

# T SOUTHERN TIDINGS

*Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family*



## 100 Years – 1907 to 2007

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# Nourishment for the Holiday Season

Entering a new year conjures up a catalog of challenges we face in a time-conscious culture. I am experiencing a deep-seated inquiry as we conclude 2007, which could be posed for the consideration of all. The question is, "Have you ever felt like you robbed God of the kind of personal time that nourishes you and glorifies Him? Have we ignored the valuable resources of prayer, God's Word, and growth in Christian fellowship? When I am spiritually malnourished, my view of the world is tilted toward pessimism. I have a tendency to succumb to anxiety surrounding work, home, and the fulfillment of my mission for God. My healthy self-concept gets assaulted by a battery of negative images and contemporary opinions in the place of my worthy "God-likeness."

As contemporary Christians, for example, there is enough to deal with in a society increasingly controlled by demagogues and sociopaths. Negative images which bombard us from all sides, and from within, make it difficult to stay on the righteous and moral path. However, through daily prayer, study of the Word, and Christian fellowship, God seems to lift the burdens of everyday life and provide strength for the inevitable pull and tug of living. Prayer is a tremendous resource at the disposal of the spiritually malnourished. Through prayer, we can incorporate supernatural strength. Through prayer, we can call upon supernatural powers to resuscitate us from our malnourished states. Prayer is more than positive thinking; it is more than the power of suggestion; and it is more than magical thinking, which some psychiatrists would call it. It is calling upon the power of God Himself who is available to His children.

I have already referred to the utilization of the Word of God as a resource to battle one's spiritually malnourished state. The Word of God has tremendous power—power for many things, including overcoming anxiety and a depressed self-image. In the Old and New Testaments, it is recorded more than 40 times that the world was created by the Word of God. In Hebrews 11:3, it is recorded that through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God. We understand this verse to mean that the worlds were created simply by the Word of God. God simply spoke His Word and created the universe. I consider that most astounding when I consider how large the universe is. If one were to travel at the speed of light to cross the Milky Way galaxies, he would be 100,000 years old before completing the journey. This is almost beyond human comprehension. If God's spoken Word can do that, then surely the written Word can help us overcome our spiritually malnourished conditions. Nothing can help more in overcoming life's problems than spending hours and hours meditating on the Word of God. Initially one might memorize Scripture verses to help overcome problems, but through the years, he will grow to love the Word.

Not only can a spiritually malnourished individual benefit from daily prayer and the study of God's Word, but he can also benefit tremendously from the body of Christ as a whole. Most of the biblical epistles were not written to individuals but to a body of believers. Much of the language used in the Bible pertains to the whole body and not merely to certain individuals. There is a real protection among and within the body of Christ. If we are with a group of believers who love the Lord and enjoy life, their happiness rubs off on us. We find ourselves being less self-centered and less absorbed in our own problems. Our spiritual nourishment receives a dynamic enhancement.

The time constraints which prevent us from spending quality time with God can be addressed this holiday season. My hope is that you will be lifted, empowered, and nourished by a new, eye-opening encounter with Jesus en route to 2008.

*Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., is the executive secretary of the Southern Union Conference.*



Ron C. Smith  
*Guest Editorial*

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Cover Caption: *Noble Vining, College Press manager for more than 20 years, and managing editor of SOUTHERN TIDINGS, 1946-47, sits in front of Intertype (Linotype), purchased in 1945, said to be the first Intertype sold at the end of World War II. It was used to set the first issue of TIDINGS, 1946, after the regional conferences were introduced.*





# A CENTURY OF SPREADING TIDINGS 1907 TO 2007

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN, III

*These Intertype machines were used to set the Southern Tidings from 1945 until the early 70s when replaced by photo-typesetting.*

*The mission of the Southern Union Conference is to foster the work local conferences do in preaching the Good News of Jesus and nurturing members. Since the organization of the Southern Union in 1901, Union publications have inspired, informed, and encouraged our workers and members.*

The *Watchman Magazine* and the *Gospel Herald* were the first magazines to serve the Southern Union territory. The *Watchman* (later known as *These Times*) was a missionary magazine published by the Southern Publishing Association. The *Gospel Herald* was first printed in 1898 by Edson White and later by the Southern Union, it shared the news among African-Americans. These two magazines preached the Gospel to the public, and also carried Union news stories and business. However, it soon became apparent that Church business needed to be published in a separate, internal public relations

paper, so that the Union and conferences could speak directly to its members.

