

September 2006

# T SOUTHERN TIDINGS

*Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family*



CELEBRATING GROWTH 2001—2005

# Contents

## 2006 QUINQUENNIAL REPORT

3	Office of the President
7	Secretariat
8	Treasury
15	Association/Southern Union Revolving Fund (SURF)
17	ASI – Adventist Laymen’s Services and Industries
18	Evangelism Church Growth Institute
19	Church Ministries
23	Communication
26	Information Technology
27	Office of Education
31	Evangelism
32	Health/Medical Ministries
33	Ministerial Association
34	Native American Ministries
35	Planned Giving and Trust Services
36	Publishing Department
39	Public Affairs and Religious Liberty
42	Hispanic Ministries
44	Special Ministries
46	Women’s Ministries
48	Advertisements
51	Calendar
52	Adventist Health System
56	Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences
60	Oakwood College
64	Southern Adventist University
66	Delegates



# SOUTHERN TIDINGS

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SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE  
3978 Memorial Drive • Mail Address  
P.O. Box 849, Decatur, Georgia 30031  
Telephone (404) 299-1832  
www.southernunion.com

### Staff

**Editor** OLSON PERRY  
**Editorial Assistant** IRISENE DOUCE  
**Circulation** ARDITH BEERS  
**Production** COLLEGE PRESS  
**Layout** BRIAN WIEHN

### Contributing Editors

**Adventist Health System** ANTHONY VERA CRUZ  
**Carolina** RON QUICK  
**Florida** MARTIN BUTLER  
**Florida Hospital College** DAWN McLENDON  
**Georgia-Cumberland** KEN WETMORE  
**Gulf States** BECKY GRICE  
**Kentucky-Tennessee** MARVIN LOWMAN  
**Oakwood College** MICHELE SOLOMON  
**South Atlantic** JAMES LAMB  
**South Central** MICHAEL HARPE  
**Southeastern** ROBERT HENLEY  
**Southern Adventist University** LORI FUTCHER

### Conference/Institution Directory

CAROLINA (704) 596-3200  
P.O. Box 560339, Charlotte, NC 28256-0339  
FLORIDA (407) 644-5000  
P.O. Box 2626, Winter Park, FL 32790-2626  
GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND (706) 629-7951  
P.O. Box 12000, Calhoun, GA 30703-7001  
GULF STATES (334) 272-7493  
P.O. Box 240249, Mon tgomery, AL 36117.  
KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE (615) 859-1391  
P.O. Box 1088, Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1088  
SOUTH ATLANTIC (404) 792-0535  
P.O. Box 92447, M.B., Sta., Atlanta, GA 30314  
SOUTH CENTRAL (615) 226-6500  
P.O. Box 24936, Nashville, TN 37202  
SOUTHEASTERN (352) 735-3142  
P.O. Box 1016, Mt. Dora, FL 32756-0056  
ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM (407) 975-1400  
111 North Orlando Ave., Winter Park,  
FL 32789-3675  
FLORIDA HOSPITAL (407) 303-6611  
601 East Rollins St., Orlando, FL 32803  
FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF  
HEALTH SCIENCES (800) 500-7747  
800 Lake Estelle Dr., Orlando, FL 32803  
OAKWOOD COLLEGE (256) 726-7000  
7000 Adventist Blvd., Huntsville, AL 35896  
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY  
(800) SOUTHERN  
P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

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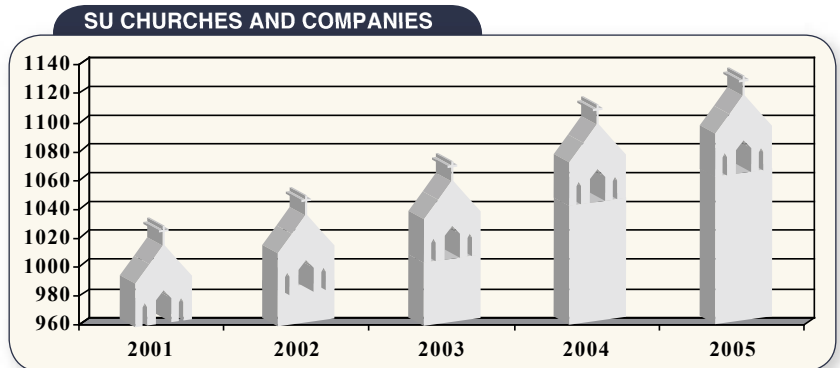
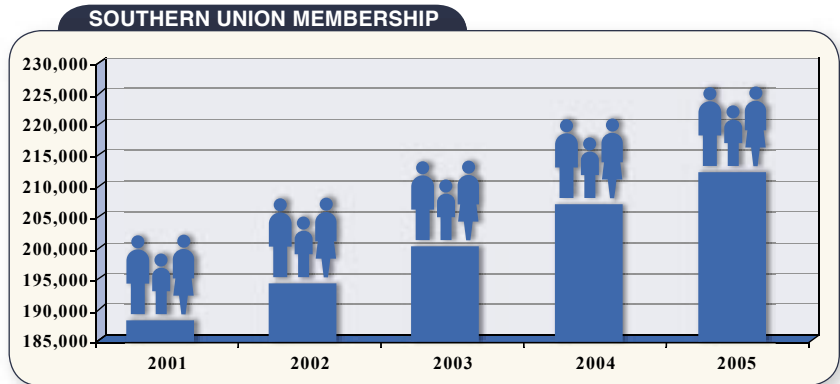
# Celebrating Growth as We Keep Our Eyes on the Eastern Sky

To be honest, I wish we had a better report this time. What we share is indeed impressive, for there has been great progress. It is a report of God's remnant church in action, on the move, expanding and growing. Wouldn't it be better if we could report that the trumpet had sounded, the dead in Christ had been resurrected, the saints were eating mangoes from the tree of life, and we were home at last? Oh, that will be glory for you and me!

In the meantime, we celebrate growth and keep our eyes on the eastern sky.

This report is the result of the collective ministry of God's people in the Southern Union. This is your report. . . . And, I recognize the leadership of my good friends, Malcolm and Hazel Gordon, during the first part of this quinquennium.

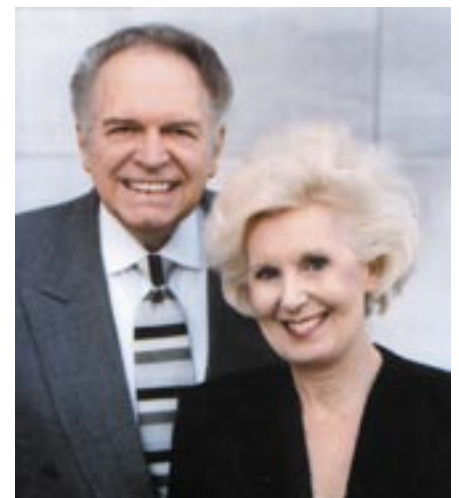
With total baptisms and profession of faith of **41,334**, our mem-



*Gordon Retzer, president; and his wife, Cheryl, women's ministries advisor and shepherdess director*

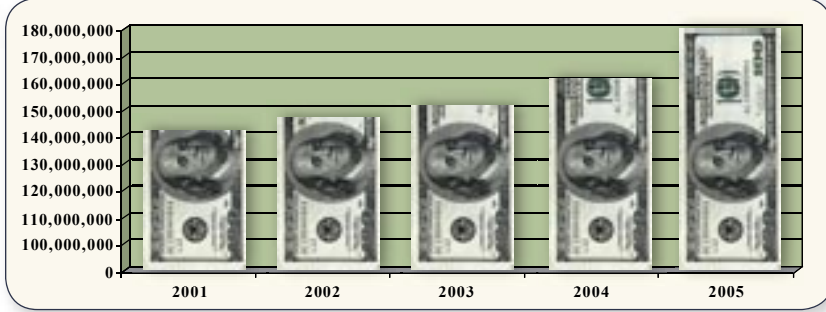


*Barbara Pierce, administrative assistant*

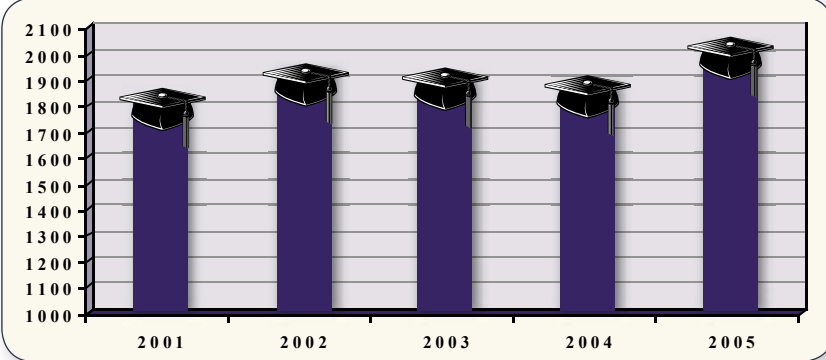


*Malcolm Gordon, former president; and his wife, Hazel*

### SOUTHERN UNION TITHE



### SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE FTE



bership has grown to **225,987**, and **1,134** churches and companies.

And, we praise the Lord for the faithfulness of God's people in tithes and offerings. In 2005 total tithe was **\$177,203,798**.

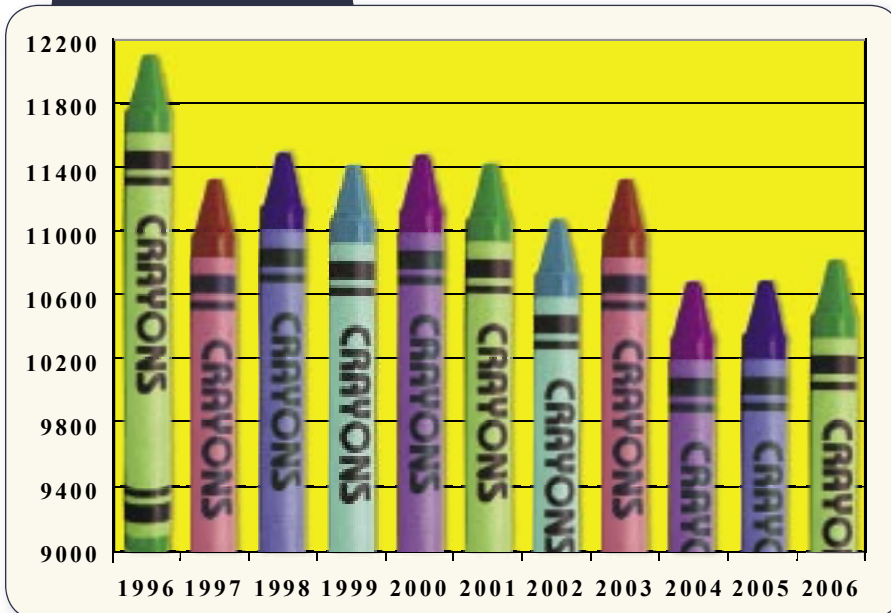
We praise the Lord for Southern Adventist University and the students who have graduated and are now involved in the mission of the Seventh-

day Adventist Church. Together we operated a major university and can see the success that Southern has enjoyed these past five years.

We are also blessed to have Oakwood College and Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences in our territory.

Through thousands of committed and caring health care profes-

### SU K-12 ENROLLMENT



sionals, Adventist Health System, with headquarters in Orlando, Florida, touches thousands of hurting individuals as it continues the ministry of Jesus.

### Looking to the Future

For the next five years, as we look forward to the second coming of Jesus, we see three areas of focus that compel us to action.

### Adventist EDGE—A New Day for Adventist Education

The graph gives the picture. We are concerned that while our membership has grown, our K-12 enrollment has declined. I am proud of our educators, for they are taking this challenge seriously and are redesigning education in the Southern Union. Adventist EDGE seeks to change the focus of classroom teaching from teacher/textbook centered to student centered, taking into account the various learning styles of every student. This is a major initiative, and we see the trends changing and are committed to a uniquely Seventh-day Adventist education.

The goal of Adventist EDGE is to increase K-12 enrollment by 30 percent during the next five years.



*Adventist EDGE (Educators Delivering GREAT Education) is a Southern Union comprehensive school improvement initiative that sets the course for excellence in all areas.*





*A Union-wide prayer conference coordinated across conference and regional territories launched the initiative Good News Atlanta, to touch every person in Atlanta with the good news of Jesus and His second coming. Ed Wright (left), Georgia-Cumberland Conference president; and Vanard Mendinghall, South Atlantic Conference president.*

**Good News Atlanta**

The big cities of our Union pose an extraordinary challenge to try to reach each person with the Gospel and the Three Angels Messages. Greater Atlanta, with more than four million population, is the largest metropolitan area in the Southern Union. During the next five years, conference leaders, members, and pastors of the South Atlantic and Georgia-Cumberland Conferences are attempting to touch every person in this big city with the good news of

the saving power of Jesus and of His second coming. Our entire Union membership is assisting with this initiative.

**Tell the World—Lay Evangelism**

A major component of the world church vision is lay evangelism. Praise God that there are now hundreds (probably thousands) of lay members from the Southern Union who have preached evangelistic meetings in the world field. This will con-

tinue, and in the next five years, we see more emphasis on lay evangelists preaching evangelistic meetings in the cities, towns, and communities within the Southern Union.

God's church in the Southern Union, the remnant Church, will continue to touch hearts and tell our world about Jesus. I invite you to surrender your life to Jesus again right now, and ask Him to lead you to someone who needs hope and needs to know that Jesus is coming again.



*Southern Adventist University theology students and area pastors baptized 31 candidates at the Port St. Lucie RV Resort.*



*There are masses of people eager to hear about Jesus and His second coming.*

# Tell the World

## Vision

The Southern Union enthusiastically supports the World Church vision—Tell the World, for how the gospel of Jesus will be shared by the Seventh-day Adventist Church from 2005-2010. It focuses the Church on its identity as a called out community and its end time mission of proclaiming the gospel to “every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people” (Revelation 14:6 KJV). The vision is clear: to invite every person in the world to respond to the good news about Jesus and His soon coming.

## Values

Tell the World is more than a program. It is more than a slogan. It is a vision of what the Church, by God’s grace, will be and do in fulfilling the command of Jesus to preach



*Sharon Rho, a former student at Georgia-Cumberland Academy, pauses for a moment of prayer.*

the Gospel to every creature. Tell the World is an individual and corporate commitment to live out the key values of quality of life, unity, and growth in God’s family.

Tell the World inspires the Church to know Jesus personally, to share Him enthusiastically, and to proclaim His name with one voice. Can we even begin to comprehend what God might do through His people in reaping earth’s harvest? Imagine a global community living out the life of Christ in selfless service; a praying people empowered by His Spirit, nurtured on God’s Word, and united in mission will fulfill their destiny as God’s ambassadors to a waiting world.

The Church has identified seven key areas on which to focus its resources, energies, and prayers. These seven areas will unite the entire Church in a vision of sharing the good news. They will involve every level of Church leadership, every institution, every service, every initiative, and every church member.

## Goals for 2005-2010

1. **Spiritual Growth:** Increase the percentage of church members spending time in daily Bible study and prayer from 50 percent to at least 65 percent.

2. **Community Involvement:** Increase the percentage of church members involved in community

service from 29 percent to at least 40 percent.

3. **Personal Witness:** Challenge five million Seventh-day Adventists to reach at least one person for Jesus and bring them into fellowship with God’s family by 2010.

4. **City Outreach:** Build on Hope for the Big Cities to plant and establish new congregations in more than 27 large cities around the world.

5. **Church Planting:** Plant and nurture 20,000 new congregations in unentered areas while also providing proper nurture for the 17,000 congregations planted between 2000 and 2005.

6. **Evangelistic Programming:** Involve every church in an annual evangelistic event, resulting in 400,000 evangelistic outreach and discipleship programs, including 100,000 youth evangelistic series.

7. **Media Ministry:** Creatively use technology and communication channels—radio, television, the Internet, publications—to reach every person in the world with the gospel message.



*A new church stands where there was none before, built by Southern Union members, in Kompong Cham, Cambodia.*



SECRETARIAT

# The Privilege of Sharing

It is a blessing to have had the privilege of sharing the gospel of Christ in the Southern Union Conference territory for 45 years, 27 of which have been in the Southern Union office. It was my pleasure to serve with four presidents. They were Harold H. Schmidt, Alfred C. McClure, Malcolm D. Gordon, and presently Gordon L. Retzer. I appreciate each of these leaders for what



*Ward and Mary Sumpter have been a ministerial team for more than 45 years.*



*Barbara Pierce, administrative assistant*

they brought to the Southern Union in leadership. They were all quickened by the Holy Spirit and remained focused on the mission of the Church.

We live in a society today that is a complex, multi-cultural environment which can become quite challenging at times. In our formative years, we all learned a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors; but, they all have to learn to live in the same box. We must remember that all of us are God's children with only one Father.

At this time our thoughts turn gratefully to those who assisted in making our progress in the Union possible. It is in this spirit that we express appreciation for the labors of our executive secretaries who have fallen asleep during this quinquennium. They were Ronald Schmidt, Jim Frost, and David Cress.

We express appreciation to all of our other present and past executive secretaries: Dana Edmond, Ronald Wright, Fred Rimer, Jim Sawtell, Evan Valencia, Hubert Morrell, Marvin Lowman, Steve Haley, Kathleen Smith, and Carolyn Forrest.

I also would like to express appreciation to my proficient and kind personal administrative assistant,

Barbara Pierce.

Our focus was and is EVANGELISM—taking the gospel to everyone's door. When was the last time you were truly awed by anything? During this quinquennium, I encouraged my hometown church to do greater exploits for God. The pastor and lay leaders galvanized the church. Bible studies were coordinated and consistently given. It was requested for me to come and conduct an evangelistic series. I took off my administrative hat, donned the helmet, dusted off and girded my evangelistic armor. At the conclusion, many souls were baptized. The spirit of evangelism is awe-inspiring. My prayer is that the fire of evangelism will never be extinguished.

At the end of 2001, the membership of the Southern Union was 201,847; at the end of 2005 the membership stood at 225,987. This was a growth of 24,140 precious souls.

It was in the year 2003 when the Southern Union catapulted into first place in the North American Division in membership and tithe. We give praise to our Lord for what He has done for and through us.

Through the years, my department has been able to grant scholarships to numerous students attending

Oakwood College. This has proven to be a motivating and effective project for our worthy students. Many are contributing to society through various professions.

Internationally, we have assisted directly and indirectly. We were challenged to assist in the education of workers in Ethiopia. We were able to procure assistance for 25 persons for two years in the completion of their baccalaureate degrees.

Recently, I received a report from Ethiopia that many of those in this group of recent graduates are now church and school administrators.

At the 2006 commencement at Oakwood College, Delbert Baker, president, awarded me the Philanthropic Award. This presentation was in recognition of the hundreds of students who have been recipients of scholarships through the Southern Union.

As of this session, I am retiring. This is my final report. It has been a grand privilege and opportunity for this son of a sharecropper from South Carolina to have served in the service of the Church for a total of 45 eventful, exciting, and productive years. Twenty-five years were as Union secretary and two years in the ministerial department.

Additionally, I have served on the following boards: Southern Adventist University as vice-chairman; Oakwood College, Florida Hospital, and Adventist Health System.

In conclusion, I wish to share with you these words: "The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most credentials, the most money, or the most awards. They are the ones that care."

*Anonymous*

TREASURY

# The Southern Union Treasury in Partnership with the Lord

Jesus, in one of His parables, told about a financier who demanded of his managers, "Give an account of your stewardship." We who serve in the Southern Union Treasury Department are happy to do just that in this financial report of the past quinquennium.

With the Lord's blessing, along with the faithfulness of the members of our church family in the Southern Union, we are able to report tremendous increases in tithe and a break-even in mission offerings over the last five years. The tithe for the year 2005, for the eight local conferences that make up the Southern Union, was \$177,203,798. In 2005,

we were blessed with an additional Sabbath (53), which happens every four to five years. The tithe for 2005 represented an increase of 30.6 percent over the year 2000, which was the last year of the prior quinquennium. The total tithe for the five years (2001-2005) was \$773,724,643, or a 33 percent increase over the previous five years (1996-2000).

The Southern Union has seen tremendous growth in the North American Division and the total world field. At the end of 2005, the Southern Union conferences lead our Division in membership and tithe giving.

World mission offering for the

quinquennium (2001-2005) was \$19,959,990 as compared to the last five years (1996-2000), which totaled \$19,960,419. We did not have a gain but a break-even in mission giving, while there was a nine percent gain the last time you saw the five-year report. In addition to mission giving, we know that a substantial amount of funds from the Southern Union territory go directly to the General Conference for Global Mission and Adventist Development and Relief Agency projects. This has represented a shift in the funds that are given to the world mission program. Also, more than ever, our members are going to other parts of



*Former Treasury Staff*

*Cindy Bray (left), accountant; Sue Begley, assistant treasurer; Richard Center, treasurer; Jim Caskey, undertreasurer; Diana Gunter, administrative assistant and HR*



*Current Treasury Staff*

*Cindy Bray (left), accountant; Sue Begley, assistant treasurer; Tom Evans, treasurer; Dennis Millburn, undertreasurer; Diana Gunter, administrative assistant and HR;*





*Jerry Brooks, maintenance supervisor, has been responsible for maintaining the physical structure for the past 27 years.*



*Sarah Sheffield, housekeeper, has been on the staff for 39 years.*



*Darleen Herbert, receptionist*

the world Church to conduct meetings and build churches. The trend of a lesser world mission offering can be disturbing, as these funds are a very important part of the world Church in maintaining ongoing mission activity.

The primary source of funds for the Southern Union office is tithe. Nine percent of the total Southern Union tithe is shared with the Union. Approximately eight percent goes to the General Conference, which funds the world Church headquarters, missionaries to overseas divisions, and General Conference institutions. Also, eight percent is shared with the North American Division, of which a substantial portion is returned to the local conferences for evangelism and Christian education. As was reported at the last session, a reduction of funds going to higher organizations took place in the last five years. Funds going to the Union were reduced from 10 percent to nine percent. Funds going to the General Conference and North American Division were reduced from 20 percent to 16 percent.

It is an ongoing objective of the Union administration to return more funds for use at the local conference level. More than 50 percent of

the tithe that comes to the Union is returned in direct or indirect appropriations. Indirect appropriations would be items such as operating appropriations for Southern Adventist University, meeting auditing costs for the local conferences, computer development costs, and others. The Union office operates, including staffing, on approximately 2.5 percent of the tithe dollar for the Southern Union.

We are fortunate to have had a very competent and professional staff in the treasury during the past quinquennium. Jim Caskey, CPA, undertreasurer and association treasurer, has been an important part of the treasury function. Also serving on the treasury staff are Sue Begley, assistant treasurer, and Cindy Bray, accountant. Diana Gunter is administrative assistant to the treasurer and undertreasurer, as well as human resources director. Lee Beers and Larry Davis, who retired some years ago, still do some part time work as needed in the Union and Association, as well as the Southern Union Revolving Fund (SURF). In the Association and SURF, we have had three well-qualified individuals: Mary Kay Artress, CPA, and Bernie Orquia, CPA, who are assistant treasurers; and June Cranshaw who is the accountant.

