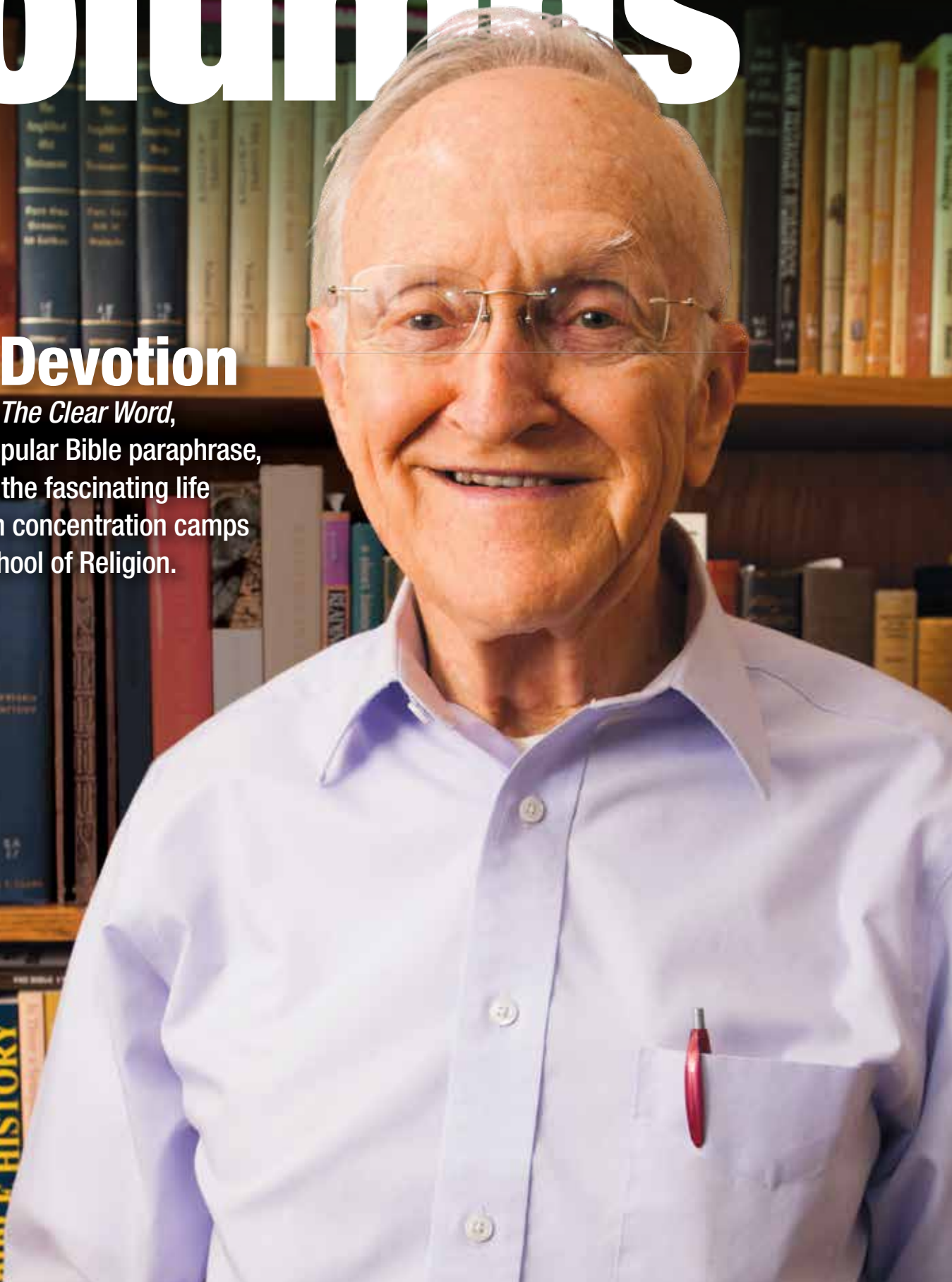


columns

Life of Devotion

Many have read *The Clear Word*, Jack Blanco's popular Bible paraphrase, but few know of the fascinating life that led him from concentration camps to Southern's School of Religion.

page 16





The Big 70

President Gordon Bietz turned 70 on May 1. To celebrate, his friends, family, and co-workers joined him on a 70-mile bike ride. Pictured here, Bietz crosses the finish line with his twin daughters close behind. The day began as a group of 80 cyclists left Southern at 8:30 a.m. and traveled to the Graysville Seventh-day Adventist Church for a picnic lunch. Graysville is the original site of Southern's campus before it moved to Collegedale in 1916. The riders returned to campus at 4:30 p.m. for a birthday celebration in front of Wright Hall. The trip was free to participate in, but financial gifts exceeding \$543,000 were donated to Southern by more than 400 people in honor of Bietz's special day. To share a greeting or make a contribution, visit southern.edu/birthday.



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Volume 66 **Number 1**
Alumni Edition

Executive Editor Ingrid Skantz, '90

Editorial Manager Lucas Patterson

Layout Editor Ryan Pierce

Editorial Assistants

Charles Cammack, current
Elizabeth Camps, current
Rachael Hankins, current
Shana Michalek, current
Ashley Rich, current

Photography

Matthew Hadley, current
Ryan Pierce

President Gordon Bletz

Academic Administration Robert Young

Financial Administration Tom Verrill

Advancement Christopher Carey

Enrollment Services Marc Grundy, '96

Strategic Initiatives Vinita Sauder, '78

Student Services William Wohlers

Marketing and University Relations Ingrid Skantz, '90

Alumni Relations Evonne Crook, '79

Send correspondence to columns@southern.edu

Send address changes to

Alumni Relations
Southern Adventist University
Post Office Box 370
Collegedale, TN 37315-0370
or email alumni@southern.edu

Phone 1.800.SOUTHERN

Fax 423.236.1000

Email marketing@southern.edu

Website southern.edu

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youtube



Find the video links at southern.edu/columns.



Senior music major Tyler Rand discusses the power of performance. This video was created specifically for and shown during NPR's "From the Top" concert at the Tivoli Theatre in Chattanooga. The event was sponsored by WSMC.



Under the guidance of Southern's new short-term mission program, participation in Spring Break mission trips doubled this year. A group of 15 students volunteered to serve in Nicaragua helping with mechanical, medical, and construction work.

vimeo



Find the video links at southern.edu/columns.



"Complete Surrender" is a short documentary by senior film production major Nick Lindsay about a powerful experience sophomore religious studies major Joseph Meneses had after feeling convicted to leave the U.S. military and follow God's will for his life.

twitter



Getting a sneak peek at Summerour Hall. Way different from when I took classes there.

»Kenny Turpen, '09

After its renovation and rededication, the School of Education and Psychology's building will reopen in June.

Thank you @RepChuck for taking the time to speak to our class at Southern Adventist University!

»Colton Adams, senior global policy and service studies major

Chuck Fleischmann, congressman for the 3rd District of Tennessee in the U.S. House of Representatives, visited Southern on February 19. He spent an entire period with the Modern America class and had lunch with students in the Society of Political Sciences.



6 ft. tall King Nebuchadnezzar at Southern Adventist University.

»Bradford Goodridge, master's student studying school counseling



facebook worth a click!

WOW. What a tremendous and uplifting song service with Engage Ministries from Southern Adventist University at the Fletcher Seventh-day Adventist Church. This is what I need every week!

»John Krishinger

Engage Ministries is a student-led group that travels to help with worship through sermons, songs, and drama. Learn more by visiting facebook.com/engageministries.

Thank God for the standards @ Southern Adventist University. Be thankful for the Christian education and, most importantly, the dorm life. It may seem like a strict lifestyle, but I just realized the difference. #Thankful

»Lise Ingabire, '12



I don't know how it happened, but it did. There is nothing my God can't do.

»Carlos Rosales, senior psychology major

Rosales was scheduled to leave for a Spring Break mission trip with Southern on February 27. His passport arrived February 26.

uniteconference.org



UNITE is an organization sponsored by the Southern Union that connects young adults with Jesus, each other, and the local church. It does this in a variety of ways, including through conferences and blogs and by building a network of churches that, according to the website, promise to provide "safe environments for young adults."

The leadership team that founded and manages UNITE leans heavily on current Southern students, including junior theology major Ryan Becker and senior theology/archaeology major Tony Anobile. Bloggers and web designers from Southern also help with the site. Senior English and business major Rachael Hankins, senior graphic design major Rachel Rupert, and junior graphic design major Raphael Rodriguez have all made significant contributions.

UNITE is currently organizing two conferences. Dates and locations have not been finalized, but tentative plans include gatherings in Atlanta (October) and Arizona (November).



on the go

Oshkosh Camporee

Designed for the iPhone, Camporee is a free app by simpleupdates.com for the International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin (August 12-16). Features helpful for those attending include news, social media links, and a map with points of interest on the campgrounds. Jason Strack, '98 and '01, was part of the team that developed this app.



Connect with Southern Adventist University:



- website: southern.edu (check out the new design!)
- flickr: flickr.com/photos/southernu
- youtube: youtube.com/user/SouthernAdventistU
- facebook: facebook.com/pages/Southern-Adventist-University-Official
- twitter: twitter.com/SouthernNews

It Is Written Moving Headquarters from California to Chattanooga

Southern has worked with It Is Written (IIW) since 2011 to offer the SALT evangelism program. Partnerships between the two institutions will dramatically increase as the venerable Adventist media group moves from California to Chattanooga in July. IIW plans to lease office space 15 minutes from Southern while building something more permanent that is closer to campus.

According to Alan Parker, professor and SALT program director in the School of Religion, financial incentives to help IIW move east were made available by Southern, the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, and the Southern Union. But persuasion came in the form of more than simply money and from academic areas beyond the School of Religion.

In 2013, Greg Rumsey, '74, dean for the School of Journalism and Communication at the time, wrote a letter to the IIW director encouraging him to relocate the ministry to Collegedale, where Southern's media students would be abundantly available—both to learn from and to assist IIW through internships. It's a setup that has worked well in the recent past. Network 7 Media Center and the Mission TV channel have opened near campus, and 3ABN is considering building TV studios in Chattanooga to produce children's programming.

