there."

She was so fond of the school that she wanted other non-Adventists to share her miraculous journey. In 1992, she established an endowed scholarship that has assisted non-Adventist female students with tuition for the past 20 years. She hoped those students would experience the same blessings that led her to write the following words her senior year:

"Lead us on, oh alma mater; where we'll win the truest fame. Help us serve thy highest purpose, stand victorious in His name."

To contribute to the Nanette McDonald Coggin Scholarship Endowment Fund, call **423.236.2829** or visit **southern.edu/Advancement**.

Story details relayed to writer by Joan Coggin, Nanette's daughter. Joan is a retired professor from Loma Linda University's School of Medicine and a world-renowned heart surgeon. She is also a former member of Southern Adventist University's Board of Trustees.

# Finding My Purpose Amid Chaos

By Jessica Weaver, senior public relations major

I sat frozen, staring at the computer screen. Tears filled my eyes as I read the words in the message. The voice at the other end of the phone sounded distant and unnaturally slow, almost like a dream.

“Hello? Hello? Jess, are you okay?”

Silence.

I wasn’t okay. Inside I was screaming at God; how could He let this happen?

## A Painful Loss

The previous year I served as a student missionary in Cairo, Egypt, at Nile Union Academy (NUA). I taught English and Bible and was in charge of the music program. But let’s be clear; I received far more than I gave while overseas. The friendships and memories made there will forever change my life. While sharing sad goodbyes with students before my return to the United States, I took comfort in knowing that the principal and I had secretly arranged for me to return the next year and lead out in Week of Prayer.

Fast forward 10 months, when two other student missionaries and myself were making plans to lead out in Week of Prayer at NUA during our spring break. But plans were put on hold when news of Egypt’s revolution reached us. This turn of events left me wondering what message I could possibly bring that would bless these students when they faced so much uncertainty in their lives. Would they even continue with business as usual at NUA? Pastor Tom, the academy’s principal, contacted me and told me the Week of Prayer was still on for May. So we bought our plane tickets and eagerly anticipated going “home” to see all of



Jessica (second row, middle) stands with students from Nile Union Academy.

those smiling faces we had grown to love. Or so we thought.

The very next day I logged into Facebook and saw a new message from one of the missionaries in Cairo. My entire body froze after one quick read.

“Nahid died today.”

My first thought was it had to be a sick April Fool’s joke. Nahid, a student I had become very close to when I was a student missionary in Egypt, was a senior graduating in two months. She was beautiful, talented, and loved by all. She couldn’t be dead. The message said she went home for the weekend, ate, laid down for a nap, and never woke up. As I read the principal’s words I could picture all of my students—my friends—and I ached for them. His message read:

“Telling over 100 teenagers their friend died is hard. Very hard. I stood on the steps outside our chapel observing the diverse expressions of grief like a battle commander trying to understand the immensity of the chaotic situation. I entered into their wailing, confusion, denial, tears, and silence. For the next three hours I was pounded on, sobbed on, run from, and collapsed into.”

I had bought my ticket the night before, but now I was left with an immense feeling of unworthiness to speak to these students. What message could I bring that would make a difference in the middle of revolution, in the middle of death? Unfortunately, the nerves and uncertainties I waded through at that point were only a foretaste of things to come.

## Another Tragedy

The week before our return to NUA, I found myself rocked to the core yet again. I received an email with the kind of subject line that makes you not want to open the message: “Tragic News; Our Hearts Are Breaking (again).” The bus driver had fallen asleep while bringing students back to the academy after a school break, injuring many of them. Several suffered broken bones, including one student with a hand so badly crushed it required amputation. And Mina Helmy, a senior graduating in less than a month, was killed.

This time, the campus was not just grieving; they were defeated. When Nahid died, there were questions as to why God let it happen. But now some were even thinking God was doing this on purpose. Pastor Tom told me that a lot of the students were debating whether or not to bother finishing the year; they had given up on God. He said



that they needed a spiritual revival and I would be the one to bring the message that would jumpstart these young, broken hearts.

I was supposed to tell them about a God of love, a God with a plan. But in this setting, and under these circumstances, I felt totally unprepared to speak with any authority about God's directions for our lives. The question "why?" was abounding on that campus and, if I'm honest, was abounding in my own heart as well.

But I moved forward in faith, and when I stepped off the plane into the bustling and beautiful city of Cairo, my friends and I saw the familiar face of Pastor Tom. He ran over and pulled all three of us into his arms—inappropriate public behavior in the Arab world, but he didn't care—and started to cry. That's when I began to see why God had sent me.