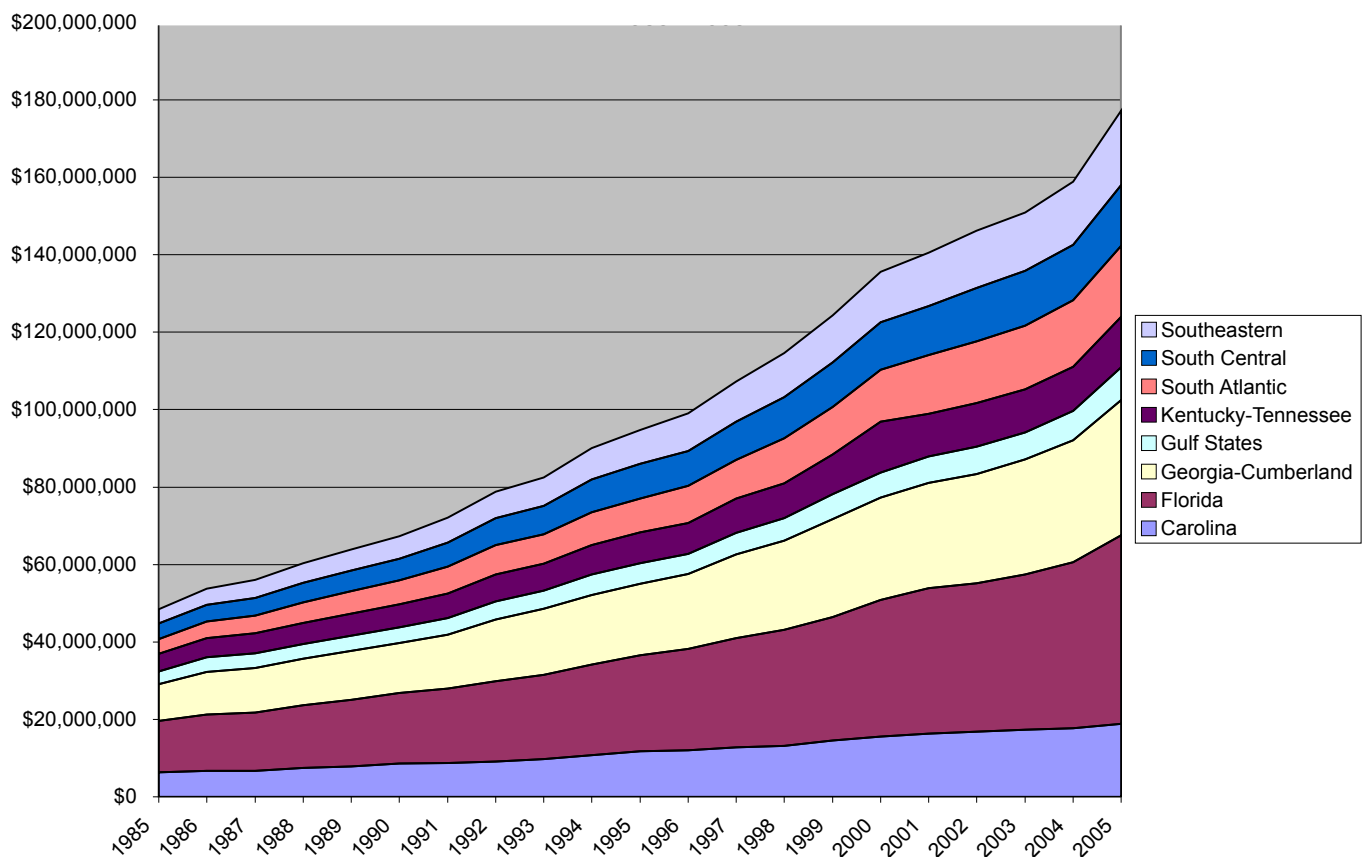
Included with this report are the combined statements of financial position for the years of 2001 - 2005, and the statements of changes in net assets for the same period. You will also find graphs indicating how the dollar is used in the Southern Union office operation, and graphs illustrating the growth in tithes and offerings.

We thank God for his bountiful blessings and for the faithfulness of the church members throughout this Union who provide the resources to finance the mission of God's Church.

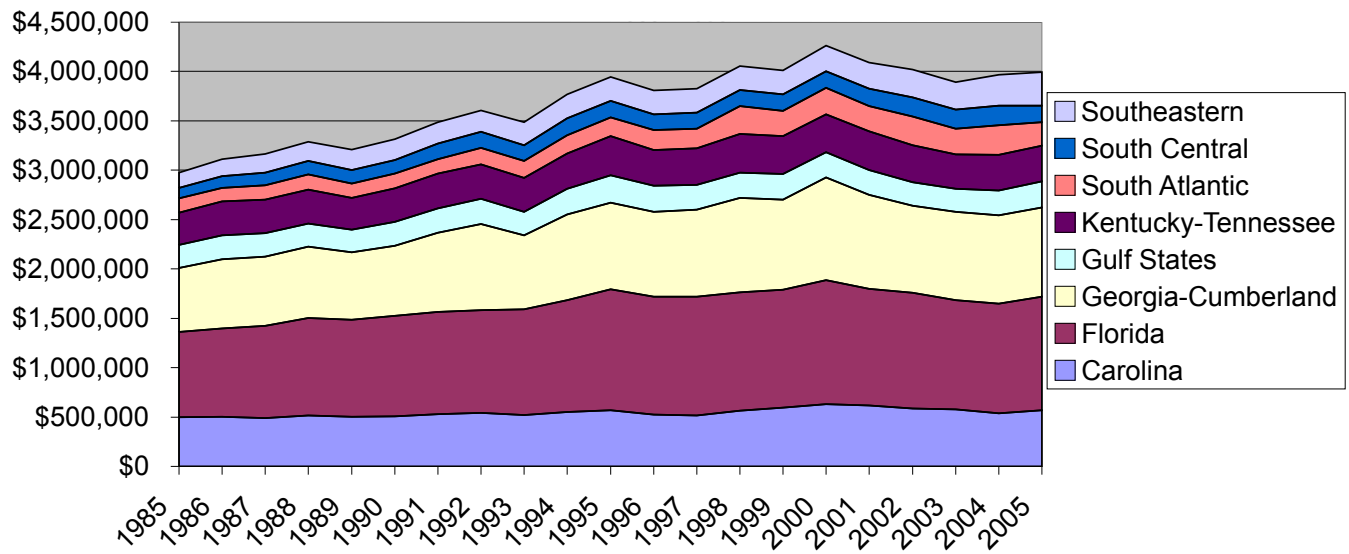
In addition, this writer could not close this report without giving tribute to the tremendous work done by Richard Center, who, after being treasurer of the Union and vice president of the Association for 21 years, retired at the end of 2005. His leadership, foresight, and kindness as he ministered to the Southern Union, have been an inspiration to all who were associated with him.

Some other staffing changes in 2006 are G. Thomas (Tom) Evans, CPA, who assumed the position of treasurer. Jim Caskey, CPA, also retired in 2006, and Dennis Millburn, MSM, formally treasurer of the Gulf States Conference, was elected to replace him.

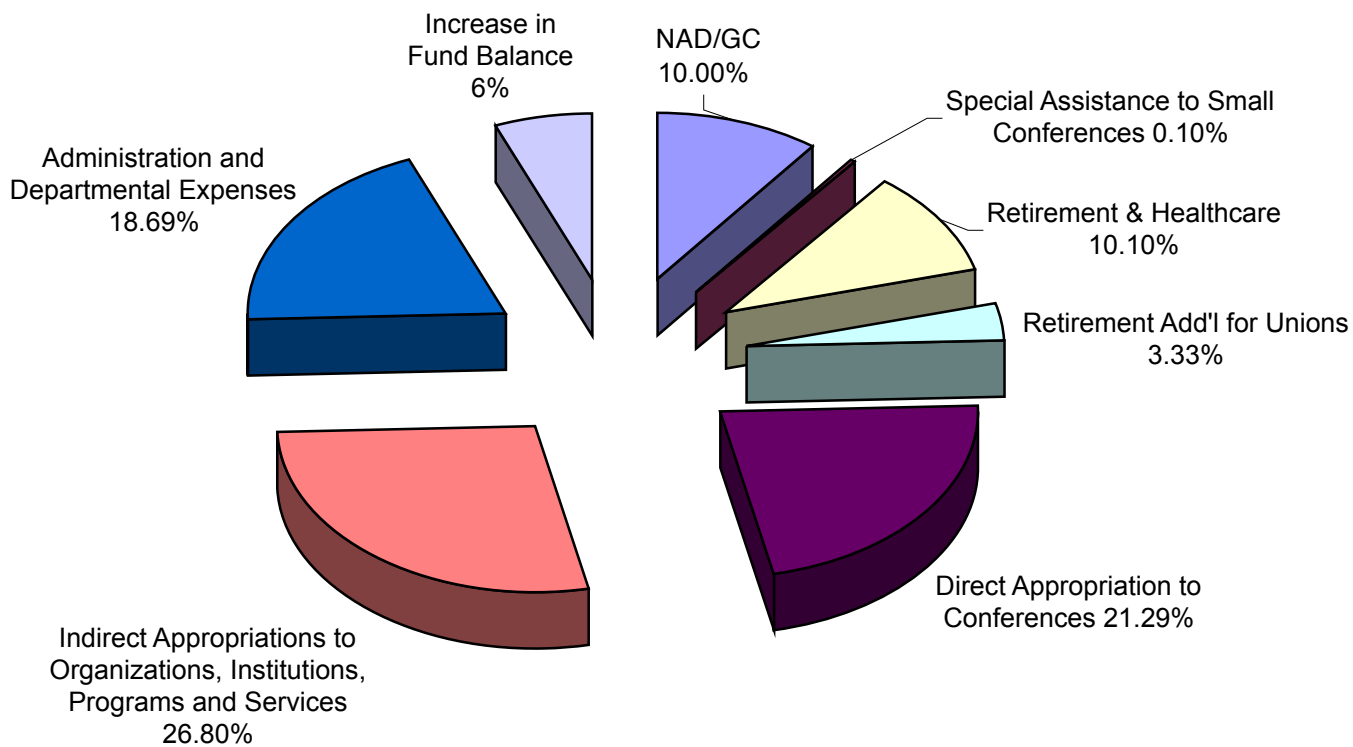
### Southern Union Tithe Growth 1985 - 2005



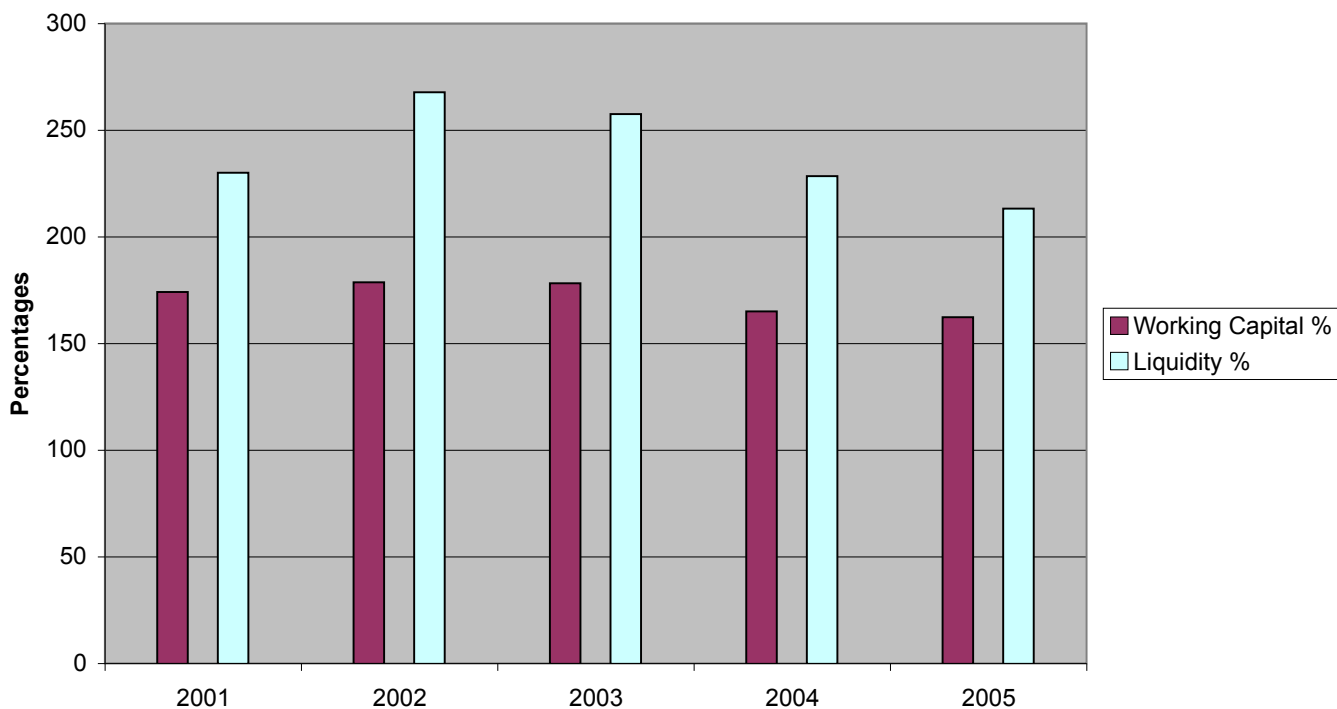
### Southern Union Missions Offerings 1985 - 2005



## Southern Union Conference Use of Portion of Tithe Remitted from Conferences 2005



## Southern Union Working Capital & Liquidity (Denominational Policy Recommends At Least 100%)





TREASURY

**SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS AND  
SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, INC.**  
Combined Special Purpose Statements of Financial Position  
December 31, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, and 2001

<b>ASSETS</b>	2005 <u>Total</u>	2004 <u>Total</u>	2003 <u>Total</u>	2002 <u>Total</u>	2001 <u>Total</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 2)	2,520,208	919,221	253,432	427,796	443,591
Investments (Note 3)	8,345,701	8,110,085	8,434,352	9,073,993	8,614,531
Accounts Receivable, Net (Note 4)	10,111,195	8,598,300	7,894,308	8,112,909	8,202,444
Notes Receivable (Note 5)	2,928,730	2,140,757	3,480,176	3,892,635	3,561,627
Inventories and Prepaid Expense	271,449	246,738	270,158	208,390	192,321
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>24,177,283</u>	<u>20,015,101</u>	<u>20,332,426</u>	<u>21,715,723</u>	<u>21,014,514</u>
<b>Plant Assets, Net</b> (Note 6)	<u>1,012,777</u>	<u>1,012,695</u>	<u>758,424</u>	<u>816,168</u>	<u>747,199</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>					
Notes and Loans Receivable, Operating, Long-term (Note 5)	2,178,060	3,026,575	1,174,622	1,456,084	1,694,671
Investments - Long Term, Operating For Other Than Operating Funds:	3,200	3,200	562,312	3,200	3,200
Cash and Investments (Note 3)	1,904,088	1,948,883	2,699,355	3,740,281	4,593,661
Notes and Loans Receivable (Note 7)	2,741,294	2,626,738	2,370,302	2,579,059	2,469,914
Assets Held for Split-interest Agreements (Note 9)	9,131,560	14,677,317	4,746,889	3,244,079	4,020,351
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<u>15,958,202</u>	<u>22,282,713</u>	<u>11,553,480</u>	<u>11,022,703</u>	<u>12,781,797</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>41,148,262</u>	<u>43,310,509</u>	<u>32,644,330</u>	<u>33,554,594</u>	<u>34,543,510</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Accounts Payable (Note 8)	9,995,880	7,384,885	6,762,919	7,386,276	7,630,972
Trust Funds	14,235	98,996	3,689	5,210	24,909
Deferred Income	50,000	152,420	107,420	7,420	0
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<u>10,060,115</u>	<u>7,636,301</u>	<u>6,874,028</u>	<u>7,398,906</u>	<u>7,655,881</u>
<b>Other Liabilities</b>					
For Other Than Operating Funds:					
NPV, Annuity Liability (Note 9)	126,742	127,649	121,317	122,404	123,599
Liabilities to Other Beneficiaries (Note 9)	9,238,419	14,783,213	4,858,320	3,374,097	4,148,946
Liability to Depositors (Note 10)	1,041,561	1,086,915	1,690,547	2,962,674	3,344,063
<b>Total Other Liabilities</b>	<u>10,406,722</u>	<u>15,997,777</u>	<u>6,670,184</u>	<u>6,459,175</u>	<u>7,616,608</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>20,466,837</u>	<u>23,634,078</u>	<u>13,544,212</u>	<u>13,858,081</u>	<u>15,272,489</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
Unrestricted: Unallocated	13,532,534	13,114,749	12,425,096	12,333,936	12,339,814
Unrestricted: Allocated	2,397,245	2,006,418	1,982,227	2,215,809	1,845,942
Unrestricted: Allocated Capital	2,214,323	2,207,990	2,463,223	2,441,145	2,395,215
Unrestricted: Net Invested in Plant	1,012,777	1,012,695	758,424	816,168	747,199
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<u>19,156,879</u>	<u>18,341,852</u>	<u>17,628,970</u>	<u>17,807,058</u>	<u>17,328,170</u>
Temporarily Restricted (Note 11)	1,420,599	1,252,980	496,158	914,465	717,861
Permanently Restricted (Note 12)	103,947	81,599	974,990	974,990	1,224,990
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>20,681,425</u>	<u>19,676,431</u>	<u>19,100,118</u>	<u>19,696,513</u>	<u>19,271,021</u>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<u>41,148,262</u>	<u>43,310,509</u>	<u>32,644,330</u>	<u>33,554,594</u>	<u>34,543,510</u>

This presentation represents only selected financial information, which has been compiled from the audited financial statements. The partial presentation does not represent a complete set of financial statements, which would include additional information and disclosures. The complete audited financial statements will be made available to the delegates to the constituency session in a separate document.

TREASURY

**SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS AND  
SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, INC.**

Combined Special Purpose Statements of Changes in Net Assets - Page 1 of 2  
Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, and 2001

<b>CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>	2005 Total	2004 Total	2003 Total	2002 Total	2001 Total
<u>Unrestricted Revenue and Gains</u>					
Gross Tithe Income	15,948,342	14,297,739	13,961,417	13,888,257	13,701,739
Tithe Percentages Passed On	(1,609,991)	(1,443,162)	(1,408,758)	(1,401,090)	(1,381,933)
Net Tithe Income	14,338,351	12,854,577	12,552,659	12,487,167	12,319,806
Tithe Exchanged with General Conference	(1,642,597)	(1,561,990)	(1,681,384)	(1,367,276)	(1,392,131)
Non-Tithe Funds from General Conference	1,642,597	1,561,990	1,681,384	1,367,276	1,392,131
Investment Earnings	571,499	504,930	672,756	878,986	905,865
Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	(64,302)	(33,875)	(7,891)	(19,378)	45,832
Residence/Office Rent Income	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000
Sales and Miscellaneous Income	1,812,973	1,000,273	689,263	648,351	589,035
Change in Irrevocable Annuity Agreements	0	359	19,165	(22)	(22)
Total Unrestricted Revenues & Gains	16,682,521	14,350,264	13,949,952	14,019,104	13,884,516
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	15,237,400	13,683,150	12,866,271	12,942,351	11,893,840
 Total Unrestricted Revenues and Support	 31,919,921	 28,033,414	 26,816,223	 26,961,455	 25,778,356
<u>Expenses and Losses</u>					
<u>Program Services Functions</u>					
Church Services Functions	4,931,882	4,458,741	4,303,170	3,843,031	3,712,481
Educational	11,853,320	11,450,348	10,560,055	9,650,714	9,093,511
Publishing	690,895	670,762	607,255	630,318	649,189
Special Services	3,880,914	3,041,945	2,701,685	2,592,737	2,552,724
Other	5,006,690	3,587,053	4,508,539	5,722,688	5,620,646
Total Program Services Functions	26,363,701	23,208,849	22,680,704	22,439,488	21,628,551
<u>Supporting Services Functions</u>					
Administration - Office Resources	2,368,373	2,197,950	2,298,303	2,184,843	2,286,267
Conventions and Meetings	359,756	241,855	349,317	364,854	442,484
Retirement Contributions - Defined Benefit Plan	2,142,394	1,839,684	1,744,234	1,615,424	1,507,191
Total Supporting Services Functions	4,870,523	4,279,489	4,391,854	4,165,121	4,235,942
 Total Expenses & Losses	 31,234,224	 27,488,338	 27,072,558	 26,604,609	 25,864,493
Net Increase (Decrease) from Operations	685,697	545,076	(256,335)	356,846	(86,137)
<u>Nonoperating Activity</u>					
Nonoperating Revenue (Note 14)	92,855	85,443	94,960	123,052	129,554
Net Gain (Loss) Sale of Assets (Note 14)	(1,325)	1,350	(16,713)	(1,010)	(4,962)
Released from Restrictions	37,800	81,013	0	0	0
Net Increase (Decrease) from Nonoperating Activity	129,330	167,806	78,247	122,042	124,592
 Increase (Decrease) Unrestricted Net Assets	 815,027	 712,882	 (178,088)	 478,888	 38,455

This presentation represents only selected financial information, which has been compiled from the audited financial statements. The partial presentation does not represent a complete set of financial statements, which would include additional information and disclosures. The complete audited financial statements will be made available to the delegates to the constituency session in a separate document.

**SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS AND  
SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, INC.**

Combined Special Purpose Statements of Changes in Net Assets - Page 2 of 2  
Years Ended December 31, 2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, and 2001

	2005 Total	2004 Total	2003 Total	2002 Total	2001 Total
<b>CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>					
Increase (Decrease) Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>815,027</u>	<u>712,882</u>	<u>(178,088)</u>	<u>478,888</u>	<u>38,455</u>
<b>CHANGES IN TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>					
<u>Restricted Income</u>					
Subsidies	10,435,369	8,720,814	7,770,278	13,112,726	8,039,029
Offerings and Donations	4,965,491	4,776,121	4,406,258	207,332	3,905,931
Endowment Fund Income	41,959	1,024,050	271,428	(181,103)	256,129
Restricted Income Received	15,442,819	14,520,985	12,447,964	13,138,955	12,201,089
Released from Restrictions	<u>(15,275,200)</u>	<u>(13,764,163)</u>	<u>(12,866,271)</u>	<u>(12,942,351)</u>	<u>(11,893,840)</u>
Increase (Decrease) Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	<u>167,619</u>	<u>756,822</u>	<u>(418,307)</u>	<u>196,604</u>	<u>307,249</u>
<b>CHANGES IN PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>					
Endowment Fund Donations	22,348	0	0	0	0
Released from Restrictions	<u>0</u>	<u>(893,391)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(250,000)</u>	<u>0</u>
Increase (Decrease) Permanently Restricted Net Assets	<u>22,348</u>	<u>(893,391)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(250,000)</u>	<u>0</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	1,004,994	576,313	(596,395)	425,492	345,704
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	<u>19,676,431</u>	<u>19,100,118</u>	<u>19,696,513</u>	<u>19,271,021</u>	<u>18,925,317</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u><u>20,681,425</u></u>	<u><u>19,676,431</u></u>	<u><u>19,100,118</u></u>	<u><u>19,696,513</u></u>	<u><u>19,271,021</u></u>

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## ASSOCIATION/SOUTHERN UNION REVOLVING FUND (SURF)



*The Southern Union Revolving Fund team: Bernie Orquia (standing, left), assistant treasurer; Jim Caskey, Association treasurer; Larry Davis (retired), former Association treasurer; Mary Kay Artress, assistant treasurer; Carol Hollie-Tsede, administrative assistant; Elsie Davis (seated, left), administrative assistant; and June Cranshaw, accountant.*



*Carlos Salazar, Association treasurer*

The Southern Union Conference Association is the incorporated legal entity of the overall organization. The Association holds title to the Union properties and equipment, and supervises investments such as the \$185 million Revolving Fund, (12-31-05), and the \$13.8 million Endowment and Agency Funds that are held by the Association for the benefit of Union entities. The Association also operates and manages the Revolving Fund as well as accounting for the properties and equipment of the Union, Irrevocable Trust, Annuity, Endowment, and Agency Funds.

### **Southern Union Revolving Fund, Inc.**

The Southern Union Revolving Fund has proved a blessing over the years since it was created. It was created as a service to the conferences and its members in receiving monies and loaning them at a lower interest rate to the churches and schools in the Union territory. Thousands of dollars in closing costs and interest, which would have been paid to banks and financial institutions, have been available to meet other needs as

churches and schools have obtained these low-interest loans (currently 6 ½ percent) from the Revolving Fund. The monies in these Fund actually perform a dual purpose as depositors earn interest (currently 4 ½ percent) while seeing their money used to advance the cause of God. The Revolving Fund is truly a blessing from God. Without the monies in the Revolving Fund, church and school building funding could be inadequate to meet present needs. Currently, it seems that there are more new construction projects than ever before as the Southern Union continues to grow.

The Association staff must process all loan applications for financing from the Revolving Fund and monitor repayment by participating churches and schools. Any funds not loaned to church entities must be invested in government or corporate bonds, notes, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, or money market accounts, as governed by General Conference and North American Division policy, so as to earn sufficient interest to return to investors, most of whom are Church members or Church entities in the Southern Union. The Fund is audited

by a CPA firm, and reports are filed in all the Southern Union states where the Fund is registered. Much work goes into making this service available.