The Southern Union Committee addressed this need in Chattanooga, Tennessee, May, 1906, taking the following action:

“We recommend the establishment of the Southern Union Conference paper, to be an eight-page bi-weekly, at twenty-five cents per year; the expenses of publishing said paper to be prorated between the state conferences according to membership,



*Current communication staff: R. Steven Norman, III, director; Ron Quick, photographer/videographer; Irisene Douce, editorial assistant; Licci Zemleduch, graphic designer/web content manager; and Bobbie Millburn, circulation manager.*





Leo Thiele, editor, 1924 to 1925



Cecil Coffey, editor, 1958 to 1962



Oscar Heinrich, editor, 1963 to 1980

Leon Albert Smith 1907-1908, Eliza J. Burnham 1908-1909, Mary H. Crothers 1909-1914, (No Editor Listed) 1914-1918, James Pitts McGee 1918-1920, Homer O. LeFevre June-Oct. 1920, Cusb Sparks 1921-1924, Leo Francis Thiel 1924-1925, Frank William Field 1926-1935, Don C. Ludington 1935-1940, J. S. James 1940-1944, (No Editor Listed) 1945-1948, Mildred Lee Johnson 1949-1950, Clara Miriam Crauford 1950-1956, Anita Martin 1957-1958

they to receive credit for all subscriptions secured within their respective territories.”

The paper was called *Report of Progress* until the name was changed to *Southern Union Worker* in 1910. Finally, it was renamed *Southern Tidings* in 1932 when *Southern Union Worker* and *Field Tidings*, which served the Southeastern Union, were merged.

## THE COLLEGE PRESS CONNECTION

The Southern Publishing Association published the Union papers in Nashville from 1907 to 1917. When Graysville College moved to Collegedale, James Pitt McGee was associated with the college and was also editor of the *Field Tidings* and the *Southern Union Worker*.

While he was editor, the young college opened a print shop and began to print the Union papers there. The first papers appeared in January, 1918. This arrangement has continued for 90 years, and has created jobs for the students and generated income for the school.

God has blessed the *Tidings* to touch and bless the lives of many of our members. Noble Vining remembers reading the *Field Tidings* as a

teenager and thinking, “I would like to print this paper one day.” He later printed the *Southern Tidings* while a student at Southern Junior College, and later served as managing editor.

Rachel Figueroa of Altamonte Springs, Florida, says, “When the post-man delivers the *Southern Tidings*, I can’t wait to sit down and read what is happening in the Southern Union. It is the news about us.”

As we celebrate this centennial, we provide the following timeline as a way of looking back at the past 100 years to see what God has wrought, and reassuring ourselves that the God who has brought us this far will lead us into the 21st Century.

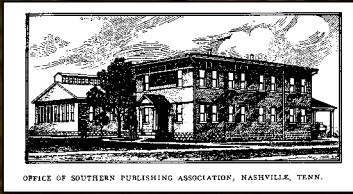
If you have photos related to the history of the *Southern Tidings*, please contact the Southern Union office of communication.



Editors: R. Steven Norman, III (left), 2007 to present; Olson Perry, 1990 to 2006; Ron Quick, interim editor, November, 2006, to May, 2007; George Powell, 1981 to 1990.



1901 Southern Union is organized and Southern Publishing Association (SPA) opened on Jefferson Street, Nashville, Tennessee. *The Watchman* and *Gospel Herald* serve as missionary and news publication in the Union.