I wasn't there to supply all the answers to students' questions or philosophize about the theology of life after death. I wasn't there to bring a power-packed message that would miraculously



Jessica (right, playing guitar) leads out in singing during Week of Prayer at Nile Union Academy.

mend all their aching hearts. I was simply there to show love. To show them that someone cared. To show them that someone would cry with them. God sent me at that exact moment in time so students would know they had not been abandoned by Him, or by His servants.

### Gift of Presence

We still hadn't told any of the students we were coming, and I will never forget the shocked looks on their faces as we walked onto campus the next day. We saw their downcast eyes turn upward and faces break into smiles, laughter, and finally tears. There was clapping and jumping; there was hope! God knew all along that we needed to be there at that exact time—a week after the second tragedy. He impressed us to buy our tickets the day before Nahid died. He knew these aching souls needed love at that precise moment.

Our voices and songs filled the chapel that day; so too did God's healing presence.

The Week of Prayer theme we chose was "My God Is..." and each speaker finished the sentence with his or her own answer. I gave the first sermon of the week, titled "My God Is Always There," and the message proved prophetic. Throughout the rest of the week we could feel the spirit leading in powerful ways. Students who were discouraged and considering not finishing the year came back to school. We were able to help the teachers with their classes, pick wheat in the farm, and just be there to cry and laugh with the students and staff.

I know now why God chose to send nervous, overwhelmed me back to Egypt. I was clearly unprepared to address the situation using my own understanding, and that's how I learned for the first time what it is like to be used solely as a vessel to carry His comfort to a world in need. In my weakness, He

## Nile Union Academy: Student Association Mission Project

Nile Union Academy (NUA) has been chosen as Southern Adventist University's Student Association mission project for the 2011-2012 school year. The university has been raising money to aid in building a much-needed student center and cafeteria. There are hundreds of Egyptian and Sudanese students on waiting lists to be a part of NUA, but there is simply not enough room to welcome them in. This project would open up more space so that it could take on more students and further God's work in the Middle East.

NUA is the only Adventist academy in the Middle East and is one of the strongest witnessing tools available to reach many of the youth in Egypt. If you would like to get involved with the student center project or any other project at NUA, donations are tax-deductible and can be sent to:

General Conference of SDA  
Donation Receipting Center  
12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Please write: TED/Nile Union Academy/(your intended project—i.e., student center) on the memo line of your check. It is helpful if you email the principal of NUA at [principal@nuasda.org](mailto:principal@nuasda.org) and let him know how much you have sent and how the funds are to be used.

made me strong. Through my weakness, He made His children at NUA strong again, too!

God was there in the chaos of revolution, sickness, accidents, and doubts. And whatever troubles lie ahead, the students and I now share a confidence that God will always be with us without fail. Always. ■

# Motivated by Deliberate Prayerfulness

By Mallory Mixon, junior public relations major

To understand why Tara Hargrove, journalism assistant professor, is such an inspiration, you would first have to go back nearly 10 years—well before either myself or Hargrove were on campus.

## Teachable Moment

“He’s dying,” my mother says, choking on each word as hot tears race down her face.

I’m in shock. I can’t move.

She can’t possibly be right; my grandpa is way too young to die. Astonished, I look at my dad; seeing him cry is almost as painful as the news I just received.

I was in sixth grade and hardly knew what death meant. I knew what prayer was, but I had no clue how much power it had. That was about to change.

Grandpa went to the hospital on Christmas and his blood work didn’t look quite right, so the doctor decided to keep him overnight. When he woke up the next morning, he was in significantly more pain and ended up having a cardiac arrest. They rushed him into surgery, and he arrested again in the operating room. Thankfully, the doctors were able to help him and he lived.

I absolutely believe that my grandfather is alive today because of all the prayers lifted up on his behalf. I learned that my mom didn’t just pray for her father to live; she prayed for him to be healed and to return to us the same as before. She didn’t want him to come off the respirator as a vegetable; she wanted her father back as normal as he was before—so that was her exact prayer. And now, because of my mother’s advice, I always try to be specific when I pray.