During the 2001-2005 quinquennium, the total deposits grew from 54.12 to 165.27 million dollars. During the same period, the total outstanding loans grew from 43.96 to 79.60 million dollars. As of December 31, 2005, the Revolving Fund had 260 active loans with various church entities within the Southern Union territory. James S. Caskey, Association treasurer and Southern Union Conference undertreasurer, with his associates, Larry Davis (retired), June Cranshaw, Mary Kay Artress, and Bernie Orquia, administered this Fund as the quinquennium closed. In 2006, Bernie Orquia and Jim Caskey retired, and Carlos Salazar the district director of the General Conference Auditing Service, was elected to fill the post of Association treasurer. We are indebted to the dedicated and faithful service of Jim Caskey and Bernie Orquia during the past quinquennium.

# ASSOCIATION/SOUTHERN UNION REVOLVING FUND (SURF)

Southern Union Revolving Fund, Inc  
A Wholly-owned subsidiary of Southern Union Conference  
Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.  
Statement of Financial Position

	December 31				
	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
<b>Assets</b>					
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	18,009,780	5,035,512	5,827,039	1,910,710	2,156,928
Securiteis and investments	86,563,693	98,367,448	86,730,462	80,218,837	46,670,237
Accrued interest receivable	915,486	1,055,639	1,048,444	842,103	545,438
Notes receivable - short-term portion	4,417,792	3,501,042	3,065,363	2,804,014	2,717,196
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>109,906,751</b>	<b>107,959,641</b>	<b>96,671,308</b>	<b>85,775,664</b>	<b>52,089,799</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>					
Notes Receivable - Long-Term Portion	75,182,948	71,379,154	62,725,295	52,840,837	41,742,937
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>185,089,699</b>	<b>179,338,795</b>	<b>159,396,603</b>	<b>138,616,501</b>	<b>93,832,736</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>					
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Accounts Payable	250	10,153	3,200	4,268	4,268
Notes Payable	165,276,007	158,585,514	141,378,358	125,449,310	82,066,131
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>165,276,257</b>	<b>158,595,667</b>	<b>141,381,558</b>	<b>125,453,578</b>	<b>82,070,399</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>					
Sinking Fund Balance	19,813,442	20,743,128	18,015,045	13,162,923	11,762,337
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>185,089,699</b>	<b>179,338,795</b>	<b>159,396,603</b>	<b>138,616,501</b>	<b>93,832,736</b>

Southern Union Revolving Fund, Inc  
A Wholly-owned subsidiary of Southern Union Conference  
Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.  
Statement of Activities

	Years Ended December 31				
	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001
<b>Income</b>					
Interest income - notes receivable	\$ 4,818,326	\$ 4,218,240	\$ 3,651,584	\$ 3,662,756	\$ 3,583,909
Investment income - investments	5,326,557	4,923,747	4,946,800	4,047,646	1,809,280
Gain (Loss) on sale of investments	(870,700)	259,303	730,528	(710,144)	608,212
Other Income	2,780	1,910	1,230	1,331	645
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(3,174,126)	(235,840)	1,577,144	447,253	(1,580,520)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,102,837</b>	<b>9,167,360</b>	<b>10,907,286</b>	<b>7,448,842</b>	<b>4,421,526</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
Interest expense	6,423,423	5,997,529	5,645,720	5,835,898	3,867,215
Legal, accounting, and registration fees	16,559	17,552	21,151	50,617	26,726
Investment commissions & managements fees	289,848	226,684	210,924	125,144	75,910
Other expenses	-	16,449	14,929	15,152	13,293
Premium amortization	302,693	181,063	162,440	21,445	(90,801)
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>7,032,523</b>	<b>6,439,277</b>	<b>6,055,164</b>	<b>6,048,256</b>	<b>3,892,343</b>
<b>Net Earnings (Loss) from Operations for the Period</b>	<b>(929,686)</b>	<b>2,728,083</b>	<b>4,852,122</b>	<b>1,400,586</b>	<b>529,183</b>
Sinking Fund Balance - Beginning	20,743,128	18,015,045	13,162,923	11,762,337	11,233,154
<b>Sinking Fund Balance - Ending</b>	<b>\$ 19,813,442</b>	<b>\$ 20,743,128</b>	<b>\$ 18,015,045</b>	<b>\$ 13,162,923</b>	<b>\$ 11,762,337</b>

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## ADVENTIST LAYMEN'S SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

The Southern Union Chapter of ASI, directed by Steve Dickman, president, and Tom Kapusta, executive secretary/treasurer, has grown to 214 active members. This dynamic network of supportive ministries, business men and women, and professionals has funded many projects during the past five years. The following is a list of the most recent projects:

- **Gospel Outreach** - to initiate evangelistic work in the Sunderban Islands
- **A.C.T.S. (Adventist Community Team Service) Mobile Kitchen** - to provide hot meals for disaster victims
- **Frontline Builders** - funding a well for drinking water in the Sudan
- **K.I.D.S. - (Kids in Discipleship)** - production of a 60-minute instructional DVD of K.I.D. University
- **Shelter from the Storm** - to purchase an industrial grade mower to support the lawn mowing business



*Tom Kapusta, director; Carol Hollie-Tsede, administrative assistant*

for released prisoners who want to start a new life

- **ASI Evangelism** - to sponsor gospel workers in Atlanta, and purchase four video projectors to be used in the metro Atlanta area for evangelistic reaping events

Through the faithful stewardship

of our members, God has blessed by providing the funding for these and many more projects. The most recent offering was more than \$117,000.

Recognized as one of the most progressive and active ASI chapters in the North American Division, ASI Southern Union continues to lead in recruiting new members and funding ministry projects. Many thanks to the leadership team, local conference representatives—both lay men and women, and denominational workers who volunteer many hours of time and energy to make this possible.

For more information about ASI Southern Union, visit our interactive website at [www.asisouthernunion.com](http://www.asisouthernunion.com).



*ASI leadership team consists of Kim Busl (back row, left), Steve Dickman, Brenda Palmer, Joy McKee, Tom Kapusta, Ben Koche-nower (front row, left), Dale Bass, and Cal Thrash*



# Evangelistic Preparations

*Church Growth/Evangelism Training emphasizes training in five areas.*

## **Ministerial Evangelistic Training**

Field schools in public evangelism for Southern Adventist University have made a dynamic change. In the last four years and five field schools, about two-thirds of the participating students held their own five-week series of meetings. A central meeting was held by an experienced evangelist, which several local churches supported. The students conducted meetings in the surrounding churches four nights a week, and they attended evangelistic preparation classes two or three mornings weekly. One night a week they attended the main evangelistic meeting to observe and assist. There was a large baptism on the final Sabbath, in which the students shared.

## **Lay Evangelism Training**

Boot camps for lay evangelism are to train lay evangelists and those who assist them. Individuals are trained how to get involved in the community in various ways that help boost attendance at the meetings. The lay evangelists learn how to organize and conduct the meetings using computer graphics and scripts by *Share Him*. They are taught how to preach, visit, and make appeals. They also learn to disciple the new members and interests as a part of the nurturing follow-up.



*Ralph Ringer, director*

These meetings can be held in churches, classrooms, fellowship halls, schools, homes, apartment building meeting rooms, storefronts, community rooms, tents, or anywhere people can be gathered. The gospel commission says that we should GO to where the people are. They are trained to preach to five to 500.

We show evangelists how to conduct low-budget meetings by using intercessory prayer, prayer ministries, and prayer countdown to reach communities.

## **Elder's Training**

Lay pastoral assistant training and elder's certification training are

organized in four areas: elder's pastoral duties, visitation, preaching, and personal evangelism, in more than 40 hours of class work.

In cooperation with the pastor and church, the on-the-job application of their training is applied in the local church.

## **Jewish Ministries**

The Shalom Learning Center trains individuals to reach the Jewish community and their friends. There is a building for Jewish ministries training in Hollywood, Florida, but we also have the Shalom Learning Center on the Road that will come to areas where individuals desire to start a Jewish work. We now have six Jewish Adventist congregations in the Southern Union, 13 in the North American Division, and 25 worldwide.

## **Southern Union Evangelism Council**

The Southern Union evangelism council is for full-time evangelists, pastor/evangelists, and lay evangelists.

The purpose of the evangelism council is to inspire, train, and give the evangelists time to relax and network.

CHURCH MINISTRIES

CHURCH MINISTRIES · ADVENTIST CHAPLAINCY · STEWARDSHIP · CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES  
YOUTH · FAMILY

# The Heart of the Church



Allan Williamson, director; Sue Williamson, administrative assistant

The Church Ministries Department in the Southern Union continues to be a strong, thriving, energetic department, giving leadership and service to the heart of the local church.

This department covers every age group from children and youth to adults. Service and leadership are given to community services, disaster response, family ministries, Adventurers, camping, personal ministries, Pathfinders, National Service Organization, campus ministries, vacation Bible school, and Sabbath school. "World Sabbath," a mission approach to Sabbath school, continues to be a creative program to encourage better attendance in our Sabbath schools.

In the Southern Union, Adventist Community Services and Disaster Response provide services to disaster victims, their families,



The volunteer disaster response team is prepared to assist whenever needed.

and communities. When disaster strikes, local church and conference disaster coordinators evaluate the damage and situation, and then take appropriate action. If needed, Adventist Community Services and Disaster Response manages warehouse operations where donated goods are stored and organized for distribution. Disaster response training helps our leaders to be better prepared to serve when a disaster strikes.

### Adventist Chaplaincy

Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) is composed of trained ministers from diverse backgrounds who firmly believe in being part of the gospel mission of the Church. In addition to giving approval and support for chaplains to serve in unique institutional settings of hospitals, campuses, prisons, and the

military, ACM provides guidance and spiritual support to our youth who are anticipating military service and to those who go into the military.

Ministers who desire to serve as chaplains receive guidance from ACM as they prepare for

endorsement. Appropriate educational training and a background in ministry help qualify one to receive approval from the Church to serve in chaplaincy. Continued professional growth and maintaining denominational affiliation are expected, as chaplains are required to be re-endorsed every five years.

We are fortunate to have a large number of chaplains here in the Southern Union territory, and it is my privilege to visit them and provide encouragement and support, as well as to help them maintain a close relationship with our office at the General Conference. Many of our chaplains are in situations where there are no other Adventists serving with them, and it becomes a little lonely out there. We also have opportunities to provide guidance for individuals who are interested in becoming chaplains.



Chaplain Ruben Ortiz (left), with marine Cody Harmon, a Lexington, South Carolina, church member.

The largest group of chaplains is in the healthcare field, totaling about 80 at any one time. Our Seventh-day Adventist institutions employ most of them, with several serving in non-Adventist environments. Approximately 10 military chaplains are assigned to one of the many bases in our territory, and we have had up to a half-dozen prison chaplains in federal or state facilities.

### National Service Organization

NSO is the military relations office of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and is a chapter of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries.

The major function of NSO is to be of spiritual support and guidance



Les Rilea, ACM field representative and civilian chaplain

to Adventist military personnel and to provide counsel for those anticipating military service. Because of Sabbath concerns and issues relating to the bearing of arms, the Church strongly counsels its members to consider the possible conflicts of conscience in these and other areas. This is a challenge for our youth who want to serve our country and remain faithful to God. The military states that they will try to accom-

modate, but commanders have the last word and it is determined on the basis of military necessity. The facts are that Saturday is routinely a day like any other, and everyone receives combat weapons training.

In addition to visiting our academies and colleges to provide this information to our youth, we also have exposure at Bible conferences, youth rallies/congresses, conventions, camp meetings, and workers' meetings to reach those who are not in our Seventh-day Adventist schools. Because of the large number of military installations in our Union, we are able to assist many who are going through challenges of conscience issues.

For those who do go into military service, it is strongly recommended that their local churches provide them with Service-member Kits, available for a few dollars from the local conference NSO director, and call 800-ACM-LIST to put their name on a list for free church literature while they are in the service.

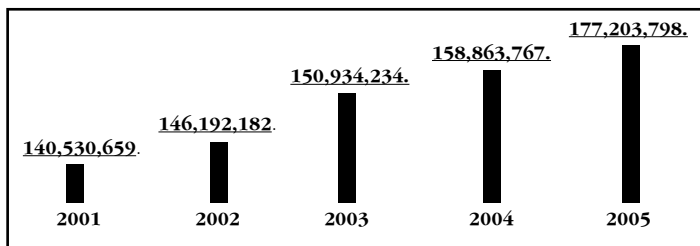
### Stewardship

Stewardship is a way of life. It's a way of showing gratitude to God for the many blessings He has lav-

ished upon us. Stewardship is the lifestyle of one who accepts Christ's Lordship—walking in partnership with God and acting as God's agent to manage His affairs on earth.

Nearly 175 workshops and seminars were conducted in holistic stewardship during the past five years. Doubtless, these events were a contributing factor as to why the Southern Union has become the leading Union in North America in annual tithe received. The total tithe received from 2001-2005 was 773,724,643.

The workshops encourage members to trust God, remain faithful, become debt free, and provide more resources for the work of God for home and missions. Scores and scores of people have shared the



good news with me that they are applying the life changing principles to their everyday situations. Now they are debt free and have more resources for God's work. Truly, mankind is limited to following God's directions, and God is unlim-



Oliver J. McKinney, stewardship director



ited in producing the results.

“The Lord does not propose to come to this world to lay down gold and silver for the advance of His work. He supplies men with resources that, by their gifts and offerings, they may keep His work advancing.” *Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 36.

The *Stewpot*, a monthly newsletter and a potpourri of practical ideas to help members become better stewards, is made available in English, French, and Spanish. Also, articles on holistic stewardship are produced for the *Southern Tidings*.

Certification in basic and advanced stewardship has been made available to our leaders through the North American Division Stewardship Department.

### Children’s Ministries

The question is often asked, “What is children’s ministries and how is it different from the regular children’s Sabbath school?” Glad you asked.



*Children’s ministries primary division directors Ron and Sharon Follett (left); Hazel Allen; and Oliver J. McKinney, Southern Union children’s ministries director*

The Office of Children’s Ministries seek to develop the faith of children ages birth to about 12 years of age. Our leaders of the church say, “While Sabbath school provides children with religious education once a week on Sabbath, Children’s Ministries strives to provide multiple ministries at other times that will lead children to Jesus and disciple them in their daily walk with Him.

“Such multiple ministries include programs and activities organized

throughout the year to nurture the spirituality of the children, train them for leadership, and help them reach out in service to others in the community.”

The Southern Union partnered with the capable local conference children’s ministries leaders in participating in 25 training events during the quinquennium by providing funding for resource specialists.

The 25 training events included training in vacation Bible schools, resulting in 1100 schools held for more than 45,000 children attending during the past five years.

Children’s Sabbath school classes are provided for the medical/dental, and health professionals’ conferences, administrative and departmental councils. “Wherever we have children, we have the opportunity and responsibility to minister, introduce them to Jesus Christ, respond to their needs, and protect and love them,”

Children are encouraged to participate in the church programs. We

see them serving as ushers, deacons, and deaconesses, and speaking in church services or children’s church.

“When Jesus told the disciples not to forbid the children to come to Him, He was speaking to His followers in all ages—to officers of the church, to ministers, helpers, and all Christians. Jesus is drawing the children, and He bids us, suffer them to come; as if He would say, they will come if you do not hinder them.” – *Desire of Ages*, p. 517.



*Harold Cunningham, pastor and motivational speaker for youth, makes a point to several enthused high school and academy students.*

Certification in basic and advanced children’s ministries has been made available through the North American Division Children’s Ministries Department.

### Youth Ministries

The Southern Union Academy Youth Prayer Conference is held each year during the month of January. Student leaders arrive a day early to begin an intensive one-day training workshop to learn how to be effective youth prayer group leaders. When the delegates arrive the following day, they are placed in a prayer group, which is facilitated by two trained leaders. The prayer conference is a rich spiritual experience for students. Academy chaplains pre-select students to preach during the inspirational meetings. Decisions for Christ and baptism are made each year.



*Jazmyne Robinson agreed with most youth: “We need a spiritual foundation if we are going to remain in the Church.”*



*The late Desmond Doss regularly traveled to speak with young people. Here he demonstrates how he used a double bowline knot to save the lives of several soldiers.*

Student leadership training is a very important part of our Southern Union Academy Bible/Leadership conferences, which are held each year. Workshops for student association presidents, and social and spiritual vice-presidents, are held alternate years, along with instruction for school annual and newspaper editors, music leaders, and drama groups.

College commitment weekends are held each year at Southern Adventist University and Oakwood College. During this weekend, students make a spiritual commitment to be involved in some type of service.

Our summer youth camps are evangelism in action. That is really what our Adventurer, junior and teen camp ministry is all about – leading boys and girls to Jesus Christ.

Our year-around camps continue to serve the local church by hosting retreats, seminars, and leadership conventions.

The Pathfinder organization continues to grow under the dedicated leadership of volunteer staff. Adventurer ministry for children began in the Southern Union, continues to grow, and be a blessing to families and churches. Leadership seminars and quality resource materials have helped develop strong leaders in these ministries.

“Faith on Fire” was the theme as the Southern Union Pathfinders led the way in attendance at the 2004 North American Division International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Decisions for Jesus were made throughout the camporee, and a large baptism was held Sabbath afternoon. As a follow-up to the “Faith on Fire” camporee, the Southern Union cosponsored a youth festival in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where the Joseph story, “The Fire Within,” was presented to the community. The 2007 Southern Union Pathfinder Camporee will be held September 26-30, at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, Florida.

Many of our youth, Pathfinder, and Adventurer leaders attended the North American Division youth lead-



*A Pathfinder is baptized during a camping weekend.*

ership conventions that were held in Atlanta, Georgia; Denver, Colorado; and Jacksonville, Florida. Teaching seminars at youth, Pathfinder, Adventurer leadership conventions, and youth congresses is a service of Southern Union youth ministries.

Our young people are looking forward to attending the first North American Division “Just Claim It” World Youth Prayer Congress, February 28 - March 4, 2007, in Dallas, Texas.

## **Family Ministries**

Strengthening families in our churches, schools, and communities is a priority of family ministries. “From This Day Forward,” a one-day celebration of marriage commitment to reconnect, re-energize, and recommit has been held in Atlanta, Georgia, and Charlotte, North Carolina, and will be held September 30, in Orlando, Florida. Leadership seminars help develop the knowledge and skills needed in family ministries.



*Students at a Bible conference surround Allan Williamson as they wait for lunch.*



# Silent Witnesses



*Reggie Mattison (standing, left), sign engineer; Olson Perry, director; Ron Quick, photography/videography consultant; Ardith Beers (seated, left), Tidings circulation manager; and Irisene Douce, editorial assistant, make up the communication team.*



*Danny McDonald, former sign engineer, retired January 2006*

What if Jesus had decided to keep the news of salvation to Himself? What if He had not devised a plan to share His message with the world? What if Christ's messengers had not shared the good news of salvation and Christ's return?

The greatest news, unique ideas, and the most effective ministry techniques are of no use if they are not communicated to others. The Southern Union Department of Communication exists as part of a cooperative network of people who tell of the Christian work of the members in action for the Lord.

## Church Identification

The Southern Union's Church Identification Highway Sign Program currently features more than 2,500 signs, which consist of billboards, yard signs, highway signs, and directional signs. There are more of these silent witnesses, serving 24 hours a day, across the Southern Union than in the world field

combined.

A young man had been an Adventist, but had drifted. When moving from Virginia to Florida, he began to see signs about the Seventh-day Adventist Church. "I don't think I missed a one," he says. At his home, his route to work passed a church highway sign. "I looked at that sign twice a day for six years. Finally, I had to either get rid of the sign or get back into the Church." Today he is an active member.

"I never realized the full importance of these signs," says Danny McDonald, Southern Union's former sign engineer, the only such full-time position in the denomination. "During the years since I have been erecting these signs for the various conferences, it has been driven home to me that these signs serve as a positive, silent witness for the Church." Who knows what eternal impact this ministry has?

In addition to new signs, hundreds are inspected and maintained

yearly to ensure a positive image of the Church.

Danny McDonald, assisted by his wife Carol on a volunteer basis, has been the sign engineer for the past 19 years. Following his recent retirement, the position was filled by Reggie Mattison.

## ***Southern Tidings***

The official publication of the Southern Union has been in circulation continuously since 1907 as *Report of Progress*, from 1910 to 1932 as *Southern Union Worker*, then merging with *Field Tidings* to become *Southern Tidings*. Its mission since its inception continues to inform, instruct, and inspire its readers. The *Tidings* has been a consistent chronicle of the work and progress of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Southern Union. Despite the consistency in the mission throughout the years, the design has changed many times.

During the last five years, the *Tidings* has been mailed to 227,000 members in 70,000 homes monthly. It tells of organized evangelistic events, about the not-so-organized witnessing events of committed members who have won others to Christ, about the phenomenal growth of the Southern Union, and the goals of its eight conferences and institutions.

You have read stories about conversions, mission trips, Pathfinders, special events, new church organization, stewardship blessings, church business, women's events, youth features, new resources, camp



meetings, and the list goes on. These stories were produced by the *Southern Tidings* staff of four individuals: Olson Perry, editor; Irisene Douce, editorial assistant; Sheila Elwin, copy editor; Ardith Beers, circulation manager; and the production staff of the College Press. The editorial staff also includes the Conference communication directors, and institutional public relations directors and their staffs. Reporters and writers for the *Tidings* are the local church communication leaders, to whom we are forever grateful.

### Broadcasting Outreach

A radio spot ministry and subsidy has been in effect for several years. The conference and Union combine to provide 50 percent of the cost of airtime, while the local church sponsors the other 50 percent.

### Services and Field Coordination

The Department of Communication assists administration and other departments in accomplishing their objectives. Like other departments, communication maintains regular contact with local conference directors. Unlike most departments, it also has counterparts in hospitals and colleges in both public relations officers and faculty.



*Scott Armstrong operates the controls of WWGT-FM in Lincolnton, North Carolina*

### Professional Communication Society (SAC)

Seventeen years ago, the Southern Union Communication Department launched the Southern Society of Adventist Communicators. It was organized to provide support, sharing, and networking opportunities for communication students and professionals; however, emphasis continues to be placed on those in secular employment due to the "high risk" of daily exposure to cynicism, competition, and stress.

Now known internationally as the Society of Adventist Communica-

tors, sponsorship of the organization has moved to the North American Division in order to serve the greater needs of North America. The October, 2006, annual convention in Baltimore, Maryland, will begin its tenure under the new sponsorship.

The Southern Union will begin a local chapter in the near future.

### Web Site

The Southern Union web site ([www.southernunion.com](http://www.southernunion.com)) is a joint function of communications and information technology. The site provides news, information, and access to other pertinent documents and organizations through its various links. The *Southern Tidings* is available on the site, as well as additional information, which may not be printed in the published version.

The web site is currently being redesigned to make it user-friendly, interactive, and attractive.

As we move into a new quinquennium, the Southern Union Communication Department continues to inspire, instruct, and inform through the reports of other conferences, churches, colleges, hospitals, and individuals like you and me. We continue to share events, progress, and new ideas that will help us understand our role as part of the Southern Union family, telling the stories of Jesus to the people we meet each day.



*Members of the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) at a convention in Ontario, California. SAC has grown from a small regional group sponsored by the Southern Union, to a Division-wide society with a mailing list of 1,050 in the U.S. and Canada.*

Coming September 29–October 3



*A mysterious presence . . .*

*. . . An object so sacred that those who touched it died instantly.*

# THE PRESENCE



C l o s e r   T h a n   Y o u   T h i n k

Attend *The Presence* this month at a church near you! Join **Pastor Shawn Boonstra** for an exciting look at last-day events as revealed in the Sanctuary. During these 5 nights, you will discover what the Old Testament says about the true nature of Jesus and why the Sanctuary has relevance today.

#### **Church Members**

To find the location near you, call 1-877-527-7327 or visit [www.thepresence.com](http://www.thepresence.com), where you can also embark on "The Sanctuary Quest" and view a dramatic preview for the series.

#### **Churches**

There is still time to register as a host location! Call 1-877-507-3239 or visit:

#### **NIGHTLY TOPICS**

- September 29 *The Presence*
- September 30 *Mysteries of the Ancients*
- October 1 *Closer Than You Think*
- October 2 *The Appointed Hour*
- October 3 *The Deliverance*

[www.thepresence.com](http://www.thepresence.com)



# Service to the Machinery

The Southern Union Office of Information Technology has witnessed continuing upgrades—to hardware, software, servers, and telecommunications—over the past quinquennium.