# TIDINGS TIMELINE

1907 First issue of *Report of Progress* is published in July, 1907, with Leon Albert Smith as the first editor.

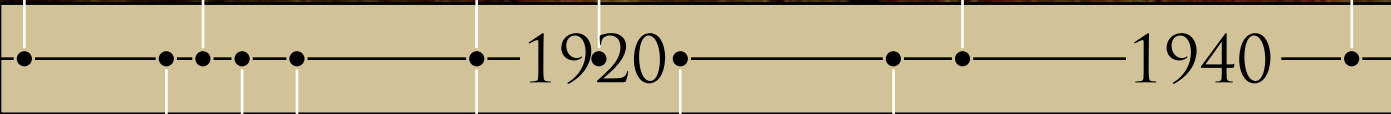


1945 The College Press moves to building vacated by Collegedale Hosiery Mill. New Intertype (Linotype) purchased. Said to be first machine sold at end of WWII. Used to set first issue of TIDINGS, 1946 [after regional conferences were introduced]. Monotype retired. Handsetting of display above pica size continues until 1976.

1917-1923 All typesetting done by hand at The College Press.

1920 The College Press moves into new building completed before the administration building was started.

1937 TIDINGS circulation: 5,000. Hand wrapped until early 1960s.



1920

1940

1917 Printing of Union paper is moved from Southern Publishing Association (SPA), to Southern Junior College to help generate income for the College. The College Press (CP) opens at Collegedale, Tennessee, in an old house.

1932 Southern and Southeastern Unions combine, with headquarters in Decatur, Georgia. Former *Field Tidings* becomes SOUTHERN TIDINGS. No change in format, just name change, but to include news from former Southern Union. S.A. Ruskjer, Southern Union president, 1932-35.

1910 *Report of Progress* becomes *Southern Union Worker*.



1908 Eliza J. Burnham becomes first woman to serve as editor.



1923 Southern Publishing Association donates Monotype typesetting system, Miehle Cylinder Press, and other miscellaneous equipment to the College Press. Monotype composition replaces hand typesetting of body type for *Field Tidings*. All display headings above pica size continued to be set by hand until 1976.

1906 Union votes to publish Southern Union Conference paper, to be an eight-page bi-weekly, at 25 cents per year.



1970

TIDINGS circulation: 24,800.

2002

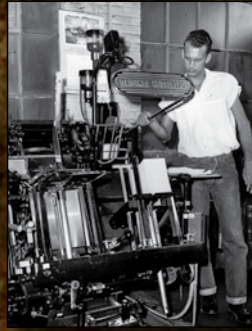
November issue of SOUTHERN TIDINGS first of full-color capability throughout.

1968

Review and Herald Publishing installs Miehle Web Offset, first in denomination to do so.

1998

Four-page imposition to film from computer.



*A German letter press used by The College Press until the early 70's*

1964

Press Color Proofing replaced by Kodak Color Key System. Four-process color film positives contacted from color separations and overlaid, giving consistent results above previous press proofing and less expensive.

1990

Intertype and Linotype VIP now obsolete. Macintosh computer with typesetting, layout, and color separation installed.

1978

VIP input upgraded from punched paper tape to computer disk.

1960

1980

1966

Miller two-color, perfector offset press installed.

1980

TIDINGS circulation: 40,169.

1991

TIDINGS circulation: 54,639.

1973-75

TIDINGS body type set an IBM Magnetic Taps Selectric Composer, strike-on, using Selectric "Balls." Display still handset.

2005

Computer output directly to printing plate initiated by College Press.



*Zinc engraving stamp used for Southern Tidings until 1966*

1975 Mergenthaler Linotype Variable Input Photo-typesetter (VIP) installed, state-of-the-art, first in area. Controlled by punched paper tape. Display no longer handset.

2007

TIDINGS circulation: 78,850. All 100 years of SOUTHERN TIDINGS made available on the General Conference Archives website Centennial Celebration.



## Carolina Adventist Retirement Systems, Inc.



During the last three years, the health care holdings of the Carolina Conference have gone through a major repositioning. The Conference Executive Committee and the respective boards of the health care entities worked through the legal details of the repositioning, and after much prayer, a tremendous amount of work, and careful study, it was voted to merge the Pisgah and Winslow campuses.

In November of 2006 the 460 skilled health care and independent beds of the two campuses were merged into one organization under the newly cre-

ated corporate umbrella of Carolina Adventist Retirement Systems, Inc. (CARS).

