

TSOUTHERN TIDINGS

Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family



Evangelism

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Jesus, the Light of the World



Gordon Retzer
*Southern Union
President*

When I was a child—one day long ago and far away—I thought childish, immature thoughts. I was tired of being a dependable, work-your-way-through-school, practice-the-piano teenager. I decided I wanted to be a street fighter. It was a new thought and a foolish thought, given I had zero experience in the street. But, I started paying attention when some of the other big guys would pick a fight and brawl on the ball field at Greater Miami Academy. I practiced shadow fighting in front of the mirror at home. The 130-pound guy in the mirror wasn't in the least formidable; nevertheless, I had made my decision. I would no longer be virtuoso pianist and class pastor. I would become a street fighter.

I saw a workout set of springs advertised that claimed, if I would stretch those springs faithfully every day, I would become muscular and strong. It was false advertising, but I felled for it. I ordered the set and began my training to become a street fighter. Finally I was ready for my debut, and on the way home from school, at the bus stop on Flagler Street, waiting for the 57th Avenue bus, I picked a fight with the weakest guy in my class. John was a little taller, but I figured he weighed in about the same. I said something smart, and right in front of friends and bystanders I cocked my fist and threw the first (and last) punch of my fighting career. John grabbed me by the neck and in one smooth and effortless move threw me to the ground, and pinned me with one knee. He wanted to show me I was way out of my element. My only thought was, "Please get me out of here and let me find my piano." I can truly say I matured that day to the thought, "be who you are, accept who you are, in Jesus Christ."

God made us all unique, and we are to fit together in the body of Christ, His Church, complementing each other and focusing on the mission of telling people Jesus is coming again. We all can improve and try to be better at what we do, but trying to be something we're not only creates tension and embarrassment. As Paul outlines in Romans 12:4-6, "For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us . . ."

Yes, all of us are unique as created by God, yet there is sameness. You see, all of us have sinned and need a Savior. All of us need to be born again and become new in Jesus. All of us need Jesus, the Light of the World.

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Growing up *Halvorsen*

Ron and Carrol Halvorsen have spent a lifetime on the evangelism trail sharing the Good News of salvation. As a result, thousands have accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. Yet, even as they searched for lost souls they were mentors to their children, Ron Jr. and Diane,

who were surrounded by the ministry that shaped their lives. Now, they are shaping lives through their own ministries. Ron Jr. is senior pastor of the 3,000-member Sligo Church in Takoma Park, Maryland, and Diane is associate pastor of the Apopka, Florida, Church.

With the soft touch of a holiday classic, Diane wraps her thoughts in, "It's a Wonderful Life (and Someone had to Live It), while her brother, Ronnie, speaks from the heart about "Growing Up Halvorsen."

"We held nine evangelistic meetings a year. We worked hard and we played hard, too."

Growing Up Halvorsen

BY RON HALVORSEN, JR.

Growing up in the Halvorsen home was anything but boring. It meant life on the move. In fact, when I was in second grade we moved nine times in one year.

Dad, as the evangelist for the Carolina Conference, held nine meetings a year. We did have a home in Charlotte, North Carolina, though we probably spent less than two weeks there that whole year. The rest of the year we lived in a 65-foot trailer that we would pull from city to city. It was a whirlwind tour, for sure. There were times when we'd finish an evangelistic series one weekend, pack up and move the trailer to another city and start yet another series of meetings the following Friday night.

Growing up Halvorsen also meant growing up in ministry. My sister, Diane, and I had spent more time in church and meetings by the

time we left home than most people experience in their entire lives. In those days Dad would hold five meetings a week in the evenings, plus a church service on the weekend.

Diane and I heard Dad preach so often that we both knew his evangelistic sermons by heart. Sitting in the back with Mom, we would quietly follow along in unison with Dad. People in nearby seats thought my sister and I had the gift of prophecy—we knew what the preacher was going to say even before he said it!

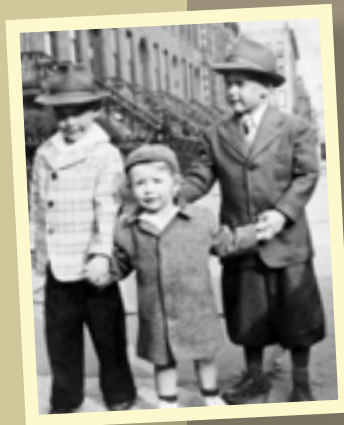
Now, as I look back, I can see how during those early years we were being trained for ministry . . . without even knowing it. And what a training we received! We spent months living in the basements of churches or behind them in campers or trailers. We learned to be prayer warriors, spending our lives praying for people to attend the meetings. And when they did come, we prayed that they would accept Jesus and be baptized. I grew up running film projectors and helping out behind the scenes. Dad would occasionally take me on visits with him.

My parents were role models, truly dedicated to God and a life of ministry and service. They exemplified a love and life of sacrifice for Jesus that is deeply ingrained in me today. By the time I officially started ministry, it felt as though I had already put in 20-plus years of service.

Growing up Halvorsen meant living in every region of the country, in more states than I care to count. It meant being adaptable, making friends quickly and learning to say good-bye gracefully. It meant a life of serving God and caring for others. My sister and I had the privilege to



Young Pastor Ron



Ron (left) and his brothers in their Brooklyn neighborhood.



The three brothers, Ron at right



Carrol was raised in upstate New York



Fishing with one of his grandsons

"It's a wonderful life, and somebody had to live it."



Proud parents at Ron Jr.'s wedding



Growing up on Long Island



The grandchildren

witness in Dad and Mom, first-hand, a passion for Jesus and the gospel.

Yes, life as a Halvorsen meant there were times Dad couldn't be home with us, or at a school function, or at other life events. However, we all felt it was our work that took him away. It was never just Dad's work. And it wasn't just Dad's calling. Ministry was our calling, and our life. And wouldn't you know it . . . it still is!

Praise the Lord, my sister and I are both PK's, or pastor's kids, and still in the church today! More than that, we are both pastors. Our models and our mentors taught us about a life of ministry and service, and about real dedication to God. It seems the lessons stuck!

So, Mom and Dad, not only did you do good for God, you did good for us and for your church as well. We are very proud of you!

It's A Wonderful Life

BY DIANE HALVORSEN

How does a person document an entire lifetime on a piece of paper?

I attempted it once in a class when I was given an assignment to write my autobiography. The challenge arose when I came to the perplexing reality that every day is a page, every event is a chapter and every unfinished lifetime is a book yet to be written. The end result was truly an eye-opener. I penned, "It's a Wonderful Life and Someone

had to Live It."

My life, I revealed, was always surrounded by ministry. I have always loved being a PK and I have always loved being a part of my family.

My parents filled my life with love, adventure and a passion for serving God. Through their witness, my brother Ron and I have learned valuable lessons about sharing our faith with others. The memories we hold dear are a collage of baptisms, appeals and changed lives as a result of what was not just dad's ministry, but our ministry. When I reflect on all the places we have lived, I am thankful for the people I have met and the places I have been.

Can you imagine working in the streets of New York City, walking down alleys where some people would not go? But we went. I was never afraid of the city, because I knew we were doing what God had called us to do.

I'll never forget the interesting people who would attend our evangelistic meetings. One night a woman walked into the hall dressed



The evangelist is also a painter. This painting by her father Diane proudly hangs in her home.

Ron Quick



From Gangs to God: Shortly after his baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Ron Halvorsen was asked to play the part of a young gang member from New York in a series produced by Faith for Today. If you are familiar with his story, you will know that this wasn't much of a stretch for young Ron. Before his conversion, he was heavily involved in the gang scene in Brooklyn, New York.

in white. She whispered to Mom, "I'm the mother of God." A man who followed her in looked like Santa Claus. Sure enough, he signed his registration card, "Kris Kringle."

Sometimes listening to God's call took us into places we normally would never go. Like the shooting galleries where druggies went for a fix.

We even brought addicts home and helped them go through "cold turkey," or detox, from their addiction. I watched Dad and Mom nurse each one, clean up their vomit and comfort them during the cold chills and hot flashes of withdrawal.

My parents always had hands of love. On the streets of New York

City we met every kind of person—prostitutes, drug addicts, Broadway stars, millionaires and the homeless—who exposed us to sorrow and loss through their windowpanes of life.

In the city where my dad was born, I was born again.

That was our world, our place of labor, our place of ministry. And my brother and I were a part of it. Here, Dad and Mom

always made us feel we were a vital part of the ministry team. These moments were moments that have helped to make me the person I have become. A person who tries to see the world through the eyes of Jesus.

One of these defining moments took place in Brooklyn when I was

only seven years old. Dad was holding meetings in Viking Hall. It was there that I heard the call of the Holy Spirit to ministry, knowing in my heart that someday I would be doing the work my father was doing. Two years later we returned for meetings in Viking Hall, and there my father baptized me. In the city where my dad was born, I was born again.

Today, I thank God for parents who included us in the call of ministry. It has enriched my life so much that words cannot express the love I have for them. My parents are my mentors, my heroes and the ones I can always count on to be there. Eternally, I will be grateful to them for instilling in me the desire to live passionately for Christ and to passionately share Him with those whose paths I cross.

A Family Ministry...

Home for the Holidays

Both Ron, Jr. and Diane remember younger days when the family spent months on the road. "We held nine evangelistic meetings a year," says Diane. "We worked hard and we played hard, too. Mom and Dad always made time for Ronnie and me. I remember camping, fishing, and fun in the sun on our vacations to Florida." "There were times when Dad couldn't be with us for a life event because of meetings," recalls Ron. "Yet, there was one time of year that nothing could keep us apart: as we headed home for the holidays. Because growing up Halvorsen meant the family was together again at Christmas time."

Always on the move...

This tireless evangelist will hold his next Revelation Offers Hope evangelistic series in the Apopka, Fla., Church, 340 Votaw Road, Apopka, Fla., 32703. Meetings begin January 19, 2007, 7:15 p.m. Details: hope@apopkaadventist.fdn.com or (407)-889-2812.



Ron Quirk

East African Church Established in Raleigh



RON QUICK

Enock Omosa, pastor, poses with the more than 50 Swabali-speaking people who recently joined the East African church in Raleigh.

A Well-Kept-Secret . . .

The telephone rang in the president's office. Jim Davidson, Carolina Conference president, answered.

With a heavy accent, the voice at the other end of the line explained, "I'm an ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastor from East Africa. We have a group in Raleigh that would like to join the sisterhood of churches."

Always glad to hear these words, Davidson shared with the pastor what was required to establish a new company.

"First of all," Davidson explained, "you need to have at least 20 people. How many are in your group?"

The pastor answered, "We have 125 people in our group."

Now there's a well kept secret. Imagine having a group of 125 Seventh-day Adventist worshipers in the Conference and not even knowing they exist.

This Swahili-speaking congregation from the East African country of Kenya began meeting for worship back in February of 2006.