All wiring connections for the Southern Union and Home Health Education Service were upgraded, and servers were completely replaced. The new servers support web, hosting, accounting, HHES business, e-mail, and file and print sharing for both buildings. Additionally, the network backbone was improved, making it faster and less congested.

Replacing the switchboard and complete phone system for both buildings was a large accomplishment, which reduced the costs of the earlier system. Individual phone lines were replaced and consolidated. And, due to a new conference bridge, the Union can now host conference calls.

The Southern Union is one of two pioneering unions in the North American Division which has been asked to pilot a new accounting package. The IT department is assist-



*Richard Dickerson (left), senior network engineer; Quentin Schander, IT director; Brian Halley, accounting software support engineer*

ing in the switchover of accounting systems, which will impact payroll and all other accounting services. This major undertaking will affect all accounting services at the Union, and eventually will encompass the conferences and possibly the academies in this territory.

On a day-to-day basis, the IT department also maintains all computers and software, supports a network system connecting 75 computer stations, and handles all user ques-

tions and problems. Additionally, free web hosting is provided to churches, schools, and other Southern Union Adventist organizations that request it.

Outside of the Southern Union building, the IT department provides individualized services to the conferences. Depending on their needs and on-site computer support, the Southern Union offers hands-on support to some, and advice to others.



# As Long as Time Shall Last . . .

*An essential question needs to be asked: Is Adventist education still relevant today?*



*The Southern Union Office of Education staff consists of Patricia Campbell (back row, left), elementary administrative assistant; Debra Fryson, associate director for elementary; Conrad L. Gill, director; Gracie Culpepper, certification registrar; Jim Ingersoll, associate director for secondary; W. Eugene Brewer, development specialist; Licci Zemleduch (front row, left), early childhood administrative assistant; Tamara Libonati, associate director for early childhood; Currine Harris, office of education administrative assistant; and Pat Brewer, secondary administrative assistant.*

“The subject of education is one that should interest every Seventh-day Adventist.” CT, 401. “As long as time shall last, we shall have need of schools. There will always be need of education; but we must be careful lest education absorb every spiritual interest.” CT 417. Therefore, Adventist education is more than a luxury; it is an Adventist essential and a responsibility that the Seventh-day

Adventist Church owes its children. The Southern Union Conference Office of Education takes this mandate very seriously and remains steadfast in its commitment to this teaching ministry.

The Southern Union is home to 54 early childhood programs and 203 schools, including 187 elementary schools, 16 academies, two colleges, and one university. During the 2001-

2005 quinquennium, these Pre-K-18 schools educated 82,505 students. More than 938 teachers in grades Pre-K through 12 accepted the challenge of guiding the students, both academically and spiritually. And, the Office of Education was responsible for providing administrative support to each of the eight conferences, assisting them in their education mission.



*Smiling faces and inquisitive eyes typify the Pre-K-K classes.*

The 2001-2005 quinquennium saw the establishment and development of the Adventist EDGE, a Southern Union initiative for the comprehensive improvement of Adventist education that sets the course for excellence in all areas. The initiative is aligned with the North American Division *Journey to Excellence*. It focuses on the essential core elements that identify the high expectations of what students should know and be able to do, and the preferred practices that support an effective ongoing school improvement process.

The Adventist EDGE is about change—innovative change resulting in school improvement. The mission of Adventist educators in the Southern Union is to develop goals for excellence to deliver GREAT education that is **God centered**, **Results oriented**, in an **Environment** that nurtures, **Aligned with Adventist and national standards**, and a **Team effort**.

#### **God-centered**

Seventh-day Adventist Christian principles are integrated with learning to anchor students in a relation-

ship with God and prepare them for a joyful life of service.

#### **Results-oriented**

Measurable goals are established and results are assessed to assure that student and teacher performance is cultivated to the highest possible level and teaching strategies are continually refined.

#### **Environment that is safe and nurturing**

With the teacher as a servant-leader/coach, students master relevant and meaningful concepts. Individual learning needs are met through student-centered teaching strategies in a collaborative atmosphere.

#### **Aligned with Adventist and national standards**

Adventist and national standards focuses on the essential core elements that identify the high expectations of what students should know and be able to do. These standards address a continuous *Journey to Excellence* and the student's academic spiritual and physical development.

#### **Team effort**

Students have the best advantage when parents, teachers, college and university educators, administrators, board members, pastors, and church members are committed to developing, promoting, and maintaining a successful program.

The office of education at the Southern Union is divided into several areas of service:

- Administrative Development**
- Early Childhood Education**
- Elementary Education**
- Secondary Education**
- Teacher Certification**

#### **Administrative**

The director's office handles the administrative leadership and functions of the department, and is responsible for the employment and supervision of all Southern Union Conference office of education personnel, development of Union-wide education policies, and procedures Pre-K through 12 (*SU Education Code Book*, *Early Childhood Center Board Manual*, *Employment Manual*, *Per-*





The horse stable at Nosoca Pines Ranch was the classroom for these Carolina teachers, who were working with horses to learn new teaching skills with a process called Connect.

sonnel Procedures, and School Board Manual), coordination of the Adventist EDGE comprehensive school improvement initiative, development of curriculum materials, staff and philanthropic development, finances, and the salary scale for Pre-K-12 education personnel.

The director of education also serves on several committees, which include the following:

- member of the North American Division Union Directors of Education Council
- member and secretary of the Southern Union Conference Board of Education
- member of each local conference K-12 Board of Education in the Southern Union

is an integral part of the Southern Union Adventist EDGE/Comprehensive School Reform Plan and the Southern Union Education Marketing initiatives.

The development specialist provides on-going staff development leading to improved instructional strategies, and also works in cooperation with the Southern Union Trust Services Department and the Philanthropic Service for Institutions (PSI) to develop creative partnerships for additional time and funding.

### Early Childhood Education

The Southern Union Conference administration and office of education have actively

- member of the Southern Union Conference K-16 Education Advisory
- member of the Southern Adventist University Board of Trustees

### Development

Development, an area mandated in the North American Division *Journey to Excellence*,


embraced the ministry of early childhood education. Currently operating within the Southern Union territory are approximately 90 sites with early childhood education, serving more than 2,600 children from birth through four years of age.

Our mission and goals include the following: operating educationally sound, Christian, early childhood education programs, which follow developmentally appropriate practices, as a ministry and service to families of the church, school, and community; and providing quality care for the young children by well-qualified personnel in safe, age-appropriate environments, while maintaining the Christian principles of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

### Elementary Education

The elementary segment of the office of education serves 187 elementary schools throughout the eight conferences, and works with the office of education personnel at each conference to plan, develop, and implement professional development for teachers; coordinate, implement, and assess elementary curriculum; and study, evaluate, and recommend adoption of instructional materials, methods, and programs for grades Pre-K thru 8.

The elementary associate also



# Graduation


For those who continue on...

College Graduates from

- ▶ Public High Schools (Gallup Poll) 14%
- ▶ Catholic Schools (Catholic School Survey) 32%
- ▶ Adventist Academies (Valuegenesis Survey) 85%!

(Based on percent of students that start college, finish)

**Give Your Child the Adventist Education Advantage**





Technology has made education different from what their parents said it used to be years ago. Teachers and students now incorporate Internet research utilizing various web sites and a variety of technological resources.





Students are being prepared for “the higher grade, the school above.”



Fifth grade students at Spalding Elementary in Collegedale, Tennessee, learn how they can transfer knowledge and integrate that knowledge into real life experiences.

coordinates and monitors the standardized testing program for grades K-12; serves as chairperson of Southern Union committees; functions as a member of various Union and local conference boards and committees; and represents the Southern Union as a member of North American Division committees.

### Secondary Education

The secondary segment of the office of education serves the **academies** and **junior academies** within the Southern Union, and works in conjunction with the education personnel at each of the eight conferences.

There are a total of 16 day and boarding academies, 12 of which are conference-sponsored. Four self-supporting academies also receive some guidance from the Union. The associate director for secondary education serves on the board of each of these academies.

Twenty-six junior academies are supported by secondary education. The secondary administrative assistant acts as the junior academy registrar, keeping grade records up to date and issuing transcripts. The secondary education office also regulates school evaluations and accreditation for K-12.

### Teacher Certification

Denominational certification is the process whereby a person is recognized to be academically and

professionally qualified to teach in Seventh-day Adventist schools. A teaching certificate with its endorsement(s) indicates that the individual has completed the qualifying requirements to practice the profession of instructing children and youth in a Seventh-day Adventist school setting.

Qualifying for the appropriate certificate and maintaining it through continued professional preparation and growth is the responsibility of a professional educator.



The certification registrar works with more than 1,000 teachers in the Southern Union, grades K-12, to assist them in maintaining certification. New teachers are evaluated to determine what requirements are needed to be certificated, and current teachers are informed as to what is needed to keep certificates updated and valid.

In 2006, the Southern Union Education Department developed an eRegistrar program, giving teachers the capability to access their certification information on the Adventist EDGE website.

It is a secure site, and teacher privacy is assured.

So, back to the essential question: Is Adventist education still relevant today? YES! “As long as time shall last.” Adventist education is more than a luxury; it is an Adventist essential and a responsibility that the Seventh-day Adventist church owes its children so that the mantle of Seventh-day Adventism will be passed on to succeeding generations until Jesus comes.

The Southern Union Conference Office of Education takes very seriously its mandate to prepare students spiritually, socially, physically, and mentally for success in this world while preparing them for citizenship in the world to come.





### Acceptance Into Medical School

- ▶ Public Schools (Gallup Poll) 9%
- ▶ Catholic Schools (Catholic Schools Survey) 13%
- ▶ Adventist Schools (Valuegenesis Survey) **34%!**

(Based on percentage of students that apply to medical school)

### Give Your Child the Adventist Education Advantage



# Finishing the Work

The past quinquennium has been a joy to witness the Southern Union become the largest Union in the North American Division, with more than 225,000 members. This growth is the result of many factors: conference administrators, evangelistic pastors, and lay persons, along with many men and women praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. These men and women are passionate about finishing the Lord's work in the earth so Jesus can come.



*Dennis Ross, evangelist and director, and his wife, Jacqueline Ross, Bible worker, have been a team for 40 years.*

It has been my privilege as evangelism director/coordinator to encourage evangelism throughout the ranks of all of our Union organizations, but it has also been my great joy to labor on the front lines, in the trenches, and on the streets conducting evangelistic efforts.

**We have endeavored to:**

- provide more evangelistic support to our smaller churches
- keep the flame of evangelism alive in the Southern Union Conference by precept and example
- encourage the younger generation of pastors to conduct evangelistic efforts
- support all evangelistic outreaches of local conferences, including hall, cottage, church, and tent meetings, as well as public venues
- provide resource materials as they relate to evangelism
- give support to all evangelistically-oriented entities and councils

boys and girls, by God's grace, through weekend training sessions on the joy of soul winning

- conduct field schools in cooperation with our colleges

Cities where evangelistic meetings have been held include Hemingway, South Carolina; Tamarac, Florida; Augusta, Georgia; Miami, Florida; Atlanta, Georgia; Silver Shores, Florida; Clewiston, Florida; Sarasota, Florida; and Lumberton, North Carolina.

A new church was established in Clewiston, Florida, where the members now have a church building and where the church continues to grow.

Conducting field schools where young men and



*Carol Hollie-Tsede, administrative assistant*

women are trained in the art of "soul winning" has been our pleasure, and we have also been able to conduct weekend training seminars for our churches while focusing on teaching, role playing and giving them a sense of the "possible" in soul winning.

We are thankful that, during this quinquennium, 643 precious individuals have been baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist

Church. We have emphasized the importance of "fruits that remain" in our training, and are teaching methods that will, by God's grace, solidify the Body of Christ.

We praise God for what He has done, but we know that He will do even greater works through willing vessels. We look forward to His continued blessings in behalf of building up His kingdom. Please join us in prayer as we seek to win the lost to Christ.



*Many souls are brought to the cross through tent evangelism.*

HEALTH/MEDICAL MINISTRIES

# ...Be in Good Health



*Access to a fitness center such as the new Pisgah Wellness Center promotes good health.*

Every two years, a Southern Union Health Professionals' Retreat is held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. This conference provides continuing health education for nurses, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA's), physical therapists, respiratory therapists, pastors, and health ministry directors in the local churches.



*Allan Williamson, director; Sue Williamson, administrative assistant*

Sabbath services are planned to be inspirational along with an opportunity to renew our commitment to health ministry.

The purpose of the health seminars is to train and motivate church members for witnessing through health programs. A "Stress: Beyond Coping" seminar was presented at the health professionals' retreat in 2001. Other seminars that have been presented include the following:

- Celebrating Health
- Scientific Review of the Vegan/Vegetarian
- Exploring the Seven Major Diseases: Controversial Treatment and Proven Therapy
- Planning Successful Health Fairs
- Resources for the Health Professional

- Teaching Health for all Ages
- New Adventist Health Study
- The New USDA and Vegetarian Pyramid
- The Whole Truth About Grains, Fruits, and Vegetables – The Super Power Foods
- Beans – The Food of the Poor, Fit for the Rich
- Fat, Oils, and Nuts are Essential
- Nutrition Resources – Facts and Fads

The Southern Union Health Ministries Department is committed to be a resource center to the conferences and local churches for videos, DVD's, seminars, brochures, and other materials to enhance the church's health ministry program.

Remember the counsel given in the Holy Scriptures to each of us: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" 3 John, verse 2.

### Medical/Dental

The medical/dental family of physicians, dentists, and optometrists has grown year after year until today there are approximately 1,900 members in our Union.

The Medical/Dental Council,

along with its counterparts from the conferences, has accepted the mission of recruiting new physicians, dentists, and optometrists to come to the Southern Union.

Professional growth is provided at two of the largest Adventist medical meetings in the denomination:

- Medical/Dental Retreat (even numbered years)
- Health Professionals' Retreat for Allied Health (odd numbered years)

Both of these retreats are held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The Union is also the co-sponsor of the Health Careers Fair at Southern Adventist University each year.

The Medical/Dental Council members are as follows:

- Allan R. Williamson  
Medical/Dental Director
- Gary M. Edgmon, D.D.S.  
Dental Secretary
- Wesley Holland, M.D.  
Medical Secretary
- Edward Pelote, M.D.  
Associate Medical Secretary
- Kathy Clem, M.D.  
Associate Medical Secretary
- Robert W. Addison, D.D.S.  
Associate Dental Secretary
- Robert Deery, D.D.S.  
Associate Dental Secretary



# Vision for a New Century



*Oliver J. McKinney, director; Jacqueline Dawkins, administrative assistant*

The Southern Union Ministerial Association assists local conference ministerial association secretaries in supporting and enhancing the nearly 700 ministerial pastors and families with a “Vision for a New Century.”

## **Southern Union Ministerium**

Nearly 1,800 workers, administrators, families, and guests converged on the Radisson Hotel at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida, January 5-9, 2003, for the South Union Conference Ministerium. The theme: Vision for A New Century – Strategic Plans for the Church Triumphant. Seminars were held in preaching, evangelism, fundamental beliefs, church planting, conflict management, contemporary issues, natural church development, leadership, stewardship, worship, employee benefits, pastoral burnout, investing, spouses and related issues, lay involvement, computers, families, small groups, health, technology, tax

laws, Bible studies, pastoral and sexual ethics, religious liberty, local elders, last day events, and prayer. The next ministerium is planned for January 6-10, 2008.

## **Continuing Education**

The Southern Union Ministerial Secretary is the field coordinator for the Andrews University Theological Seminary continuing education programs. The programs are available in English and Spanish to qualifying ministers. The degrees offered are the master of arts in pastoral ministry and the doctor of ministry. Nearly 100 workers were enrolled recently in the program. The Union participates in the funding for up to 25 workers annually.

## **Evangelism/Lay Bible Worker Training**

Evangelism continues to be a way of life in the Southern Union. About 100 lay Bible workers were trained, and two or three crusades and/or revivals are conducted annually. Three churches now exist in formerly unentered cities – Lithonia and Waycross, Georgia, and Riviera Beach, Florida.

## **Missing Member Evangelism**

Generally, one half of our church members are not in church on a given Sabbath. There is a great gulf between the book membership and regular attendees. We continue to work with Ministerial Secretaries, Pastors, and Lay Leaders to find ways to shut the back door in our churches.



*Milton Sterling (left), Russell Seay, Steve Haley, Oliver J. McKinney, John van Zyl, Ralph Ringer, Dennis Ross, and Nathaniel Hollis represent some of the Union's ministerial team.*

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES

# Reaching the First Nation People

An interesting phenomenon has taken place among Native Americans over the past 20 or 30 years. Many have wanted to get back to their ancestral religious beliefs. As a result, many have left the Christian faith and become what they call traditionalist, and this has led to a great deal of spiritualistic practices.



*Fred Rogers, director*

What is so ironic is, if you study carefully what the ancient Indians practiced, you will find that many observed the Sabbath, practiced a teaching of clean and unclean foods, recognized the number seven to be a sacred number, established cities of refuge, and many other Biblical concepts. Moreover, these practices date back at least to the early 1700s, long before there was a Seventh-day Adventist.

These are the reasons why I, as a Seventh-day Adventist minister, am so happy to minister to the First Nation People of the Southern Union.

Native Americans have the worst health condition of any ethnic group in America. Thus, to reach them we have resorted to our knowledge in the health, field just as we

have been counseled by the Lord's servant.

"The Lord wants every one of His ministers to come into line. Take hold of the medical missionary work, and it will give you access to the people. Their hearts will be touched as you minister to their necessities. As you relieve their sufferings, you will find opportunity to speak to them of the love of Jesus. . . ." {CH 533.3}

"I can see in the Lord's providence that the medical missionary work is to be a great entering wedge, whereby the diseased soul may be reached." {CH 535.2}

Two and a half years ago we established a health clinic in Lumberton, North Carolina, which is open two days each week and serves nearly 700 patients. This clinic is free to the uninsured/low-income Indians that live in Southeast North Carolina. As a result we have established a church using the clinic waiting room for church services. Currently 35-40 people gather to worship each Sabbath and are proclaiming the truths that the Indian's ancestors once practiced. Each year we have continued to conduct a diabetes youth camp for Indian children. If space would permit, we could tell you so many ways that God has used these children to reach their parents. Please pray for the Native American Work.



*The health clinic established two years ago in Lumberton is open two days weekly and serves 700 patients.*



*Approximately 40 people meet each Sabbath morning in the clinic for Sabbath services.*

# A Wise Decision



Tom Kapusta, director; Gail Kapusta, planned giving ministries assistant; Carol Hollie-Tsede, administrative assistant

*“The Lord would have His followers dispense their means while they can do it themselves,”* counseled Ellen White, nearly 150 years ago. In the matter of wills, she said, it is our responsibility to exercise our intellect and *“secure to the Lord His own.”*

The department of Planned Giving and Trust Services is committed to providing service to the constituents of the Southern Union by assisting with estate planning. Our eight local conferences, Oakwood College, and Southern Adventist University currently have on file nearly 21,000 wills, and are managing 1,128 revocable trust agreements with more than \$49 million in assets.

The typical length of time from execution (writing and signing) of an estate planning document to maturity (the death of the donor, trustor, or annuitant) is approximately 14 years.

When we look at the monies that have come to the Lord’s work in the Southern Union during this past quinquennium, we must recognize this is the result of those who were faithfully working in Trust Services at least 14 years ago, as it relates to maturities, and those who are currently work-

ing in Planned Giving and Trust Services, as it relates to outright gifts and new documents.

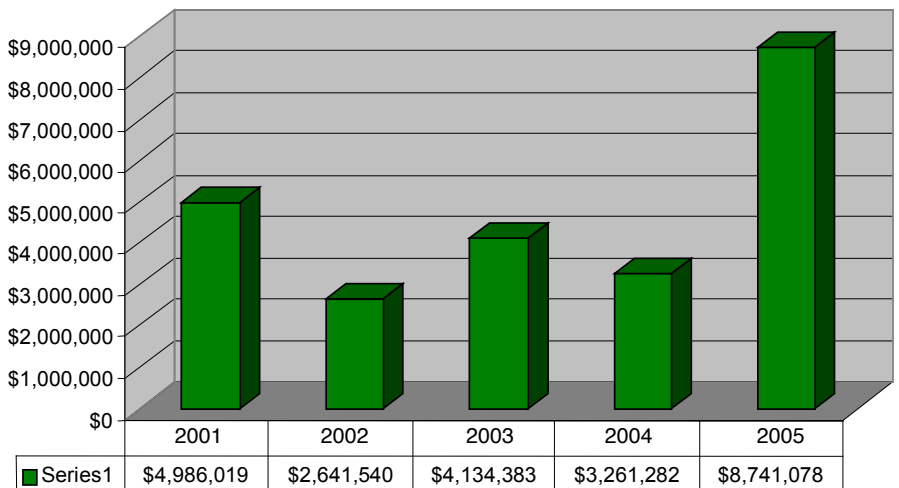
The following chart shows the

result of the diligent effort of trust services personnel and that of faithful stewards who chose to make provision for the Lord’s work in their estate plan.

Nearly \$24 million in maturities and outright gifts has been received by the conferences and institutions during the past five years to further God’s work in the Southern Union.

The Southern Union Conference Planned Giving and Trust Services Department is committed to offering continued trust management, education, and field support to Southern Adventist University, Oakwood College, and the eight local conferences, representing nearly 50 certified planned giving specialists who offer excellent support to you, the constituents of the Southern Union. Please visit our website at [www.susdagift.org](http://www.susdagift.org)

**Maturities and Outright Gifts Report 2001 - 2005**





# My Word Will Not Return Void

*“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the Word of our God shall stand for ever.” Isaiah 40:8.*



*The Southern Union Home Health Education staff consists of Walla Bray (back row, left), shipping manager; Steven Davis, accounts processor; Betty Andrew (front row, left), accounts processor; Margie Compton, assistant treasurer; Bill Beckworth, director; Connie Beckworth, administrative assistant; Rocky Davis, student publishing director; Jim Wilson, treasurer; Ben Compton, receptionist; Peter DeVries, office manager; and Beverly Perry (front row, right), administrative assistant.*

*William Smith, FHES director*

The publishing ministry is still alive and well in the Southern Union and leads the North American Division in many ways. Southern Union is served by three unique publishing organizations: Home Health Education Service (HHES), three Family Health Education Services (FHES), and 12 Adventist Book Centers and bookmobiles.

**Home Health Education Service**

HHES serves five conferences: Carolina, Florida, Georgia-Cumberland, Gulf States, and Kentucky-Tennessee. We thank God for the faith-

ful efforts of our full-time, part-time, and student literature evangelists for the thousands of homes they've reached in the past five years. Approximately 85 percent of the full time literature evangelist's sales are credit sales. HHES services about 3,200 accounts each month. This does not represent tens of thousands of smaller books that are sold for cash, but not recorded in our total sales. Several literature evange-

HHES Student	Sales 5 Years
Sales	Scholarship Paid
\$4,276,588	\$2,779,793

lists have sold more than \$100,000 in a year in this quinquennium. The beautiful thing about the literature ministry is that the books never stop witnessing. Our Southern Union HHES is the largest single purchaser of books from the Review and Herald Publishing Association for the past five years.

Our students have a wonderful ministry through MagaBooks. We employ about 200 students every summer. There are many benefits to this work, one of which is our students seeing God bless them as they go out and labor for others. They gain an experience that cannot be gained in any other way. One



A typical summer MagaBook team will knock on an average of 330,000 doors during the summer.

mother said to me, “My daughter came back a different girl than the one who left to MagaBook for the summer. I like the one that came back a lot better.”

These students will knock on more than one million doors every summer. Numerous baptisms are recorded every summer from this ministry. If you know a student who would like to contact us about this ministry, you may call us at 404-299-1621 or contact us at rocky@youthsummit.info. Our Southern Union student coordinator is Rocky Davis.

HHES has also established a program to train young people for leadership in the MagaBook program, as well as gain experience in conducting evangelistic meetings and leading Bible study sessions. They can attend one or two years and take courses accredited with Griggs University. We call this the Southern Outreach Leadership School (S.O.U.L.S.).