"When It Is Written was based in California, it proved difficult for our students to intern there because of distance and the high cost of living," said Stephen Ruf, associate professor in the School of Journal-

ism and Communication. "We are excited because we know the staff there are pros; our students will learn a lot from them."

The opportunities resulting from IIW moving to the area are endless. Students pursuing careers in animation and film production, journalism, marketing, non-profit administration, and evangelism will be part of a finished product seen in 143 countries around the world, plus nationally on the Discovery Channel, Hope Channel, and 3ABN.

"This is a door opening to another level and will help me grow professionally," said Krantzy Boursiquot, senior theology major. "Learning that It Is Witten was moving to Chattanooga was like finding Narnia just beyond my dorm room closet!"

—Lucas Patterson

New Ellen White Reference Book Features Research by Several Southern Professors

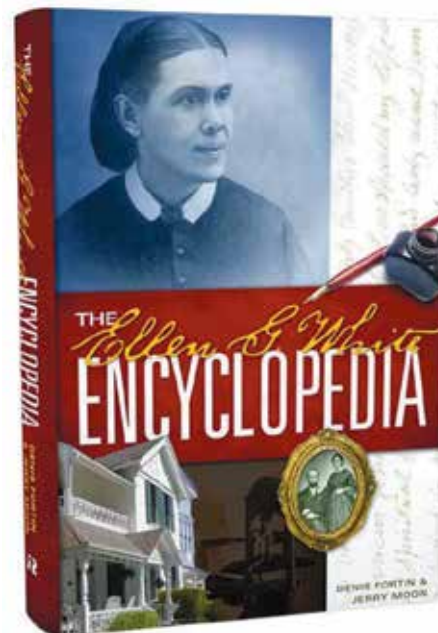
The *Ellen G. White Encyclopedia*, a 1,500-page reference book released recently by Review and Herald Publishing, thoroughly documents the people and events in the life of this most famous Seventh-day Adventist figure. The book contains 26 articles by eight different current or former Southern professors. Michael Campbell, a 2001 theology graduate, was the assistant editor.

School of Religion faculty members Stephen Bauer, Norman Gulley, '55, Michael Hasel, Jud Lake, '82, and Edwin

Reynolds were joined by retired religion professor Jack Blanco in writing for the collection. Ben McArthur and Dennis Pettibone, faculty members of the History and Political Studies Department, also contributed articles to the work.

"*The Ellen G. White Encyclopedia* rises above the partisan views you sometimes see within Adventism," Lake said. "In places where there is debate over the interpretation of her writings, articles highlight the nature of the debate so that the reader can make an informed decision."

The Ellen G. White Encyclopedia can be purchased at AdventistBookCenter.com.



» by the numbers

\$7.9

In 2013-2014, sales at the Village Market campus grocery store grew to \$7.9 million.

2,800

Technology Department students recently built a 2,800-square-foot house the university will rent to employees.

250

The 11 faculty and staff retiring this spring represent a combined 250 years of service to Southern.

WSMC Awarded Grant to Collect and Refurbish Musical Instruments for Inner-city Schools

WSMC Classical 90.5, Southern Adventist University's 100,000-watt FM radio station, recently held a used instrument drive for inner-city schools. A grant from the McKenzie Foundation covered repair costs for all of the donated instruments. Launched in January, the campaign ran through the end of April and brought in more than 50 instruments.

Seeds for this campaign were planted in 2012 as WSMC partnered with NPR's "From the Top" radio program on a Chattanooga concert and arts education outreach effort. Students in many schools visited that week were hungry to learn but lacked the musical tools to move forward. In January 2014, WSMC once again brought "From the Top" to town, but this time they had a bold vision two years in the making. By using the impressive geographic footprint of the station's radio signal (nearly 90 miles in all directions), WSMC would spread the word.

WSMC announced the grant and corresponding project during its "From the Top" performance in front of 1,500 classical music lovers at the historic Tivoli Theatre in downtown Chattanooga.

"It has been a joy to see people respond with such enthusiasm," said Scott Kornblum, WSMC general manager. "I've



(Clockwise from top, left) A member of the McCallie Guitar Quartet, one of the groups included in the "From the Top" concert, talks to students at Calvin Donaldson Elementary School in Chattanooga while showing them his instrument; "From the Top" performer Adam Sadberry talks with students about playing the flute; WSMC General Manager Scott Kornblum examines a few of the donations turned in during the station's recent instrument drive.



been blessed as I've spoken with listeners who want to encourage young people to pursue the arts."

Along with the instrument collection, WSMC also had a major hand in the musical arts outreach of "From the Top" participants. Students selected to perform on the show are encouraged to take on the role of arts leaders, putting their talents to use by motivating students at some of the poorest local schools. This year, the young arts leaders braved single-digit tempera-

tures and joined WSMC employees to visit two local schools the morning after their big concert for NPR. The audiences in these venues were as appreciative as the Tivoli crowd; elementary-school children sat in awe witnessing world-class performances by musicians only a few years older than themselves.

"Access to an instrument can absolutely change a child's life," said Emily Kurlinski, '09, WSMC operations manager.

—Lucas Patterson

3:56

The winning team in the Outdoor Leadership program's Dusk 'til Dawn Adventure Race had a time of 3:56.

1,182

Cottontail Trail, the newest addition to Southern's vast hiking and biking network, has a starting elevation of 1,182 feet.

9,400

SonRise Resurrection Pageant welcomed approximately 9,400 visitors to campus.

Southern Welcomes New Chairs, Deans in Four Academic Areas



Brent Hamstra



Linda Crumley



Keely Tary



Kristie Wilder

As a result of retirement and other scheduled turnover, the 2014-2015 school year will bring changes in academic leadership positions.

Professor Brent Hamstra is the new chair for the Chemistry Department.

“Our group has developed an excellent reputation for teaching and for preparing students for medical school, dental school, and pharmacy school,” Hamstra said. “We plan to continue doing the things that earned us that reputation and to improve where possible.”

Professor Linda Crumley is the new dean for the School of Journalism and Communication.

“I am grateful to be leading these professors,” Crumley said. “We have some of the most interesting, innovative, and inspiring students on campus, and I hope that they will share their dreams with me.”

Associate Professor Keely Tary, '97, is the new chair of the English Department.

“I don’t plan to change things,” Tary said. “Instead, I hope to continue growing our department and focusing on our strengths: engaging professors, a solid curriculum, an emphasis on faith and learning, and a broad range of English major concentrations.”

Assistant Professor Kristie Wilder, '03, is the new dean for the School of Social Work. Before teaching at Southern, she developed programs for children in the state’s custody, trained child welfare workers and foster parents, and developed juvenile justice and child welfare policies.

“The faculty team is going to be my first focus,” Wilder said. “Having professors teach from their strengths and developing them can only benefit the students.”

—Ashley Rich

[news briefs]

New Academic Calendar Synchs with Partner Schools

As a result of participation in the Adventist Educational Alliance with Union College and Southwestern Adventist University, a move designed to increase efficiency in higher education, Southern has revised its academic calendar to synch with partner schools. Classes for 2014-2015 begin August 25. Additional changes to the schedule may be found by visiting southern.edu/newcalendar.

Southern Asks Alumni to Mentor Graduating Students

The Alumni Relations and Career Services offices have collaborated to create LEAP (Leadership Education through Alumni Partnerships), a new program connecting graduating students with alumni for guidance in career decisions, life skills, and spiritual development. LEAP will be tested with a handful of departments before going campuswide. To volunteer as a mentor, email alumni@southern.edu or call 423.236.2830.

Students Win Awards at SONSscreen Film Festival

Southern hosted the 2014 SONSscreen Film Festival March 20-22. Traditionally held in California, this was the first year SONSscreen has gone on the road. The event showcased

more than 20 independent projects and provided 11 workshops. Southern students were recognized with honors for Best Animation, Best Cinematography, Best Dramatic Short, Best in Fest, and the Audience Choice Award.

Residence Hall Contest Promotes Energy Conservation

Between February 1 and April 22 (Earth Day), students competed in Southern Unplugged, an energy conservation contest. Buildings were individually metered specifically for this event, and Thatcher Hall, the women’s residence hall, won based on lowest electrical usage per square foot. Last year, nearly \$2 million dollars were spent on electricity for the campus. Southern Unplugged is one of several projects building on the university’s strategic plan to better steward ecological resources.

Greenhouse Being Transformed into Research Lab

Hickman Science Center’s greenhouse is being converted into a biology research lab to provide much-needed space for upper-division classwork. The new area will include an all-glass fume hood to be utilized during courses such as Environmental Toxicology, where students study different contaminants and their effects on plants and animals.

Graduate Students Honored for Social Work Policy Research and Project Presentation

On March 26, graduate students from Southern's School of Social Work participated in Day on the Hill and won the Policy Poster Winner award for Tennessee in the Master of Social Work category.

Day on the Hill is an annual event in Nashville, Tennessee, attended by social work students, faculty, and practitioners from across the state. Each school that is in attendance brings one policy poster to put on display in the Legislative Plaza, from which a panel of social workers and policy experts select the winner.

"We produced a research poster, PowerPoint presentation, and a five-minute talk about House Bill 131/Senate Bill 447," said Brittney Bryan, graduate social work student. "This legislation proposes sentencing enhancement for traffickers of minors and patrons of child prostitution,



Social work graduate students from Southern reviewed and conducted critical analysis of the policy and research statistics from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) regarding the occurrence of minor trafficking.

and it calls for better protection resources for minors victimized by sex trafficking."

Kristie Wilder, '03, dean for the School of Social Work, says this is the first time that honor has been awarded to Southern. Additional competing schools included The University of Tennessee and The University of Memphis, among others.

"I believe that our research team was empowered by the chance to present on this topic and advocate for one of Tennessee's most vulnerable populations," Bryan said. "It was a wonderfully eye-opening experience about the role social workers can play in policy action."