## Building Relationships with Prayer

Coming to Southern has helped me continue to see the power and importance of prayer in my life. I really appreciate the spiritual atmosphere on campus. This summer I took three classes at my local community college, and it seemed so foreign to not have prayer before class. I take group prayer at school for granted sometimes because I’ve been in Christian education all of my life. But being in a secular institution helped put that into perspective. Communal prayer is a special gift God gave us—a luxury not to be taken lightly as we approach the end times.

I’m a junior and have taken a lot of classes from many different teachers, but one teacher in particular has really made an impact on my prayer journey—Tara Hargrove. Right away I knew we would get along because of her fun, upbeat attitude. She wears a constant smile, and her students know they can always approach her.

At the beginning of each class, Hargrove takes out her pocket notebook and writes down our individual prayer requests. She often follows up with students later on to see how things are going. It’s not unusual for teachers at Southern to solicit prayer requests, but only a handful go to the extent that Hargrove does. And it’s the follow-up, this extra effort, that lets me know she genuinely cares about her students. When I see someone invest that much into their students, I pause to take stock of just how much God loves me. What a great reminder. I sure didn’t get that during summer school!

Because her prayers meant so much to me, I approached Hargrove to learn more about her story—how prayer became so important to her.

Hargrove is in her third year of teaching at Southern, and she remembers not praying at all during class when she first started. She taught at public school before coming here, and it’s taken a while to become acclimated to the spiritual freedom our Christian campus affords.

Once she started praying in class, it still didn’t feel complete, though. She was concerned the requests wouldn’t be validated if they were forgotten, so she started to write them on the white board. But even then the names of sick loved ones and student concerns would still eventually disappear. This year she’s writing them all down where they won’t be erased or otherwise soon forgotten.

Going to all of this trouble is not just for the benefit of the professor’s memory.

“This helps build relationships,” Hargrove told me.

And relationships are where the best prayers always begin, aren’t they? My relationship with my mother and grandpa were cause for my first foray into earnest, heartfelt talks with God. And my relationship with professor Hargrove—my witnessing and embracing of her genuine concern for students—will continue to lead me forward as I grow into a deeper, more personal relationship with Him. ■



# Jeff Francis

**M.S.Ed. / Outdoor Education, '99**

## **What brought you to Southern?**

As a 26-year police veteran, I've worked in narcotics, burglary, homicide, the gang unit, and youth services. I came to Southern because I could see how much the faculty and staff enjoyed sharing their love for the outdoors with others. They were encouragers—the perfect mix of personal appeal and professionalism.

## **How have you put your outdoor education studies to use?**

I was encouraged during my time at Southern to “think outside the box,” and that motivated me to write grants that funded projects for at-risk youth. These proposals have brought in more than \$100,000 to some really worthy projects such as the BADGE program (Building Attitudes During Group Experiences).