Located in the Raleigh area, the small group knew of an African pastor up in Minnesota who they hoped could help them grow and establish a church. In June of 2006, they called him to North Carolina.

The pastor was Enock Omosa, an Adventist minister from Kenya who had moved to the United States to escape the political problems in his home country.

After arriving in Raleigh, Omosa reached out to various African associations in the Raleigh area. As a result of this, the member-

ship grew.

On September 30, Gary Moyer, Conference secretary, had the honor of organizing this special group as an official company of the Carolina Conference. On the same day there was a mass baptism of 31 people. Another 22 individuals were brought in by profession of faith.

This new congregation is a secret no more. The Carolina Conference is pleased to give them an official welcome to the family.

—BY RON QUICK

Women's Ministries Leader Meets with African Chief



RON QUICK

Debbie Rapp, Carolina women's ministries director, together with leaders of the newly-established East African church in Raleigh, discusses plans with an African chief.

Pictured with Debbie Rapp are Philomena Osoro, women's ministries leader for the church and Chief Justin Masese. Standing are Enock Omosa, *pastor*, and his wife, Florence.

Chief Masese, a Seventh-day Adventist, is a senior chief for the district of Kisii in Kenya, Africa. A senior chief is appointed by the United Kingdom and is much like a state governor. Chief Masese was visiting family members in Raleigh.

The women of the church will be taking an active role in this newly established church in Raleigh.

—BY RON QUICK

Raleigh Spanish Acquires New Church Building



RON QUICK

Jorge Alfonzo (pictured in the middle), church founder, is assisted with cutting the official ribbon by Domingo Paulino (left), pastor, and Andres Sequera, the first pastor of the Raleigh Spanish congregation. Members saved thousands of dollars by acquiring a previously-owned community church. The Raleigh Hispanic church will seat 260.

Church members proudly looked on as Domingo Paulino, pastor; Jorge Alfonzo, church founder; and Andres Sequera, pastor; cut the ribbon to officially open the doors of the new Raleigh Spanish church on October, 28.

The 260-seat church, situated on five acres, will provide plenty of room for expansion of this rapidly growing Hispanic congregation.

The Raleigh Spanish church family first began worshipping together 12 years ago. Since that time they've met in four differ-

ent locations before recently acquiring their own building.

Only a few months ago, on August 5, the Raleigh Spanish company was organized as an official church, with more than 60 individuals signing on as charter members. Things are moving quickly for this church family.

The Hispanic work began in Raleigh in 1994 when Jim Rochester, then pastor of the Raleigh English church, formulated a plan to reach the Spanish-speaking population in the surrounding area. He enlisted the help of two

of his members, Jorge and Nelly Alfonzo.

They began holding Spanish services each week in the fellowship hall of the English church. Soon this new group had a membership of 32 and made plans to move into their own facility.

They continued renting until they saved enough funds to purchase their own church. By the grace of God they found a previously-owned church in excellent

condition. There was no need for repair or renovation—they could move right in.

And so they did. They look forward to many years of fellowship and outreach in their new building.

—BY RON QUICK



RON QUICK

Bible Conference Empowers and Equips Youth

The 2006 High School Bible Conference at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs was planned by Florida Conference youth/young adult leaders with the same goal that has driven all recent events—to “empower and equip” our youth to reach others for Christ.

Attended by 537 registrants, the October 12-15 event was host to representatives from churches throughout Florida. Hundreds rededicated their lives to Christ and made a commitment to spread His love in their hometowns. Eleven students were baptized, and 30 made decisions for baptism.



JANE CROFTON

Bill Crofton, Florida Conference youth/young adult ministries director, reunited with youth from the East Pasco church in Zephyrhills, Fla., who accompanied him on the summer, 2006, Costa Rica youth mission trip.

Guest speaker Willie Ramos challenged the young people to consider “The Passion of the Ages.” Throughout the weekend, high school students took time alone with God and met in small groups to strengthen friendships with

each other and with Jesus. They also participated in powerful, spirit-filled worship music led by Robbi Valentin, Youth pastor, from the Miami Temple church.

“With God’s Spirit leading, the Bible Conference has gotten better

every year,” says Juan Rodriguez, Florida Conference associate youth/young adult ministries director, “because of the wonderful group of youth pastors and volunteers who give of themselves to serve our young people.”

“God blessed tremendously,” says Bill Crofton, youth/young adult ministries director. “Tears came to my eyes as I stood with parents who drove up on Sunday morning to witness their children’s baptisms. It doesn’t get any better than to witness young people give their hearts to Jesus.”

—BY JUAN RODRIGUEZ, BILL CROFTON

Lives Changed In 24/7 Prayer Room

Imagine yourself at Forest Lake Academy (FLA) in search of relief from the hot Florida sun. Strategically posted signs guide you to the quiet atmosphere of a 24-hour Prayer Room on the Apopka, Fla., campus.

Looking around, you observe the written prayers of previous visitors who left heartfelt cries to God. Next, you sit at the foot of a cross and sense a presence in this room the world doesn’t offer—the precious presence of God. You pick up a nearby hammer and begin nailing your burdens to the cross. You’re reminded of the price that was paid once—for all!

With the help of Nicki Carleton, an Orlando-based creator of 24/7 prayer

rooms, FLA students set up interactive stations where 192 hours of continuous prayer in early August led into the new school year. Friends came from far and near to pray on behalf of the academy. The administrators were lifted up in a dedication prayer.

Lives of FLA students, faculty, and community folks were touched as a result of their Prayer Room experience. First-time commitments were made to God by many individuals, while others renewed their relationship with Him. Encounters from the Prayer Room’s eight-day visit on the FLA campus were described as “very powerful and moving.”

—BY KRISTIE CAIN



PHOTOS: CAROLYN JENSEN

Rachel Torres (inset), a Forest Lake Academy junior, journaled and prayed in the quietness of the Prayer Room, where many students testified of real communication with God for the first time in their lives. A wooden cross, an easel, and a curtain were covered with notes of changed lives and lifted burdens.

Flea Market Sets Stage for Divine Appointments

Inspired by stories of congregations involved in flea market evangelism, a handful of members from the Seminole Meadows church in Sanford, Fla., met on a cold December morning in 2003, to pray over their dream to minister in the marketplace.

With their church strategically located a half mile from Flea World, this group of dreamers had faith to believe they were positioned in a perfect place to make an impact on more than 30,000 people who stream through the flea market gates every week.

"This is a wonderful way to meet people and tell them what God has done for us and what He will do for them," says ministry director Cal Farris.



Among the faithful volunteers who minister at Flea World in Sanford, Fla., are Harry Walter (left), Tom and Fern Bull, Cal Farris, Dorothy Walter, Dale Karpp, and Ruth Haller.

"We are convinced that God sets up divine appointments because we offer salvation full and free through our literature instead of selling something. Often, people tell us they believe God led them to our booth."

So far, 35,000 books and pieces of literature have been given away, including *Steps to Christ*, *Desire of Ages*, and *The Great Controversy*. The literature distributed includes *Our Little Friend*, *Primary Treasure*, and *Guide*.

"It starts with the kids," says member Dorothy Walter. "Give them stories, and the door is opened to give the parents a free book."

David Graham, pastor, responds, "While it's invaluable that the community receives the Gospel, the greatest benefit is the joy members experience while sharing Jesus with others."

Dale Karpp agrees, "I feel good serving God and talking one-on-one with others about Him."

The impact that marketplace evangelism has made on Graham's members prompts him to tell everyone, "Look around. There may be another 'marketplace' nearby where you can share God's love."

—BY NANCYANN SERRA,
DAVID GRAHAM

Seminole Meadows Church Celebrates Anniversary



David Graham (left), current pastor, greets former pastors Harold Flynt (right) and John Fox. Former pastors Ray West and Jim Appel also attended the anniversary celebration.

Eighty-nine years ago, 19 individuals met at Charles and Blanch Clute's home on East 5th Street in



After the September 30 services, balloons were released as voices of prayer and praise ascended heavenward to thank God for His blessings on the church during the past 89 years.

Sanford, Fla. Their Sabbath services became foundational in evangelizing northeast Orlando.

That same year, on September 9, 1917, this group established the Sanford church (now Seminole Meadows church).

As the congregation grew, they met in the Women's Club, the Masonic Hall, and the Ohio House, a local boarding facility. Land was purchased on the corner of 7th and Elm, and a small church was built. In 1934, the members opened

a church school across the alley. The church and school continued to thrive at this location for the next 51 years.

In 1985, property was purchased on Ronald Reagan Boulevard, and a new elementary school was erected. Here, the gymnasium was transformed into a church auditorium.

On September 30, more than 100 current members, guests, and four previous pastors, celebrated God's faithfulness in guiding the church congregation during the past 89 years.

—BY NANCYANN SERRA



It's Square Up With God Time

BY STEPHEN P. RUFF

For 19 years, my wife and I were stuck in a spiritual rut. We were following the 10+10 stewardship concept: 10 percent of our income for tithes, 10 percent for offerings.

As long as we religiously applied this formula to our giving, we felt satisfied that we were amply fulfilling our financial obligations to the Church. We had the feeling that we had arrived. Yet, deep down we knew there was something that we lacked. The growth we expected was not taking place. Victories were yet to be gained. Challenges remained in our lives. What was wrong?

Anyone who is at the same point of relationship today as they were last year, or 10, 15, or 20 years ago—is in a state of sameness. When I read the servant of the Lord's account on this issue, she declares, "No one who is not growing daily in capability and usefulness is fulfilling the purpose of life" (Christ's Object Lessons, pages 329, 330). In Christ, there are new levels to be attained every day.

Today I have much better insights on stewardship, not as a concept, but as an eternal principle. I now know that God is expecting me to be so much more in my relationship with Him.

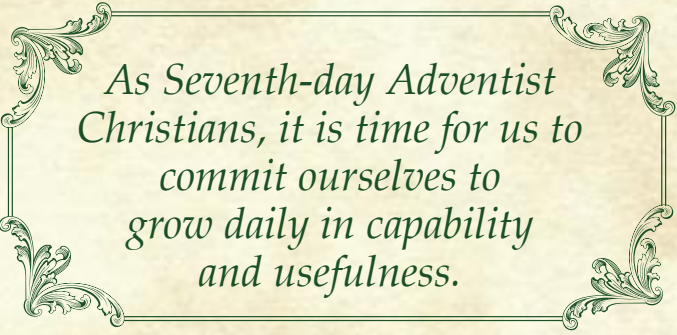
I must grow. And, I must continue to grow. I believe a clearer understanding of the eternal principles of stewardship would revolutionize who we are as a people and our perspective on the concept we call "Christianity." I have the opportunity to watch it happening in the lives of individuals all the time, but more important to me is what God is doing in my own life.