—Elizabeth Camps

Outdoor Leadership Faculty and Students Help with Cave Rescue

Chattanooga's Hamilton County Rescue Services team received assistance from Southern students, alumni, and faculty while rescuing 71-year-old caving legend Marion Smith, who found himself pinned between rocks while exploring underground.

Mike Hills, '02, assistant professor for Outdoor Leadership and president of Chattanooga's Hamilton County Rescue Services, was involved in the mission along with approximately 50 other rescuers who worked to free Smith. Hills said at least nine people from this group either studied at Southern or were employed by the university.

Hills and his team arrived on the scene



and began to dig around Smith to enlarge the opening. They then proceeded to micro-shave the rock that was trapping Smith, making it small enough to be rolled off of his body. Because of the length of time that Smith had been pinned, he was at risk for septic shock, so nurses ac-

companied the rescue team to ensure his safety before he was airlifted to the local hospital.

Joe Fetner, senior Outdoor Emergency Services major, is an intern with the rescue services team and was on the scene helping. He credits Southern for training him and connecting him with a group skilled enough to perform important rescue maneuvers. He thrives in scenarios like this, with heavy amounts of hands-on learning.

"It's interesting to be a part of a real rescue—to see the response and how everything is organized," Fetner said. "It's awesome to work together and get things done for a positive outcome."

—Rachael Hankins

Stop

Southern's Band-Aid Fund keeps bad situations from getting worse as students benefit from a unique form of financial assistance.

By Lori (Pettibone) Fitcher, '94

the Bleeding

The car sputters and stalls, stranding you on the side of the road.

A loved one's death leaves you mourning while also carrying the burden of extra expenses for a last-minute flight or burial.

Your computer screen goes blank—right before a major project is due.

Murphy's Law does not discriminate. Bad things can happen to anyone. The setbacks mentioned above can be devastating regardless of age or life experience, but imagine something like this happening while under the kind of pressure students face every day. Broken glasses might mean not being able to read the professor's notes and failing an important class. Having the power turned off could make studying late into the night impossible, while the cost to turn it back on could siphon away funds intended for paying tuition. And that unreliable car translates to time off work and difficulty keeping up with expenses.

Fortunately for students in situations like these, Southern does everything it can to help them succeed—including potentially paying for the services or items needed to help them get back on their feet.

The idea for a Band-Aid Fund began in 2000 as the result of a class project. David Burghart, vice president for Advancement at the time, asked students to come up with a philanthropy project that would benefit their peers. After brainstorming and settling on an idea, they began soliciting financial commit-

ments. The results were so immediate and encouraging that the Band-Aid Fund was officially formed. Since that time, contributions have been used to:

- help students visit family members with life-threatening illnesses
- provide plane tickets for students to attend family funerals
- pay for the burial of a child
- provide needed medical care
- help students affected by tornados or house fires
- purchase graduation regalia or nursing uniforms for students who couldn't afford them

In order to meet student needs quickly, the committee that oversees how these funds are spent consists of only two people: Kari Shultz, director of Student Life and Activities, and Chris Carey, vice president for Advancement. Following guidelines developed by Shultz's sister, a certified public accountant, these two employees look at the need and the student's financial situation to determine if help from the Band-Aid Fund is appropriate. During the short investigative process, Shultz sometimes discovers the student has a credit on his or her school bill. When that is the case, she helps that student pull money from their university account to cover the emergency expense.

When a need has been determined, Shultz looks for creative solutions to avoid depleting the Band-Aid Fund more than necessary. For example, if a student's car requires work, she will check with Southern's Technology Department to see if workers can squeeze in a last-minute priority job. If not, Shultz makes the appointment elsewhere or acquires the item in need, rather than simply handing money over to the student. This ensures the funds are being used as intended. Another safeguard against potential abuse is the fact that assistance from the Band-Aid Fund is a one-time gift. This gives potential recipients pause to reflect and measure the true extent of the need.

"I have had students ask for funds," Shultz said, "and when I tell them it is a one-time ask, they change their minds."

You Can Help

Since its establishment, more than \$33,000 has been contributed to the Band-Aid Fund, making a real difference for students facing financial challenges. Readers wishing to support any of the assistance areas in this article may visit southern.edu/give. In the pull-down menu next to "gift," select "other" and type the fund's name in the box that appears. Donors may also call 423.236.2829 or mail a check (with fund name listed in the memo line) to:

Southern Adventist University
c/o Advancement
P.O. Box 370
Collegedale, TN 37315



Junior Pamela Fox needed to purchase a stethoscope, but being hard of hearing, she required an expensive, amplified version. Southern's Band-Aid Fund paid for the hearing test that qualified her for help from Tennessee's Vocational Rehabilitation program.

Though the individual gifts may not be grand in monetary terms, the results are priceless.

"This process is a natural outpouring of who we are as a Christian campus," Carey said.

"It is nice to have a resource that I can pull on to assist students," Shultz adds. "They usually come in rather somber, especially if it involves a death in the family. When we get it all worked out, it's nice to see the transformation and the realization on their part that the university really does care for them—not only when things are going well, but when life throws a curve ball."

"It gives you the sense of security and assurance that you are cared for," adds Band-Aid Fund recipient Janet Burke, a graduate school counseling student. "You are loved at Southern."

Listening to Hearts

When Pamela Fox, junior nursing major at Southern, received a hearing loss diagnosis in 2011, she was in a dark place spiritually.

"I did not have a relationship with Christ and felt unworthy to even step into a church," said the 47-year-old, single mother of four.

Having worked with the elderly for years, Fox decided to enroll in Southern's nursing program. But shortly after beginning her studies, she was faced with a challenge. As a nursing student, she needed to purchase a stethoscope, but being hard of hearing, she required an expensive, amplified version.

With the assistance of Southern's Disability Services, Fox applied for vocational rehab in order to get the assistance she needed. But there was a hurdle that seemed it would keep her from completing the application. She needed to have a hearing test to verify her condition, and she couldn't afford the cost of the test.

That's when Fox's disability counselor told her about the Band-Aid Fund.

"The help from this fund erased the stumbling block that could have kept me from reaching my dream of being a nurse," Fox said.



When the grandfather of freshman Bailey Park, right, passed away, it was professor Kathy Goddard, left, who noticed the impact on the student and reached out to her regarding the potential for university assistance. The Band-Aid Fund was used to purchase a plane ticket for Park to attend the funeral. Here, they stand in the Chattanooga Airport atrium holding a picture of Park's grandfather.

Today, Fox receives support from Tennessee's Vocational Rehabilitation program; but more importantly, the moment of need prepared her heart to better accept God's love.

"Southern opened their arms to this lost soul," said Fox, who was baptized in 2012. "I learned the true meaning of the love of Christ from faculty and students here. My life was changed!"

Giving Like Grandpa

Bailey Park's grandfather worked as an acupuncturist until the day he had a stroke.

"He really loved helping people," said Park, a freshman math and history major who plans to go on to medical school and become a pediatrician. "In that sense, he's my career role model."

It was during test week that Park's grandfather passed away. She wanted to attend his memorial service, but her parents didn't feel they could afford to fly her home for the funeral and then back to Southern to finish the year. Not sure what to do, Park began praying about the matter.

Later, Kathy Goddard, associate English professor, noticed that Park appeared discouraged, so Goddard reached out to her. Through tears, the frustrated student shared her situation.

"I've experienced enough death in my own family to know how important it is in the grieving process to be present for these events," Goddard said.

Southern Assists Employees, Too

The Employee Emergency Fund was established in 2012 to help Southern employees facing a disaster, emergency, or crisis. This fund provides emergency assistance to ensure that employees are covered when it comes to the basic needs, such as food, clothing, housing, and transportation. After receiving this short-term assistance, employees are then referred to community resources for continued help if needed.

Sylvia Mayer, associate professor in the School of Nursing, was instrumental in the development of this fund. Mayer noticed that whenever a Southern employee faced a tragedy, there was typically a reactionary response from fellow employees to raise money to help. Though inspired by the way employees always extended a helping hand when there was a need, Mayer saw flaws in the system. There was no assurance of how much would be raised; there was always the question of who was in charge of the money; and there wasn't the opportunity to deduct these charitable contributions from the donor's taxes.

With the help of a CPA friend, Mayer drew up a policy that has become the foundation for how the Employee Emergency Fund works. Now, in addition to more consistency and accountability, the fund provides employees the opportunity to contribute a little from each check to help ensure that money is available when a tragedy hits.

The next thing Park knew, Goddard had contacted Student Services and a plane ticket was being purchased.

"I took this as God's sign that this was something I needed to be a part of," Park said. "In the end, it helped me to have a little bit of closure, plus it gave me an appreciation for the school and how much they care about us individually."

Being far from home, Park's first year at Southern hadn't gotten off to the smoothest start. But shortly after her experience with the Band-Aid Fund, she fell in love with the campus. It wasn't just the financial help that impressed her; it was the way employees stayed in touch, even after the memorial service.

"They were so comforting," Park said. "I'm happy to be at a place where they care about all of our needs."

More than Money

The Community Tree, an assistance pantry that provides non-perishable food for Southern students who are not on one of the university's pre-paid meal plans, opened this spring in Fleming Plaza on campus.

"We provide free food and other basic essentials for students and their families who are in need," said Krystal Campbell, Master of Social Work (MSW) student and director of development for The Community Tree.

Tania Barry and Marlenny Franco-Johnson, both students in the MSW program, brought the idea to Mioara Diaconu, MSW program director, and Kristie Wilder, dean for the School of Social Work. To start the pantry, several assessments and analyses were made to gauge the extent of assistance required.

"Those processes and tools helped us identify that the need was for more than food; it included essentials such as toilet paper, toothpaste, and deodorant as well," Campbell said. "We also discovered that a handful of Southern students have either applied for food stamps in the past or are currently receiving them, due to the financial struggles experienced during this stage of their lives."

The space where the pantry is located has been remodeled to accommodate needed items, and donations have begun to come in. Southern students who do not have a meal plan and who are in need of food and other basic needs can qualify for assistance.