## **You have quite a heart for young people.**

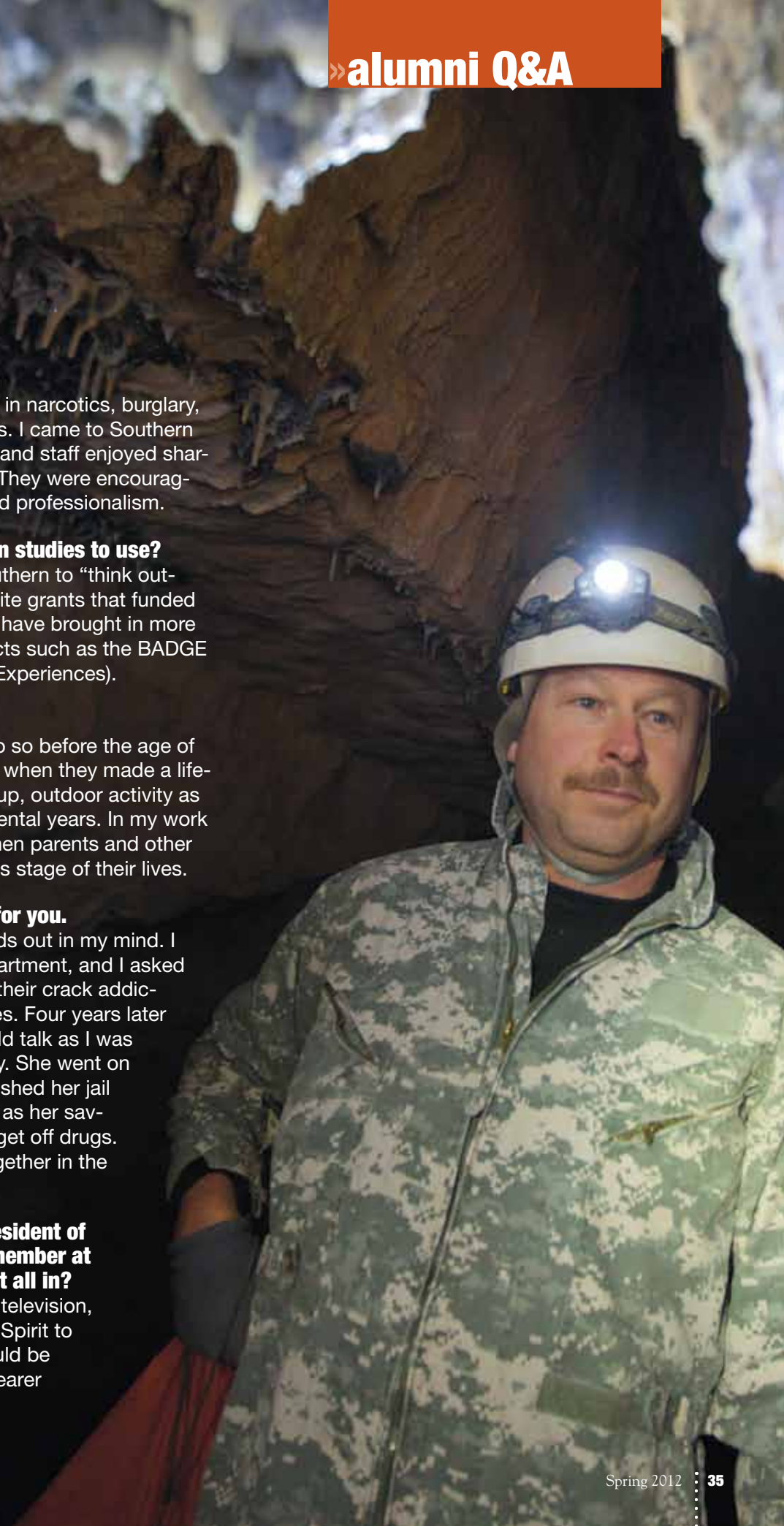
Yes, I do. Most people who get saved do so before the age of 12, and many spiritual leaders can point to when they made a life-changing decision at camp or during a group, outdoor activity as a kid. These are really important developmental years. In my work with the police, I've seen what happens when parents and other role models ignore young people during this stage of their lives.

## **It sounds like faith and work intertwine for you.**

Absolutely. One particular example stands out in my mind. I was talking to a burglary suspect at her apartment, and I asked if we could pray. We prayed for her family, their crack addiction, and the victims of their resulting crimes. Four years later a woman stopped me and asked if we could talk as I was leaving the pharmacy. It was this same lady. She went on to share that because of our prayer she finished her jail time without incident, and accepted Christ as her savior. She is now a counselor helping others get off drugs. We laughed, cried, hugged, and prayed together in the middle of the store!

## **You're a full-time police captain, vice president of a rescue squad, and an adjunct faculty member at Southern (caving). How do you squeeze it all in?**

I plan ahead, I don't particularly care for television, and I've learned to say “no.” Ask the Holy Spirit to bring into your life those to whom you should be ministering, and it'll become clearer and clearer how to prioritize your time. ■



# Technology's Mission

By Rainey Park, '10

Ask any weekend warrior, and they'll tell you about the patience required to work on a house or car. It usually doesn't take long for problems that seem fairly straightforward to turn into a series of headaches and bills. But the challenges that frustrate many of us are brain-candy for students in the Technology Department who are learning practical, hands-on skills to further their careers and serve around the world.

## Electric Edge

Due to the increasing number of computerized components in automobiles, car repair is more challenging than ever before. According to an article in *The New York Times*, "Even basic vehicles have at least 30 of these microprocessor-controlled devices ... and some luxury cars have as many as 100." These tiny computers control everything from fuel intake to brakes.

Southern's Technology Department keeps students on the forefront of this electric edge by training them on the latest equipment. For example, the purchase of a new Cool-Tech air conditioning service center has enabled students to learn the ins and outs of installing and repairing computer-controlled climate units in both homes and vehicles. Another important acquisition is Verus, a handheld diagnostic scanner that works on all makes and models of cars. This is particularly useful since the Technology Department runs a fully-equipped 10-bay auto shop on campus.

To give them another career boost, Southern requires technology majors to take business classes that teach the skills they need to start their own company or move into supervisory roles.