David Kidder, Carolina Adventist Retirement Systems president and CEO, says the primary purpose of the merger was to put the Conference health care holdings in a stronger financial position for future health care development and for the creation of the only Seventh-day Adventist state licensed Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) in the Southern Union.

History was made on September 28, 2007, when the North Carolina Department of Insurance issued



PHOTOS BY RON QUICK

a license to Pisgah Valley Retirement Community to operate as a CCRC. "After 30 years of operating as a quasi retirement community, the Pisgah campus will now be able to operate as a state-recognized CCRC for current and future 'boomer' residents. This is a historical moment, and it will be a privilege to

provide the Seventh-day Adventist community and the community-at-large a retirement environment with such phenomenal potential. God has opened and closed doors along the way according to His will, and we ask for continued prayers as we move into this exciting segment of health care," says Kidder.

## Greenville North Spanish Company Organized

Greenville North Spanish was organized as a company, with nearly 50 people signing the membership book on July 7, 2007. Retired pastor Minervino Labrador, Sr., began working with the church last year, and has helped church members get involved in personal evangelism.

The group has been saving every penny to buy

their own property. Some Sabbaths they have more than 70 people in attendance.

Jerry Mobley, pastor, of the Greenville North church, shared some encouraging words with the newly-organized members. Their excitement was evident as they began this new phase of their church history.

María Evans, pictured with pastors Samuel Romero and Labrador, and former pastor Mauricio Villamil, helped develop this group of believers now known as the Greenville North Spanish company.





## Conference Directors “Catch the Fire”



PHOTOS BY RON QUICK

While on a ShareHim campaign in Africa, Jim Davidson, Conference president, got an idea. The experience of presenting the hope of salvation to such a willing audience was life-changing.

When Davidson returned from Africa, he

presented the idea to the Conference leadership committee that every department director and associate present an evangelistic campaign on the same dates, so the experience could be shared of the Lord’s leading each night.

“We can inspire not

only with words, but with actions,” said Davidson, “showing that we are willing to step up to the pulpit. If we can do it, they can, too!”

The date was set for the middle of October, 2007. Each evangelism team was responsible for presenting a 16-sermon series in one of 11 Charlotte area churches using the ShareHim presentation software. Many of these would-be evangelists had never before preached a single sermon.

“It was a big step out of my comfort zone,” says Rebecca Sorrells, Confer-

ence assistant treasurer, “but it was a life-changing experience.”

Several baptisms were held and more are planned as a result of these reaping events. So don’t let inexperience hold you back—perhaps it’s your turn to ‘catch the fire.’

—BY BECKY CARPENTER



## Youth Baptized the Old-Fashioned Way

The summer of 2007 witnessed four young people become baptized members of the Asheville North church.

Elizabeth Wilson, Emily Bartlett, and Austin Von Henner chose to dip into the chilly river waters of historic Cataloochee Valley west of Asheville. At the church’s annual Heritage Sabbath, one of the highlights of the year, the three friends chose to dedicate their lives to Christ.

Emily and Elizabeth have been close friends since their first year of life. Elizabeth responded to Shawn Boonstra’s call during a recent series of meetings. After 12 months

of Bible studies, Austin was glad to be baptized with his cousin Elizabeth by Will Oosthuizen, pastor.

In a separate ceremony later in the summer, Noel Shanko, pastor, had the privilege of baptizing his granddaughter, Chelsea Campbell, making her a sixth generation Seventh-day Adventist. A family full of traditions, Chelsea chose to be baptized in a beautiful stream near her paternal grandmother’s home. Wearing the same baptismal robe that her mother wore for her re-baptism in the



*Chelsea Campbell was baptized by her grandfather, Noel Shanko, pastor.*

Jordan River, her father released upstream a vial of Jordan River water, which

he saved for years for the occasion.

Elizabeth, Emily, and Chelsea are honored to be official “lambs of the flock” at Asheville North church. At three years of age for Elizabeth and Emily, and age 23 months for Chelsea, they had recorded their thumbprints on the church charter 10 years earlier. This charter is now framed in the church vestibule. Along with Austin, they were destined to grow up not only in this church family, but in the Lord Jesus Christ.