"As students ourselves, we know how hard it is to juggle work, school, family, and other responsibilities," Campbell said. "God has provided an opportunity for The Community Tree to be developed and has put in our path people who are willing to support this resource on campus."

*-by Debbie Hall,
junior mass communications major*

Once Park fulfills her dream of becoming a doctor, she plans to give to the Band-Aid Fund. For now, she extends her heartfelt appreciation to all those who have contributed through the years. ■



Health Message, Healthy Turnout

Thousands attend Southern's Lifestyle Medicine Conference as world-renowned experts featured in *Forks Over Knives* preach the virtues of plant-based diets and wholesome living. By Rachael Hankins, senior English major

With the undeniable rise of obesity and health-related problems in the United States, the public has begun to take a stronger interest in the long-term implications of a vegetarian lifestyle. This past semester, Southern's School of Nursing hosted the Lifestyle Medicine Conference, where guest speakers as well as students presented research on the benefits of a plant-based diet. The conference bore amazing results as presenters encouraged people to pursue a more wholesome way of life.

Renowned scholar Colin Campbell (*The China Study*) and best-selling author and health activist Rip Esselstyn (*Engine 2 Diet*) were keynote speakers for the event. Both were featured in *Forks Over Knives*, a popular documentary released in 2011 that helped bring discussions about plant-based diets further into the mainstream.

Southern is the only university in North America to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program that includes a lifestyle therapeutics emphasis. This puts the School of Nursing in a unique position to offer its students—who were the primary audience for this conference, even though the public was

invited—a world-class presentation by leading authorities on how diet directly relates to health.

“Lifestyle medicine is a remarkably effective, evidence-based approach in the diagnosis and treatment of many chronic degenerative diseases, and it addresses the underlying causes, not merely the symptoms,” said conference organizer Jeff Gates, associate professor in the School of Nursing. “It engages the patient to become an active partner in the care process, so our goal here was to share with friends and neighbors the scientific and inspirational message that a wholesome, vegetarian lifestyle is not just an Adventist thing.

It's something that benefits everyone, regardless of their religious affiliation.”

Meeting the Goal

Attendance figures indicate this goal was convincingly met. Nearly 2,000 people came to hear Campbell and Esselstyn speak during the two days they were guests of the university. And visitors did more than just listen. The Adventist Book Center (ABC) on campus saw a significant boom in sales, bringing in \$11,000 in one day alone as the presenters' health-related books and DVDs were available for purchase in building lobbies both before and after the meetings. Bruce Jacobs, store



Colin Campbell autographs one of his books while speaking with attendees before the keynote presentation at Southern's Lifestyle Medicine Conference in February.



manager for the ABC, noticed a more diverse clientele than traditionally walks through his doors at the store in nearby Fleming Plaza.

“The Lifestyle Medicine Conference brought in a lot of people from different backgrounds,” Jacobs said. “I had conversations with customers from the community, from out of state, and from various denominations—each with a key interest in health.”

Though this was not Southern’s first health conference, the presenters have never been more prestigious or well known in health circles. Campbell, a professor of nutritional biochemistry at Cornell University, was a lead scientist in the China-Oxford-Cornell study on diet and disease during the 1980s, which analyzed mortality rates from cancer and other chronic diseases in Asia. That research led to the writing of *The China Study*, one of America’s best-selling books on nutrition.

Esselstyn, an All-American swimmer in college and well-respected triathlete, worked for a time at an Austin, Texas, fire department where he introduced his passion for plant-based foods. *Engine 2 Diet* documents his success helping co-workers lose weight and lower their cholesterol. Esselstyn recently left his job as a firefighter to team up with Whole Foods Market as one of its healthy eating partners to raise awareness about the benefits of vegetarian and vegan lifestyles.

Mutual Sharing

But it wasn’t just the celebrity speakers who did the sharing. Students from both the School of Nursing and the School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness, which was a sponsor for the conference, had an opportunity to publicly showcase various ways they had been encouraging positive lifestyle changes on campus at Southern. For example, Katie Schuen, a senior community wellness management major, and Caitlin Hobbs, ’12, were invited to present research on the Daniel Fast challenge held on Southern’s campus during the Winter 2013 Semester. Their research emphasized the value of a plant-based and unprocessed diet in combination with a spiritual commitment.

“Our topic’s presentation was on three-dimensional nutrition: mind, body, and spirit,” Schuen said. “We believe sharing the holistic component was critical so that non-Christians might begin to see the importance of God in the health message. Our bodies are temples of the Lord; we must respect them and fuel them with foods that will keep us strong and full of abundant life.”

In response to their research, Campbell asked Schuen and Hobbs to write an article that will be published on his website, nutritionstudies.org. In their contribution, Schuen and Hobbs discuss the purpose of the Daniel Fast and its fo-

cus on the quality of food that enters our bodies versus a focus on a calorie-restrictive diet in the context of weight loss. They also emphasize the scriptural foundation for a wholesome diet. Campbell now uses the Daniel Fast research as a collegiate model when presenting at various institutions and organizations.

“What a privilege it was to have Campbell and Esselstyn on campus,” said Holly Gadd, graduate program coordinator for the School of Nursing. “This conference was what the lifestyle therapeutics emphasis in our DNP program is all about—integrating the research, the science, the clinical, and the practical applications of a truly healthy lifestyle to help people improve their lives. It’s about moving individuals closer to what our great Creator intended for us!”

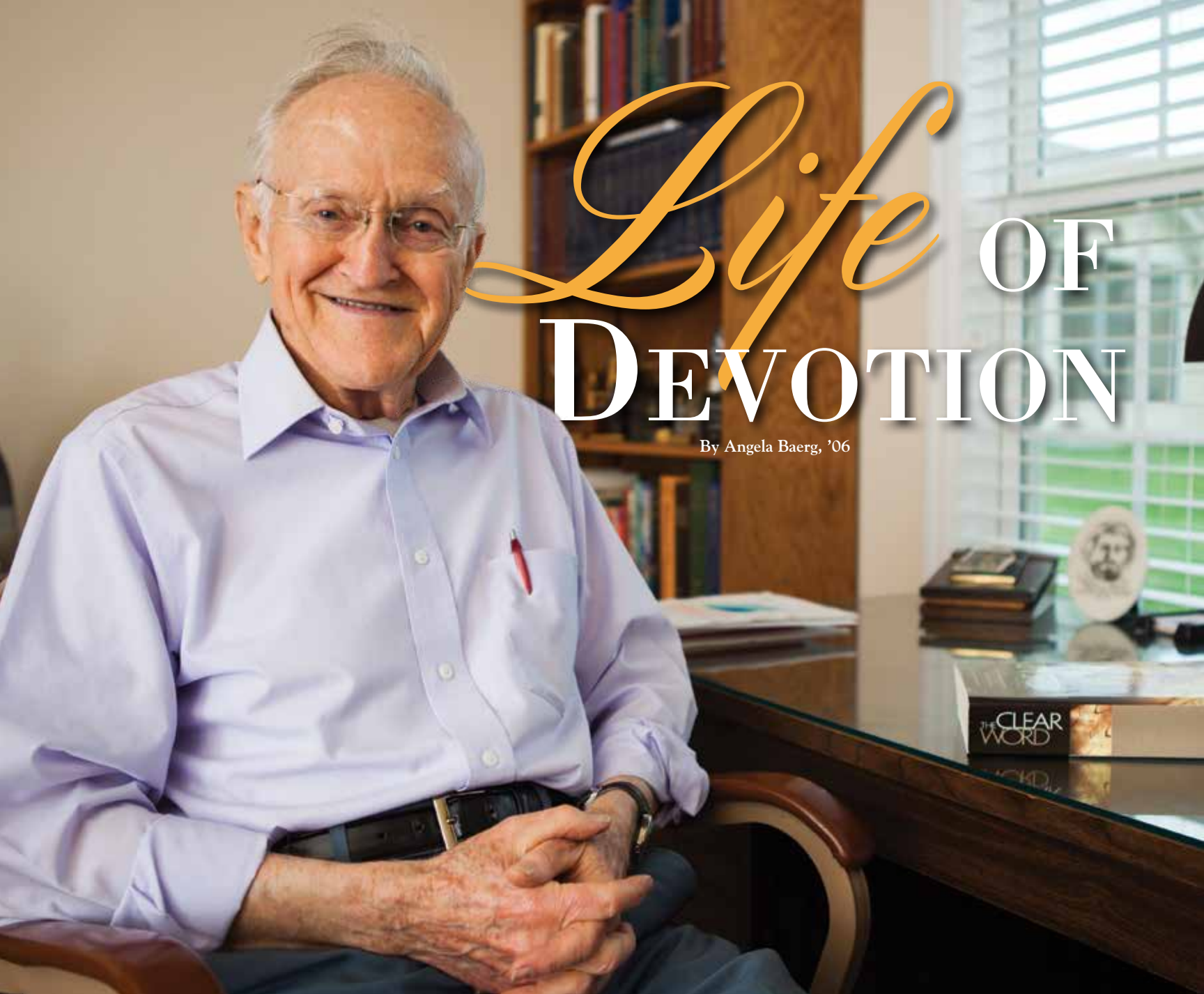
New Doctoral Scholarships

With the success of the conference and the graduation of Southern’s first doctoral students this May, academic expectations are increasing around campus. The recently established Nursing Alumni Scholarship Endowment Fund will help maintain momentum and attract a new group of students interested in exploring the value of preventative medicine.

These scholarships are available to anyone who has earned an undergraduate nursing degree from Southern and is accepted into the DNP program. They offer significant discounts towards tuition rates—for both the lifestyle therapeutics and acute care tracks of that curriculum—with total savings over the four semesters amounting to more than \$8,000.

Applications are currently being accepted for fall DNP enrollment. To learn more about the degree, visit southern.edu/graduatestudies. ■





Life OF DEVOTION

By Angela Baerg, '06

Many have read *The Clear Word*, Jack Blanco's popular Bible paraphrase, but few know of the fascinating life that led him from concentration camps to Southern's School of Religion.