## Thinking 3-D

While critical thinking is taught in all schools and departments on campus, it takes on a whole new dimension in the Technology Department—a third dimension, according to Dale Walters, Technology Department chair.



The Verus handheld scanner allows Technology Department students to stay on the cutting edge of automotive diagnostics.

"Whether you're gonna weld something, fix a car, or draw up plans for a house," Walters said, "you first have to figure out how the system works."

Nicole Coto, senior nursing major, recently took a woodworking class and said that trying to work through some of these problems "helps strengthen your imagination." Though handling such large tools was a little intimidating at first, Nicole quickly caught on and has since been asked to help construct items for her church.

Other students, such as senior business major Jarod Manasco, got practice while helping build a duplex on campus.

"Although I'd done framing and block laying before, I learned more technical things—the thinking part, not just the doing—while working on the duplex," Jarod said. "It definitely honed my skills."

## Fixin' to Serve

Critical thinking skills students learn in the Technology Department are indispensable in the mission field. Walters witnesses their impact firsthand on the annual trip that the Technology Department takes to Nicaragua. It's in these poorer, more remote areas that handymen are in highest demand.

Andrew Lauger, 2011 automotive technology graduate, helped rebuild a transmission, fix brakes, and do front-end work on mission vehicles during one such recent trip. Working around the absence of tools he would normally have at his disposal forced Andrew to process problems in a new way and find creative solutions. The long-term missionaries, who rely on the vehicles to transport patients from secluded villages to the hospital, were extremely grateful.

"They said I should come down every year ... and bring more friends," Andrew said.

Since service is such an integral part of the Technology Department, there is discussion about making mission work a requirement for all of their majors. Walters believes those taking classes in automotive, drafting, graphics, welding, and woodworking would do well to spend time in other parts of the world, where the skills they're learning at Southern could be put to much-needed use. He also feels that the benefits of a cross-disciplinary effort aren't reserved just for technology students.

"Each of the skills that we are teaching here would be extremely useful to students from other majors," Walters said. "I really wish more people who have an interest in missions would take these classes." ■

*The Technology Department also plays a meaningful role in the new global policy and service studies major. Read the full article about that degree on page 20.*



**30s** **Pierce Jones (PJ) Moore, Jr.**, '39, recently received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine award. Among the most prestigious of awards presented by the Governor of North Carolina, it is given to individuals who have a proven record of extraordinary service to their communities. PJ has dedicated more than 50 years of outstanding medical service to the Asheville, Hendersonville, and Fletcher, North Carolina areas. In October, he was the first recipient of Park Ridge Health's new PJ Moore, Jr. M.D., and Arthur Pearson, M.D. Award of Excellence in recognition of outstanding community medical service. PJ retired from active surgical practice at 90 years of age; however, he still does some outpatient dermatological procedures. He and his wife, Elaine, live in Fletcher. A total of 23 members from their combined families have attended or graduated from Southern.

**60s** **David and Judy (Edwards) Osborne**, '64, live in northern California, where Dave has been the senior pastor of the Chico Seventh-day Adventist Church for the past six years and Judy retired after 31 years of teaching (26 years



on college campuses, with the last 10 years heading up the interior design program at Pacific Union

College). Prior to his current position, Dave was the senior pastor of the Carmichael Seventh-day Adventist Church in Sacramento for 14 years. During seven of those years he served concurrently as ministerial director for the North American Division. Since moving to Chico, he has taken extensive training as a police chaplain and enjoys the community interaction. Their son, David, lives in San Francisco and works in marketing.

**70s** **Debra (Malpass) Wintsmith**, attended, lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and published a book in June 2011 titled *Precious Jewels: A Seventh-day Adventist Family Saga*. It is the story of Debra's great-grandmother, Carolina

Pearl Holt, a planter's daughter who became interested in the Adventist health message during the time when Edson White steamed his boat, Morning Star, down the Mississippi River. It is the story of early Adventism in the South and of a flawed family that makes great personal sacrifices in order to live out their beliefs. The book is available at amazon.com (search Wintsmith).



**80s** **Ingrid Florencia-Kirindongo**, '83, lives in West Palm Beach, Florida, and recently published a book through TEACH Services, Inc., titled *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*. Learn more about her book online at TEACHServices.com. After graduating from Southern, she earned a bachelor's and two master's degrees from Loma Linda University and the University of Phoenix. In addition to writing, she works as a director of nurses at Renaissance Health and Rehabilitation.