We have, for the most part, tied the concept of stewardship so tightly to the principles of tithes and offerings that I am afraid we are missing the real point. If it is about tithes and offerings, if our capacity to give defines us as Christians, where is Christ in this process and where is the corresponding need to become like Him? My understanding of stewardship was not enough to bring me in to an appropriate and eternal relationship with Christ. I am so glad I now understand, not completely, but so much better than before.

Consequently, in my investigation of this most awesome and eternal principle called stewardship, I have discovered it means more than being a good tither and a generous giver—it also encompasses obedience to the laws of God. Genuine stewardship brings humanity to an attitude about God and a spirit that extends itself as Christ does, to bless others.

There is no such thing as a bad attitude and a good steward. That's utterly impossible—a clear contradiction. Appropriate stewardship emerges from appropriate attitudes. Those attitudes are about God and are demonstrated in service for and relationship with others. If stewardship was only about tithes and offerings, I would not be able to identify individuals in the Bible who were great tithers and yet allowed themselves to be eternally separated from God. It has become clear to me that you can be a member of the remnant Church

of the living God, and yet, not be a member of the kingdom of God. This is heartbreaking news for some. There are numerous individuals recorded in Holy Writ that were indeed, members in good and regular standing, even returned their tithe, but will not be a part of God's eternal kingdom. You know them well—the rich young ruler, the Pharisee, the five foolish virgins, and many more.



As Seventh-day Adventist Christians, it is time for us to commit ourselves to grow daily in capability and usefulness.

Stewardship is a powerful word if you really come to understand it. If you do not understand it, it is prone to bring feelings of disgust, anger, resentment, or even bitterness. But, if you understand the word stewardship, it brings excitement to the heart and moves the soul in a manner that is intent on giving glory to God through whatever opportunity is available.

As I grow, I am learning there is no such thing as faithfulness while being in a continual static state in my giving or my living. There is no such thing as righteous giving without righteous living. When we become comfortable in our giving-able to afford it—it is time to move to the next level, to prove God again. It is only faith that moves us to that next level with God. Proving God again answers continually for us the question, "Am I faithful because I can afford it or because of my commitment to Christ?" This question must be asked and answered before we are clear concerning faithfulness.

One Sabbath I sat in Sabbath school and listened as a young woman began to share her testimony.

She began by describing her spiritual life as a cold, heartless, and faithless existence that was almost impossible to change. She longed to move to a new experience and relationship with God. "I had the hardest time giving to God," she explained. "I was faithful with my tithe, but offering was the biggest challenge for me. I would give an offering of \$20 every time, and at Christmas time I would give God \$50.

When the pastor asked us to look at our gifts to God and consider growing our giving, I cringed, even shivered. Then it was time to try God—put Him to the test. This was new for me and I was afraid. I started out with the largest amount I had ever presented to God—five percent of my income. That was big. But God is so wonderful. I have lacked for nothing. God has supplied my needs. I have seen the mighty hand of God moving in my life. I have been doing that now for months, and I am now ready to give six percent." This young woman is ready to move her relationship with God to new and exciting levels.

Have you reached a spiritual plateau in your life? Do you sense the need to move to new levels of growth and experience in your relationship with God? Perhaps the one thing that you lack is a renewed willingness to be used of God as an instrument of blessing. As Seventh-day Adventist Christians, it is time for us to commit ourselves to grow daily in capability and usefulness. For thus, by God's grace, we will fulfill our eternal purpose in life.

Stephen P. Ruff is a stewardship specialist who writes from Nashville, Tennessee.

Dunlap Church Crosses Cultures

The Dunlap, Tenn., church has made strong efforts during 2006 to interact with its Hispanic brothers and sisters.

In March, a group of 15 church members embarked on a two-week mission trip to Tegucigalpa, Honduras. This is an area where one dedicated pastor serves 12 churches and fellowships, many of which lack adequate meeting places and materials. In spite of these apparent hardships, church members are committed to sharing the Gospel with their neighbors and sacrificing what little personal means they have to improve their church facilities.

The Dunlap members lived with the family of the head elder and formed close relationships with the Honduran church members



Since returning home, the Dunlap members have continued to help fund the completion of the new church for its Honduran brothers and sisters.

while helping them erect a new, solid church building.

Previously, members had been meeting in the elder's open-air garage. This project also stirred interest among nonAdventist neighbors, some of whom stopped to help. Many of these neighbors also attended the evening vacation Bible school conducted by the Dunlap members.

Back home, the members welcomed the Guatemalan and Mexican Adventists living in the community, providing them a place to hold Sabbath services in Spanish and integrating them into the Dunlap church family. In June, Charles Gonzalez, pastor, who ministers to three Spanish congregations in the area, and Ronald Follett, pastor of the Dunlap church, coordinated an evangelistic series

for the Hispanic population in Dunlap. Marlon Costa, a Brazilian theology major from Southern Adventist University, led out in the series—his first in the Spanish language. Two young men, Amos de Leon Castillo and Silbano Adbul Villatoro Martinez, who are both from Guatamala, were baptized at the conclusion of the series. Castillo stated that he had been raised as an Adventist and has good memories of Pathfinders. He had slipped away from the Church after arriving in the United States. Both young men now witness for their faith in the community.

The Dunlap members are further extending their outreach to the Hispanic community by providing classes in the English language. It is hoped that more people will be drawn to the church through these efforts.

All have benefited from and are enjoying the intermingling of cultures and the sharing of its mutual faith.

—BY JUDITH BREWER



Children were delighted with the gift packets prepared by Dunlap church members. This little boy wore his stickers to church!

Waites Celebrate 50th Anniversary



Marvin and Dottie Waite, from the Pine Mountain Valley, Ga., church celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 26, 2006.

Marvin and Dottie met while Marvin was stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., during the Korean War. They are both active in the Pine Mountain Valley church, as they were previously in the Columbus, Ga., church. They were married at the old church in Columbus, which was on the corner of 17th Street and 15th Avenue, August 26, 1956.

Marvin and Dottie are both retired teachers. Marvin taught English and business for 36 years at Jordan High School in Columbus. Dottie taught kindergarten and first grade for 31 years at the elementary schools in Columbus. She then worked as a substitute teacher for three years after she retired.

They celebrated their golden anniversary with a reception given by their family in the Pine Mountain Valley church fellowship hall on August 6.

They tell everyone that "God has blessed us richly...spiritually, physically, and financially over the last 50 years."

Members Spend Sabbath in the Smokies

“It’s an opportunity to be at church, but also out in God’s nature.” That’s how Knoxville First church member Rob Flowers describes the Sabbath in the Smokies Campout held at Cades Cove, September 29-October 1.

Adventists from around eastern Tennessee filled 89 campsites at the Cades Cove campground, and more poured in Sabbath morning to reach a total of about 250 for the Sabbath school and church.

Sabbath school featured singing and several mission stories. For the church service Rick Greve, ministerial director for the northern region of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, gave

the sermon, entitled, “Escape to the Mountains,” and special music was provided by One Faith, a gospel bluegrass group.

Dawn Ducote attends the Collegedale, Tenn., church and traveled up for the Sabbath services. She wasn’t disappointed. “It’s just beautiful. It’s just a more relaxed, friendly atmosphere, you know. You don’t feel so confined; you’re in the outdoors,” says Ducote.

Carole Colburn, a member of the Newport, Tenn., church, camped the entire weekend. “It’s a beautiful, beautiful place, and it’s good getting to know some of God’s other children that we haven’t met before



Children gather at the front of the pavilion to hear a story told by Will Johns, pastor of the Knoxville First church.

from other churches,” says Colburn.

This is the first year that the Sabbath in the Smokies Campout has been directly sponsored by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. According to Jerry Fore, general vice president, the Conference is trying to find ways to connect fellow

church members through mini-camp meetings in different venues around the Conference.

“We want more people to bond together as fellow Christians in our family and to have fun, good fellowship, and spiritual renewal,” says Fore.

—BY KEN WETMORE

Women Walk in God’s Footsteps in Cordele

“I just want to walk in God’s footsteps and do what He did while He was here on Earth,” shared Frances McCarter, who participated in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference GOD in SHOES women’s evangelism project. McCarter not only participated this year, she has participated ever since the program began three years ago. “It’s just a growing experience and it helps me to be who Christ wants me to be,” she said.

This year, GOD in SHOES worked in Cordele, Ga., from October 8-22. Women reached out to the community of Cordele in a variety of ways. They hosted dinner and a pro-

gram about self-esteem and goal-setting for teen mothers. They visited the senior center to make crafts and talk with the residents. They participated in area health fairs. Then, as the grand finale, they held a Family Fun Day full of games, science experiments, and immeasurable

fun for families.

“It is a good idea to help families come together with activities, food, fun, and fellowship, which is an excellent way to really display the love of Jesus,” said Katrisha Williams of Cordele.

Jo Dubs, director of women’s ministries for the

Conference and coordinator of the two-week event, shared her thoughts about GOD in SHOES, saying, “Women are naturals at meeting people with their needs. We have that softer side, that nurturing side, and when we go to an area and we try to meet needs in the community, it’s always well-received.”

GOD in SHOES is part of the Outreach Pioneer Ministry, which was recently created by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. It includes a number of innovative ministries that strive to reach out year-round to areas that do not have an Adventist presence.

— BY REBECCA BROOKS



Teen mothers attend a banquet followed by a seminar to encourage them in their role.

Montgomery Children Help Those in Need



This primary class has a heart for missions.

The Montgomery First primary Sabbath school children and their leader, Agnes Long, sat on mats, enthralled, as Joan Beck finished her mission story about a teacher in Brazil whose classroom caught the vision of providing basic items to the poor students in the academy.

“We want to help too,” they chorused as the story ended. “We can collect soap, towels, shampoo, sheets, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and send them to Brazil,” they enthused.

Encouraged by the children’s enthusiasm, Beck suggested that they

select a project from the ADRA gift catalog and raise money. The next week they selected four projects: a \$40 goat for a family in Ethiopia, \$10 to be used to take five Siberian street children off the street to a safe location for a day, \$10 to purchase chickens for a family in the

Philippines, and \$1 for flip flops for a refugee living in a refugee camp. The money began arriving in the primary division before the container to collect it had arrived.

The children worked diligently to fill the ADRA container. They also solicited the help of the

congregation. Every Sabbath after church a primary child would greet the members with the “ADRA shoe” and request a donation.

As the money increased, so did the children’s and members’ enthusiasm. One church member who sells newspapers on Sundays donated the change she was given as tips to the project.

At the end of the quarter they had raised \$265. They sent \$40 for a goat, \$65 for flip flops, \$80 to purchase chickens for eight families, and \$80 to give 40 Siberian street children a safe place and food for a day.

—BY JOAN BECK

Treasury Department Makes Changes



Carolyn Culpepper

Carolyn Culpepper has accepted the position of senior assistant treasurer for the Conference. She started working for the office as a secretary to the youth/Pathfinder and the ministerial

departments in November of 1980. She was appointed accountant by Marvin Glantz while he was the treasurer for the Conference, and was later promoted to be the senior accountant.