### Family Health Education Service

FHES serves three conferences, South Atlantic, South Central, and Southeastern, through a literature ministry that is a cash program. FHES has also experienced the blessings of God in the thousands of people reached. For the past five years, Robert T. Smith has served as director of FHES. He is now working on his Ph.D. We appreciate his contribution these past years. The new director is William Smith, who has many years in the publish-

ing ministry, and recently directed the Literature Evangelism Training Center (LETC) program at Oakwood College. FHES also runs several MagaBook programs, not only through the summer, but also during many school breaks and year-round at Oakwood College. FHES always has a good soul-winning record.

### Books Witness for Many Years After the Sale

Recently we got a call from a man whose mother-in-law purchased a set of books along with *The Desire of Ages* and *The Great Controversy* 30 years ago. He still had her receipt. He was a Baptist and said that he used these books in his Bible study and wanted to get more books by this author, Ellen G. White.

Another woman, who was a Pentecostal, sent a letter stating she had *The Desire of Ages* by this “Mr.” E. G. White, and she wanted to get more of these books. She had pur-

### Total Sales and Missionary Activities for HHES and FHES

ACTIVITY	Total
Literature Distributed	455,163
Bible Course Enrollment	71,133
Interested People Invited	2,935
Former Adventist Contacted	4,268
Prayers Offered in Homes	105,865
Bible Studies Given	11,341
Baptisms (known)	692
Total Sales	\$ 21,078,959





*Joe Escobar, pastor, shared copies of *The Great Controversy and Desire of Ages* with George Bush, president of the United States, at Palm Beach International Airport.*



*Bible workers are an essential part of the publishing ministry. Stephen and Dolenda Murdock (standing, back row), a husband and wife team, and Alicia Lyons and Eddie Vargas follow-up on interests generated by the literature evangelists.*

chased her book at a garage sale and so loved this material. When literature evangelist Eugene Juhl called at her home she said, “This author is inspired. It seems as if the author was right there and saw these things happen.” She purchased the rest of the Conflict series.

### **Adventist Book Centers**

The Adventist Book Centers continue to supply our members with truth-filled literature for their own nurture and for lay-outreach. Also, they are the source of Sabbath school supplies and textbooks for our schools. Many non-members enjoy visiting our stores and especially enjoy the vegetarian foods sold through our ABCs.

The Southern Union has one of the strongest ABC programs in the North American Division. It has annual sales of more than \$13,542,819. This represents approximately one



*Doug Thompson, ABC coordinator*

fifth of the total sales in North America. In the past five years, the total ABC sales were \$61,178,494. There have been major capital improve-

ments to several of our book centers in the past five years, which have made them more attractive to the public, and to our members.

For those who do not live close to our ABCs, there is [adventistbook-center.com](http://adventistbook-center.com), which is an online ABC shop. Many sales are purchased this way by those who cannot get into our stores. The order is processed as part of the local ABC. Every dollar spent represents material that will help prepare our members for Christ’s soon coming. The ABCs in the Southern Union are committed to helping our members grow spiritually and find new ways to share the Gospel with their friends and neighbors.

We appreciate the contribution of the two ABC coordinators in the past quinquennium, Don Erickson and Doug Church. Currently, Doug Thompson of Kentucky-Tennessee ABC is serving as the coordinator.



# Freedom of Conscience

The calamitous events of September 11, 2001, have forever changed the landscape of American freedoms, as we once had perceived. Statesmen called upon Americans to relinquish some of their civil liberties to maximize their national security. As civil liberties are diminished, religious liberties are depreciated

proportionately. During the past five years, 547 individuals have called upon the department for assistance in resolving religious liberty issues. The Southern Union Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty is pledged to assist its constituency in Sabbath challenges in the workplace and a sundry of other issues relating

to the freedom of conscience. The department is staffed by its director, Nathaniel Higgs; an associate director, Amireh Al-Haddad; and an office assistant, Aminga Burton-Bracy.

## **Sabbath Accommodations**

The department strives to provide the most helpful assistance to



*Aminga Burton-Bracy, office assistant; Nathaniel Higgs, director; Amireh Al-Haddad, associate director*

church members who encounter Sabbath-related problems in the workplace. During the last five years, the number of cases has increased steadily, while the overall workload for each individual case has jumped drastically higher. Not only are cases more difficult to prove, but also some cases present a double challenge if the church member is denied unemployment benefits. The post-9/11 change in the job market has resulted in a change in the types of challenges church members encounter at work. In the past we have seen many new members with problems, but now as market solutions change, so have Sabbath accommodation problems. For example, members who once had satisfactory accommodations may now encounter mandatory overtime requirements, which pose a Sabbath conflict. A new mediation initiative adopted by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (the federal agency that

enforces religious discrimination laws) has benefited church members as we have aggressively pursued the course of resolution when offered. As a result, the negotiated mediations during the past five years have brought about an increase in the overall monetary outcomes in these out-of-court settlements. Mediated settlements during the past five years have increased 700 percent, totaling \$239,907. What is most important, these mediations have occurred without litigation and legal fees of any kind for the church or the church member.

### Religious Liberty Offerings and Liberty Magazine

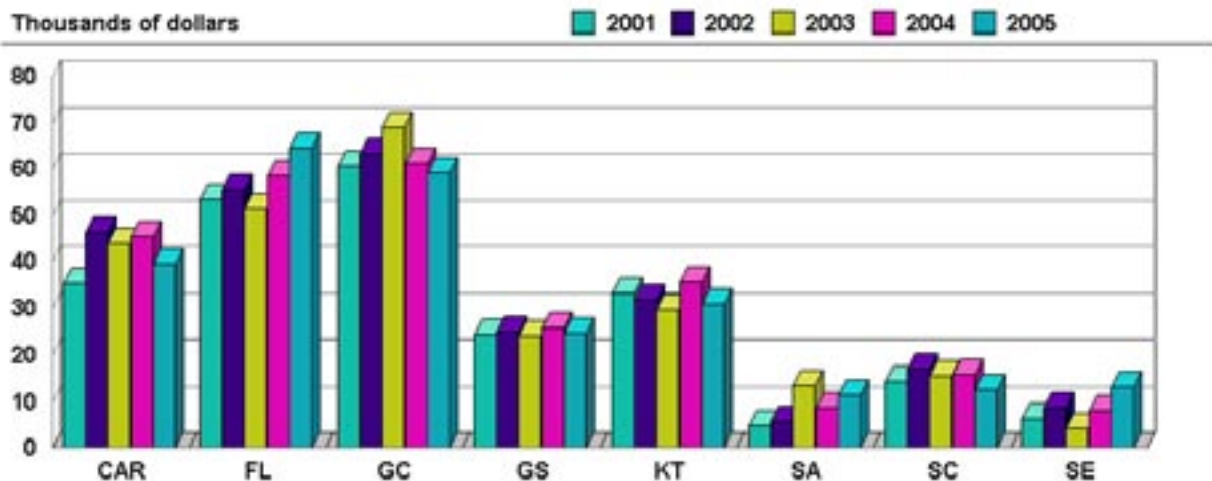
The Southern Union continues to lead the division in its religious liberty offering. As a result of the generosity of its constituents, the Southern Union has provided the North American Division with an average of 27.5 percent of its offering

each year during the past five years. The goal this quinquennium was to reach the quarter-million-dollar mark. We are delighted that we reached the goal in 2002, and the support for the offering has remained strong. In 2005, Southern Union was able to send *Liberty* magazine to every elected official in its territory. Offerings received during the past five years total \$1,260,993. We express our gratitude for your faithfulness.

### NARLA-SU

During this quinquennium, the department organized a new local chapter of the North American Religious Liberty Association (NARLA). Like its parent organization, NARLA-SU, the local chapter, will promote religious liberty and fundamental human rights within the context of the dignity granted to every human being by the loving Creator. It will attempt to mobilize the laity into an active society for educating and promoting

## Southern Union Religious Liberty Offering By Conference



Conference	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Carolina	\$35,269	\$48,499	\$43,988	\$45,444	\$39,421
Florida	\$53,479	\$55,817	\$51,567	\$58,808	\$64,687
Georgia-Cumberland	\$60,876	\$63,311	\$69,171	\$61,309	\$59,367
Gulf States	\$24,471	\$24,875	\$24,006	\$25,772	\$24,514
Kentucky-Tennessee	\$33,311	\$31,870	\$29,750	\$35,747	\$30,866
South Atlantic	\$4,780	\$5,916	\$13,533	\$6,873	\$11,441
South Central	\$14,419	\$17,106	\$15,688	\$15,980	\$12,822
Southeastern	\$6,522	\$8,898	\$4,279	\$8,111	\$13,210
TOTALS	\$235,128	\$256,294	\$251,982	\$260,044	\$256,128

## Religious Liberty Cases Involving Church Members 2001-2005

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Carolina</b>	8	17	12	17	13
<b>Florida</b>	9	14	11	13	9
<b>Georgia-Cumberland</b>	20	15	16	23	28
<b>Gulf States</b>	4	6	2	5	5
<b>Kentucky-Tennessee</b>	14	9	14	11	14
<b>South Atlantic</b>	17	21	32	28	21
<b>South Central</b>	15	22	16	19	20
<b>Southeastern</b>	0	9	7	4	7
<b>Total New Cases</b>	87	113	110	120	117
<b>Cases Mediated Without Litigation</b>	3	1	7	3	8
<b>Total Monetary Settlements</b>	\$ 27,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 80,462	\$ 75,500	\$36,445

religious liberty matters. To contact us, e-mail [narlasu@southernunion.com](mailto:narlasu@southernunion.com).

### Government Liaisons

There is an active government liaison committee of trained laymen and pastors who live in or near capital cities of each state. They watch for impending legislation that may impair religious freedom. Legislative proposals and bills are monitored by Internet and personal visitations in the state legislatures. Adverse legislation is reported to the department to be addressed by the appropriate state entity. Presently there are vacancies for representation in three states.

### Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys

Currently there are 145 known Adventist attorneys and law students who are registered with the department. The department conducts annual spiritual retreats with planned

devotions and professional exercises for mutual fellowship. The society serves as a support system for the department and a resource pool for members and organizations who call specifically for an Adventist attorney. To contact us, e-mail [ssaa@southernunion.com](mailto:ssaa@southernunion.com).

### Laymen's Congress on Religious Liberty

Three Union-wide congresses were convened in Orlando, Charlotte, and Birmingham. The theme, *In Time – End Time*, proposed to inspire, inform, and instruct through seminars and sermons on topics such as end time events, workplace freedom, Spirit of Prophecy, constitutional rights, and other relevant issues. More than 700 persons attended the events.

### Waymarks

The department publishes a bi-monthly newsletter as a source of in-

formation for pastors, religious liberty leaders, and interested laymen. The newsletter records news of special interest for Seventh-day Adventists. The newsletter is acclaimed by its readers as informative, interesting, and resourceful.

### Outlook

As we draw closer to the second advent of Christ, the fulfillment of Revelation 13 will manifest itself among the ranks of God's people. "The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty," says the author of *Last Day Events*. Many members are already experiencing religious discrimination in the workplace. The department is dedicated to do all in its power to resolve such challenges within its resources and the current laws. It will keep the membership advised of political and social developments that are occurring as we prepare for the coming of the Lord.



HISPANIC MINISTRIES

# Harmonious and Spiritual Growth

The report of the Office of Hispanic Ministries is the result of the dedicated and visionary work of each of the eight Hispanic ministries directors from our conferences, whom I am privileged to assist and support.

## Statistics

As the charts indicate, in the past five years, there has been quantitative growth in three measurable indicators: tithes - 47.26 percent; membership - 44.44 percent; and baptisms and profession of faith - 39.58 percent. Compared to other Hispanic departments of the North American Division unions, Hispanic growth in all three indicators was the largest. The tithes contributed by the Hispanic churches in 2005 (\$16,085,192) is larger than the fourth quarter total tithes of another entire union, and larger than four of the 13 world divisions. In 2005, the Hispanic membership was 11.2 percent; tithes were 16.1 percent; and baptisms and profession of faith were 27 percent of the Union.

Based on God's commission to



*Mariel Lombardi, administrative assistant; Jorge Mayer, director*

the Church, the emphasis of this office is to create an atmosphere for a harmonious and spiritual growth of the Spanish language/cultural churches, and encourage and promote the evangelization of those Hispanics who have not had the joy of knowing Christ. To attain these goals, several events and services were carried out, including the following.

## Lay Festival

Events were organized each year for the different geographic areas of our territory. During January 2005, a

Union-wide festival was held that had the presence of all pastors and delegates of each Hispanic congregation of the Union. The event provided training, witnessing tools, and motivation so participants can share the gospel in a joyful, spontaneous, and contagious way. At the conclusion, participants returned home equipped with a set of DVDs with the seminars and plenary sessions to share with their churches.

## Newsletter

*La Voz del Sur* (Voices of the South) newsletter is distributed quarterly within the Spanish-speaking congregations to promote an evangelistic culture among its members. Stories of faith and conversions, reports of public crusades, and other news sent by the directors of the Hispanic Ministries offices of each conference are included.

## Overseas Crusades

A group of local pastors are invited (chosen by the Hispanic Ministries director of each conference) on



*NET Jesús es la Esperanza (Jesus is Hope) was aired via satellite from Atlanta Berean church. Jorge Mayer addresses the congregation.*



*Alejandro Bullon, ministerial association director for the South American Division, was the guest speaker for NET Jesús es la Esperanza (Jesus is Hope) crusade. It resulted in 165 baptisms.*



A partial view of one of the first evangelistic caravan crusades in the North American Division was held at the Memphis, Tennessee, church.

a yearly bases to enrich their evangelistic vision by conducting reaping efforts outside NAD. To enhance the local experience, Latin-American countries are chosen so that the pastors do not have to rely on translators. Our pastors not only have the opportunity to learn successful methods used in other countries, but also can implement such strategies upon returning to their ministerial districts. Conferences visited are invited to come and offer a similar experience in the Union territory.

**Metropolitan Crusades**

In November, 2005, we carried out the first Evangelistic Caravan in NAD. It was held in six cities (Lexington, Kentucky; Nashville, Tennessee; Huntsville, Ala-

bama; Meridian, Mississippi; Collegedale, Tennessee; and Memphis, Tennessee), with a record attendance in each location. The total attendance exceeded 5,000. The results were 430 baptisms and approximately 250 decisions for baptism. During the month of April, 2006, the evangelistic NET *Jesús es la Esperanza* (Jesus is Hope) was carried via satellite from Atlanta, where more than 900 registered sites, 282 cable companies, 35 radio stations, and approximately 2,000 people via Internet watched the nightly programs. Registered sites came from 42 states in the US and 24 different countries. Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences united efforts to reach the Hispanic popula-

tion of Atlanta, resulting, by April, in 165 baptisms and a similar number of individuals are getting ready to do the same in the near future.

**Evangelistic Materials**

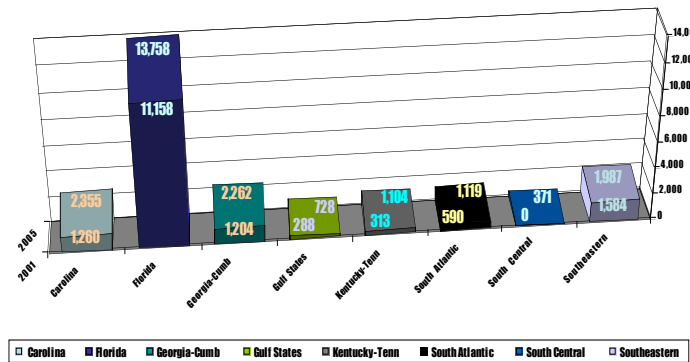
We have produced nine evangelistic tools in DVD format to assist in the proclamation of the gospel and to aid the members with friendly, easy-to-use products for a greater involvement in the accomplishment of our mission (visit [www.JesusEsLaEsperanza.com](http://www.JesusEsLaEsperanza.com)).

**Academic/Professional Development**

Three intensive classes are presented annually to train pastors and their assistants. These courses are offered by the faculty of the Hispanic Institute of the Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

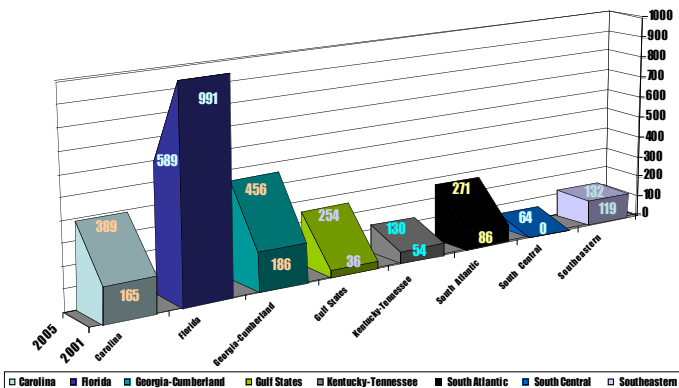
When looking to the future and how to reach **every** people, tongue, and race within our Union with the everlasting gospel, we rest in the assured power of the Holy Spirit. In the significant commitment that pastors and church members bring to the table, we are encouraged with God's promise in Joshua 1:9 (NKJ): "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed: for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

**2001 - 2005 Hispanic Membership**



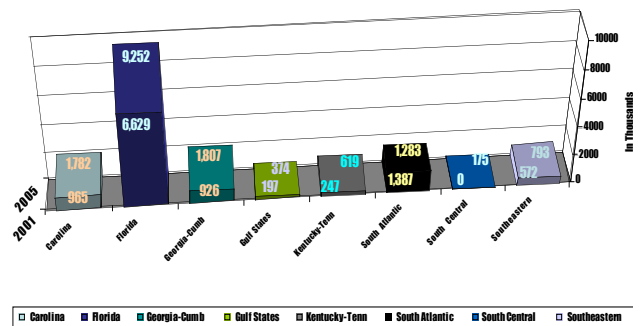
Source: Coordinators

**2001 - 2005 Hispanic Baptisms & POF**



Source: Coordinators

**2001 - 2005 Hispanic Tithe**



Source: Coordinators

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

# A Blend of Ministries

*Special Ministries is a blend of these departments: disabilities, inner city, and prison. These ministries serve a segment of the Church that is often neglected.*

## Disabilities Ministries

The Southern Union endeavors to make the Gospel and our churches accessible to individuals and families with disabilities, promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of church life, and strives to educate the membership in disability-related areas such as architectural accessibility, accommodations, sensitivity awareness, and evangelism.

Ministry to People with Disabilities was given birth in 1989 as the North American Division's Office of Human Relations identified that this large people group was underserved within the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. Lack of physical accessibility and accommodations, along with a general absence of awareness concerning disability issues, found most churches unprepared to evangelize persons with physical and mental differences.

As a result, a Commission for People with Disabilities was formulated to give study to this great need. Four main areas were identified: accessibility, accommodation, encouragement, and employment.

The Southern Union was the first union to embrace this great opportunity, and today it advances ministry to people with disabilities by supporting and overseeing the activities of the Southern Union Disabilities Ministries Team, a lay group who conducts educational programs and lends expertise to local churches.

- The Carolina, Florida, South



Ward Sumpter, director

Atlantic, South Central, and Southeastern conferences have active disabilities ministries programs.

- More than 375 disability awareness Sabbaths and/or educational programs have been presented to Southern Union churches and Adventist groups.

- There are more than 131 known disabilities minis-

tries coordinators serving within local Southern Union churches.

- Numerous churches have reported making modifications such as accessible parking spaces, installation of hearing devices, utilization of sign language interpreters, shortening pews to provide seating space for persons using wheelchairs, constructing a covered walkway, revamping entrance areas, modifying existing restrooms, adding new restrooms, offering alternate formats for church bulletins (i.e. large print), and adding ramps or electronic lifts in order to access the rostrum area.

- A disabilities ministries handbook has been written by members of the NAD Commission for People with Disabilities.

- A Disability Awareness Pathfinder honor was written and approved as a Florida Conference honor. This honor is being utilized throughout the Florida Conference and the Southern Union.

In ministry to people with disabilities, the Southern Union follows Jesus' example of compassionate involvement, and adheres to His commission to "go ye into all the

world and preach the gospel to every creature" Mark 16:15. This includes the more than 54 million people with disabilities within the United States, an estimated 20 percent of a local community. That is many people within the Southern Union waiting to hear the Gospel.

As disabilities ministries continues to move forward in the Southern Union, the future invites many exciting and innovative opportunities, such as recruiting additional volunteer lay workers to be part of the outreach teams, advancing knowledge through



Mike and Sharon Harrell

newsletters and advertising, providing training seminars to disabilities ministries leaders, and planning additional area-wide awareness days.

We wish to express appreciation to Mike and Sharon Harrell for their leadership in Disabilities Ministries, and we want to welcome Joan Bova back, who is serving as co-director.

## Inner City Ministries

Inner City Ministries is a vital part of the Church's mission. In most of our cities, there are large population groups of underprivileged people who are working for minimum wages.



These families are without the basic necessities of life. So many of them go to bed hungry night after night. The mother is usually the head of the home, working two jobs in order to survive.

The Church must become involved with all for whom Christ died. We must provide alternative activities such as youth activities, summer camps, vacation Bible school, tutoring classes, and computer programs. Jesus gives us a clear understanding of our responsibility and what we must do to help lift our brothers and sisters from such conditions.

In Matthew chapter 25 the challenge in verse 40 states, "And the king shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

For those who refuse their responsibility to the least of these, Jesus replies again in verse 45, "Then shall He answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me."

Ellen G. White states in her book, *Ministry of Healing*, pp. 189-190, "In the great cities are multitudes who receive less care and consideration than are given to dumb animals . . . In these wretched places, children are born and grow up and die . . . Children hear the name of God only in profanity. Foul speech, imprecations, and revilings fill their ears. The fumes of liquor and tobacco, sickening stenches, moral degradation, pervert their senses. Thus multitudes are trained to become criminals, foes to society that has abandoned them to misery and degradation."

We are glad the Southern Union is partnering with our conferences and churches in this ministry. We congratulate those who share in this ministry with shelters, mobile kitchens, feeding



Joan Bova

programs, and all the other facets of ministry.

The Southern Union Conference has given more than one-half million dollars back to the conferences to assist in this program.

We praise God for the many hours from volunteers to keep this ministry going.

### Prison Ministries

Building new prison facilities is a big business for the state. There are prisons for females, prisons for males, and prisons for juveniles. We call this warehousing inmates.

In many of our prison institutions, it costs more to go to jail for a year and be cared for than to go to Yale University.

The largest population in most prisons are blacks, with the second largest being Hispanics. It is discovered that most of these inmates are high school dropouts. This is almost a guarantee for repeat offenders. They will become a great challenge for society as criminals.

Most politicians are not interested in finding a solution as to why a segment of the population became criminals. Let's look at some of the reasons. The school buildings are rundown and need replacement. Very little funds are used to enhance learning for the child that is trapped in the inner city. A large segment of the population has given up on the inner city. Look at the neighborhoods, broken down homes, lawns not cut, drug pushers, prostitution on many corners, broken sidewalks, poor light-

ing, streets needing repair, and the list goes on.

There is another segment of our population that is being incarcerated, and that is our women. The female prison population has more than doubled since 1990, increasing from 44,065 to 94,336 in 2001, which was 6.7 percent of all prisoners nationwide.

Men's incarceration rate is still 15 percent higher than for women. Men are much more likely to be serving sentences for longer than a year.

There are many who made a simple mistake, were caught, paid for their crime, and never returned to prison. Some surrendered their lives to Jesus and only went back to share the gospel with their former inmates.

There are some people who will only be still, because of their circumstances, to listen to God speak to them.

Here in the Southern Union we have two of the largest Prison Ministry programs in the North American Division. Richard Bland, CEO of United Prison Ministries International, in Verbena, Alabama, travels all over the world to speak in prison houses telling inmates about the love of Jesus. We also have Frank Barton, who is the CEO of Florida Prison Ministry for the Florida Conference and the Southeastern Conference. These men are doing a fantastic ministry with their teams of workers.

I want to thank all the churches for the local prison ministry programs you carry on from your churches.

In Matthew 24:66 Jesus gives these words of encouragement for prison ministry leaders and team members: "I was in prison and you came unto me."

Thank God for all who are involved in Prison Ministry.