**90s** **Gary and Stella (Duncan) Bradley**, '90, live in North Carolina with their children, Allison (10) and Zachary (8), who are home-schooled by Stella's mother. Gary taught for 20 years in Adventist education and is now an assistant professor of math/science education at the University of South Carolina Upstate. He received his Ph.D. from Andrews University in 2008. Stella teaches English at Mount Pisgah Academy. She is also the editor of *Peer to Peer: Live, Love, Jesus*, the Review and Herald's 2012 NAD junior devotional book. As a family, they enjoy playing music together and exploring nature.



**Mozart**, attended, and **Heilange (Celamy) Porcena**, '95, live in Plantation, Florida. Mozart received a mas-

ter's degree in business administration from Nova Southeastern University in June 2010 and works as an account manager for Coventry Health Care. In September 2011, Heilange was promoted to the position of assistant principal at Parkridge Elementary School in Deerfield Beach.

**Kelli (Chalker) Johnson**, '97, and her husband, Kent, welcomed a son, Erik, on July 30, 2011. Kelli continues to work for Adventist Health System as the director of accounting at the corporate offices. The family lives in Altamonte Springs, Florida.



**00s** **Jennifer (Shield) Whitney**, '06, and her husband, Jason, welcomed a daughter, Allison, into their family on August 15, 2011. Jennifer completed her reading specialist credential and master's degree in language and literacy at California State University in Sacramento in December 2010.

**Enoh Nkana**, '07 and '09, is coordinator of the Reaching to Educate All Children to Heaven (REACH) program for the Southern Union Conference. She also teaches bilingual (English/Spanish) classes for grades 1-3 at Memphis Junior Academy in Memphis, Tennessee.

## Remembrance

**Roy H. Cole**, '82, passed away December 6, 2011, at his home in Pittsboro, North Carolina, following a three-year battle with cancer. He graduated from Ozark Adventist Academy, Southern Missionary College, and then from the Florida Institute of Technology in 1997. He worked for IBM for 13 years until his death. He is survived by his wife, **Roberta (Snyder) Cole**, '80, and their son, **Roy Benjamin Cole**, attended.

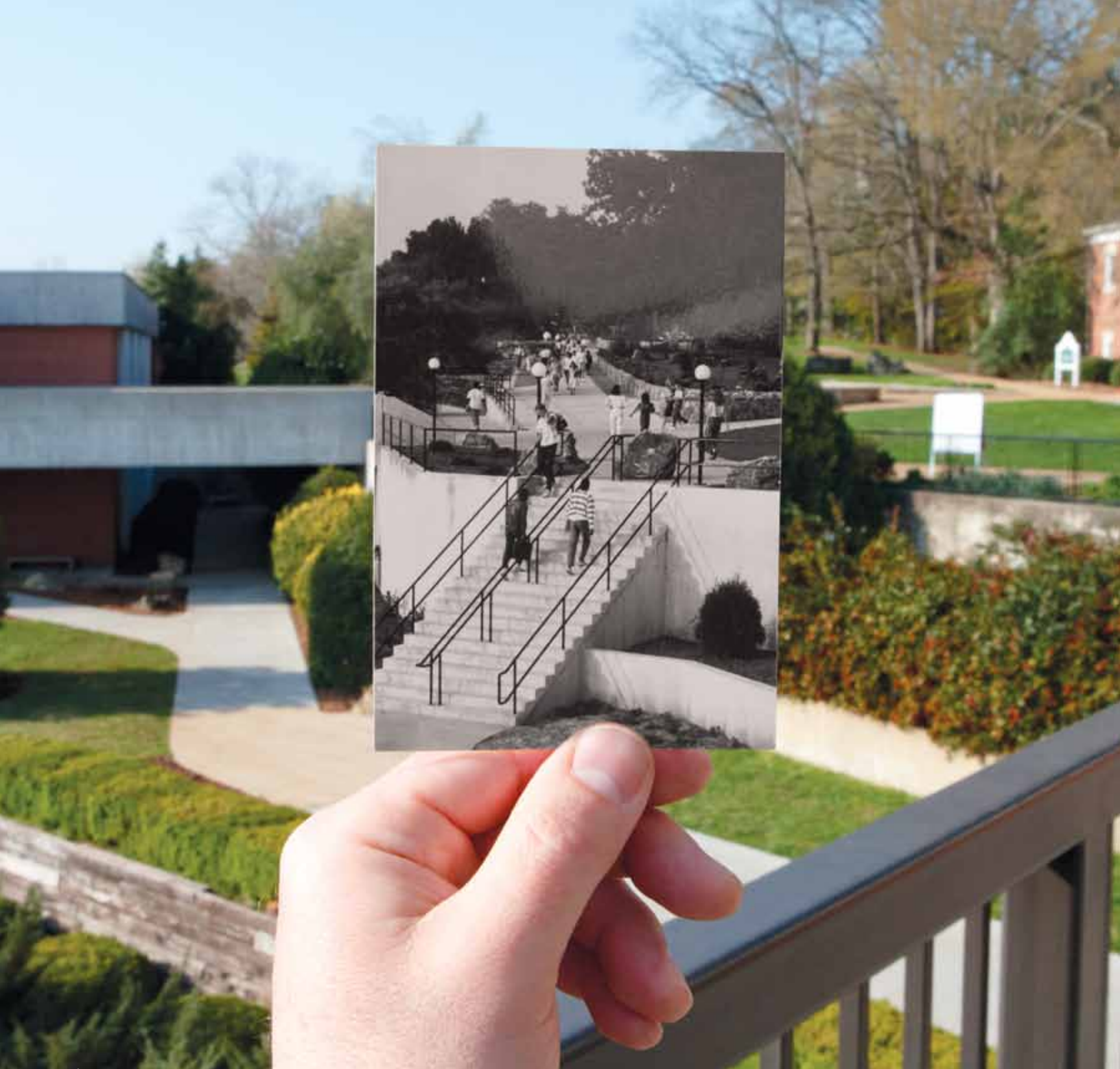
**Pearlie (McGrew) Lamb**, '60, passed away September 28, 2011, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. She is