Although *The Clear Word* has blessed hundreds of thousands of lives, few people know many personal details regarding the man who created it, or are familiar with the origins of this Bible paraphrase. Jack Blanco was born into a Catholic family and seemed an unlikely candidate to write

a Protestant Bible paraphrase. Even though he spent the first 20 years of his life knowing little about the Bible, he would soon find out firsthand what God's grace could do.

Chaotic Childhood

Blanco would never meet his father,

who abandoned his bride-to-be upon finding out that she was pregnant with his child. Promises of marriage evaporated as he moved away from Chicago in the middle of the night, leaving her no goodbye message and no forwarding address. Laced with prejudice and a bad economy, the 1930s were difficult

years to be a single mother.

When Blanco was age 9, his mother surprised him with tickets to go visit her parents in Germany. He reveled in his new life on the family farm there, so different from city life in Chicago. After one blissful month, his mother had to return to her job in the United States, but Blanco's grandparents offered to let him stay with them for a year. All agreed it was for the best.

Blanco's time with his grandparents flew by. Only days before he was set to sail for home, World War II broke out, and travel became difficult. Eventually Blanco enrolled in school in Germany and for a time was able to conceal his nationality from the government. After the United States joined the war in 1941, however, he had to disclose his origins and was consequently sent to a labor camp as an enemy of the Third Reich. There he was worked mercilessly, given hardly enough bread and water to survive, and physically abused by those around him.

In 1945, Blanco escaped from the labor camp during the chaos of the American invasion. When he arrived at his grandparents' house, only 80 pounds were left on his puny 16-year-old frame. Many miracles later, he was repatriated and arrived back in the United States so malnourished that he was mistaken for a 12-year-old.

His mother had raised her son to be a faithful Catholic. While living with his grandparents, he had even been the head altar boy at their church. After the atrocities of war, however, Blanco's childhood faith felt fictional and irrelevant. He decided it was time to leave it behind.

At age 20, Blanco was drafted into the Air Force as the Korean War approached. It was there his interest in knowing the Lord was reignited. As he looked at the privates and officers around him, he was disappointed by their values and habits.



"I wondered whom I would ever be able to model my life after," Blanco said. "That's when a voice spoke to me, asking, 'Have you ever thought of following Jesus? He was true, honest, kind, and compassionate—everything you want to be!'"

That question led Blanco to the base library, looking for a Bible in order to learn more about Christ. There he encountered a wonderful book in a question-and-answer format labeled "Bible." At the time, he didn't realize it was actually *Bible Readings for the Home Circle* by Review and Herald Publishing Association, simply rebound and relabeled. Starting that day, Blanco believed that the Bible came in a question-and-answer format, and he loved it!

The time he spent in that library was the beginning of a long, rich journey that would gradually transform him from a man who questioned religion to a man who could hardly wait to proclaim Jesus to everyone he knew.

New Life

Eventually Blanco discovered what a real Bible looked like and came to know it intimately. While serving with

Jack Blanco, middle, moved about freely while visiting his grandparents in Germany during World War II until the U.S. joined the war and he was sent to a labor camp.

the Air Force in Guam, he was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He spent many hours reading books by church co-founder Ellen White and later became a pastor who served in the United States, the Philippines, and multiple countries in Africa. Blanco found his way to Southern as a School of Religion professor in 1983 and he later served as dean before retiring from full-time teaching in 2000. It was during this time that *The Clear Word* was born.

Over the years, Blanco has explored many forms of devotionals. In 1984, he decided to try a different approach, paraphrasing the New Testament.

"When we have personal devotions, no matter what procedure we follow, after a while there's the chance it will become routine," Blanco said. "Every so often, some of us need to change our approach. That's what I was doing with my paraphrase. I never had any intention of publishing it; it was just an exercise to help me become closer to God."

He began by paraphrasing the Gospel of Mark in his personal devotions. He worked slowly, prayerfully writing out each word and backtracking to scratch out words that didn't feel right. He also used insight from the writings of White in elaborating on certain texts; a decision that has led to confusion for some (see "Translation Versus Paraphrase" sidebar).





Jack Blanco and his wife, Marion, who was also a longtime Southern employee, made the decision together to join Southern's Legacy Society and leave their estate to the university.

"I just kept wondering, 'If Jesus were here today, I wouldn't have to ask myself *what* He would say to me—we know that from the Bible—but *how* would He say it?'" Blanco recalled.

After three years and 27 books of the Bible, Blanco had a giant pile of scratchy

notes that paraphrased the entire New Testament. While celebrating Christmas with his family, he pulled out the stack of papers to show them what he had been up to in his devotionals. He was surprised and perplexed when his daughter-in-law asked if she could have a copy of his notes for her family.

"Oh my word," Blanco sighed inwardly. "I would have to type this myself—after all, who in the world could read my writing? And where would I find the time on top of teaching?"

But moving methodically forward, soon his paraphrase of the New Testament was finished, and he had copies printed for friends and family by the College Press. Just as Blanco was breathing a sigh of relief at the thought of a job well-done, a new challenge arose as people started asking him to do the same with the Old Testament.

Seven years later, his second task was fulfilled. *The Clear Word Bible* paraphrase was released by Review and Herald in 1994. Since then, it has sold approximately 150,000 copies and has also been translated into Spanish and Portuguese versions, which are awaiting publication.

Blanco receives no profits from *The Clear Word*. He remembers what it was like to be poor and wants to help others who are struggling. As a result, much of the royalties—\$355,659 has been received at Southern as of May 2014—are donated to scholarships for religion students. The remaining monies go to A.W. Spalding Elementary School, the Adventist K-5 institution located on Southern's campus, in case any of these religion students have children and need financial help providing Christian education for their own family.

TRANSLATION VERSUS PARAPHRASE: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

While the majority of readers have thanked Blanco for enriching their lives through *The Clear Word*, others have objected to its content and criticized it. But why?

The root of the conflict comes down to confusion about the difference between a translation and a paraphrase. While a translation adheres more tightly to the original grammar and word choices of Scripture, a paraphrase focuses more on the thoughts rather than on each word individually.

Writing a translation of the Bible is much more complicated than the average person might expect. Before translating anything, the scholar must decide which translation theory he or she is going to adopt. After all, taking an idea expressed in one language and trying to express it in another is a delicate business.

Translators must choose between copying the pattern of the way things are said, keeping the same grammar structure as the original, or allowing the word pattern to differ. They must also decide if they want to translate certain words the same way every time for continuity. In addition, translators must select an audience; after all, there will be big differences in the vocabulary used when writing for children, Bible scholars, or English-language learners.

A paraphrase, on the other hand, allows an author more freedom of expression. Paraphrases can be very uplifting because they state things differently and inspire people to think about Bible verses in new ways. However, if authors who are writing a paraphrase elaborate on the original content, they could seriously mislead the reader.

Blanco's work has been criticized by some for incorporating uniquely Adventist concepts—gleaned primarily from the teachings of Ellen White—into the text. However, readers who trust Blanco's ability to interpret Scripture and appreciate the extra material he has inserted say that their understanding of the Bible has been deepened by the many insights his extended paraphrase yields. ■



Heavenly Family

Since Blanco never knew his birth father, his adoption through baptism into a heavenly family with a perfect Father held special meaning for him. Ever since then, he has devoted his life to sharing his faith with as many people as he can through any means possible. He didn't originally plan to publish those notes he scrawled in the wee hours of the morning, but God unexpectedly opened the door for it to happen.

"When people thank me for what *The Clear Word* has done for them, I always tell them to give the glory to God," Blanco said. "That is my goal in life." ■



BLANCO DOCUMENTARY TO BE RELEASED THIS AUGUST

The idea for a documentary about the life of Jack Blanco came to Network 7 Media Center founder Christopher Beason, '98, one of Blanco's former students at Southern, when they were talking about the need to minister to young people through media. Blanco was hesitant to have himself as the subject of any kind of production, but the more they talked about the idea over the next two years, the more he became excited about its potential impact for Christ. In March 2011, Blanco signed an agreement with the company to

tell his story—with one caveat: the documentary must be all about God's hand in his life.

Beason said the biggest challenge in making the film has been condensing the Blanco journey into 100 minutes or less. There is so much to share! The goal of all involved with the production is that, by the influence of the Holy Spirit, viewers can see the amazing things God could do with their own lives. *The Jack Blanco Story* will be released in August 2014. ■

To learn more, visit n7mc.org, or facebook.com/theblancoproject.

FEED MY SHEEP. LITERALLY.

BY MYRON MADDEN, JUNIOR JOURNALISM MAJOR



PRE-VETERINARY STUDENTS SERVING AS MISSIONARIES IN PERU DEMONSTRATE A HEART FOR HEALING WHILE TAKING CARE OF, TRULY, THE LEAST OF THESE.

For Taylor Mittleider and Molly Theus, Southern's mission statement—specifically the part about “wholeness and a life of service”—raises some serious questions. Their fellow students, and Christians in general, are working diligently to help widows, orphans, and neighbors in times of need. But is this concern for others incomplete without including the rest of God's creations, specifically the animals?

While these types of thoughts make sense coming from future veterinarians, not everyone immediately sees the connection between being kind to dogs and following Christian dogma, such as the Golden Rule.

Theus is a junior biology major serving as a student missionary from Southern in Peru at AMOR Projects (Ambassadors Medical Outreach and Relief) for the year. Mittleider, a senior biology and health sciences major, spent a full year there in 2012-2013 and then returned during Spring Break 2014 on a short-term mission trip with Southern. Each of them recognizes the look of surprise on peoples' faces when first hearing about their work with animals while serving as missionaries. But as both students discovered, there doesn't need to be a choice between helping one or the other: people or pets.

“When someone's animal is ill, the owners are more open than usual to receiving help and are emotionally vulnerable,” Theus said. “They can see the care we give the pet, and we always offer to pray before finishing. The witnessing that I do while working with animals might not be overt, but I believe that by my attitude and actions I can help demonstrate the love of Christ.”