The Bethany church in Montgomery, Alabama, rolls out the red carpet for its members and guests, from the parking lot to the pew.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

# Touch a Heart - Tell the World A Ministry for Every Woman



Laura Smith, director



Cheryl Retzer, advisor



Barbara Pierce, administrative assistant

During the past quinquennium the women of the Southern Union have been touching hearts and impacting the lives of individuals within its territory and beyond, including countries in Africa and the Philippines. The areas of focus for the Southern Union Women's Ministries Department have been leadership, evangelism, reclamation, mentoring, and discipleship.

We praise God for the following accomplishments that have been made in these areas.

### Leadership Certification

The eight conference directors and the Southern Union director completed the General Conference Women's Ministries Leadership Certification Program, Levels 1 and 2. The Southern Union is the first Union in the North American Division to complete the first two levels of the program. The confer-

ence directors utilized their training to conduct leadership programs in the conferences. Collectively, they have certified hundreds of women at the local levels.

The conference directors sharpened their leadership skills as they attended local and national leadership conferences.

### Public Evangelism

The Year of Evangelism 2004 was

launched with an intensive weekend of training in the area of public evangelism. Each of the eight conference directors and two additional women from each conference were trained. The training was implemented as attendees actively participated in a mock evangelistic meeting. The team of three women constitutes the women's ministries evangelism team in each conference. The teams train other women, plan, and conduct evangelistic meetings.

An evangelistic team from one conference traveled to Africa, and another team trained a woman who conducted evangelistic meetings in the Philippines. These mission trips resulted in hundreds of baptisms.

### Friendship Evangelism

The women of the Southern Union have been intentional about reaching out to win friends and to influence

## Statistics for 2001–2005

Evangelistic Meetings.....	270
Reclaimed Members.....	256
Training Seminars.....	871
Other Meetings .....	28,497
Retreats.....	1237
Adventist Women Attending Retreats/Meetings .....	309,867
NonAdventist Women Attending Retreats/Meetings.....	29,999
*Baptisms.....	2259
<i>*Baptisms include those in Africa and the Philippines</i>	

individuals for Jesus Christ. This has been done through various ministries and activities such as prayer ministry, home Bible studies, mentoring, nurturing, and the kindness ministry. Women have been challenged to broaden their circle of friends and acquaintances, thus maximizing their sphere of influence.

### Reclamation

Many former members of the Adventist Church have been reclaimed through the Heart Call Ministry. Heart Call is a seven-step reclamation plan designed to reclaim those sisters in Christ who no longer attend church. The Heart Call volunteer seeks to first reestablish a connection with the inactive member by befriending her. Several churches are using Heart Call or a modification of this approach in their reclamation program.

### Young Women's Ministries

Each conference has developed ministries for young women and girls. We like to think of this as the Titus 2:3-5 ministry.

The goals for this ministry are to spiritually uplift and nurture; to assist young ladies in recognizing and appreciating their self-worth

and purpose in Christ; to identify and develop their God-given talents and abilities; and to enjoy a connection with Jesus Christ and others through Bible study, prayer, community service, kind deeds, wholesome recreation, and other activities. These goals are achieved during monthly meetings and during the conference and local church retreats for young women and girls.

### Mentoring Program

The Southern Union endorses the mentoring program for young collegiate women that the South Central Conference Women's Ministries Department, in partnership with Oakwood College, initiated during the spring quarter of 2006. Hundreds of students and approximately 50 adult mentors from the faculty, staff, and the community shared activities recently during a weekend.

### Women's Retreats

Retreats continue to be a source of spiritual renewal, inspiration, and fellowship for the women of the Southern Union. At the retreats, women have been blessed to have their specific and diverse needs addressed through the messages of dynamic speakers, seminar presenters, prayer groups, and other activities.

### Women's Ministries Sabbaths

Women's ministries in the Southern Union endorses and implements the Sabbaths designated by the General Conference and the North American Division: the International Day of Prayer, Women's Ministries Emphasis Day, Special Women's Ministries Offering Day, and the Abuse Prevention Emphasis Sabbath.



Cheryl Retzer (left), Southern Union women's ministries advisor, discusses methods of evangelizing the Union with Debbie Rapp, Carolina Conference women's ministries director, and Mary Maxson, former North American Division women's ministries director.

### Jesus Said, Go! Make Disciples....

*God in Shoes*, is a homeland mission outreach project sponsored by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Department of Women's Ministries. Women traveled to Rogersville, Tennessee, for the past two summers for the expressed purpose of touching the lives of individuals who live there in positive tangible ways. The ultimate goal of *God in Shoes* is to win friends and influence individuals for Jesus Christ.

Other conferences are engaged in numerous outreach projects and programs.

### As We Look to the Future

The Spirit of God will continue to hover over the Southern Union Department of Women's Ministries as He has done since its inception. Women will continue to utilize their God-given gifts and talents to touch lives and to tell the world.

I acknowledge with gratitude the advisor and the members of the Southern Union Women's Ministries Executive/Planning Committee for its commitment to guiding and nurturing the growth and development of the department. There is a commitment to maintain a high level of spirituality within each element of the ministry. I solicit your continued prayers that God will continue to move the women's ministries department onward and upward to the next level.



Laura Smith (seated, left), director; Cheryl Retzer (seated, right), advisor, attended the Southern Union Women's Ministries Evangelism Training Workshop at Cobutta Springs Conference Center, along with eight Conference directors: Mary Jo Dubs (standing, left), Georgia Cumberland; Debbie Rapp, Carolina; Sheryal Vandenberghe, Florida; Janice Shipbaugh, Gulf States; Nicolle Brisé, Southeastern; Sylvia Wilson, South Atlantic; Gail McKenzie, Kentucky-Tennessee; and Shirley Scott, South Central.



# Advertisements

## How to Submit Your Advertising

(1) Have your pastor or a local church elder write "Approved" and his signature on the sheet of paper containing the advertisement, (2) write your name and address on the same sheet, (3) specify how many times the ad is to run, (4) send the approved ad to your conference office 6 weeks in advance of the publication date and (5) don't forget to enclose payment in full for each month the ad is to run. Make checks payable to SOUTHERN UNION.

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**SOUTHERN TIDINGS** makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertising, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns, or for typographical errors.

## PROPERTY AVAILABLE

**GARDEN RETIREMENT COMMUNITY APARTMENTS.** A carefree lifestyle for your retirement years. 2-BRs/1-BA and 2-BRs/2-BAs available for lease. Church, hospital, nursing home, private park, and walking/biking trail on site. Walk to doctors' offices and shopping in Apopka, FL. Call 407-814-1718 M-F, 8am-4pm or go to [www.GardenRetirementApartments.com](http://www.GardenRetirementApartments.com) for brochure. Operated by Adventist Care Centers. Equal Housing Opportunity. (9-2)

**INDEPENDENT RETIREMENT.** Make plans today! Lovely apartments and villas in the magnificent mountains of western North Carolina at Fletcher Park Inn. Accepting priority list fees NOW for current and future openings. Complimentary vegetarian meal when you take a no-obligation tour. 800-249-2882 or [fpimarketing@bellsouth.net](mailto:fpimarketing@bellsouth.net) [www.fletcherparkinn.com](http://www.fletcherparkinn.com) (9,10)

**ADVENTIST-REALTOR.COM** is a nationwide real estate referral service, helping church members and employees to buy and sell homes. Our network of nearly 100 Seventh-day Adventist realtors is ready to serve you. Call us at 888-582-2888 and ask for Linda Dayen. Are you an agent or broker? Call us to participate. (9)

**BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOMES FOR SALE in Kentucky.** Currently offering a lovely 3-BRs/2-BAs Ranch for \$108,000. Will build to suit on remaining lots. Many with exceptional views. Friendly conservative Adventist church and community. Call 606-787-6778 or visit our website at [KentuckyLandDevelopment.com](http://KentuckyLandDevelopment.com) (9-6)

**READY TO RELAX?** Apartments and rooms available for healthy, active seniors. Florida Living Retirement Community 13.5 acres near Orlando. Pool, walking trail, activities, vegetarian cuisine, alcohol/smoke-free, transportation/housekeeping available. Conference-owned. Call Jackie at 407-862-2646, 800-729-8017, or email: [JackieFLRC@aol.com](mailto:JackieFLRC@aol.com) (9)

**GATLINBURG CONDOS** from \$298k (3,000 sq. ft.) and Pigeon Forge cabins from \$169k. Visit [azoder.com](http://azoder.com) for more information. Call Adriana Zoder, Colonial Real Estate, 2704 Middle Creek Rd., Pigeon Forge, TN 37863, 865-654-5056 or 800-371-1078. (9)

**FAMILY VACATION in MEXICO!** Luxury oceanfront suites available at Five Star Mayan Resorts. ([www.mayanresorts.com](http://www.mayanresorts.com)) Each 2-BR/1-BA suite, sleeps 6 adults and 2 children. Includes kitchenette, 50% discount on golf. \$1000 per week/per each 2-BR suite. 423-473-9496 or [bgl@iglide.net](mailto:bgl@iglide.net) (9,10)

**FOR SALE.** Prosperous, growing, window shutter manufacturing business located in Moscow, TN. Gross annual revenue in 2005: \$450,000. Interested buyers must be committed SDAs. Call Gary Thompson at 901-493-7403 or 901-853-8979. (9)

**COUNTRY STYLE ASSISTED LIVING.** Our new home is located in the foothills of Alabama between Wildwood and Uchee Pines. Our rustic setting has two private rooms (with bath and closet) and common living, dining, kitchen, utility and screened patio facilities. We are designed for two or three people, and would be ideal for a couple. Utilities (including unlimited phone and 3ABN), laundry, cleaning, vegetarian meals, and transportation are included. Most importantly, we are looking for someone of traditional Adventist faith to

join us in awaiting the Blessed Hope! For questions or additional information, please call Todd Brown at 256-449-2248. (9,10)

**CENTRAL FLORIDA REAL ESTATE** - Let Bob Fulghum (SMC '54) with 25 years experience in real estate help you with your real estate needs. I also do property management. 407-896-6080 or 407-758-5807. (9)

**FOR SALE. Wilderness living** - Wildersville, TN, and Natchez Trace State Park - 2,900 sq.ft. 4BRs/3BAs on 5 acres, fruit trees, garden, all utilities, 10-year-old, part stick/part manufactured, separate 12 x 32 ft. cabin - \$104,000. Owners-731-225-8244, appointment to see, 731-845-5443. (9)

**FOR SALE.** Escaping hurricanes, heat, and humidity? Country living in east Tennessee. 2750 sq.ft. Cedar logs. 3BRs/2 1/2 baths, awesome closet. Full basement with two rooms and bath. Double garage. Creeks, garden, generator, wildlife. Wooded setting, one hour+ from SAU. \$319,500. 423-338-4267. (9)

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

**WHITE MEMORIAL MISSIONARY COLLEGE.** Distance education, not-for-profit, Liberal Arts College emphasizing health professions. Seeking faculty in all disciplines for health, non-health, and technical school majors/certifications. All faculty work from home. Visit [www.wmmc.info](http://www.wmmc.info) for more details. (9-11)

**SHAWNEE MISSION MEDICAL CENTER (SMMC), a Seventh-day Adventist community service,** has a variety of openings for health care professionals interested in immediate placement. SMMC is a 383-bed acute-care facility located in beautiful Johnson County. This family-friendly community offers a safe and relaxed atmosphere, high quality schools, and easy access to museums, cultural arts, and

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# Advertisements

professional sports teams. Please contact the job line at 800-845-6216, or click on Employment at [www.shawneeemission.org](http://www.shawneeemission.org) for a listing of open positions. Contact Brad Hoffman, Administrative Director of Human Resources at 913-676-2020 for more information. Resumes may be faxed to: 913-676-2019. (9-1)

**BABY NURSES NEEDED!** Hardworking, CNA, LPN, or RNs to work with new mothers and their babies. Will train. Must travel. Call for more information about being part of our ministry. 866-727-4729 or [www.rachelsinfantcare.com](http://www.rachelsinfantcare.com) (9,10)

**DIRECTOR of NURSING** needed for 50-bed nursing home in country setting. Requires a Tennessee registered nursing license in good standing; a minimum of two years long-term care experience is preferred. 423-775-0771. (9)

**THE BLACK HILLS HEALTH and EDUCATION CENTER** has the following positions open: RN with phlebotomy skills; male and female therapists qualified in massage and hydrotherapy; kitchen assistant and housekeeper. If you would enjoy ministering to others in a setting that ministers to you, consider joining the BHHEC team in the scenic Black Hills of South Dakota. Contact Dick Nunez at 605-255-4101. (9)

**SENIOR SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR.** It Is Written's Technical Services Department in Spokane, Wash., is seeking a Senior

Systems Administrator. Our preferred candidate has a passion for sharing Christ through technology, more than five years of system administration/programming experience, and a solid understanding of Linux and Open Source. This position will include occasional travel to tend to the technical needs of the ministry. To learn more about this position and/or to apply, please visit [www.itiswritten.com/jobs](http://www.itiswritten.com/jobs) (9)

**GORDON HOSPITAL is looking for a Chief Nursing Officer.** Candidate must possess BSN and have at least five to seven years of nursing leadership experience. Previous CNO experience is preferred. Gordon Hospital is located in Calhoun, GA – approximately one hour north of Atlanta and one hour south of Chattanooga. For more information, contact Jeni Hasselbrack at [jeni.hasselbrack@ahss.org](mailto:jeni.hasselbrack@ahss.org) or call 706-602-7800, x2321. (9)

**FAMILY PRACTICE PHYSICIAN SEEKING PARTNER** for growing practice near Southern Adventist University in Cleveland, TN. Call Brian Breetzke, M.D., 423-478-1970. (9)

## MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

**NOTICE!** Are you struggling with arthritis, diabetes, cancer, colon problems, or other health issues? Try the Garden Vegetable Trio... "instant nutrition" of freshly juiced green barley grass, carrots, and beets in convenient powder or capsules. FREE cassette and information on Biblical Nutrition

Course. Call toll-free: 888-356-5707. (9)  
**ADVENTIST WITNESS WEAR.** If you're like most people, you probably wear clothing that bears some name brand logo. Now you can proudly share your faith when you wear Adventist logo apparel. For details and gift selection, go to [www.AdventistWitnessWear.com](http://www.AdventistWitnessWear.com) or call toll-free 800-305-1297. (9)

**Adventist Review Special:** Answer the call to follow Jesus 24/7. Subscribe to the *Adventist Review*, the magazine that takes your Christian walk to the next level. Discover a closer relationship with Jesus through the personal testimonies and wisdom of other modern disciples. Order before October 31, 2006 and get a \$5.00 discount. Pay only US\$31.95 for 36 issues (one year). Call 800-456-3991 or visit [www.AdventistReview.org](http://www.AdventistReview.org) (9)

## MISCELLANEOUS

**SINGLES.** Introducing Adventists discreetly and confidentially since 1987. We are dedicated to helping singles meet in a comfortable/secure on-line environment. Enjoy chat, message boards, photos, profiles, uplifting articles, much more. We have a personal community for creating relationships from companionship to friendship, romance to marriage. DiscoverChristianSingles.com (9)


**SINGLE AND OVER 40?** Stay home and meet new friends in USA interracial group for all singles over 40. For information, send self-addressed stamped envelope to ASO-40 and Ebony Choice, 2747 Nonpareil, Sutherlin, OR 97479. (9)

**ChristianSinglesDating.com**  
 AdventistsSingles.org FREE trial!  
 Thousands of successes! FREE chat, search, and profiles. Witnessing through articles, friendships, and forums. Adventist owned since 1993. Top ranked. ©

**SAVE \$\$ MOVING.** Experienced, careful, licensed, and insured interstate SDA mover. Based in Orlando. Call Russ Durham: 407-884-0089. ©

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# Advertisements

Contact Gary Erhard, Erhard Furniture, 6681 U.S. 31, Berrien Springs, MI; 269-471-7366 evenings 8-11 p.m. ©

**RELOCATING?** Apex Moving & Storage has a National Account Contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: [www.apexmoving.com/adventist](http://www.apexmoving.com/adventist) (9,10)

**RVs!!!** Adventist owned and operated RV dealership has been helping SDAs for more than 30 years. Huge inventory. Courtesy airport pickup and onsite hookups. Satisfied SDA customer list available. Call toll-free: 888-933-9300. Lee's RV City, Oklahoma City. Visit our website: [www.leesrv.com](http://www.leesrv.com) or email: [LeesRVs@aol.com](mailto:LeesRVs@aol.com) ©

**CAVE SPRINGS HOME** has openings for mentally retarded adult residents. Contact Craig or Joyce at 615-646-6962 or [cshmr@yahoo.com](mailto:cshmr@yahoo.com) (9-11)

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD.** New home-based business opportunity is changing ordinary lives into extraordinary lives. What you earn is up to you. Call 866-796-6178. (9)

**A REAL HOME-BASED BUSINESS.** Work anywhere, full or part-time. Fantastic opportunity with one of the fastest growing reputable companies in America. Amazing product line, large earning potential with minimal cash investment. Training and

support provided. Must be self-motivated and teachable. Call: 800-825-7583 for details. (9,10)

**RESIDENTS WANTED.** Long term care, vegetarian/vegan diet, couples welcome, dementia, wanderers, total care offered. Quiet, secluded, mountain community with Seventh-day Adventist Church next door. Laurelbrook Nursing Home, 200 Sanitarium Circle, Dayton, TN 37321, 423-775-0771. (9-6)

**STUDENTS NEEDED**—Spiritual atmosphere, quiet country setting. Learning opportunities include CAN, dietary, housekeeping, auto mechanics, building trades, gardening, landscaping, and more while getting an academy education. Natural setting includes waterfalls, canyon, and rock formations. 423-775-3339, or online at [www.laurelbrook.org](http://www.laurelbrook.org) (9-12)

**FREE MISSION AVIATION STORIES!!!** Contact Adventist World Aviation for a free quarterly newsletter. Write Adventist World Aviation, Box 251, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, or e-mail: [info@flyawa.org](mailto:info@flyawa.org), or register online: [www.flyawa.org](http://www.flyawa.org) (9-6)

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SICK.** Retired pastor shares his personal "fight-back plan." Request free CD entitled Winning is More Than Wishing. Call 423-272-8537 or [east@usit.net](mailto:east@usit.net) (9)

**VACATION on KAUAI, HAWAII, "The Garden Island."** Kahili Adventist School

operates a scenic mountain park with 1-4 room cabins, sleeping 2-6 persons. All have kitchens complete with pans, utensils, dishes, etc. See pictures and rates at [kahilipark.org](http://kahilipark.org). Reservations: 808-742-9921. (9-11)

**EIGHT NATURAL REMEDIES** with James Johnson, M.D. Phone/fax: 615-523-2136. Online Nursing and Natural Medicine courses. [www.geocities.com/jjohnsonmd/remedies8](http://www.geocities.com/jjohnsonmd/remedies8) (9)

**REBECCA'S ELDER CARE HAS AN OPENING.** Dedicated, certified caregiver with 20 years experience, providing complete care in a private, quiet, country home in eastern Tennessee on the plateau. Large yard with fruit trees, flowers, and view. Private room with full bath. Call for information 423-881-4231. (9)

**SEE YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK** in winter with skilled SDA snowmobile guides. Experience pristine beauty and amazing animals. Enjoy good fellowship, inspiring devotions, deluxe accommodations, and fine cuisine. Don't miss this unique experience--the only snowmobile tours traveling throughout Yellowstone Park. Limited openings for January 2007. Call John at 509-747-7622, Pacific Time. (9-11)

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# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**Carolina LE Retreat** --- Sept. 7-10. Nosoca.  
**Young Adult Retreat** --- Sept. 15-17. Nosoca.  
**Pathfinder Camporee** --- Sept. 22-24. Midland.  
**Hispanic Women's Retreat** --- Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Nosoca.

## Florida

**Complete calendar online**—[www.floridapathfinders.com/calendar.html](http://www.floridapathfinders.com/calendar.html)  
**Florida Pathfinder Events**—[www.floridapathfinders.com/](http://www.floridapathfinders.com/) or call 407-644-5000 x127.  
**Singles' Ministries**—Details: [www.asamcf.org/melody](http://www.asamcf.org/melody), [west@ahss.org](mailto:west@ahss.org), or 407-292-1421.  
**Evangelism Series**  
 Aug. 24-Sept. 30. Arcadia. Lester and Zula Pratt.  
 Sept. 10-Nov. 4. Brandon. Bill and Sunshine Waters.  
 Sept. 15-30. Lake City. Marc and Sarah Swearingen.  
**Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule**  
 Sept. 9. Naples.  
 Sept. 10. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Lakeview, Winter Haven.  
 Sept. 23. Jacksonville Southpoint.  
 Sept. 24. Jacksonville First, Orange Cove, St. Augustine, Palatka, New Smyrna Beach. (SEC: Jacksonville Ephesus.)  
**South Orlando Church 55th Anniversary**—Sept. 16. All former pastors and members invited. Details: [so7day@yahoo.com](mailto:so7day@yahoo.com) or 407-855-8722.  
**West Coast Convocation**—Details: 813-933-7505.  
 Sept. 22. Tampa First Church.  
 Sept. 23. Mahaffey Theatre at Bayfront Center, St. Petersburg.  
**Florida Conference Regular Constituency Session**—Oct. 1. Forest Lake Academy.

## Georgia-Cumberland

**Women's Conference**—Sept. 16. Kingsport, Tenn. Speaker: Sylvia Mitiko.  
**Single Parent and Kids Retreat**—Sept. 1-3.  
**Elders' Certification**—Sept. 8-10. Cohutta Springs.

**Retired Workers Retreat**—Sept. 14-17. Cohutta Springs.  
**Pathfinder Fellowships**  
 Sept. 15-17. North Tennessee. Locust Springs.  
 Sept. 15-17. North Georgia. Cohutta Springs.  
 Sept. 17. South Tennessee. Collegedale.  
**GC Elders' Training**—Sept. 16. Marietta, Ga.  
**Young Adult Retreat**—Sept. 22-24. Cohutta Springs.  
**Evangelistic Meetings**  
 Sept. 7-Nov. 7. Mountain City, Tenn. Lewis Norwood.  
 Sept. 8-Oct. 15. Atlanta North church. David Guadalupe.  
 Sept. 9-Oct. 7. Savannah, Ga. BJ Boles.  
 Sept. 30-Oct. 7. First Cleveland Hispanic church. Juan J. Suarez.

## Gulf States

**Pastors' Area Meetings**  
 Sept. 6. Conference Office.  
 Sept. 7. Huntsville Central.  
 Sept. 12. Meridian.  
 Sept. 14. Pensacola University Parkway.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Association Board**  
 Sept. 20. Nov. 8.  
**Conference Executive Committee**  
 Sept. 20. Nov. 8.  
**Women's Retreats at Indian Creek Camp**  
 Sept. 15-17. Hispanic.  
 Sept. 22-24. Young Women.  
 Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Fall Retreat I.  
 Oct. 6-8. Fall Retreat II.

## South Atlantic

**Hispanic Children's Festival**—Sept. 8-9.  
**Elders' and Head Deacons' Retreat**—Sept. 15-17. Orangeburg, SC.  
**Workers' Meeting**—Sept. 17-20.  
**ABC Committee Meeting**—Sept. 20.  
**FHES Committee Meeting**—Sept. 20  
**Conference-Wide Call-to-Action Youth Disability Emphasis**—Sept. 23.  
**Hispanic Men's Retreat**—Sept. 29-30.

**Family Health Ministries Retreat**—Sept. 29-Oct. 1.  
**SAC/ED Principals' Council**—Oct. 1-3.  
**SAC Departmental Council**—Oct. 4.  
**South Carolina Youth Federation**—Oct. 6-8.  
**Small Church Initiative**—Oct. 7. Sanford, NC.  
**Hispanic Evangelism**—Oct. 8-21.  
**Health Retreat**—Oct. 12-15. Orangeburg, SC.  
**Shepherdess Retreat**—Oct. 13-15.

## Southern Adventist University

**Vespers**—Sept. 1. Gordon Bietz.  
**Ministries Expo**—Sept. 8.  
**Commitment Weekend**—Sept. 8-10. Sam Leonor.  
**Lewis & Clark**—Sept. 13. Gary Stroutsons.  
**Convocation**—Sept. 21. Rick Blondo.  
**ViewSouthern**—Sept. 25-27.  
**Orchestra Concert**—Oct. 8.  
**InTents Meetings**—Oct. 9-13.