Culpepper graduated from Auburn University at Montgomery in December of 2000.

She and her husband, Burney, are both alumni of Bass Academy. They are the parents of four adult children and have four grandchildren. Their oldest son, Burney, teaches at Bass. Two of their children, Christy and Jason, live in Montgomery. Their youngest son, Corey, is serving with

the Army in Iraq. Culpepper enjoys being with her grandchildren and relaxing at the beach.

Nick Henson has joined the Conference treasurer team as an assistant, and has taken on many of the responsibilities left when Troy Peoples became the treasurer.

Henson graduated from Southern Adventist University with a B.A. degree in accounting. He grew up in Michigan and graduated from Great Lakes Adventist Academy. While in college Nick worked as a summer intern for the Gulf States Conference.

He and his wife, Joia,



Nick Henson

moved to Montgomery from Daytona Beach, Fla., where Henson was employed for Skanska U.S.A. Building, Inc. Joia works as an emergency room nurse.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Management Turns Over at Adventist Book Center



Linda Anderson

Linda Anderson has joined the management

team of the Adventist Book Center as the manager. Four years ago Anderson came to the Book Center to fill the position of clerk, and has been involved in the many facets of running the Book Center.

Before coming to the Gulf States Conference, Anderson worked in the Iowa/Missouri Conference Book Center, where she

served for nine years.

One of Anderson's goals for the Book Center is to better serve those who live too great of a distance to come to the store. "Our mission is to witness to others. The Book Center provides the tools for our members to use to be successful with their witnessing," she says.

Iowa is home to Ander-

son, but she loves living in Alabama. She has two adult children: Rob, who lives in Eugene, Oreg.; and Jessica Nazareus, who is a teacher for the Panama City, Fla., church school. To relax, she enjoys being with her family and taking care of her Arabian horse, Pibb.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Rainsville Church Dedicated



A new church in a more public place will help these members' witness.

More than 160 people attended the grand opening and dedication of the Rainsville church on September 16. The church, previously

the Quiet Acres church, had been located in a rural area near Fort Payne, Ala.

The church congregation decided one of the

reasons for their slow growth was the location of the church building. They sold the building and bought property in Rainsville on a well-traveled highway. While they

were building their new facility, they worshiped in the Fort Payne Hispanic church after its members finished church services.

Dan Thompson, pastor, spoke for the morning worship service. Worship was followed by a fellowship lunch. During the dedication service Joe Benefield, whom they had purchased the land from, told how his great-grandfather paid for the property by trading it for a rifle and a horse. Leslie Louis, Conference secretary, spoke for the dedication service.

—BY VIOLA CHOATE

Gulf Coast Dedicates New Pastor

Still reeling from the devastating after-effects of Hurricane Katrina, the Gulf Coast church in Biloxi, Miss., officially welcomed Brian Danese, pastor, with a dedication ceremony August 26, 2006. The day was particularly special since the former pastor had retired before Katrina struck; afterwards, finding a new pastor for the district had to be temporarily postponed.

When Danese accepted

the call to pastor the Gulf Coast church in March, back-to-back prophecy seminars for Biloxi and Bay St. Louis had already been scheduled. He wrapped up both seminars in May and then began a six-week post-seminar visitation and follow up.

After taking time off, he returned in July, with his family still in Shreveport, La. The extreme housing shortage on the Mississippi Gulf

Coast due to massive loss of housing left the family with very few choices.

After an exhaustive search, he found a home that required a lot of repairs. Finally, the house was ready, and his



family joined him after the Labor Day weekend.

—BY TAMMY BRIDENBECK

Adventist Food Distributors Meet

The Adventist Food Distributors Association (AFDA) met for its annual meeting in Hendersonville, Tenn., October 10-12. AFDA was organized in February, 2005. AFDA is a group of Seventh-day Adventist business people who distribute Worthington Foods, Loma Linda Foods, Morningstar Farms, and other vegetarian products throughout the United States. Don Erickson, with Clark Distributing Company, is the current president of the group.

AFDA meets once a year for Christian fellow-



Gary Whittenburg (left), Pablo Ayala, Juan Zengotita, Gerald Bond, Matt Bruso, Roger Simpson, Steve Melcher, Jay Kuebl, Alex Lingas, Bill Kuebl, Don Erickson, Barry Finkbeiner, Mike Clark, and John Lim.

ship and to discuss business trends, new products, and ways to operate their businesses more effectively.

The group's goal is to unite their efforts in providing products that help people live healthier lifestyles.

Two of the member businesses are owned by the denomination. The others are privately owned businesses.

Current members of AFDA include: Clark Distributing Company, Hendersonville, Tenn.; Darby's Distribution, Cedar Lake, Mich.; Howell Mountain Distributors, Angwin, Calif.; Kuehl's Midwest Distributors, Lincoln, Neb.; A Better Choice, South Lancaster, Mass.; and Sunbelt Natural Foods, Winter Park, Fla.

—BY DON ERICKSON

Students Relive the Feast of Tabernacles

Students of Louisville Junior Academy presented *The Feast of Tabernacles*. Also known as the "Feast of Booths" and the "Feast of Ingathering," this fall feast was the most joyous event of the Jewish religious year. Sheila Burnette, music teacher, created the multimedia program to teach the students, and those attending, about the Feast: how it commemorated God's provision for the children of Israel, how Jesus described Himself in relation to the Feast, and how it pointed forward to the last great ingathering when Jesus returns.

According to several, it was one of the most enjoyable vesper programs of the year. Enhanced by a PowerPoint presentation on the screen in the back-

ground, older students read excerpts from *The Desire of Ages* and *Patriarchs and*

ated the program at various points, with children singing joyful praise to God for

school chaplain, helped with directing and acquiring props. In keeping with the Feast, attendees were requested to bring non-perishable food items for food baskets, and an offering was taken for worthy students. A miniature Feast of fresh fruits, roasted vegetables, breads, and sparkling white grape juice was enjoyed afterward.

The tasty refreshments were followed by a school constituency meeting. The constituents learned about the increased enrollment, the school's good financial outlook for the year, that 17 parents are volunteering at the school, and exciting plans for the coming year.

—BY CLIFTON KELLER, SHEILA BURNETTE



Curtis Cooper (left), Miriam Prieto-perez, Brandon Belcher, and Leigha Smith.

Prophets, while younger students reenacted scenes being read.

Special music punctu-

His goodness and mercy. David Voignier, father of two IJA students, constructed the booth. Rose Parker,

Adventist Clothing Ministry Marks 30 Years By Purchase of Building

This year will mark the 30th year of operation for the Seventh-day Adventist Community Services Center, or "Clothing Center" as it is known in Pulaski, Tenn.

In 1976 the Pulaski church made an appeal to the people of Giles County for clothing for one of its own families whose house had burned. The response was so overwhelming that surplus clothing had to be stored in members' homes. Later, Ethel McCormack (now Hickman), an Adventist, heard a radio appeal for a needy family. She contacted the radio station, then WKSJ, to let them know that her church had clothing available, but no facility for a distribution center.

The pastor of Pulaski's

First Presbyterian church at that time, Gudger Nichols, with the agreement of his

needed the space, the Community Service Center moved to its present loca-

ers. The Dobbinses offered the building rent-free until their decision to sell the property earlier this year.

The Pulaski church was able to purchase the building so that clothing and other items can continue to be provided for those who need them. As Ethel Hickman says, "Our country has never asked for help from any other nation; we take care of our own."

Currently the Center has 1,000 families on its files. The men and women who volunteer there are blessed weekly to be of help. The ministry is indebted to all of those citizens who donate clothing, money, and other items so that Giles County can continue to "take care of their own."

—BY LINDA LAMAR



James Brown (left), head elder; Peggy Hopper and Ethel Hickman, each co-serving at the Center for 30 years; and Lin Powell, trust services director for the Conference.

church's elders, offered its church's basement for the Adventists to use. From 1976 until 1993, the clothing center operated there. But when the church

tion, the corner of Spring and Washington Streets. The building was owned by the Wilford Dobbinses of Athens, Ala., owners of Tennessee Valley Wholesal-

Member is Singing Again at 95

She's 95 years old, sings solos at church with a rich, strong voice, but a few minutes later does not recall doing it. Iris Haring ("Aunt Iris" to those who know her) has just recently been blessing church congregations in the Nashville area with well-loved hymns, not missing a beat, and with clear enunciation.

According to her



Iris Haring

caregiver and niece, Swiftley Gonzalez, there was a lapse of 22 years when Aunt Iris didn't sing, though in earlier years she had been in

constant demand to sing at various events. She had even performed at a benefit concert in Bermuda. One of 16 children, Aunt Iris was born in Jamaica where she received her

education. She then taught at a college there prior to moving to the United States where she is now a citizen. She made her decision to no longer sing when she moved with her husband from New York to Tennessee 22 years ago. She felt her singing days were over. After her husband's death four years ago, she moved in with her niece who lives in Millersville, Tenn. They are members of the White House church.

Aunt Iris apparently has no aches or pains nor-

mally associated with the elderly; however, signs of Alzheimer's disease began to appear about three years ago. Just recently she informed Swiftley, "I want to sing at church." When she performs, her niece introduces her aunt, whispers to her what she is going to sing, and then accompanies her on the piano. And as she sings, Aunt Iris seems to be reliving earlier days when she used that special gift God gave her to bless others.

—BY HELEN KELLY

Marathon Team Recognized



Hazel Lowe (first row, left), Susie Andrews, Jeff Barker, Lillian Perry, Annie Richardson, Ruth Allen (second row, left), Julia Clark, Grace Clayton, Lois McCord, Beatrice Howard (back row), and Areatbus Shockley

Meet this marathon team —members of the

Maranatha church in Atlanta, Ga., whose years of service and membership, if totaled, would give hope and eliminate any doubt for those

just starting the race. They range in age from early 70s

to late 80s.

When asked about being an Adventist, they all agree. The path has not always been smooth, but they hold firmly to doctrines that are precious. They understand that negative attitudes strangle life, but trusting in the Holy Spirit gives hope where there is none.

This team has patience that endures. They somehow find power to run when trials are on their

heels, and strength to carry on day-by-day when sorrow tries to take first place.

Innovators, trailblazers, groundbreakers, or pioneers —any one of these words would be suitable to describe them. Maranatha thanks all of them for helping the members understand how God offers strength, wisdom, and power needed for life's victories.

—BY GWENDOLYN CLAYTON

Emmanuel Honors Local Retired Teachers

The Sabbath school department, after many years of honoring individuals, decided to honor a select group of community persons—retired teachers.

Forty-three teachers in and around the Loris, S.C., community were recognized for their dedicated and outstanding service as educators.

Each teacher was presented with a certificate of appreciation, *The Marked Bible*, and the *Signs*.

Darius McCarthy, president of the Alice Slater Youth Federation in South Carolina, was the guest speaker. His inspiring sermon, "Guest Who's Coming to Dinner," truly blessed all present. John Pooler, III, pastor of the Emmanuel church, thanked each teacher for coming and participating in the Community Guest Day program.