MEDICAL WORK

When their paths crossed during Spring Break in Peru, the two pre-veterinary missionaries held a veterinary care campaign and went door-to-door in search of anyone whose pet needed



“I feel that God took me to Peru to show me what He wants of my life,” said senior Taylor Mittleider.

assistance. They also set a date and time they would be at the medical clinic and created flyers to let pet owners know that they could come and get free treatment for their animals. In the end, they provided care for more than 80 cats and dogs during that week alone, putting skills learned in the classroom to real-world use.

“I enjoyed serving in this way,” Mittleider said. “Animals are definitely one of my passions, so being able to help, even in minor ways, made me feel like I was making a difference.”

One of the more acute cases the students treated was a cat suffering from a wound on its lower eyelid that was infected and infested with maggots. Mittleider and Theus spent multiple days working with the cat, doing research together online in the evenings to come up with creative ways to treat the animal. This proved to be a challenge given the limited resources available to them in this shantytown development on the outskirts of Pucallpa, a city tucked between the Andes Mountains and Amazon River Basin. They tried various creams and washes with limited success before eventually wrestling the cat down to inject it with a powerful dewormer.

“Seeing the conditions of these animals, and knowing there was only so much that could be done, was emotionally challenging,” Mittleider said.

As a full-time student missionary, Theus' work with animals often takes on a different feel. When not tending to sick pets, she is working with cows near the jungle in an AMOR Projects satellite facility located roughly 20 miles away from where the rest of the student mis-

sionaries live. Each morning she makes sure that all 70 cows are accounted for before feeding them, and every few months she injects them with deworming medication. The cows will soon be used to provide milk for children at a private school in the nearest town. Though there aren't enough cows to start selling milk just yet, Theus believes the low cost of the milk, and the much-needed nutrition it provides, will be an excellent example of Christ's love for His people. By tending to God's creatures, Theus is tending to God's children as well.

“I like knowing that the work I am doing could help kids in the future,” Theus said. “A good bit of the diet in Peru is starch, and the protein would be a big benefit.”

SPIRITUAL WORK

God specifies His design for humans' treatment of animals in Genesis 2:15. The King James Version of the Bible says God put man in Eden to “dress” and to “keep” it. According to Stephen Bauer, professor in the School of Religion, this is the language of serving and protecting. Bauer wrote his 2006 doctoral dissertation on how dominion relates to protection of the planet, and he strongly believes that man is to exercise authority over the world in the same manner as God does over the universe. That's not a responsibility to be taken lightly.

“God didn't give us an absolute dominion to do as we jolly well please—to be harsh and overbearing,” Bauer said. “We're stewards, and that brings natural limitations. We have to manage the animals toward God's design, not toward our desires.”



Junior Molly Theus observed a strong need for her skills while in Peru. “Now I can see more clearly the opportunity for service. This is the career I should be following.”

This concept of spiritual stewardship, and its parallels between treatment of humans and animals, is not new. *Amazing Grace*, the 2006 film about British abolitionist William Wilberforce, detailed the lawmaker’s spiritual awakening that led to a connection between the objectification and abuse of people—in his case, the slaves England was trading—and animals. He championed both legislation that led to the abolishment of the slavery in the British Empire and formation of the world’s first animal welfare organization, The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. For Wilberforce and others (see sidebar), humans’ neglect or active harm to animals has eternal implications.

“When we treat animals with undue violence and exploitation, it warps our character further from God’s,” Bauer said. “We become even more unlike God, and it begins to show in our treatment of humans.”

GOD’S CALLING

For Mittleider and Theus, the time spent helping animals in Peru has solidified their career ambitions. They see God’s providence in leading them to a medical clinic for people as a means to direct their education toward a focus on animals. For Mittleider, part of this new understanding came back in 2013 as a result of reflection time and journaling—a required step toward earning service-learning credit in the Christian Service Program at Southern.

“I feel that God took me to Peru to show me what He wants of my life,” Mittleider said. “Before going there, I planned on attending medical school. Being a veterinarian had always been a dream of mine, but I just assumed it was not realistic. In Peru, I felt God encouraging me to change paths and to work toward a career in animals.”

Theus echoed those sentiments.

“Before AMOR Projects, I was not 100 percent sure that being a veterinarian was God’s calling for me,” Theus said. “I knew I wanted to do this, but I wasn’t sure if I was being selfish and ignoring God’s will. Now I can see more clearly the opportunity for service, and I feel strongly that this is the career I should be following.”

INVITATION TO SERVE

Anyone interested in literally feeding sheep, as this article’s title suggests, will find that Southern can help make that happen. The university partners with Outpost Centers International (OCI) to send student missionaries to Kibidula Farms in Tanzania. Missionaries on the 5,000-acre ranch in this southeast African nation have the option of working with the Mathi tribe to shepherd and otherwise care for nearly 2,000 sheep and 50 cows.

While there is a strong need for flexibility within all student missionary job descriptions, Kibidula Farms and AMOR Projects represent the two most likely ministry opportunities to pursue for anyone interested in working through the university to assist animals while serving abroad.

Southern sends close to 80 full-time student missionaries abroad each year, and hundreds more leave on weeklong trips during breaks from classes throughout the fall and winter semesters. But these shorter trips are composed not just of students. Professional help from a variety of occupations, especially within the medical field, is often a welcome addition to the groups going out. Alumni with a desire to participate in one of these trips alongside Southern faculty, staff, and students may email karenglassford@southern.edu for more information about volunteering their time and talents. ■

Animals: Eternal Implications

Most Seventh-day Adventists are aware that Ellen White championed a vegetarian diet as ideal, both for health and ethical reasons (see *The Ministry of Healing* as a primary source). But this was not the only time she spoke of interaction with animals. Here is a sampling of other references where the faithfulness of man’s dominion over the rest of creation is called into question.

“Those who profess to love God do not always consider that abuse to animals, or suffering brought upon them by neglect, is a sin. The fruits of divine grace will be as truly revealed in men by the manner in which they treat their beasts, as by service in the house of God.”

“Many do not think that their cruelty will ever be known ... But could the eyes of these men be opened, as were the eyes of Balaam, they would see an angel of God standing as a witness to testify against them in the courts above. A day is coming when judgment will be pronounced against men who make themselves demons by their dealings with God’s creatures.”

—*Signs of the Times*, November 25, 1880



Fast Food Surprise, Long-term Witness

By Elizabeth Camps, junior mass communications major

Think of the word “missionary,” and what is the first thing that comes to mind? Packing as much as you can into a suitcase? Flying off to a different country and venturing out into the great unknown? For Hannah Zackrisson, senior clinical psychology major, the word “missionary” reminds her of birthday cake.

It all started one Sabbath afternoon while spending time with Karen Glassford, short-term missions coordinator at Southern and a close family friend. Glassford had mentioned meeting a homeless man named Alex* in downtown Chattanooga and that there was something different about him. After feeling divinely impressed, Glassford spent time talking to Alex about God, and she was surprised by how much he knew about the Bible and its teachings. (It’s not every day that a homeless person brings up Melchizedek in casual conversation.) The two exchanged mobile phone numbers and kept in touch, with Glassford initiating most of the contact.

As Glassford continued to talk with Zackrisson about Alex, she mentioned that he had been feeling particularly depressed on his birthday when they last spoke. She wanted to do something special for him, but between her job, family, and other responsibilities, there just weren’t enough hours in the day. Zackrisson jumped at the opportunity to help and set into immediate motion what had been, up to that point, an unrealized project of Glassford’s.

“I was thinking about baking Alex a cake that night but was so tired,” Glassford recalled. “But then Hannah took over. She said: ‘Nope! You let *me* take care of that.’”

Excited at the concept of doing something kind and selfless for someone she had never met, Zackrisson went home and invited her housemates to join in the endeavor. Soon, sisters Brianna and Chelsea Hartin, both junior nursing majors, embraced the plan and got to work.

Balloons and Burritos

The group hatched a plan and set a date. Glassford would meet Alex at Taco Bell, where the girls would join them and surprise him with his birthday cake. The students had balloons, plates, and napkins ready to go. When the day arrived, they invited Scott Brownlow, junior accounting major, to be part of the experience as well. Glassford was unsure about

whether or not Alex would show up. She was getting to know him, yet he was still essentially a stranger. Not for much longer. Upon arrival at the fast food restaurant, Glassford spoke with him for a bit as the students got ready while out of sight. After a “go” text from Glassford, they walked into Taco Bell carrying the cake with candles lit and balloons in tow. Glassford remembers seeing the look on his face, first wondering whom the cake was for, and then the shock when realizing it was for him! Unbeknownst to Glassford, the students had also purchased a Walmart gift card and some books to lift his spirits. Alex was blown away.

They cut the cake and began to talk. And as was often the case with Alex, the conversation quickly turned toward spiritual matters.

“He kept saying how impressed he was to see these young people of God, and that he saw Christ in us,” Zackrisson said.

After the birthday surprise, the students kept in contact with Alex, and eventually he attended vespers with them. They also brought him to church for the first time, where he attended Sabbath School and the worship service before eating lunch with them afterward. Zackrisson remembers Alex mentioning that he had attended many different churches in the past, but for all the wrong reasons. This time, because of what they did for him, he *wanted* to go to a Seventh-day Adventist church.

Local Mission Work

Students and employees at Southern have an abundance of organized activities which allow them to be deliberate in their service to others for Christ. There is no shortage of places to go and lend a helping hand. Though she is thankful for the supportive structure and staff at Southern—whether it is Campus Ministries or the Christian Service Program, among others—Zackrisson believes everyone has the ability and the obligation to seek out the widows, the orphans, the homeless, or even simply the lonely.

“You just have to take the initiative,” she said. “The needs are everywhere.” ■

**Name changed for privacy.*

Staying Ahead of Physics Curve

By Rachael Hankins, senior English major

The word “toys” is relative, conjuring up images ranging from sidewalk chalk for children to a motorcycle for the middle-age accountant working through an identity crisis. But for mechanically-minded individuals at any stage in life, items recently attained by the Physics and Engineering Department qualify as cool. These include a human arm model for the study of rotation and torque, a human eye model for understanding optics, a portable spectrometer with research-quality resolution, and equipment to assist with learning about the fundamentals of nuclear magnetic resonance—the technology behind MRIs.