survived by her children and their families: Chris Lamb of New York, New York; **Theresa (Lamb)**, '79; **Bob Southard**, '81, of Purvis, Mississippi; and Burl Lamb of Louisville, Kentucky.

**Robert Charles McMillan**, '53, passed away October 21, 2011, in Altamonte Springs, Florida. After completing military service, he graduated with a physics degree from Southern and then pursued graduate studies at the University of Arkansas before moving to Washington, D.C. He spent his career working for the Department of the Army. After retiring, he served for a year as a volunteer teacher in Kenya before moving to Shenandoah, Virginia, where he enjoyed gardening and served as a volunteer for Meals on Wheels. He and his wife moved to Apopka, Florida, in 1998. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, **Betty Jo (Boynton) McMillan**, '47 and '51; four children, Charles McMillan, **Sally McMillan**, '78, Susan McMillan, and Cindy McMillan; and brothers, **Frank McMillan**, '55, and **Paul McMillan**, '51.

**Lester E. Park**, '52, passed away October 17, 2011, in Surprise, Arizona. He is survived by his wife, Betty Park; sons, Dennis Park and Ted Park; daughter, **Kathryn (Park) Kalmansson**, '86; sister, Geneva Whiteside; and grandchildren, Steven Park, **Elizabeth Kalmansson**, '10, Quinn Kalmansson, Halla Kalmansson, and Barry Kalmansson.

**Betty Jean "Biz" Reynolds**, '82, passed away October 2, 2011, in Kansas City, Missouri, following a two-year battle with cancer. She graduated from Blue Mountain Academy and then earned an art degree at Southern. She was a student missionary in Thailand from 1980-81. Following graduation, she moved to Missouri to work at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. She met Harvey Reynolds there, and the couple married in 1983. She worked part-time at Powell Gardens for several years and was in charge of the Children's Gardens there, then worked briefly at Kindercare. An avid cyclist, she completed three cross-state rides and several century rides. She is survived by her husband, Harvey, and two sons, Robert and Kevin.



## Dear Southern

This snapshot from the early '80s shows just how much things change, and yet they stay the same. The K.R. Davis Promenade remains a hub of student activity on campus—the place to see and be seen. But coming here as an adult, I see it through different eyes. Back then I was looking to engage the crowd. Today I'm a spectator searching for perspective, hoping to find a glimpse of God in familiar

surroundings. Straight lines and stately trees funnel my focus during the quiet hours when students are in class. I see so far ahead. If only all of life was this clear. Southern, thank you for the memories created on the Promenade. For years' worth of relationships that have blossomed under your watchful care. Thank you for a spot where I still come today, to see and be seen, with Him. —Editor



By Gordon Bietz, *president*

# empathy

Since the beginning of sin, we have sought to avoid identification with any problems or being implicated with any faults. In the Garden of Eden, God asked Adam and Eve, “Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” Their responses were, “That woman you gave me,” and, “That serpent you created.”