The program was organized by Eva Hernandez, Sabbath school superinten-

dent, with the assistance of Gretha Hazel. Their untiring efforts, along with the faithful Sabbath school teachers, made the program a blessing to all who attended.

—BY JOHN POOLER, III *John Pooler, III (far right), pastor, pictured with the honorees.*



South Atlantic Educators Inservice



Pictured are Lavern Scott (left), Valery McCarter, Beatrice Banks, Tabisha Bishop, Margaret Wright, Joy Campbell, and Calvin Campbell.

South Atlantic educators in North Carolina came together for two joint inservice meetings in an effort to seek innovative ways to serve their students. The staffs of Berean Junior

Academy in Charlotte, Baldwin's Chapel School in High Point, and Napoleon B. Smith Academy in Greensboro attended the workshops.

One of the seminars was held to help identify at-risk children. Tahisha Bishop, a speech/language pathologist was the presenter. The teachers were shown how to modify their

teaching strategies and how to implement a plan to allow for academic improvement by meeting the children on their level.

The second seminar was a technology workshop to assist the teachers in using the tools of technology for better instruction, as well as increased communication with their parents.

—BY HENRIETTA BISHOP

Atlanta Berean Holds Fall Bible Conference



The candidates sit, prepared to participate in the baptismal service.

The Gospel commission, as stated in Matthew 28:19, 20, is to “Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. . .” It was this commission the Atlanta Berean membership followed as plans were set in motion for a major fall evangelistic initiative. Under the leadership of the senior pastor, Carlton P. Byrd, the membership was energized for the Fall 2006 Bible Conference, entitled,

“Standing on the Word.”

In preparation for the Bible Conference, the members participated in pre-work activities in order to lay sufficient ground work for the abundant harvest that was soon to come.

One Sabbath in September, immediately following the divine worship service, the entire membership was mobilized like a mighty

army and participated in “Tract Attack.” This was an opportunity for members and pastor alike to go into the neighboring community, knocking on doors, soliciting Bible studies, having prayer with residents, and distributing flyers inviting individuals to the upcoming Bible conference. Throughout the month of September, Bible workers went door to door soliciting Bible studies and having prayer with community residents.

The meetings were held for three weeks on Sundays,

Wednesdays, and Saturday nights, along with two Sabbath celebrations. Church musical groups complimented the spoken word, as well as invited musical artists, including the Dynamic Praise Choir from Oakwood College in Huntsville, Ala.; Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Choir; Cascade United Methodist Church New Advent Choir from Atlanta, Ga.; and national gospel recording artist, Lamar Campbell.

Smiles, tears of joy, and positive expressions of praise to God were seen and heard throughout the sanctuary as the awaiting congregation witnessed numerous individuals arrayed in white robes enter the sanctuary doors desirous of being baptized.

As a result of God’s blessings, 110 individuals were baptized into God’s remnant Church, and 15 were rebaptized.

The members of the Atlanta Berean church rejoiced

in God for His plenteous blessings on the Fall 2006 Bible Conference. When one member was asked to sum up the activities of the Bible conference, she simply offered the familiar adage of praise, “To God be the glory, great things He has done!”



Carlton Byrd (left), pastor, along with the head elder William Chatmon, baptizes one of the 110 candidates.

Carlton Byrd is the newly installed senior pastor of the Atlanta Berean church, transferring from the Bellfort church in Houston, Tex.

—BY KELLEY PITTS

South Atlantic Sponsors Book Signing



Pictured with Barry Black is his sister, Catherine Jackson, who is an English and literature instructor at Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy.

The South Atlantic Conference sponsored a book signing for Barry C. Black, author of the recent published book, *From the Hood to the Hill*. The signing took place at the Berean church in Atlanta, Ga., and at the Conference’s ABC store.

Black is the first and only African-American to serve as the Chaplain to the United States Senate in the history of this country. While serving in the U.S. Navy as a chaplain, Black

achieved the rank of a two-star admiral and is the first and only African-American to serve as the Navy Chief of Chaplains.

His book details his God-directed journey from the poverty-stricken, tough neighborhoods of Baltimore, Md., to the U.S. Senate on Capitol Hill. He is a graduate of Oakwood College and Andrews Theological Seminary, and holds three doctorate degrees. He gives credit for his accomplishments to

the power of God and to Pearlina Black, his God-fearing single mother who raised eight children and gave them a Christian education in Adventist schools.

He began his ministry in South Atlantic as a pastor before joining the U.S. Navy. Chaplain Black is scheduled to speak in 2007 during camp meeting at the River Oaks Worship & Convention Center in Orangeburg, S.C.

—BY JAMES LAMB

Norwood Church Bridges Race and Time in Worship

Reprinted from: Racial Harmony, the Dream Realized, at Norwood in Birmingham, Alabama. Featured on the front page of the Birmingham News

It has been more than 65 years since some set foot in the church.

William Pogue and most of his former classmates, who graduated from eighth grade at Norwood Elementary School in 1941, attend churches, some across the country, where their journeys since have led.

However, during a recent eighth-grade class reunion, 25 or so Class of '41 alumni stepped inside the former First United Methodist church of Norwood for the first time in decades. The church in the north Birmingham neighborhood is an altogether different place of worship today, said Pogue.

During a July 1 bus tour of the Norwood area, the group noted their old stomping grounds and reminisced about their childhood days. When they reached the corner of 31st Street and 13th Avenue, two couples wanted their pictures taken in front of the church where they had exchanged wedding vows.

The couples, one from Georgia and one from Delaware, slipped up the steps for a quick pose when the doors opened at Norwood Seventh-day Adventist church, where



William Pogue signs a copy of September Song to Albert E. Frazier, pastor. September Song is a collection of childhood memories of Norwood he wrote in 2002. The Norwood Seventh-day Adventist pastor and the Norwood Elementary School Class of '41 eighth-graders celebrated together in an unplanned joint worship service the week before. (Picture: Hal Yeager, news staff, Birmingham News)

worship services are held on Saturdays.

"A couple of church ushers came out and invited us inside," said Pogue, of Mountain Brook. "Everybody on the bus was escorted down the center aisle of the church. What a blessing it was to be welcomed with open arms and included in their worship service.

"For the next 30 minutes, the black congregation and white former community residents worshiped in song and prayer," said Pogue, who was invited to speak at the service.

"The providential way God worked this out so overwhelmed both groups," said Albert E. Frazier, pastor of the Norwood congregation. "We were so blessed to receive

these visitors, these pillars of our community.

"The church, built in 1921, is a cornerstone of the area," Frazier said. "The Norwood Seventh-day Adventist church bought the building in 1985," he said. Frazier and others provided a tour of the building and talked about efforts to keep it up, including making it handicapped accessible.

"We want to keep the historical legacies of the city alive," Frazier said. "They provided history by sharing their memories. We had a special prayer dedicated to them. It was very emotional."

"Pogue and other Norwood classmates attended Phillips High in Birmingham, he said. Pogue left Norwood in 1945, spent a year in the

Navy, attended the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and graduated there in 1950," he said. After the military, Pogue returned to the Birmingham area and started working for Chicago Bridge and Iron Co., in 1954, rising to chief executive officer in 1981. He retired in 1989.

Throughout his successful career, Pogue remained steadfastly entrenched in his Norwood roots. He recorded those recollections in *September Song*, a 2002 book that he had printed to share with family and friends. "Copies are also available at the Hoover and Crestline libraries," he said.

Pogue shared his latest chapter of Norwood history with his son, Dean Pogue, pastor of the First Presbyterian church in Pasadena, Tex. The father's description of spontaneous "amens" during the service, and tears of people in both groups as they joined hands in prayer, inspired the son.

"A bunch of Anglo retired folks in varying shades of decrepitude were moved by the warm, prayerful welcome of this African-American congregation," Dean Pogue said, then used the identical word Frazier had: "I believe it was a providential, serendipitous glimpse of the best that can be between people."

—BY KIM BRYAN, NEWS STAFF WRITER, BIRMINGHAM NEWS

Entrepreneurs Launch “Christian Online Yellow Pages”

The new Christian Online Yellow Pages (COYP) (www.ChristianOnlineYellowPages.com) asks businesses, non-profit organizations, professionals, and students only one question: “Do you strive to display the same Christian values whether you’re at home, work, or school? “Yes? Then your listing on the Christian Online Yellow Pages is absolutely FREE of charge.”

In August, Adventist entrepreneurs Michael Sales and Tim Allston (both of First church in Huntsville, Ala., launched the Christian Online Yellow Pages at www.ChristianOnlineYellowPages.com. “Many of us share common Christian values such as fairness, honesty, selflessness, and

professional integrity...,” explained co-founder Sales, a retired Procter & Gamble market researcher.

“Unfortunately, most of us have been misled to believe we should not share or discuss such common Christian values out loud, and especially not in our work environments.

“Our Christian Online Yellow Pages seeks to break that unnatural, unrealistic separation of... one’s personal world with Christian values, and one’s



COYP co-founders Tim Allston (left), and Michael Sales, Sr.

professional or business world where they try to make hush-hush those same values.”

One unique feature of this

“Chamber of Commerce in cyberspace,” as co-founder Allston dubs the COYP, is its recruitment of high school, college, and graduate students into listing. “Our Christian Online Yellow Pages sees education, training, and professional development as foundational to business and professional growth,” explained Allston, a former

administrator and instructor at Oakwood College and Hampton University (VA).

“Mike and I are very passionate about educating and assisting both students and young professionals in making a successful transition from the classroom to the workplace, both strategically and spiritually.”

Beginning in January, 2007, COYP will begin bi-weekly teleseminars (telephone seminars addressing varied career-building and academic-skills topics, featuring noted subject experts) entitled, “Theopreneurship 101™.”

For more information, go to www.ChristianOnlineYellowPages.com

—BY TIM ALLSTON

Students Brave 100-Degree Temperatures



Publishing leaders gathered with more than 200 students at a YOUTH SUMMIT held at Nosoca Pines Ranch in South Carolina this past summer. This annual gathering was a celebration of another successful year of the MagaBook program.

This past summer the Southern Union publishing department’s annual YOUTH SUMMIT (Southern Union MagaBook Ministry

they braved temperatures of 100 degrees in this door-to-door ministry.

Eight programs were spread from Memphis,

Intensive Training) witnessed MagaBook leaders, student literature evangelists, and Bible workers devoting 10 weeks of hard work and perspiration as

Tenn., Columbia, S.C., and all the way down to Miami, Fla. Nearly one million homes were visited, and 96,976 books were left with these families. More than \$700,000 worth of MagaBook donations were received. Seventy percent of this total amount is paid to the students, and most use this money for tuition to their academies and universities where they also receive matching scholarships.

The Memphis program included a team of four Bible workers who conducted an evangelistic crusade resulting in 32 de-

isions for baptism. This is the third consecutive year that the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference has sponsored such an evangelistic program with the youth.