Impressive as these are, students pursuing an education in the physical sciences at Southern discover an undergraduate experience beyond technology, experiencing instead a deep connection with faculty and the freedom to pursue personal research projects that create opportunities for future employment.

Research-based Learning

Professors have adopted a method of study that requires students to complete original research within the study of physical science. Individual research is specific to personal interests in the field of physics, allowing students to work one-on-one with a professor outside of a classroom setting.

Students are not only given the opportunity to explore and work independently, but also provided with a solid foundation in research that will prepare them for a successful future in their chosen field. According to Ray Hefferlin, research professor and endowed chair of the Physics and Engineering Department, original research allows students the chance to discover how much love and labor went into the information made available through handbooks and textbooks, and also facilitates the study of what interests them most.

Josh Barrow, senior mathematics and physics major, has been working closely with Hefferlin to study periodicity with molecules.



Senior Josh Barrow recently presented research done under the tutelage of Ray Hefferlin, endowed chair of the Physics and Engineering Department, at an international physics conference in Turkey.

“I am being prepared for the future through this research, not only because of the tremendous learning experience that it has given me,” Barrow said, “but also because of the incredible international exposure.”

Barrow recently presented his work with Hefferlin at the International Advances in Applied Physics and Materials Science Congress in Turkey.

“For some students, research is the holy grail that their individual make-up has been harboring unknown for years,” Hefferlin said. “For some students, it’s music or art. But for those in physics and engineering, it’s finding what God has put into nature for them to find.”

Independent student research is a method of study that the American Physics Society sees as advantageous to undergraduates; therefore, it has started to implement this requirement for departments across the nation. Southern now finds itself ahead of the curve, with a student research program already in place.

Integrated Ideas

Changes in the Physics and Engineering Department encompass more than upgraded lab equipment. The curriculum also involves a focus on computational research and understanding how to model complex processes, including financial markets, climate-change simulations, traffic flow, and airflow patterns near nuclear power facilities.

These societal issues provide an organic backdrop for the department’s long-standing tradition of offering a course that looks at physical science in the context of philosophy and religion. Professors have strengthened the interdisciplinary nature of this course by creating a team-taught class that includes faculty from the School of Religion. The course takes students away from equations and into discussions about the intersection of science, religion, and philosophy.

“Nowadays it is fashionable to consider religious individuals to be somewhat backward or uneducated,” said Ken Caviness, ’82, associate professor in the Physics and Engineering Department. “But as we consider the actual implications of science, as well as the implications of the philosophy of atheistic materialism that is so often confused with science, we see that Christianity is actually the more logical worldview.”

Students studying at Southern have an abundance of technological tools and research opportunities. Place these educational assets within a spiritual context, and there’s little surprise that Southern is graduating a new generation of passionate problem solvers. ■



Creative Strategy

The School of Visual Art and Design's 3-D Form and Function class, led by assistant professor Marc Boyson, engages in a game of chess on the grass between Hackman Hall and the student center. The larger-than-life pieces are the product of a student assignment to create an "art experience" shared by many. Students passing by on the promenade were invited to join in the match, and several of them accepted the offer. The pawn featured in the foreground is the work of Jackie Rivera, freshman graphic design major.

We'd love to hear from you (and so would your classmates). Send updates about further educational accomplishments, marriage, additions to your family, or recognitions received in your profession to:

alumni@southern.edu or Alumni Relations • P.O. Box 370 • Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

50s Robert E. Bowers, '57, M.D., has been named a Tennessee Medical Association (TMA) Quarterly Public Health Champion for 2014. The honor recognizes TMA member physicians for their outstanding public health contributions across the state of Tennessee. He was chosen for his volunteer efforts to improve public health and access to health care in his community. He is the founder and past president of the Medical Foundation of Chattanooga. Robert is a retired otolaryngologist and received his medical degree in 1961 from Loma Linda University School of Medicine in California. He lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee with his wife, **Norma (Desmond)**, attended.



60s Sara Jane (Brown) Cylke, '61, married Edward Cylke in 2010. They own 40 acres near Ellijay, Georgia, containing a wildlife sanctuary that houses more than 40 animals, including six black bears.



Barbara (Hoar) Edgar, '64, is working for IBM as an advisory application developer programmer. She married Philip Thomas Edgar in December 2012.

They live in Lansing, Michigan, and share their home with their cockatiel, Sunshine. Between them, they have five children, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.



Edwin M. Shafer, '68, was named Outstanding Fundraising Executive of 2013 by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Wichita Chapter. He is the senior vice president of development at Presbyterian Manors of Mid-America (PMMA). He joined PMMA in 2007, has more than 35 years of fundraising experience, and has directed more than 25 capital campaigns. Edwin is married to Connie Millham, and they are members of the New Haven Church in Overland Park, Kansas.

Alton Steen, '69, has joined We Care Community Services as its general manager. We Care, a nonprofit agency, provides a food pantry, mental health counseling, and housing for mentally ill adults, low-income families, homeless children, and people who have lost their homes to fire or other disasters. After graduating from Southern with a degree in theology, he taught Bible and English classes at Pewee Valley Junior Academy in Kentucky. He went into business in 1973, administering a nursing home of which he was part owner. He has also owned and operated a mobile ultrasound and nuclear medicine business. Alton has served on various school boards and has taken additional college classes in business administration, business law, and accounting. Alton lives in McDonald, Tennessee, with his wife, **Faye (Melendy)**, attended, a cashier at the Village Market.

80s Roberto "Bob" Jimenez, '87, has been promoted to senior vice president of corporate communications and public affairs at Cox Enterprises. Prior to joining Cox in 2003 as director of corporate communications, he was a director of global communications and international marketing at AFC Enterprises. Throughout his career, he has held a variety of communications and public affairs roles with the Walt Disney World Company, Florida Hospital, and the Orlando Opera Company. Previously, he served on the boards of The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta, National Hispanic Corporate Council, Elon University School of Communications, and the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. In 2007, *Hispanic Business* magazine named him one of the 100 Most Influential Hispanics in America. He and his wife live in Atlanta, Georgia.



90s Joel Henderson, '94, was recently appointed by the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) as the 2014 president for the Lookout Chapter, serving Southeast Tennessee and North Georgia. He has served on the PRSA Executive and Advisory Board in various leadership capacities since 2010. Professionally, Joel is vice president of corporate communications and government affairs for NACS, Inc. and Medical Services of Chattanooga. He achieved a nonprofit management certification from Rollins College Leadership and Philanthropy Center in 2004, and is an alumnus of Disney's Leadership Institute, Leadership Orlando, and Leadership Chattanooga. He and his wife, **Teri (Mote)**, '08, will be celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary this year and have a 10-year-old daughter, Emma Grace. They live near Collegedale, Tennessee.

Joseph Choi, '95, has been invited to serve as the 2014 International Pathfinder Oshkosh Camporee choir conductor. He is currently serving as music director of Highland View Academy, and his wife, Angela, is music director of Mt. Aetna Adventist School in Hagerstown, Maryland. They have two sons, Nathaniel (7) and Samuel (1).



Kelli (Chalker) Johnson, '97, and husband, Kent, welcomed their second child, Elin Kate, on June 30, 2013. Elin joined big brother Erik, who is almost 3 years old. Kelli has worked for the Adventist Health System in various roles since 1997, but she decided to stay home with her children after Elin's birth. They live in Altamonte Springs, Florida.



John Sterner, '01, a Chattanooga-based financial representative, was honored by Northwestern Mutual with membership into its 2013 Forum group, which recognizes individuals for an outstanding year of helping clients achieve financial security. This is the fourth time he has received the Forum honor. John is married to **Elizabeth (Reeder)**, attended.



David Butler, '84, '86, and '02, has been named president and CEO of Tillamook Regional Medical Center. He assumed responsibility for their multiple physician clinics and Urgent Care Centers along the Oregon coast in February 2014. He has more than 25 years of experience leading large and

rural-sized health care facilities. Prior to his current position, he was the president and CEO of Jellico Community Hospital in Tennessee. David lives in Tillamook, Oregon, with his wife, **Luminita (Iorga)**, attended, and their two children, Nathan (10) and Nicole (8).



Boaz Papendick, '04, and **LaRae (Coleman)**, '04, are serving as missionaries in Beirut, Lebanon. Boaz works for the Middle East North Africa Union (MENA) as their health coordinator, and LaRae is homeschooling their 6-year-old son and looking to work for MENA as well.



Amy (Taveras) Sorensen, '05, and husband, **Kevin**, (attended) welcomed twins, Liam Michael and Olivia Rose, into their family on March 13, 2013. They live in Apopka, Florida.



00s **Matthew and Mariesa (Swisher) Tinkham**, '10, live in Berrien Springs, Michigan, where Matt is attending seminary at Andrews University. After graduation, he served

for several months as a Bible worker in the church where he completed his ministerial externship. The couple married in May 2011 and pastored in Atlanta, Georgia, before transitioning to Michigan.



Jonathan Cross, '11, lives in Maine with his wife, Kelly, and their three children. They are pastoring a district in the Northern New England Conference and say that they keep busy with cooking schools, church renovations, camp meetings, Bible studies, and digging themselves out of the snow.

Remembrance

Irma (Sterling) Hyde, '66, born July 1, 1918, in Argentina, died October 10, 2013, in Collegedale, Tennessee. She married Gordon Hyde in 1943, and they celebrated 70 years together in 2013. She taught grade school for many years in Wisconsin and Georgia, as well as at the Home Study Institute (now Griggs University) and Sligo Elementary School in Maryland. More recently she was the secretary for Health Services at Southern Adventist University. She is survived by her husband, **Gordon**; brother, Stanley Sterling; children, **Rodney**, '67, **Bradley**, '71 and '04, and Vickie Baily; grandchildren, **Geoffery**, '04, **Conrad** (attended), **Kimberly Roth**, '01, and Elizabeth Wolf; and great-grandchildren, Zachary, Cheyenne, Ethan and Julianna Roth.