## Announcements

**University Adventist Church 50th Year Celebration**—Sept. 15, 16. Details: [www.universitysda.com](http://www.universitysda.com) or email: [Joan48840@earthlink.net](mailto:Joan48840@earthlink.net)  
**Oak Park Alumni Weekend**—Sept. 29, 30. Details: [www.opainiowa.com](http://www.opainiowa.com)  
**Greater Boston Academy Alumni Association Reunion**—Sept. 29, 30. Details: [gba.myfamily.com](mailto:gba.myfamily.com)  
**Sunnydale Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend**—Oct. 5-8.

Details: 573-682-2164, or visit: [www.sunnydale.org](http://www.sunnydale.org)  
**Pine Tree Academy Alumni Weekend**—Oct. 27, 28. Details: [www.pinetreeacademy.org](http://www.pinetreeacademy.org)  
**Seventh-day Adventist Korean Language Institute Alumni Missionaries** where are you? If you served in South Korea as a student or regular Missionary, please send us your contact information in preparation for a reunion during summer/fall 2006. E-mail: [marilynazarus@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynazarus@hotmail.com) or [sali@puonline.org](mailto:sali@puonline.org)  
**Spokane Junior Academy Class of 1957** --- Anticipating a 50-year class reunion at SJA Homecoming in 2007, I would like to get in touch with the students who moved through the grades at SJA with us, whether they graduated in 1957 or not. If you have contact information for any of our classmates, please get it to Nadine Platner Dower at [dickandnadine@comcast.net](mailto:dickandnadine@comcast.net) or call: 360-828-7146; or 13000 NW 47th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685.  
**1956 Thunderbird Adventist Academy Graduates:** We are trying to locate all of the Thunderbird Adventist Academy Graduates of 1956 for our 50th reunion meeting. Please write to: Eugene Wahlman, 12223 N. 39th Way, Phoenix, AZ 85032; or call 602-867-0264; or email: [genenan@mailstation.com](mailto:genenan@mailstation.com)  
**Tri-City Junior Academy 50th Anniversary** ---April 27-29, 2007. We are inviting all TCA attendees to join us for a Homecoming-Alumni Weekend. Details: [www.tricityjunioracademy.org](http://www.tricityjunioracademy.org); 336-665-9822; 8000 Clinard Farms Road, High Point, NC 27265.  
**Glendale Adventist Academy Centennial Celebration** --- May 4-6, 2007. Details: 818-244-8671; [GAAalumni@Gmail.com](mailto:GAAalumni@Gmail.com)

	Sunset					
	Sept. 1	Sept. 8	Sept. 15	Sept. 22	Sept. 29	Oct. 6
Atlanta, GA	7:59	7:49	7:39	7:30	7:20	7:11
Charleston, SC	7:40	7:31	7:21	7:12	7:03	6:54
Charlotte, NC	7:45	7:36	7:25	7:15	7:05	6:56
Collegedale, TN	8:02	7:52	7:42	7:32	7:22	7:13
Huntsville, AL	7:08	6:58	6:48	6:38	6:28	6:19
Jackson, MS	7:21	7:12	7:02	6:53	6:44	6:35
Louisville, KY	8:08	7:57	7:46	7:35	7:24	7:13
Memphis, TN	7:22	7:12	7:02	6:52	6:42	6:32
Miami, FL	7:37	7:29	7:21	7:14	7:06	6:59
Montgomery, AL	7:05	6:56	6:47	6:37	6:28	6:19
Nashville, TN	7:10	7:00	6:49	6:39	6:29	6:19
Orlando, FL	7:43	7:35	7:26	7:18	7:10	7:02
Wilmington, NC	7:33	7:23	7:14	7:04	6:54	6:45

# Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ

As a mission-driven organization, Adventist Health System (AHS) believes strength and growth have little virtue unless they work to benefit others. AHS is always seeking new ways to use its strength. This can mean anything from building needed facilities to purchasing life-saving equipment, offering community wellness programs, or sponsoring volunteer mission projects. Continued growth allows Adventist Health System to actively pursue its mission of service and compassion.

Serving more than four million patients annually, Adventist Health System has become the largest not-for-profit Protestant healthcare provider in the nation. Thirty-six hospitals, 17 extended care facilities, and more than 20 home health and hospice agencies comprise Adventist Health System, employing more than 44,000 people. The organization exists in four of the North American Division unions: Southern, Southwestern, Lake, and Mid-America.

## Reaching Out

To share Christ's vision of hope, health, and healing, Adventist Health System recently implemented the FACES program. FACES (Following After Christ's Example of Service) is designed to encourage and support medical and health-related programs initiated by local



*Walter Wright (left), board chairman, Adventist Health System; Donald Jernigan, president/CEO, Adventist Health System; Lars Houmann, president/CEO, Florida Hospital and the Florida Division; and Rich Reiner, president/CEO of the Multi-State Division of Adventist Health System*

churches or church-related organizations. Adventist Health System funds and supports the development and distribution of program resources and training of staff, volunteers, and church members. This program exemplifies the collaboration of Adventist Health System with other Adventist organizations to extend Christ's healing mission to local communities.

During the past five years, Adventist Health System has maintained a number of ongoing overseas mission projects. For example, Florida Hospital continues to dedicate time and resources to the people of Juliaca, Peru. Thanks to the efforts of Florida Hospital volunteers, this community now has a state-of-the-art surgical training center, a physical therapy center, and a new elementary school. In addition, volunteer medical staffs

have touched countless lives by traveling to Juliaca to perform surgeries and administer free health care.

## Touching Hearts

The mission that Adventist Health System extends to its communities and around the world begins in the heart of the organization—its employees. The Spiritual Ambassador program exemplifies this dedication to mission. This volunteer program, which was created by employees for employees, trains participants to empathize, uplift, listen to other's concerns,

and comfort each other through prayer and devotion. Many hospitals throughout Adventist Health System have adopted this initiative. "This program provides an opportunity to develop friendships that extend our hospital's mission to every individual," said Bonnie Shadix, a spiritual ambassador at Gordon Hospital.

At Emory-Adventist Hospital, spiritually searching patients find a home in the Open Church. The Open Church is a group of about 20 to 30 people who worship together in the hospital cafeteria every Sabbath morning. Hospital patient Lloyd Evans was brought into this church family by a patient services coordinator. "I needed some spiritual guidance...and ever since I've been here, my life has completely changed," said Evans.



### Healing Lives

Adventist Health System has always maintained a commitment to providing services to the poor and the broader community, regardless of their ability to pay. Despite the challenge of a growing uninsured population and the resulting scrutiny of charity care, this organization continues to be a steward of its assets. In 2005, Adventist Health System provided \$612,601,117 in community benefits. This included free community services, the unreimbursed cost of education and research, cash and in-kind donations, and charity care.

### Leadership

Every year, Adventist Health System leaders join with church leaders for the annual Conference on Mission. In addition to inspirational programs that include testimonies, music, and guest speakers, the conference provides an opportunity for the leadership team to share case studies of programs that have been successfully implemented at their hospitals. This conference not only solidifies the organization's commitment to mission, but also nurtures a positive relationship between Adventist Health System and church leadership.

During the past two years, AHS has experienced several key leadership changes. In February, 2005, Walter Wright was elected chairman of the Adventist Health System Board. Elder Wright also currently serves as president of

the Lake Union Conference. He has served in the Seventh-day Adventist Church for more than 35 years, previously working in the Southwestern Union Conference and Allegheny West Conference.

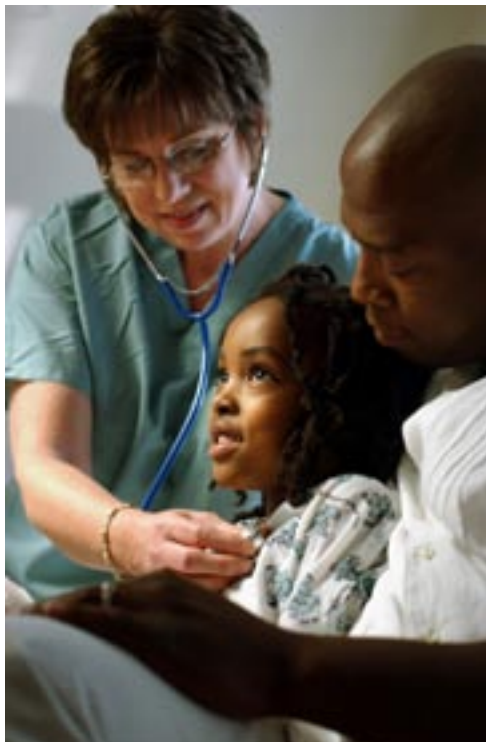
On February 23, 2006, Donald Jernigan was elected by the Board of Directors of Adventist Health System to serve as President/CEO. "The board and I have complete confidence that he will successfully lead Adventist Health System towards future growth and success with a strong commitment to mission," said board chairman Walter Wright. Jernigan most recently served as executive vice president of Adventist Health System and chief

executive officer of Florida Hospital and the Florida Division.

Other appointments followed closely behind. Lars Houmann was named as the new president and chief executive officer of Florida Hospital, as well as the Florida Division, which includes Adventist Health System's 17 hospitals in Florida. In addition, Rich Reiner was appointed to serve as the president/CEO of the Multi-State Division of Adventist Health System. In this capacity, he provides leadership to 21 hospitals across nine states.

### Growing Stronger Expands the Mission

Through careful navigation in an often-unsettled healthcare environment, Adventist Health System has been able to further its mission and strengthen its financial position during the past five years. The organization has developed a series of initiatives designed to grow revenues and contain costs as it reaffirms its faith-based mission in the face of many challenges. Adventist Health System continues to be vigilant in making the best use of its assets by seeking a balance between the use of resources to provide uncompensated care and the obligation to invest in facilities, well-trained personnel and technologies that meet community needs. The continued success of this organization is a perfect example of the value of a unified commitment to a common goal: extending the healing ministry of Christ.







" The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. "

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## FLORIDA HOSPITAL COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES



*Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, a Seventh-day Adventist institution owned by Florida Hospital, specializes in the education of healthcare professionals. In harmony with the mission of Florida Hospital, the College provides an environment where students can develop spiritually, intellectually, socially, and physically while pursuing professional expertise integrated with Christian values.*

—Mission Statement

### **Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences**

Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences (FHCHS) has taken healthcare education to a new level of excellence during the past five years. In keeping with its mission statement, the College condensed its vision statements for the institution into four poignant words: *Nurture, Excellence, Spirituality, and Stewardship*. Plaques in each office, electronic e-mail signatures, and bulletin board postings daily remind faculty and staff members of these words—*Our Vision*—which have become the standard by which all activities on campus are measured. “The administration of Florida Hospital College has seen the campus become electrified by these words,” said Don Williams, senior vice president for academic administration. “They have become a sort of motto for the campus, giving us a goal to work towards. It’s been a profound transformation of our thinking.”

### **Campus Changes**

Since 2001, Florida Hospital College has seen a 174 percent increase in enrollment, taking the total number of students to 2,041 during the 2005 fall semester. Because of this rapid growth, FHCHS has expanded its campus with the addition of a new building.

Students are the focus of the new Campus Center building. Ground was broken for the 64,500-square-foot building in September, 2004, and President David E. Greenlaw and the administration dedicated it on April 19, 2006. The consistent growth in enrollment created a need for the building, which houses 10 new classrooms, five labs for biology and allied health programs, administrative offices, service departments, a chapel, a campus bookstore and café, student services, a student lounge, financial services, and a student success center.

In addition, the Imaging and Therapy Building, which also served as the residence hall, began demolition during a ceremony on April 6, 2006. Nearly all of the building materials—from the desks to the steel beams and concrete—have either been donated to local schools or recycled.

“This new Campus Center at Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences represents the future of our College as we continue to grow and expand, and it changes the footprint of our campus,” said Greenlaw. “By building this Center, we will be able



*David E. Greenlaw, president*

to meet the needs of more students and train more professionals for the healthcare industry.”

As much as administration, faculty, and staff have looked forward to what the Campus Center will offer, students are the most excited about this addition to the campus. Students responded this way: “Day to day student life will become more convenient with four academic departments, service departments, and professors located in one place. Tutoring services can be expanded with the addition of the Student Success Center. The student lounge will provide a much-needed place to relax and hang out with friends. Most importantly, though, the addition of a chapel confirms the importance of the spirituality and Christian principles taught here. Each feature of the



Campus Center tells the students, "Yes, we care about you."

### Academic Programs

The College offers baccalaureate degrees in nursing, radiologic sciences, and health sciences. The bachelor of science in health sciences degree prepares students for programs not offered at FHCHS with tracks for entering dentistry, medicine, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and veterinary medicine. Two-year associate of science degrees are offered in diagnostic medical sonography (general or cardiovascular ultrasound), nuclear medicine technology, nursing, occupational therapy assistant, pre-professional studies, and radiography. Certificate programs are available for advanced placement-diagnostic medical sonography, advanced modalities-cardiovascular-interventional technology, computed tomography, magnetic resonance, mammography, and nuclear medicine technology. The College provides opportunity for students to take general education or prerequisite coursework toward degrees not offered on campus.

FHCHS also partners with Compass Knowledge Group to offer online degree programs in nursing and radiologic sciences. The programs are designed to be affordable, convenient, and completely online for the busy working professional.

### Faculty

The faculty at FHCHS represent more than 68 leading colleges and universities from around the world. Their commitment to excellence is apparent through their academic accomplishments: 27 percent of full-time professors have earned doctoral degrees, 57 percent master's degrees, and eight percent bachelor's degrees. Faculty are well respected by their professional peers and remain current in their area of expertise. They have written for professional journals, textbooks, and have presented seminars and workshops around the world.

### Student Services

Student Services at Florida Hospital College has expanded and changed with the growing student population on campus. Recognizing the spiritual needs of the campus, FHCHS has recently expanded its campus ministries by hiring two full-time chaplains. The College has also committed to providing for the mental and emotional needs of students by integrating a mental health counselor into its staff.

A new Student Success Center in the Campus Center will offer tutoring, career exploration, CLEP and ACT testing, and success seminars. Steve Roche, vice president for student services, is excited about the possibilities that the Student Success Center will provide. "We are committed to meeting the needs of faculty, staff, and students on campus," he said. "We want the Success Center to be an integral part of enriching the entire academic experience."

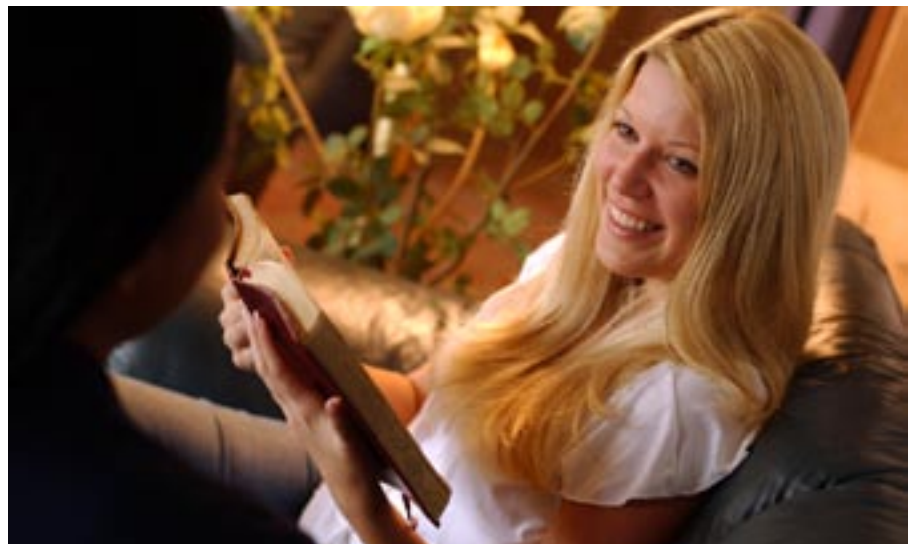
### Future Plans

Florida Hospital College has recently signed an agreement with Nova Southeastern University in Orlando to accept the top ten FHCHS students seeking a physician assistant degree to Nova's program. Students will complete the first three years of a bachelor of science in health sciences at Florida Hospi-

tal College, then transfer to Nova Southeastern University for the final year of their undergraduate degree, and then continue for two additional years to complete the master's-level courses to obtain a physician assistant degree. Students will graduate with their bachelor's degree from Florida Hospital College and their master's from Nova Southeastern.

During the spring meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, approval was given to explore options for several new programs on campus. Currently, College administration is taking steps leading toward the development of a certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA) program, a bachelor of science in computer science degree with an emphasis in hospital applications (including emphases in programming, systems analysis, data management, security, and informatics), and enhanced MR and CT certificate programs.

As the College continues to grow and educate tomorrow's healthcare professionals, we are reminded of God's leading and blessing upon the administration, faculty, staff, and students. We move forward with His promise in Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



*Students at Florida Hospital College are encouraged to grow in their faith.*

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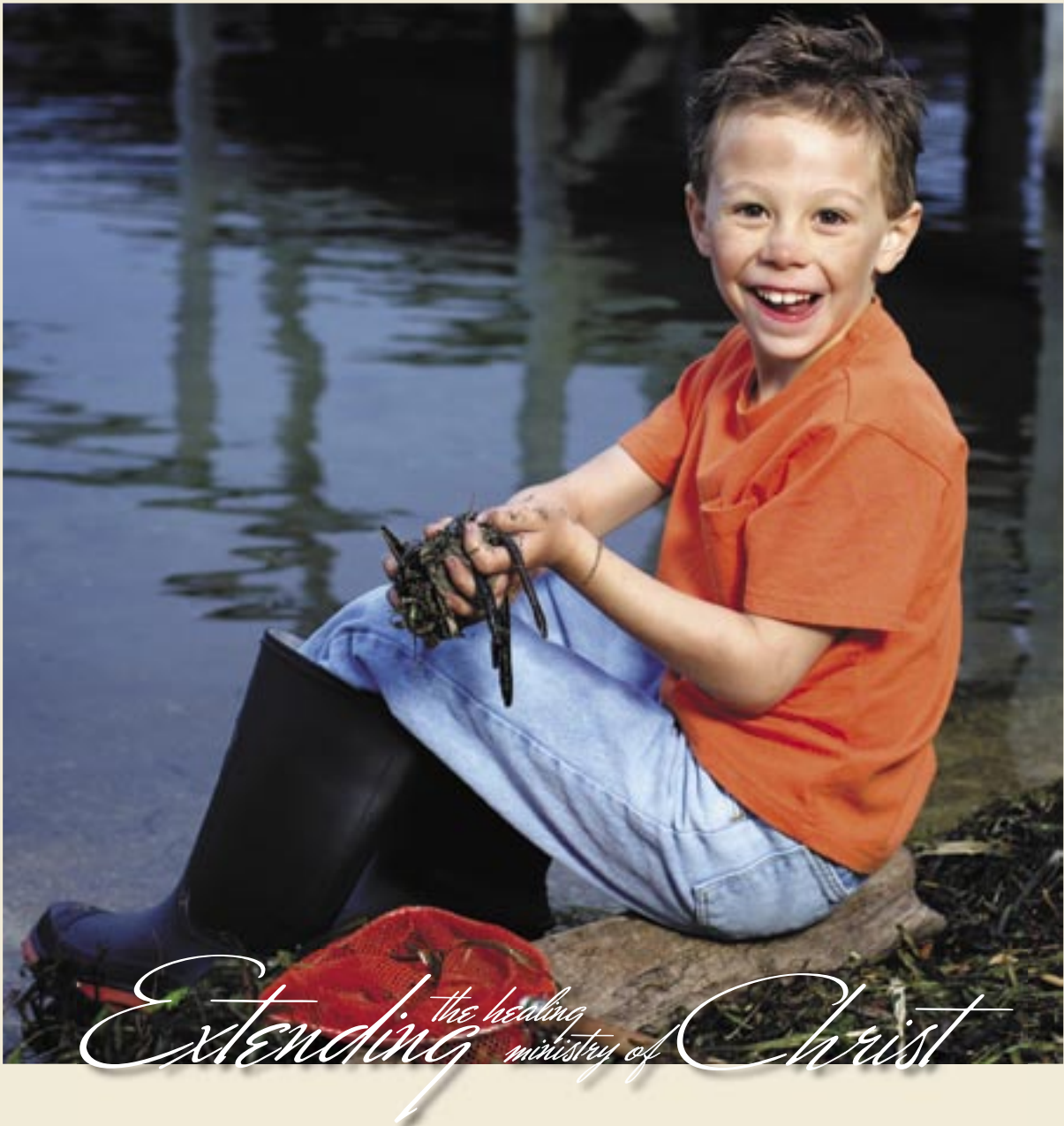


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*Extending the healing ministry of Christ*

Motivated by the mission to “Extend the Healing Ministry of Christ,” Adventist Health System touches the hearts and lives of more than 4 million patients each year through the care and commitment of more than 44,000 employees and nearly 7,000 physicians.

Adventist Health System serves communities large and small through 36 hospitals, 19 extended-care facilities, and numerous home health and hospice agencies.

*Hospitals benefit entire communities in ways as simple as teaching active children how to get rid of the germs without getting rid of the fun.*





# Service into the 21st Century

Oakwood College does not operate in a vacuum. With the dawning of the new millennium and century, post-9/11 issues, the wake of recent wars, calamities, and social challenges, Oakwood has had to continually and simultaneously adapt to new paradigms and societal realities while faithfully pursuing its mission.

This new state of affairs, in addition to realities such as campus security, economic constraints, the need for more inclusive outreach to the nation and world, increased competition, changing diversity among traditional constituency, rising costs in insurance and health care, facility needs, aging workforce, and new academic offering needs, has helped to create a new and more flexible Oakwood College.

During the past quinquennium, Oakwood has adopted creative and innovative strategies to meet the changing needs of students, society, and the Church. So while the past five years have seen a different Oakwood College emerging, it is an Oakwood College that remains committed to its 110-year mission. It is an Oakwood College that has developed and matured. It has gotten better, stronger, more responsive to the times and challenges of the new world. Under God's providence, Oakwood College has made significant strides during this quinquennial period, as outlined by this report. [Request a complimentary copy of



*Delbert and Susan Baker, president and first lady of Oakwood College*

the Oakwood College Constituency Report 2001-2006, entitled *Service Into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*.]

## **Student Centered**

Oakwood's most important component is its students. During the past quinquennium, the division of student services has demonstrated a renewed focus on creating a nurturing environment. First, campus housing has been significantly expanded and improved. In 2002, West Oaks Apartments opened and is providing independent living for upper-class students. New furnishings were purchased for each of the residence halls. Phase 1 of a \$2-million renovation of Edwards Hall was completed in 2005, and ground was broken for the construction of a 225-bed resi-

dence hall for men.

To expand the College's dining experience, Sodexo Food Services, Inc., included vegan fare on its cafeteria menu selections. The College Market and snack bar were renovated and reopened, offering a bakery, convenience store, Smoothie station, and the Down to Earth Bistro, which offers a casual dining atmosphere.

Though historically black, Oakwood College is an ethnically and culturally diverse institution with students from more than 30 nations. An office of diversity was established in 2005 to facilitate cultural competency and to celebrate our diverse student body. In conjunction with this initiative, enrollment management and admissions have developed new strategies to attract and invite students of varied ethnicities to join the Oakwood family. The Diversity Educational Exchange Program (DEEP), a partnership between Oakwood College and Southern Adventist University that is sponsored by the Southern Union Conference, has now been in successful operation for eight years.

Counseling and health services has appreciably improved access to health care for our students. The health staff now includes a physician, a nurse practitioner, and two nurses. The counseling staff has four counselors who represent varied areas of expertise. In addition to the expanded staff, in 2005 the depart-

ment relocated to a newly renovated facility at 4920 University Square, offering 4,000 square feet that includes four medical exam rooms, three counseling offices, a mini-lab, and a conference room.

In an effort to encourage healthful lifestyles, student services launched *Focus on Fitness*, a student wellness program that provides pedometers, walking guides, exercise classes, nutritional counseling, and health monitoring to participating students. Students can also participate in the *President's Fitness Challenge*, which features a run/walk with the president and first lady.

### Progressive Academics

The College began this quincentennial of growth with the successful reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities. The Council on Social Work Education reaffirmed accreditation of the social work department, and successful accreditation visits were held for the departments of education and nursing.