These young people are fulfilling the prophecy told years ago, “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained...how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world. How soon might the end come—the end of suffering, sorrow, and sin...[Ed 271.2]

—BY ROCKY DAVIS

Perrine Member Turns 100 Years Old

In 1906 Philo Taylor Farnsworth invented the current system of television transmission and reception. San Francisco had the great earthquake in which more than 3,000 people died. Bread sold for five cents a pound and gas was 28 cents per gallon.

That was the year Thelma Walker came into the world. She was born in Jamaica, and as a young adult she relocated to the Republic of Panama in Central America, where she spent most of her adult life.

It was there she accepted the Seventh-day Adventist message and later

was baptized by Pastor D. Delafield. That was 62 years ago; she has not wavered since.

Throughout her church years she was active in the church and has served in various positions.

Walker has four children, 11 grandchildren, and

11 great-grandchildren.

Later in years she came to the United States and relocated in Miami, Fla.

She chose Perrine church as her church home. She

was remarkable

in the way she dressed, and was always telling the young people to “stay in

the Church.” She is a firm believer in prayer.

Walker was a faithful church attendee until recently when her health began to decline.

However, she gets regular visits from her church family, who sings and prays with her and cheers her along. She is very much a sweetheart.

To celebrate her 100th birthday, a party was given in her honor at the church by her daughter, Maria Barnes, grandsons Roy and Miguel and their families, as well as her niece and her family who reside in Panama.

Trevor Beckford brought greetings from the church; he likened the party to a very special occasion. He recalls

Walker as “one of the best persons he ever met.”

He called her a mother in Israel and was greatly privileged to be honoring a centurion. Beckford added, “It is a blessing to be celebrating with a centurion. We may never have this privilege again.” Other members brought tributes by way of songs and skits.

—BY MILLICENT TAYLOR



Thelma Walkers



Thelma Walkers' family members

First University Conducts Largest VBS to Date

There was a time when First University church in Tampa, Fla., longed to have a high population of young children.

On July 17–24, the Lord blessed the church

with children ages 5-12 at its largest vacation Bible school ever.

The entire church celebrated with the children at this year's VBS. Everyone had “red hot fun in the sun time” at fiesta VBS.

During the week long VBS, the children learned that “Jesus is our Friend, Jesus is our Savior, Jesus is our Lord, Jesus is our Helper, and Jesus is our Life.”

The chil-

dren were excited and came prepared for a howling good time with fiesta music.

“This was an excellent opportunity to witness not only to the children in the community, but the parents as well,” stated Pamela Harris, First University's children's ministries department leader.

Parents were invited to stay for a fiesta meal prepared by the volunteers of the church, who spiced up the event.

The children chose a daily challenge which provided them with an exciting way to live out

what they learned each day at VBS.

VBS ended with a grand fiesta event that was composed of Bible learning centers where they could see, hear, touch, and taste that the Lord is good.

Parents participated at each station event with their child. There were Bible-point crafts, team building games, lively fiesta songs, and tasty treats. Everyone was fired up about Jesus and are looking forward to vacation Bible school next year.

—BY TRYSTAL WOODS



Its fiesta time at VBS

TRYSTAL WOODS

Children's Ministries Leaders Seek NAD Certification

More than 200 Southeastern Conference children's ministries leaders are pursuing certification via the North American Division's children's ministries certification program.

Approximately 54 leaders have completed the



Lois Trofort conducts a training session.

ROBERT HENLEY

certification program. It is designed to help children's ministries leaders become more knowledgeable about the Word of God, the needs of children, and the most effective methods for teaching them.

To receive the professional certification, candidates must complete a series of workshops, seminars, personal study, and practical experience.

In response to Christ's mandate to feed His lambs, Hubert Morel, Conference executive secretary, established its children's ministries department in 2002.

The mission of children's ministries is to reach

out to children and draw them into a loving, serving relationship with Jesus Christ and the church. Also, it provides training, resources, and support those who minister to children.

Under the leadership of Francine Long and her team: Roxanna Braithwaite, Lois Trofort, Raquel Morel, and Margaret Scott, all of whom are volunteers, the department has grown considerably.

The dedicated team of women conduct four training sessions a year. Some of the courses offered include: Protecting Children from Abuse, Children with Special Needs, Learning



ROBERT HENLEY

Margaret Scott displays a new teaching technique with a certification candidate.

Styles and Learning Cycle, and Interactive Storytelling.

For more information about the Southeastern Conference's children's ministries program, visit www.secsda.org/children.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

Southeastern Delivers Digital Video to the Desktop

The Conference's interactive ministries (communication/technology) department has partnered with 1Hope4All (www.1hope4all.com) to distribute digital video to the desktop of its constituents.

Initially the technology will be used to deliver SketchCast, a video news show.

SketchCast, which debuted in November, is one of two new additions to a suite of Conference news delivery services that are currently in use.

Collectively called Sketches Interactive, the news suite is composed of the following products: eSketches, Sketches Online, and the Blog Center. The second service, Podcenter, will offer audio content of

interviews and evangelistic pieces.

In an era of digital convergence, Sketches Interactive represents the evolution of the Sketches brand and is the product of a data-driven process.

The process which utilizes surveys and focus groups allows Southeastern's constituents to actively participate in the development of products and services.

According to a recent Conference survey, the technology utilization survey, the constituents are very technology savvy and they expect the Conference to deliver the same types of digital services and content that they are experiencing on a daily basis from secular industries.

"The system pushes DVD quality content to the desktop of the subscriber," states Casio Jones, CEO and founder of 1Hope4All. To receive the content, constituents are required to subscribe for the service via the Conference's website and install the software on their systems.

Once the content is published by the Conference, it is delivered to the subscriber's computer.

Push technology differs from on-demand streaming technology, which currently powers Southeastern's iTV product, and requires the consumer to log onto the website and request the content.

The service will not replace the streaming services currently used. It will provide the constituents with a different way to view content.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY



ROBERT HENLEY

Robert Quisenberry is interviewed by Jonathan Dulan and Zoe Martin.

Nursing Celebrates 50 Years

Southern Adventist University's School of Nursing celebrated a half-century of preparing nurses for service with a disaster preparedness workshop and Golden Anniversary Gala in Chattanooga on October 29.

Southern's nursing program, which began with 11 students preparing for their bachelor of science degrees in May of 1956, has educated nearly 4,000 nurses in the last 50 years. Today, more than 500 students (nearly a quarter of Southern's student body) are preparing for degrees in nursing.

As the national demand for qualified nursing professionals has increased, so has Southern's reputation for providing an exceptional education as nursing seniors consistently pass the national licensure examination with one of the highest rates in the nation.

The interac-

tive workshop was held to help prepare healthcare professionals for potential disasters. Participants went through a simulated crisis, custom-made for the local area. Workshop keynote presentation, "Lessons Learned from Katrina: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly," was given by Christopher O'Conner, CEO,



Thomas Merry, M.D., gave the keynote address for the nursing gala.

St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Boston, Mass.

The gala was a fundraiser for an expansion project, scheduled to begin in 2007, which will enable the School of Nursing to accept even more future nurses into its program.

"We have many to thank for making this program what it is today and what it will be for the future of nursing," says Barbara James, dean of the School of Nursing. "Because of this program, many nurses will care for people all over the world."

—BY LORI FUTCHER



Disaster preparedness workshop participants worked in teams to determine a response for the crisis unfolding on the screen in front of them, then shared what they learned with the group as a whole.



Nursing students wore historical nursing uniforms while serving guests at the Celebration of Nursing gala.

Axiom Program Reaches Out to Students

Southern Adventist University students are taking part in a new program called Axiom. The program's goal is to deal with difficult issues in an environment of understanding and support.

"So many people are

living life alone due to the fact that they don't feel like they will be accepted and loved if they were to open up and share their struggles with someone," says Emily Baldwin, senior nursing major and founder of Axiom. "Axiom pro-

vides the opportunity for them to be honest about what they are struggling with, and enables them to seek out knowledge in dealing with the problem, thus making it possible for them to grow."

The program includes

a presentation and personal testimony by a student on a specific issue. After the presentation, small study groups are formed to focus on the issue and help those struggling with it.

—BY JAIME MYERS

Faith and the Church Family Restores Bass Academy

BY REBECCA GRICE

Faith and our worldwide Church family have brought us here to today," stated Gordon Retzer, Southern Union president, as he addressed the crowd gathered at Bass Memorial Academy on October 14. Fourteen months after the school took a major hit from Hurricane Katrina, students, staff, alumni, church members, and friends had come to offer praise, give thanks, and celebrate a better, bigger, restored campus. The program included a concert by the school's band and choir, a luncheon, and a ribbon cutting, which was followed by a tour of the facility. During the afternoon a special tribute was given to the students.

When Katrina threatened the Mississippi Gulf Coast, the students were evacuated. When news began to filter in about the damaged campus, they feared their school would not be able to reopen.

Krisanna Kay, a senior, explains, "I hated being stuck at home doing nothing. When the chance came, I returned to Bass, just one week after the storm



Craig Ziesmer, principal, and Jeff Twomley, treasurer, hold a plaque presented to the school by Adventist Risk Management which reads "Bass Memorial Academy: Re-constructed 2006, through the combined efforts of the worldwide Seventh-day Adventist Church."

and before classes began." Krisanna joined other volunteers and helped on the distribution line and cleaning up the campus. "I spent my 17th birthday working at my school that I love," she says.

Except for the administration building and the newly renovated girls' and boys' dormitories, every building on the campus had received major damage. Power and phone lines were down, roads were blocked, and except for sporadic cell phone use, there was no communication.

"But we were not alone," explained Kim Twomley, a staff member. "Within hours, help arrived."

Active Team Services (ACTS), a lay-led disaster response team from the Florida Conference, arrived first. They brought with them generators, refrigerated trucks, and portable kitchens. Because of their help the Academy became a distribution site for food, water, and supplies for the

residents of the surrounding communities. Next, students from Southern and Andrews Universities arrived to help with the clean up and repairs. Because of these volunteers, the Academy was able to reopen after two weeks.

Classes were held in the dorms, and students ate in the gym. When Joshua Goins, a student, was asked about last year, he says, "The storm was humbling. Our classrooms were crowded. It was noisy and inconvenient, but we learned to pull together. I came to Bass for its reputation for having a Christ-centered environment, and that was only made stronger."

In the ensuing weeks and months, Maranatha Volunteers International, academy and church groups, the Powel Building Group, plus individuals from all over North America, came to volunteer their help.

Repairs to the school are about 98 percent complete. The Gulf States Conference has committed \$7,748,489 to the renovations. Insurance claims have covered \$5,746,489. The difference is being paid with donations and loans.

Leslie Louis, Conference secretary explains, "What seemed terrible at first has become a blessing. Changes that we dreamed about to make Bass a first-rate facility have become a reality."