Ken Burnham (attended), a longtime worker in the Collegedale post office and a Vietnam veteran who received the Silver Star Medal, passed away in November 2013. He served as an unofficial volunteer scorekeeper for Southern's basketball intramurals for several decades, assisting faculty and staff in the School of P.E., Health and Wellness. He kept meticulous records of all the winning teams and connected with hundreds of students in his role as scorekeeper. Ken continued these relationships well beyond the basketball court by taking time to mail handwritten Christmas cards to many with whom he kept in contact after they graduated.

Gary Sartin (attended) lost his battle with cancer on November 4, 2013, at his home in Ringgold, Georgia.

He was a physical therapist. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, **Karolyn "Kay" (Hartwig), '75**; sons, Eric and Aaron; daughter, Sonja; and four grandchildren, Kaylee, Noah, Caleb and Hannah.

Ross E. Hughes, '42, D.D.S., died on February 13, 2014. Born in Oklahoma, he spent the first 15 years of his life in China with his missionary parents. He graduated from Emory Dental School in 1948, worked at the Charles George VA Medical Center, and retired from the James H. Quillan VA Medical Center in Mountain Home, Tennessee. He was an active member of the Mills River Seventh-day Adventist Church. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, **Betty (Howard), '43**.



Eileen "Jessie" (Conger) Seeley, '43, died on January 26, 2014, at age 91. She was a fourth-generation Adventist and co-founder of the Rocky Mount Seventh-day Adventist Church in Virginia. Eileen loved children and enjoyed using her 'SoJuConian' education in teaching elementary, kindergarten, and

Sabbath school classes. She was famous for her delicious vegetarian cooking, and her dishes were a favorite at fellowship dinners. Eileen is survived by her loving husband of 68 years, **James Seeley, '41**.

Fred Acuff, '53, of Morganton, North Carolina, died on February 10, 2014. He was an active member of the Table Rock Seventh-day Adventist Church, where he served in many church offices. He taught for many years at Western Piedmont Community College. Fred is survived by his wife, Peggy.



Martha (Schmidt) Kinsey, '53, former employee at the Village Market, passed away on February 25, 2014. A memorial service was held March 8 in Sanford, Florida, and she was buried next to her parents in Adelphi, Maryland, on April 4. She is survived by her sons, **Scott, '88**, and **Rick, '88**; sisters, Ruth Boothby, Margaret Zimmerman, Mildred Martin, and Barbara Sweatman; brother Louis Schmidt; and two grandchildren.

Frank Jobe (attended), M.D., passed away on March 6, 2014. He served as doctor for the Los Angeles Dodgers major league baseball team for more than 40 years as well as a special adviser to the team's chairman. On September 25, 1974, Frank made medical history when he performed the first-ever ulnar collateral ligament (UCL) reconstruction surgery on pitcher Tommy John, which later became known as the "Tommy John Surgery." He has been honored by the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, and he was named Loma Linda School of Medicine's Alumnus of the Year in 1993.



Jobe is shown here with Tommy John, the namesake recipient of the first-ever UCL surgery.

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Professor Robert Montague spends time with students and staff at Pattern Life, a school in India.

The Business of Seeking God's Blessing

By Lucas Patterson, School of Business and Management graduate student

After spending time praying in the Walmart shoe department with my former professor at 10:30 on a Tuesday night, the immense feeling of peace as I headed home was interrupted by two persistent questions. Is what just happened normal for students here? Is this the life-changing Southern Experience I have heard so much about?

The Class

Professor Robert Montague's Christian Missionary Entrepreneurship class is designed to help participants take their amazing ideas for changing the world and put them into motion. But the course is much more than a pep rally for enthusiastic, well-intentioned students. It is, after all, a business class. Montague led us through the nuts and bolts of incorporation options, nonprofit legal issues, and countless other essentials for grounding our concepts in reality.

Though well done, these were topics a professor would teach at a secular school. But a hint of what would make this class special came next. We were asked to support our hypothetical nonprofit startup with 30 references, either from the Bible or the writings of Ellen White, that proved our mission statement and ambitions were not ours alone. Could we say, with authority, that God cared about what we cared about?

As exhaustive as that exercise was (in a good way), it was Montague's case study of mission statement neglect that gave me the most reason to pause. We read the history of a prominent private school whose faculty and staff had made, over the course of half a century, a series of seemingly small decisions every five to 10 years that moved the institution almost entirely away from its Christian roots. The lesson was clear: lean not on our own understanding. That's when mistakes happen.

The Professor

It's easier to listen to a professor when you know he practices what he preaches, and Montague always had a real-world example from his past to go along with what we were studying. Whether it was from his time as president of Weimar College or his experience in health care management settings, this information was extremely helpful. But beyond a shadow of a doubt, we were most attentive whenever he talked about Pattern Life, the

nonprofit he and his family started that cares for and educates students in Pune, India.

Pattern Life (patternlife.org) serves approximately 25 students at any given time, with about half of those being orphans who live on its campus. The school staff consists primarily of a husband-and-wife team led by Adai Gonmei, an evangelist, pastor, and field worker who has served in India for nearly 30 years. The total expense for supporting this endeavor, including salaries, rent, and utilities, is less than \$500 per month. Montague spoke with fervor about the need to keep overhead low at nonprofits so that charitable gifts could be used as they were intended—to help the needy and not to provide comfortable administrative salaries or for lavish fundraiser dinner parties. It came as little surprise when he told us that 99 percent of the money collected for Pattern Life goes directly to India to help the children.

We expected no less from the man whom we had heard talk so passionately about the students, especially the orphans. At one point, it became a running joke that if we couldn't find Montague in his office or if he was even a second late for class, then we all just assumed he had moved to Pune to be with those he loved. We were kidding, but we weren't. The only thing more evident than his business acumen was his desire to honor God by serving others.

The Prayer

Three months after the semester had ended, I bumped into Montague at Walmart. We exchanged personal updates and, in the process, I shared a particularly strong burden of mine.

"Can we pray about this right now?" he said.

His response was so quick and genuine that it caught me by surprise, even from a man I admired. And as he laid his hands on me to pray, I felt like I was receiving not only God's blessing, but also that of a friend and father figure. In that moment, even under the droning fluorescent lights of a megastore, I felt a divinely personal purpose for my life. Not just in my plans or actions, but in the people God has put in my path. People like Robert Montague. ■



Winding Road

More than 300 students received their diplomas on December 18 during winter commencement in Iles P.E. Center. This was the fourth consecutive year Southern has seen a record number of graduates at the mid-year ceremony. Michael Gee smiles while thinking about the path that brought him here—including the year spent in Nicaragua as a student missionary. That time abroad impacted him greatly, and upon returning home he changed his major to religious studies. Gee is currently Bible work coordinator for the Dalton Seventh-day Adventist Church in Georgia. Spring commencement was held May 3 in the Chattanooga Convention Center as 440 additional students, including the university's first doctoral graduates, received their degrees from Southern. To view the ceremony, visit southern.edu/columns.



stand

By Gordon Bietz, president

Most people raised in a Christian home learned early on about Daniel and his three friends: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. While there are many stories worthy of studying that involve these young men, the particular one I would like to focus on involves the plain of Dura and how important it is to stand up when the world tells you to bow down.

King Nebuchadnezzar made a tall image and placed it on the plain to build unity in his kingdom; he thought if everyone worshipped the same god, then life would go more smoothly (especially for him). The day of the dedication ceremony arrived, and word went out from the king: “Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace” (Daniel 3:6).

Second Chances

That is pretty powerful encouragement toward unity of worship. The orchestra played as the signal for dedication, and our three friends ignored the king’s instructions, choosing instead to stand straight and tall. This was reported to the Babylonian king who, with kindness in his heart, figured these Hebrew boys might be a bit slow or hard of hearing. So he generously decided to give them a second chance, with the warning that another act of disobedience would award them a hot time. But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn’t need a do-over.

“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and He will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand. But even if He does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up” (Daniel 3:17-18).

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were denying the religions of the ancient world and the authority of the king. In the process, they presented Nebuchadnezzar with a startling new concept of God. Essentially, this is what they said: Our God is better than your god, but He doesn’t have to prove Himself like a bully on the playground of the universe. Our God is able to rescue us, but He may choose not to do so.

Our God isn’t a rabbit’s foot for us to rub when we are in trouble. Circumstances don’t change our commitment to Him.

This was a shock to King Nebuchadnezzar. He had a designer god that was good for church and nice for an occasional prayer, but not so great in the heat of battle. His god did not inspire anyone to stand up on the plain of Dura.

What about us? What is our God like? Is He made in our image? Is He designed by us and fabricated with the clay of feelings, baked in the oven of our desires, and fired in the kiln of our imagination? Do we worship Him because of what He *can do* for us or what He has *already done* for us?

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn’t leave their faith in Jerusalem when they went to Babylon. They didn’t leave their convictions in church when they were confronted with Babylon’s designer gods. They didn’t leave their integrity when they left a Christian school. They were extraordinary men in a heathen world who knew where they stood on issues of faith.

Anything But Ordinary

Babylon today doesn’t need a god of theological rhetoric. Babylon needs more than theoretical goodness; indeed, it yearns for Shadrachs, Meshachs, and Abednegos, not ordinary men who do what comes naturally in an evil world.

Look around you. Our world is awash in a complete moral meltdown. We are on the plain of Dura, and I challenge you to stand.

Others may serve a designer God, but not you. Remember the words of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: “My God will save me. But if not...” ■

Thank You!

I deeply appreciate all the alumni and friends of Southern who made a gift to the university in honor of my 70th birthday. It's truly been a special day and a blessing to hear from so many of you!

~ Gordon Bietz, president

More than 400 donors gave to the Southern Fund specifically in honor of Gordon's birthday.

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