In 2005, the College began to offer a fully accredited baccalaureate program in nursing. The academic division expanded its baccalaureate curriculum with new degree offerings in chemical engineering, health care services, general studies, pre-law, and biomedical sciences. Soon to be offered is a graduate degree program in religion and pastoral studies, with a concentration in church development. Plans for other graduate programs are underway and will soon be operational.

In addition, the College organized a new communication department, and established an academic partnership with the Loma Linda Adventist Health Study. Major resources were invested in advanced education support for College faculty. Construction is soon to begin on an addition to the Moseley Religion Complex to house the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Institute for Continuing Education in Ministry that was established in

2000. Endowments and the funding of scholarships have been increased dramatically. A new approach to financial assistance provides scholarship programs that benefit not only students who are academically gifted, but also provides funds to students who have solid, average academic performance. Classrooms have been renovated and technologically updated. A gift by an alumni donor completely outfitted the fitness center with new Nordic cardiovascular exercise and strength training equipment.

Oakwood's students engage in activities that augment their academic training. Annually, they participate in the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge, where their academic knowledge is put to the test in a national competition among the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Students in our chemistry, biology and math departments annually present their research studies in national forums and are recognized for the depth and scholarship of their work. Oakwood College continues to be one of the top ten institutions in the nation whose students enter and graduate from medical and dental schools. Each year business students are involved in Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), an organization that promotes business, entrepreneurship, and ethics in the workplace.

In 2005, *The Huntsville Times* recognized Oakwood College as one of the leading educational institutions in the state of Alabama. The recently published book, *What Makes Racial Diversity Work in Higher Education*, includes highlights of the historic success of Oakwood College in educating minority

students, presenting successful policies and strategies used at this and other HBCUs.

### Spiritual Vitality

Along with quality academics, one of Oakwood College's strengths is its vibrant spiritual life program. It is the studied purpose of the faculty, staff, and administration to provide an environment in which every student has opportunities to meet Christ and choose Him as Savior. The office of spiritual life has purposive programs that include Bible study and prayer groups, weekly outreach programs, counseling and peer mentoring groups, literature evangelism training programs, and more than 40 ministry groups that serve the campus and community.

Every year the school is blessed to have back to school revivals, weeks of prayer, and chapels that are designed to inspire, teach, and reach students. As a result of the campus chaplain, deans, and local pastors, the College is responsible for an average annual baptism of more than 100 students, resulting in more than 500 baptisms during the past five years.

Oakwood College students participate in global evangelism through the religion department and have traveled to such places as Jamaica,



*Oakwood College, established in 1896, is a beautiful, award-winning campus located on approximately 1,300 acres in North Alabama's city of Huntsville.*

Kenya, and Malawi. These students have been responsible for bringing more than 5,000 souls to Christ. Weekly, students participate in ministry to hospitals, jails, homeless shelters, youth deten-



*NAD Intercollegiate Council meets at Oakwood College, 2004*

tion centers, and schools. Spiritual programming such as chapel, AYS, Sunday evening praise, dorm worship, and church services inspire students to find meaning in their walk with God. Within the holistic environment at Oakwood College, a student can find a successful career fit, a philosophy of lifetime learning and service, a life partner, and ultimately, a personal relationship with Christ.

### Service Focus

The health, happiness, and welfare of Oakwood students are top institutional priorities. The student activities office and the United Student Movement (the student government) plan programs and activities focused on giving the Oakwood man and the Oakwood woman numerous opportunities for fun, fellowship, and growth. Student Services uses information from a bi-annual survey of health behaviors to implement services and programs that increase the student's ability to make healthful lifestyle choices.

Oakwood students are involved in local, national, and international service projects. In the face of the devastation from recent natural disasters, wars, and social upheavals, Oakwood students volunteered their time and talents to provide hands-on assistance to those in need. Bus loads of students, faculty, and staff went into the community to collect items for hurricane victims and to become personally involved in providing relief and hope. Some traveled

to the affected areas—nationally and internationally—to assist in cleanup and distribution of supplies during the relief efforts.

The eternal flame, dedicated in 2004, reminds students of the sacred heritage that has been passed from generation to generation and the necessity of passing on what they have received to others through a spirit of service. Student missionaries have served in Asia, South America, and other parts of the world. A ministries fair in 2004 recruited students to become involved in the local big brother/sister program.

In 2003, the internationally acclaimed Aeolians traveled to Poland and ministered in song to audiences throughout that country. The following year, they performed with the Breath of Life NET2004 telecast and were featured during worship service at the recent General Conference session in St. Louis, Missouri.

### Campus Improvements

Major campus additions during the quinquennium include construction of the West Oaks Apartments and student clubhouse; a million-dollar renovation of the Market Square that included the store, expanded eating area, and bookstore; construction of the Oakwood mini-storage facility; acquisition and renovation of the Oakwood Industries building to provide office space for counseling and health services, WOCG, sponsored programs, and income-generating industries such as the Oakwood

Memorial Gardens Cemetery; and newly designed signage and entrances, campus parking, lights, and signals for streets.

Completed and dedicated in 2006, the inspiring bronze *Monument to*

*Service*, depicting Simon of Cyrene helping Christ with the Cross, stands as a perpetual witness to the Oakwood College mission of preparing leaders for service. The monument and a colorful marquee display are part of a comprehensive campus-enhancement program that includes award-winning landscape beautification and a land development and acquisition program.

### Financial Restructuring

Comprehensive financial restructuring and strategic planning initiated early in the quinquennium have dramatically improved institutional solvency and placed the College on the path of continuous improvement. This restructuring in the financial affairs area is having positive and far-reaching impact on investments, holdings, and operations. Institutional debt has been substantially reduced, even as significant campus improvements and major construction projects take place.

Another factor that contributes to improved financial stability is the increased performance of the College's investment portfolio. Undergirding financial progress is a strong and committed financial staff. During this five-year period, Oakwood College received a "Golden Audit" from Ernst and Young Accounting Firm for its meritorious audit that had no negative findings or recommendations.

Oakwood College is a tuition-driven educational institution that is committed to providing quality



education to students who have huge economic challenges—80 percent of our students receive financial aid. Despite declines in federal tuition assistance grants and increases in Oakwood's operating expenses, the College has kept tuition affordable. In addition, the institutional contribution to student scholarships has increased annually by 24 percent over the past five years.

### Fund/Friend-Raising

The College has experienced a record-breaking year in fund-raising in all areas—individual and corporate gifts, grants, contracts, and special project giving. The increase in contributions, private gifts, bequests, and grants has and will allow the College to complete major construction projects, such as the new men's residential facility and the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Institute for Continuing Education in Ministry, as well as to make vital improvements to the campus infrastructure.

General Conference President Jan Paulsen held one of his global "Let's Talk" programs on campus featuring Oakwood students; it was beamed around the world via 3ABN and the Hope Channel. The now nationally and internationally known WOCG, FM 90.1, celebrated 25 years of radio ministry to the Tennessee Valley. The successful Tom Joyner Foundation/Oakwood Fund-raising campaign provided national public relations for Oakwood and raised

more than \$100,000 in scholarships. Numerous partnerships with local corporations, NASA/Marshall Space Flight Center, the Redstone Arsenal, and research and community grants have resulted in unparalleled opportunities for research and community programs.

Five major gifts/gift commitments made to Oakwood College during the last two years of the quinquennial period were most notable and deeply appreciated. The Committee of 100 gave \$250,000 to underwrite the master's in pastoral studies graduate program. Multiple donors and organizations contributed to successfully raise \$1.6 million for the construction of the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Institute extension. Through an estate gift, the late Donazell and Arthur George donated 75 acres of prime Huntsville real estate to create a new scholarship fund. The McKee Foods Corporation made a historic \$1 million gift commitment that will provide a scholarship endowment and support the academic areas of business, technology, and service ministry. Most recently the Holland family, through the Holland Foundation, made another record-breaking commitment to donate in excess of \$1 million toward the construction of the new residential facility for men.

This level of generosity from alumni and friends will ensure that Oakwood College continues to fulfill its mission to provide educational excellence to our students.

### In Appreciation

Oakwood College's continued success depends on a committed and



*Science students engage in cooperative learning.*

talented faculty, staff and administrative team. The College's program is carefully planned by a well-crafted and prudently followed strategic plan. Undergirding the entire process is the wise governance of the visionary Oakwood College Board of Trustees, formerly chaired by Calvin Rock of the General Conference and currently chaired by Don Schneider, president of the North American Division. Deep appreciation is expressed to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, the nine regional conferences, the Southern Union Conference, the National Alumni Association, The College Fund/United Negro College Fund, and other supporting entities for their faithful and unflinching support.

Challenges will continue to test the institutional fortitude of Oakwood College. Yet, in the midst of it all, there is a historic institutional resolve that Oakwood College continues to reach new levels of education and excellence as it pursues the goals of education, excellence, and eternity.

There is a persistent belief that, as God has led, blessed, and provided for Oakwood College during these 110 years, He will continue to do so. The circle of providence that surrounds Oakwood College will continue to expand and strengthen its borders.



*The National Association for the Prevention of Starvation (NAPS), a humanitarian group, marches near the 9/11 site.*

# There's Something in the Southern Air

There seems to be something drawing students to the campus of Southern Adventist University. Whether it's the friendly atmosphere, the personable professors, or the spiritually sound education, students are more and more frequently making Southern their number one choice.

Last year, with 2,522 students (2,390 of whom are undergraduates), Southern held on to the title of the largest undergraduate university or college in the North American Division—a title the university has held for five years



*"I'm blessed each time a student offers to pray with me and for me," says Southern's president Gordon Bietz.*

now. Currently, the University offers 75 undergraduate degrees and seven graduate degrees.

Another title Southern has held

for the last five years is that of *U.S. News & World Report's* top tier of comprehensive colleges in the South, proving that you don't need to sacrifice a quality education in order to receive a Christian education.

Southern's students are encouraged to grow both mentally and spiritually as they prepare for successful service in their future careers, communities, and churches. Many of them choose to begin serving now, through mission trips, community service, outreach programs, and on-campus leadership.

The spiritual energy on campus is evident through bands of students



*Southern launched construction of the \$6.5-million wellness center in February. The new wellness center will provide a space for students to learn, live, and share a holistic healthy lifestyle. This is the University's most ambitious building project since the new science building was finished in 1997.*



*Friendships formed at Southern are founded on faith-based principles. It is this kind of spiritual companionship that sets Adventist universities apart from the world.*





*Southern was selected as one of 16 institutions nationwide chosen as a Campus Technology 2006 Innovator because of the University's use of interactive gaming as a way to help students of various learning styles learn and retain important information. This gaming concept is being applied to online classes being offered through the University's new virtual campus, which was launched this year.*



*Four years ago, Southern's nursing program became the third in Tennessee to use the Sim Man to help prepare students for nursing careers. This programmable mannequin can simulate almost any patient scenario and responds to the treatment provided by students. Soon, Sim Man and the students who work with him will have more space to practice and learn. An expansion of Herin Hall will better meet the needs of the more than 500 nursing and pre-nursing students (including graduate students) who make up Southern's largest major.*

who gather together for Bible study, support, and prayer. You simply cannot put a price tag on that kind of experience.

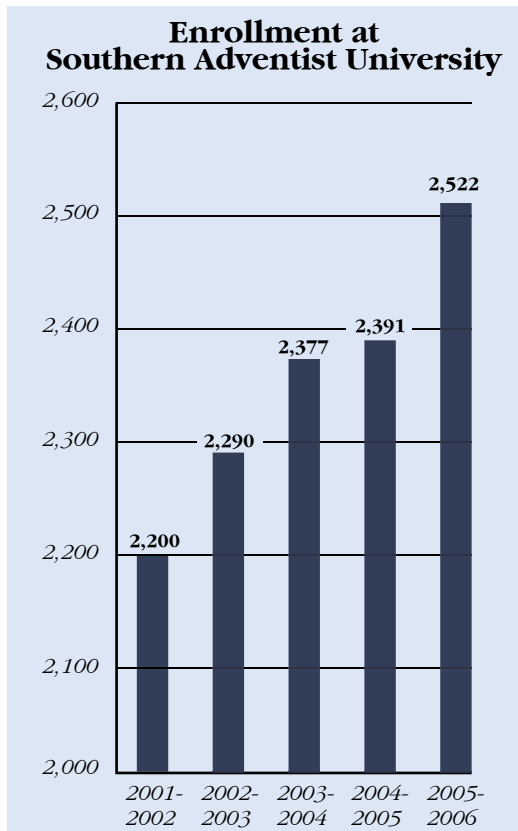
That is why we are so grateful to you, the Southern Union constituents, and to the generous donors

who help us cover up to 25 percent of the cost of providing such an education so that our students and their families need only pay a portion of the actual cost of their education. It is also thanks to your generous gifts that we are able to

give out \$7 million in scholarships and grants each year to students who otherwise may not be able to afford an Adventist education.



*Last year, Southern added a second chaplain to the University's staff to better meet the spiritual needs of the growing student body. Southern's chaplain's office leads students in a range of spiritual life activities that nurture students' personal relationships with God and encourage outreach into the community and the world.*



*Theology majors at Southern prepare for the pulpit by giving their own evangelistic meetings, which often lead to baptisms. With Southern having the largest undergraduate theology program in the North American Division, the results of these student-led evangelistic meetings are felt throughout the Southern Union and around the world.*



DELEGATES  
SOUTHERN UNION SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 10-11, 2006

**CAROLINA**

*Delegates (18)*

Ernie Boughman  
Kenneth Crawley  
Robert Cundiff  
Faith Durkin  
Tina Gladden  
Jim Hakes  
Jonathan Hayes  
Sherry Housley  
Minner Labrador  
Gary Moyer  
Eli Rojas  
Sam Romero  
Rick Russell  
John Seaman  
Lionel Simmons  
Catherine Slade  
Kathleen Smith  
Gary Tolbert

*Delegates-at-Large (5)*

Jim Davidson  
Ken Harding  
Samuel E. Bonham  
Bonnie Connelly  
Dan Tullock

**FLORIDA**

*Delegates (57)*

Jim Appel  
Jim Armstrong  
Rose Beavers  
Gloria Becker  
Robert Boggess  
Dave Boggess  
Ken Bradley  
Ken Burrill  
Rhoda Burrill  
Martin Butler  
David Canther  
Eric Cantillo  
Jimmy Cardosa  
Glenn Carter

Doug Center  
Mally Chrulski  
Luis Cortes  
Cheeko Cotta  
Bill Crofton  
Phillip Daley  
John Davis  
Rebeca De Los Rios  
Conrad Duncan  
Cynthia Duncanson  
Jim Epperson  
Caesar Evangelista  
Charles Ferguson  
Herbert Fletcher  
Jack Gillis  
Scott Green  
Wayne Hamilton  
Claudette Harding  
Peter Hernandez  
Lars Houmann  
Kim Johnson  
Robert Jones  
Jack Leach  
Kelly Lee  
Jose LeGrand  
Kathy McCullough  
Frank McMillan  
Derek Morris  
Tim Nichols  
Naomi Olson  
Abel Paulin  
Michel Porcena  
Winston Relaford  
Burnett Robinson  
Ernie Sylvester  
Myrtle Thomas  
Bennie Tillman  
Evan Valencia  
Sheryal Vandenberghe  
Tom Verrill  
Marvin Williams  
Dale Wolfe  
Phil Younts

*Delegates-at-Large: (7)*

Mike Cauley  
Andy McDonald

Eric Allen  
Del Blake  
Dorothy Carey  
H. Charles Nelson  
Jesus Uriarte

**GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND**

*Delegates (32)*

Jeremy Arnall  
Dick Bergman  
Gail Bragg  
Kevin Costello  
Virgil Covell  
Edward Denny  
Jerry Fore  
Rex Frost  
Cynthia Gettys  
Maylor Graham  
Steve Haley  
Chris Hankins  
Victor Hawkins  
Paul Hoover  
Oh Young Kwon  
Rob Lang  
Terry Leard  
Earl McGhee  
Manuel Mendizabal  
Charles Moore  
Fred Myers  
Naftaly Ortiz  
Stan Patterson  
Bill Reinke  
Denton Rhone  
April Schander  
Donald R. Short  
Al Sines  
Lynda Smith  
Dale Tunnell  
Carlyle Walton  
Ted Winslow

*Delegates-at-Large (6)*

Ed Wright  
John Nixon, Sr.

Michelle Chase  
J. R. McKinney  
George Mercurius  
Jodi Ruf

**GULF STATES**

*Delegates (10)*

Roger Burke  
Clara Cisneros  
Rick Hutchinson  
Jim Leker  
Leslie Louis  
Barry Mahorney  
Bernell Mapp  
Troy Peoples  
Calvin Thrash  
Gary Tracy

*Delegates-at-Large (4)*

Mel Eisele  
Billy Mitchell  
Gerald Martin  
Ivan Lugo

**KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE**

*Delegates (14)*

Lola Boram  
Larry Boughman  
Nick Bradley  
Armando DeLeon  
Wendy Eberhardt  
Xochitl Guerra  
David Hartman  
Norman Henderson  
Terri Jenks  
Marvin Lowman  
Marilyn Matherly  
Julie Murphy  
Keith Reid  
Jerry Rimer

*Delegates-at-Large: (4)*

Richard Hallock  
Lynn Schlisner  
Helen Boskind  
Roscoe Howard, Jr.

## **SOUTH ATLANTIC**

*Delegates: (36)*

Remonia Ashmore  
Able Barkley  
Stephen Brooks  
William Chatmon  
Gloria Crumpler  
Robert Deal, Jr.  
Annette Dickens  
Brennan Francois  
Alvin E. Freeman  
Mark Golson  
Nathaniel Good  
Lawrence Hamilton  
Frank Harrell  
Jacqueline Hicks  
Etta High  
Nathaniel Hollis  
Crawford Humphrey  
Larry Johnson  
Lloyd Johnson  
D. M. Jones  
Pennie Lister-Smith  
Horace Malone  
Delores McKeever  
Jean Jacques Medastin  
John Patrickson  
Calvin Preston  
Peggy Smith  
Judy Squires  
Linwood Stone  
Cynthia Thomson  
Alex Todd  
Barbara Williams  
Sylvia Wilson  
William Winston  
Theophilus Wright  
Iris Wray

*Delegates-at-Large: (6)*

Vanard J. Mendinghall  
Carl Nesmith  
Walter Davis  
Larry Harris  
Loretta Palmer  
Joyce Thrower

## **SOUTH CENTRAL**

*Delegates: (33)*

Kenneth Anderson

Fred Batten, Jr.  
Stafford Cargill  
Reba Clisby  
Gary Collins  
Gilbert Cooper  
Ron Degale  
James R. Doggette  
D. C. Edmond  
Quinton Fletcher  
Roy Gaiter  
J. I. Grider  
Vandeon Griffin  
Michael A. Harpe  
Edgardo Hererra  
William Hicks  
Auldwin Humphrey  
S. J. Jackson  
D. D. Johnson  
Kennedy C. Lockett  
Robert L. Mann  
Alfred Miller  
R. S. Norman, III  
Philip G. Palmer  
R. C. Parham  
Roy L. Patterson  
Mary Pulliam  
Daijana Ross  
Kendrick Ross  
I. Roy Rugless  
Shirley Scott  
Elnetta Thomas  
Angela Traughber

*Delegates-at-Large: (6)*

Benjamin Browne  
Samuel Hutchins  
William Bufford  
Earl L. Jones, Sr.  
Francena McKnight  
Lynn Ross

## **SOUTHEASTERN**

*Delegates (34)*

Roger Alvarez  
Joseph Archer  
Wallace Battle  
Nicolle Brise  
William C. Byrd  
Sherwin Callwood  
Brenda Cowan  
McKinley Crockett  
Herman Davis  
Lewis Edwards  
Darlene Frett  
Regina Harris  
Robert Henley

Lesly Jacques  
Karen Jones  
Jean-Renaud Joseph  
David Long  
Gregory Mack  
Thomas A. McNealy  
Jean-Allah Monestime  
Hubert J. Morel, Jr.  
Kirco Mota  
Michael Owusu  
Gwendolyn Parker  
David L. Peay, Sr.  
Anthony Smith  
Milton Sterling  
Bienvenu Theodore  
Patrick Vincent  
Brent Waldon  
Carl Ware  
Katie Wiggins  
Clarence Wright  
Elisa Young

*Delegates-at-Large: (6)*

Willie L. Taylor  
Claude Matthews  
Charles K. Backey  
Webens Desamours  
Rick Mathis  
Louise White

## **DELEGATES-AT-LARGE**

### **Southern Union**

#### **S. U. Officers:**

Gordon L. Retzer  
W. D. Sumpter  
G. Tom Evans  
Dennis Millburn  
Carlos Salazar

#### **Departmental Directors and Associates:**

Amireh Al-Haddad  
Bill Beckworth  
W. Eugene Brewer  
Debra Fryson  
Conrad Gill  
Nathaniel Higgs  
Jim Ingersoll  
Tom Kapusta  
Tamara Libonati  
Jorge Mayer  
Oliver J. McKinney

Olson Perry  
Ron Quick  
Les Rilea  
Ralph Ringer  
Fred Rogers  
Dennis Ross, Jr.  
Laura Smith  
William S. Smith  
Allan R. Williamson

### **Adventist Health System**

Don Jernigan  
Terry Shaw  
Benjamin Reaves

### **Southern Adventist University**

Gordon Bietz  
Steve Pawluk  
Dale J. Bidwell

### **Oakwood College**

Delbert Baker  
Mervyn A. Warren  
Sabrina Cotton

### **Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences**

David Greenlaw

### **North American Division**

Don Schneider  
Roscoe Howard, III  
Juan Prestol

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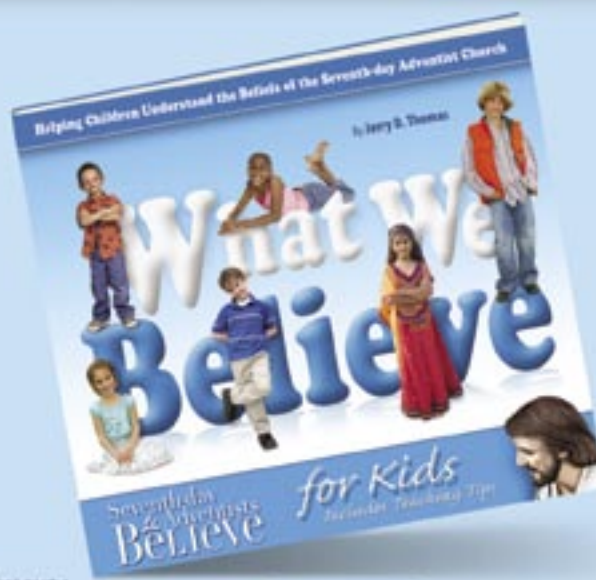
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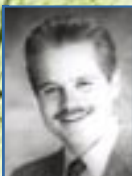
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- The Pathophysiology of Type 2 Diabetes
- The Metabolic Syndrome "Cause and Lifestyle Treatment"
- Reversing Insulin Resistance "A Practical Clinical Primer"
- A Hormone for All Seasons "Vitamin D"



### LEIF K. BAKLAND, DDS

Professor and Chair  
Department of Endodontics  
School of Dentistry, Loma Linda University

#### TOPICS:

- Endodontic Complexities In Diagnosis and Treatment: Practical Solutions to Everyday Problems
- Current Recommendations for Traumatic Dental Injuries



### JIM A. WILLIAMSON, OD

Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
Memphis, Tennessee

#### TOPICS:

- Glaucoma Discussion and Case Analysis (2 hours) (COPE pending)
- Dry Eye Update (1 hour) (COPE pending)
- Ulcer or Infiltrate? Causative Agents and Treatment (1 hour) (COPE pending)

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Loma Linda University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Loma Linda University School of Medicine designates this medical continuing education activity for six hours *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

### DISCLOSURE

This program has been planned and implemented in accordance with ACCME essentials and standards. The Loma Linda University School of Medicine Office of Continuing Medical Education relies on its CME faculty to provide program content that is evidenced-based and free of commercial bias. Therefore, in accordance with ACCME standards, any faculty and/or provider industry relationships will be disclosed and resolved.

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Specialty \_\_\_\_\_

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Conference \_\_\_\_\_

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|
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