Band and choir members wait outside the new music building before their concert Sabbath morning.



Students, Academy staff, Conference officials, and invited guests all took part in the ribbon cutting.

Southern's Secret Gets Noticed

Oscar-winning actor Jon Voight formalized it when he handed a Crystal Heart Award to Southern Adventist University professor David George—the professional film industry is taking notice.

Secret of the Cave, a feature film created by Southern Adventist University with assistance from students and faculty, was one of five dramatic feature films out of more than 120 films in its category to receive the Crystal Heart Award during the Heartland Film Festival, October 19-27. It also had the lowest budget of all the dramatic features that were submitted.

"After seeing the other films, it made me realize what an honor it was to be included in the same group,"



Secret of the Cave crewmembers set up for a shot at the top of a seaside cliff on Achill Island.

says George, the film's producer and professor in the School of Visual Art and Design. "The next closest film had roughly double the budget of ours. They were all fantastic and meaningful films, but it says something pretty significant that a jury of judges thought

we deserved to be in that company."

Saying Something Positive

The Heartland Film Festival recognizes and honors filmmakers whose work explores the human journey by artistically expressing hope and respect for the positive values of life. *Secret of the Cave* was screened 10 times at the festival in the company of current blockbuster hits.

"People often ask me what am I most excited about this year," Jeff Sparks, the festival's president, told an Indianapolis newspaper. "It is so hard to choose. I think seeing young filmmakers make it through the hundreds of entries from many, many seasoned filmmakers to win the Crystal Heart Award is the most satisfying and exciting. The folks behind *Secret of the Cave*...jump to mind. They stand out in my mind as filmmakers to watch."

Retelling a Favorite Story

Based on a 1920s children's book by Arthur Maxwell ("Uncle Arthur") of the same name, *Secret of the Cave* is a suspenseful tale of an American boy, Roy, who visits a small European fishing village. Roy uncovers who is behind the puzzling events that are a mystery to the townsfolk.

The story's theme is based on the words of Jesus found in Matthew 25:40: "...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (NIV)

George says the book was a good fit for the University's goals of mission, message, and marketability when

choosing a storyline. The already-popular story gave the team a built-in audience of families who are familiar with the book. The mystery has sold more than 142,000 copies worldwide in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Icelandic, Danish, and Swedish.

Filmed on-location on Achill Island in Ireland, *Secret of the Cave* provided an opportunity for about 35 Southern students to learn about filmmaking in a hands-on teaching environment. Film professionals held key positions, while students participated in most every aspect of the film's production.

Getting the Word Out

Southern is working with Carmel Entertainment Group, LLC, who is currently seeking distribution outlets for *Secret of the Cave*. Several studios are actively considering the project.

"I can't tell you how amazing this experience was for the students," George said. "All of us learned so much, had such a great time, saw such amazing films, met such great people, and were so warmly welcomed that it is difficult to express."



Actor Niall O'Brien walks along the beach in Doogort, Ireland, as crewmembers record.

Educating Youth in Record Numbers

BY NANCY GERARD

Georgia-Cumberland Academy is celebrating a record opening enrollment of 254 students for the 2006-07 school year, which began on August 14. While enrollment figures have been strong the last few years, the record enrollment previous to this year was the 1977-78 school year, when the school registered 253 students.

New Students

Typically, students come to Georgia-Cumberland Academy from the southeast, with the majority from Georgia and Tennessee. This year, the school has enrolled students from 15 states, including distant states such as California, Texas, and New York, and 11 countries, including the Bahamas, Bermuda, Brazil, Hong Kong, Korea, the Netherlands Antilles, Peru, Philippines, Spain, and Venezuela.

Ken Scribner, GCA's recruiter, is pleased with the enrollment figures. "I believe that the record number of students this year is due, in large part, to students from last year sharing their incredibly positive experiences with other students. They want no one to miss out. We are providing more than an education here. We are providing opportunities for success that will, in turn, positively affect not only our community, but will impact the world."

New Courses

Seven new courses were added to the curriculum this year, including anatomy and physiology, AP English literature and composition, a required class for 10th graders called career exploration, three dual credit (high school and college) computer classes,

and an advanced string ensemble. The career exploration course utilizes materials and software from Learning Labs/Applied Technology, which is a locally owned and operated company. Students are enjoying the new options. Laura Marshall, a senior from Collegedale, Tenn., is enrolled in the AP English course and is feeling very positive about the experience. "AP English is helping me prepare for college and is exactly the kind of challenge I need," she commented.

New Staff

GCA welcomed several new staff members this year who are replacing staff members who retired or resigned at the end of the 2005-06 school year. New to our staff are Linda Chung, music instructor; Dana Pottle, assistant girl's dean; Terry Pottle, work coordinator and career exploration teacher; Tim Roberts, cafeteria supervisor; Wayne Stickney, mathematics instructor; and Deborah Theus, treasurer. The school has also employed three new college-age interns: Ricky Dickerson, Kelli Leeper, and Nikki Smith.

New Facilities

Renovations were made to various parts of the 40-year-old campus over the summer months, and students and parents have expressed appreciation for the work that has been done. Dormitory and classroom



Georgia-Cumberland Academy seniors participate in a team building activity during a senior retreat at Cloudland Canyon.

building restrooms were completely renovated over the summer. In addition, the courtyard (an outdoor area between classroom buildings) was redesigned and renovated. Funds for the courtyard project came from alumni donations and part of the proceeds from the annual golf tournament.

Greg Gerard, principal, is pleased with GCA's direction and says it is a continuation of the school's legacy. "Georgia-Cumberland Academy has been in existence since 1965. However, since the early 1900s, this land has housed an orphanage and sanitarium, as well as a school, that served the area. Our alumni have left this place to serve all over the world, but still hold many memories of their years here in this beautiful valley."

GCA is owned and operated by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, and is a co-educational boarding high school accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. GCA is located on Reeves Station Road in Calhoun, Georgia.

Obituaries

ANDERSON, Anna Louise Rolf, 80, born in Meriden, CT, died Oct. 18, 2004 in Shelby, NC. She was a member of the Shelby church, and formerly a member of Cress Memorial church in Orlando, FL.

ASTACIO, Irma, 64, born Sept. 29, 1941, died July 31, 2006. She was a member of the Kress Memorial church in Winter Park, FL.

BASS, Jack E., 83, born Dec. 11, 1922 in Erid, OK, died Sept. 3, 2006 in Moss Point, MS. He was a member of the St. Elmo church.

BIHARA, Thelma, 83, born Nov. 1, 1922, died Aug. 29, 2004. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

CHAPMAN, Peggy Lou, 72, died Aug. 4, 2006. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, church.

CLARK, Ray "Benny", 55, born March 4, 1951 in Orlando, FL, died Sept. 14, 2006 in Hattiesburg, MS. He was a member of the Hattiesburg church.

CORDREY, William Riley, 81, born Dec. 5, 1924 in Crossett, AR, died April 16, 2006 in Latonia, KY. He was an active member of the Taylor Mill, KY, church.

COWLES, Audrey, 82, born in Taylor County, KY, died on Aug. 30, 2006 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the Louisville, KY, First church.

CRESS, Charles C., 84, born Aug. 27, 1922 in Bucyrus, OH, died Oct. 24, 2006 in Collegedale, TN. He pastored for 45 years in the Kentucky-Tennessee, Carolina, and Florida conferences. He emphasized church planting, establishing new congregations in Elizabethtown, KY; Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, Bonita Springs, and Cross City, FL; and led in the founding and construction of Tri-City Junior Academy in High Point, NC.

DEVORE, Frances, 82, died Oct. 4, 2006 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the Louisville First church.

EMPSON, LOUELLA WILKERSON, 90, born July 16, 1916, died Aug. 6, 2006, in Springfield, TN. She was a faithful member of the Ridgetop, TN, church.

ENGLAND, Nellie, 94, born Feb. 8, 1910, died June 30, 2004 in Charlotte, NC. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

EPLEY, Curley Rich, 93, born Nov. 9, 1912, died Dec. 7, 2005. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church. (Name misprinted in the August 2006 TIDINGS.)

FALLS, Augusta Bernice, born June 15, 1921, died July 3, 2006 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the South Louisville church.

FEARING, Jeanne McMahan, born July 29, 1929 in East Orange, NJ, died Oct. 2, 2006. She attended the Shenandoah Valley Academy and Washington Missionary College (now Columbia Union College). She was a member of the Sarasota, FL, church.

GILBERT, Leroy E., 79, born July 16, 1924 in Saluda, NC, died April 29, 2004. He served in the US Air Force during World War II. He was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

GLASS, Mary Elizabeth "Beth," 91, born Nov. 26, 1914, died July 17, 2006. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, church.

GREBEY, Mildred E., 88, born April 17, 1917, died May 17, 2005. She worked at self-supporting institutions in several states, and was employed at Madison College and Voice of Prophecy.

HAVILAND, Harry Lee, 56, died July 2, 2006. He was a former secondary teacher of science, math, history, and Bible. He graduated from Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in 1978.

HOLBROOK-Gardner, Alma Mary Guiibeault, 79, born April 26, 1927 in Providence, RI, died May 10, 2006 in Clemmons, NC. She was a member of the Winston-Salem, NC, church.

HUMPHREY, Betty, 69, born Dec. 6, 1936 in Meridian, MS, died Sept. 9, 2006 in Hopkinsville, KY. She was a member of the Meridian First church.

KELLY, James Arnell, 77, born in 1929 in Etowah County, AL, died Sept. 14, 2006. He was a member of the Piedmont, AL, church. He was a literature evangelist and a leader in his church.

LACEY, Charles Ray, 81, born Feb. 3, 1925 in Flat River, MO, died July 24, 2006 in Chattanooga, TN. He was a member of the McDonald Road church in McDonald, TN. He was director of landscaping at Southern Adventist University for 24 years (1970-1994). He designed and created the Garden of Prayer; the Promenade with waterfalls, fishpond and creek; redesigned Fleming Plaza parking lot and Industrial Drive; the Outdoor Classroom; flower beds, gardens, and blooming trees. He started Collegedale Nursery and taught Science of Gardening for seven years at Southern. He was an avid woodworker.

LaMAY, John Arthur, 41, born Oct. 18, 1964 in York, PA, died July 24, 2006 in Charlotte, NC. He was a member of the Charlotte Sharon church.

LUST, Elizabeth B., 99, born May 6, 1907, died July 19, 2006. She was a retired missionary/teacher/bookkeeper for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, church.

MARTIN, Eugene, 75, born June 18, 1930, died Jan. 23, 2006. He was a member of the Fort Lauderdale, FL, church.

MARTZ, Hickman, Mary Valda, 84, born March 28, 1921 in Chattanooga, TN, died March 21, 2006. The Hickmans were a founding family of Southern Missionary College in Collegedale, TN, now Southern Adventist University. She was a member of the Madison Campus church in Madison, TN.

MITCHELL, Clyde, 71, died June 29, 2004.