In our society, people often don’t take responsibility for their actions. There is a tendency to pass blame. There is an individualism that suggests we shouldn’t care for the other person if it costs us too much.

This tendency to distance ourselves from problems is especially dangerous when we distance ourselves from the people who have them. Frequently, when a person within the church is identified as having a “problem,” friendships begin to disappear. For some reason we think we’ll be tainted by the person’s issues. Jesus behaved in the opposite way. He was accused of being “a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners” (Matthew 11:19).

## The Ideal Reaction

How do you feel when you hear bad news about another person? Maybe it’s a person you don’t like very much—the person at work who is after your job.

Often times when we hear bad news about other people, we have a sense of smug satisfaction rather than sadness. Their bad news is not our bad news. Their problem is not our problem.

If our community were stronger, we’d be more sensitive to each other’s concerns.

The church is a family. As a family we need to be empathetic. We not only need to share joy, but sorrow as well.

So how should we react when we hear bad news about others? Nehemiah gives us the perfect example after he hears about the destruction in Jerusalem. He said, “When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven” (Nehemiah 1:4).

Nehemiah hears of the problem in Jerusalem, and he cries. He could have said, “Walls are down in Jerusalem, huh? Well they made their bed, let them lie in it.” Or he might have said, “I wonder who fouled up this

time? I think I’ll find out and publish an exposé.”

Nehemiah was a long distance from Jerusalem’s problem physically, but he identified with their problem emotionally. It’s easy to distance ourselves, but if we are to be Christians in the family of God, we need to react like Nehemiah.

Let us never be found divorcing ourselves from the aches and pains of others. It will be only when we take personal empathic responsibility for each other that we can become the family that God intended. Only when the pain of my brother is my pain will I be a part of the family.

## A Church Community

I don’t deny that real problems in institutions and people exist. What is sinful is treating problems as if they were collateral for the rumor mill—their problem, not ours. In his prayer, Nehemiah was able to identify with the people of Jerusalem even from a long distance.

“They said to me, ‘Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace.’...Then I said: ‘O LORD, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s family, have committed against you’” (Nehemiah 1:3, 5-6).

The mature Christian sees a problem in the body and says, “We have a problem.”

Nehemiah identified with the people. We can’t identify with the successes of others until we also empathize with their failures. We can’t identify with the success of the church until we also identify with its problems.

Christ is the perfect example of this. He might have stayed in the security of heaven and said, “Too bad about those people on earth. They are in trouble now.” Instead, Christ took the ultimate step of identifying with us; He became one of us.

Followers of Christ understand. They identify. They empathize. They are a community of people who love and care about each other not only in their successes, but also in their failures. ■

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**July 8**  
Oregon - Portland Area  
Alumni and Friends Dinner

**July 15**  
Colorado - Denver Area  
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**August**  
Cincinnati - ASI Convention  
Alumni and Friends Dinner

**August**  
Nashville - NAD Teachers' Convention  
Alumni and Friends Reception

**June 23**  
Lower Michigan Campmeeting  
Alumni and Friends Lunch

**June 1**  
Carolina Conference Campmeeting  
Alumni and Friends Lunch

**September 29**  
Gatlinburg - Georgia-Cumberland  
Conference Medical/Dental Retreat  
Alumni and Friends Dinner

**June 15**  
Arizona Campmeeting  
Alumni and Friends Dinner

**CAMPUS ☆**

**April 15** – Biology Department's Grand Opening of Origins Exhibit  
**April 26** – WSMC Classical 90.5 Hosts "From The Top" at the Tivoli Theatre in Chattanooga  
**May 4** – Senior Send-Off Breakfast  
**May 6** – Spring Commencement  
 Class of 1962 Golden Anniversary March and Reunion Luncheon  
**May 17** – Building Bridges in Chattanooga  
 Downtown Alumni and Friends Reception  
**July 29** – We-Haul New Student Move-In (SmartStart Summer Session)  
**August 24 and 26** – We-Haul New Student Move-In  
**September 23** – Dave Cress Memorial Golf Tournament  
**October 25-28** – Alumni Homecoming Weekend

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