Obituaries

He was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

MOREY, Pastor Keith, 86, born July 14, 1920, died Aug. 29, 2006. He served in World War II; and pastored in Michigan, Ohio, Texas, and Florida. He was a member of the Louisville, KY, First church. (A misprint was published in the October 2006 TIDINGS.)

MULL, Dessie, 80, born Oct. 1, 1923, died July 31, 2004. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

MUNDY, Mary Margaret Farris, 48, died June 15, 2006 at her home. She was a native of Garrard County but was raised in Madison County, KY. She was a teacher for the Berea College preschool program and taught for the Christian Appalachian Project for 27 years. She was a member of the Richmond, KY, church.

PATTERSON, Glenn E., 95, born Nov. 24, 1910 in Addy, WA, died Aug. 4, 2006 in Punta Gorda, FL. He served the Church in various ministerial positions in the North Pacific Union territory for 55 years, and retired in 1990.

PHILLIPS, Ira Delona, 50, born Aug. 8, 1946 in Chicago, IL, died March 4, 2006 in Hinsdale, IL. He was a member of the State Line church in Ardmore, AL.

SAUNDERS, Geneva Hurley, 88, born March 31, 1917, died July 31, 2005. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

SCOTT, Thomas L., 64, born Aug. 19, 1940 in Vidalia, GA, died Sept. 17, 2004 in Smithville, TN. He was a member of the Smithville church.

SHEFFIELD, Amy Manous, 94, died Feb. 5, 2006 at Laurelbrook Nursing Home near Dayton, TN.

SLATER, Rosemary, 83, born May 13, 1923, died May 25, 2006. She was a member of the East Pasco church in Zephyrhills, FL.

SLUSSER, Herbert R., 76, born Nov. 17, 1928 in Hudson, MI, died April 11, 2005. He was a member of the Morganton, NC, church.

SMITH, Mildred, 92, born Sept. 29, 1913, died Aug. 9, 2006. She was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL.

SMITHSON, Beulah, 94, born Jan. 19, 1911 in Hart County, KY, died Aug. 6, 2005 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the South Louisville church.

SNEIGON, Alfred, 78, born Aug. 12, 1927, died Aug. 11, 2006. He was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL.

SOHASKI, Lillian, 86, born Sept. 13, 1919, died July 31, 2006. She was a member of the Wimbish Road church in Macon, GA.

TAYLOR, Jay William, 66, born March 17, 1940 in Pennsylvania, died Sept. 2, 2006 in Sherrills Ford, N.C. He was a member of the Statesville church.

TISLER, Charles, 83, born Jan. 20, 1922, died March 31, 2005. He was a member of the Kress Memorial church in Winter Park, FL.

TOMLINSON, John F., Jr., 81, died Oct. 2, 2006. He was a member of the Valdosta, GA, church.

VOORHEIS, Pastor Arl V., 80, born Aug. 20, 1926, died Sept. 18, 2006. Pastor Voorheis had served the Church for more than 42 years as a teacher, pastor, and treasurer of the Gulf


States Conference. He had pastored churches throughout Florida and Alabama. He was a member of the Collegedale, TN, church.

WALLS, Wilbur, 87, born Oct. 29, 1918, died April 16, 2006. He was a member of the Walker Memorial church in Avon Park, FL.

WALPER, ROBERT W., 83, born March 19, 1923 in Pasadena, CA, died July 16, 2006 in Kennesaw, GA. He was a member of the Pewee Valley, KY, church.

WILLIAMS, Yetta, 103, born May 1, 1902, died May 6, 2005. She was a member of the Kress Memorial church in Winter Park, FL.

YATES, Clarence W., 89, born Jan. 19, 1916 in Milldale, TN, died Aug. 2, 2005 in Portland, TN. He was a member of the Cross Plains, TN, church and served as a deacon for many years.



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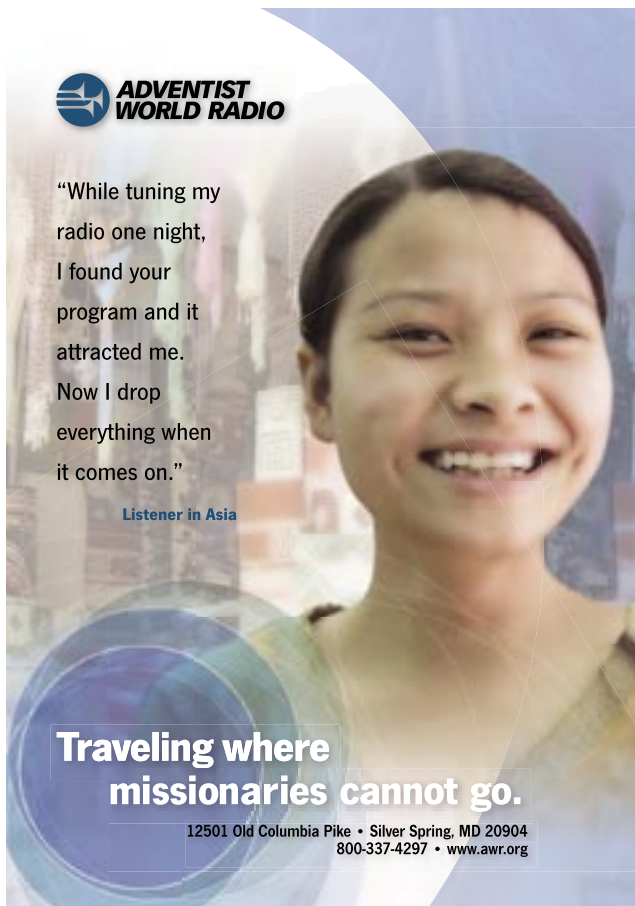



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Carolina

Pathfinder Council—Jan. 5-7. Nosoca
Ministerial Workers Meeting—Jan. 14-17. Nosoca.
Executive and Finance Committee Retreat—Jan. 19-21. Nosoca.
Women's Ministries Mini-Retreat—Jan. 26-28. Myrtle Beach.
Lay Pastoral Assistant Training—Jan. 26-28. Nosoca.

Florida

Complete calendar online—<http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar.html>
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Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule
 Jan. 13. Jacksonville Southpoint.
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 Jan. 27. Naples.
 Jan. 28. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Lakeview, Winter Haven.
Revelation Offers Hope Evangelism Series—Jan. 19-Feb. 24. Apopka church. Presented by Ron Halvorsen. Meetings held Friday-Monday nights at 7:15 p.m. Details: hope@apopkaadventist.fdn.com or 407-889-2812.
Women's Ministries Retreats—Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Theme: Becoming the Beloved. Details: sheryal.vanderberghe@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x134.
 Feb. 2-4. English. Speaker:

Derek Morris.
 Feb. 9-11. English. Speaker: Raquel Santillana.
 Feb. 16-18. Spanish. Speaker: Raquel Santillana.
 Feb. 23-25. English. Speaker: Derek Morris.

Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online—www.gccsda.com
Pathfinder Teen Leadership Training Discovery Weekend—Dec. 1-3.
Festival of the Family—Dec. 9. Battlefield Parkway church.
K-10 Teacher Staff Development Day—Jan. 2. Cohutta Springs.
Adventurer Director's Council—Jan. 13.
Pathfinder Director's Council—Jan. 14.
Pathfinder Teen Canoe Trip—Jan. 26-28.
Pathfinder Teen Cavern Trip—Jan. 27, 28.

Gulf States

Elders/Deacons Meeting—Dec. 1-3. Camp Alamisco.
Church Leadership Training—Dec. 8-10. Camp Alamisco.
 Dec. 15, 16. Camp Alamisco.
Conference Executive Committee—Dec. 12. Montgomery.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board
 Jan. 16. March 13. May 15.
Conference Executive Committee
 Jan. 16. March 13. May 15.
Highland and Madison Academy Boards
 Jan. 18. March 22. May 10.
Ministers' Meeting—Jan. 8-11. Pigeon Forge, TN.
Eastern Kentucky Camp Meeting—March 2-3. Prestonsburg, KY.
West Tennessee Festival of Faith—March 10. Advent Presbyterian church. Cordova, TN.
Quadrennial Session—April 29. Madison, TN, Campus church.

Announcements

MISSION PODCAST: Adventist Mission's free video podcast shows how the Seventh-day Adventist Church is sharing Jesus with the world. Each video brings you to the frontlines of mission, face to face with people telling the world about Christ. Stories vary in length from one-to-two minutes - up to 10 minutes. Many of the stories on the podcast can also be found on the quarterly *Adventist Mission DVD* shown in local churches around the world. To subscribe go to: www.AdventistMission.org, and click on the subscribe link.

Spokane Junior Academy Class of 1957—Anticipating a 50th 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 send it to Nadine Platner Dower at dickandnadine@comcast.net or 13000 NW 47th Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685; or call 360-828-7146.

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

Forest Lake Academy Class of 1957 Reunion - March 30, 31. We are anticipating our 50th year class reunion at FLA. All friends or family who can help us find our classmates, please contact Pat Mathers Orange at mailto:teorange@aol.com or call 865-428-4377 and leave a message.

Southwestern Adventist University's Homecoming Weekend—April 12-15. Alums and friends are invited to participate in the 25th year reunion concert of the Keene Camerata, April 14, 2007. Honor Classes: '32, '37, '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97. For more information, please email bvwm@swau.edu or visit our website at www.swau.edu

Tri-City Junior Academy 50th Anniversary—April 27-29. We are inviting all TCA attendees to join us for a Homecoming/ Alumni Weekend. Details: www.tricityjunioracademy.org; 336-665-9822; 8000 Clinard Farms Road, High Point, NC 27265.

Glendale Adventist Academy Centennial Celebration—May 4-6. Details: 818-244-8671; GAAalumni@gmail.com

Sunset

	Dec. 1	Dec. 8	Dec. 15	Dec. 22	Dec. 29	Jan. 5
Atlanta, GA	5:29	5:30	5:32	5:36	5:40	5:45
Charleston, SC	5:13	5:14	5:17	5:20	5:24	5:30
Charlotte, NC	5:11	5:12	5:14	5:17	5:22	5:27
Collegedale, TN	5:28	5:29	5:31	5:35	5:39	5:45
Huntsville, AL	4:35	4:36	4:38	4:32	4:46	4:52
Jackson, MS	4:55	4:56	4:59	5:02	5:06	5:12
Louisville, KY	5:23	5:23	5:25	5:29	5:33	5:39
Memphis, TN	4:48	4:49	4:51	4:54	4:59	5:04
Miami, FL	5:30	5:31	5:34	5:37	5:41	5:46
Montgomery, AL	4:40	4:41	4:43	4:47	4:51	4:56
Nashville, TN	4:32	4:33	4:35	4:39	4:43	4:49
Orlando, FL	5:29	5:30	5:32	5:36	5:40	5:45
Wilmington, NC	5:02	5:03	5:05	5:08	5:13	5:18



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