—BY FLORIE ROGERS



## Live Oak Couple Believes Faith Comes by Hearing



PHOTOS: BETTY MAZZIO

Nick and Lauren Mazzio recently completed a new inspirational Share CD™, “Unto You a Savior/Deliverance of the Saints,” that features Christ’s birth and second coming. Original music, hymns, and thoughts by Ellen White from *Desire of Ages* and *Early Writings* are highlighted on this evangelistic project recorded in their home studio. Insets: Other products the Mazzios have produced.

“Faith comes by hearing” [Romans 10:12] is a promise taken to heart by Nick and Lauren Mazzio, members of the Live Oak, Fla., company.

“We knew the Lord wanted us to record,” say the young entrepreneurs behind Solemn Appeal Ministries. “People are in such a hurry. Few have time to read; yet, they spend a lot of time driving in their cars. We wanted to reach them there.”

The Mazzios’ plan was to simply record original music and hymn arrangements in their home studio where they endeavor to serve the Lord with their talents. However, when an opportunity was presented to record the book, *A Thousand Shall Fall*, by Susi Hasel Mundy, they prayerfully accepted the challenge.

“The project has especially touched the lives of young people,” says Lauren. “They love it.” The six-CD audio book from Review and Herald Publishing is dramatically narrated and musically supported. “It’s like watching a movie in your head,” said one teenager who listened to all six CDs in one day. “I couldn’t stop.”

The true story about a Seventh-day Adventist WWII soldier and his family in Hitler’s Germany is both gripping and encouraging. “It’s a powerful testimony about being faithful to God no matter what the circumstances or what the world around you is doing,” says Lauren.

When the Mazzios recognized the power in a CD ministry through this project, they embarked on

shorter audio evangelism projects called Share CDs™. “We take selections from scripture and the *Spirit of Prophecy* and break them into 20- to 40-minute readings with musical enhancements,” says Lauren. “A hymn or original composition is included at the end before each project is burned onto a CD with an attractive full-color cover.”

This past summer, the Live Oak company partnered with north Florida Adventist churches in the Camp Kulaqua River Ranch evangelism outreach. Three hundred Share CDs™ were purchased to hand out to people in the community who came as guests to spend a hot summer day at the water park.

Whether selling product in quantity numbers—such as the 60 ordered by a

church in Chicago, Ill., for an evangelistic series—or personally handing the CDs out at gas stations, churches, yard sales, or anywhere the Mazzios go, it’s all about ministry. “We want the CDs to be very affordable for anyone or any church that would like to have them to give away,” says Nick. “We just basically cover our costs.”

With more than 10 titles so far, including “Calvary,” “Judas,” “The Impending Conflict,” and “The Scriptures Our Safeguard,” the couple is working on a new CD appropriate for the holiday season to share with neighbors and co-workers in the real estate office where Lauren works. “There are so many people hungering for God’s love to be revealed,” says Nick, “and I believe that’s why we continue running out of the ‘Calvary’ CD.”

Today, the Mazzios’ home studio is more than a base for music ministry. It is a production center for evangelistic outreach tools. As individuals witness Nick and Lauren’s journey of faith, and express their own dreams to ‘think out of the box’ in sharing the Gospel, Lauren responds from experience: “Just jump in! Don’t worry how. The Lord will lead if He has called.”

For a full list of available Share CDs™ or to order *A Thousand Shall Fall*, visit [solemnappeal.com](http://solemnappeal.com), or call 386-688-3727.

—BY MARTIN BUTLER AND  
BRENDAN WHITE



## Churches Report from Around the Conference

**Fort Pierce**—James E. Sampson Memorial School students in Fort Pierce, Fla., received awards in the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority Art Contest. The students' art will appear on this year's power company holiday greeting cards. Pictured are Jerry Lauture (front row, left), Ananda Glover, and Cordae Charles. Shelley Pelote (back row, left), first-fourth grade teacher; and Nancy McConkey, Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, who said, "we appreciate your students' contribution to our holiday cheer."



ANN CORBIN

**Sunrise**—Pathfinders from the Sunrise Lightbearers Club were again presented the Mayor's Award at the Fourth of July Celebration for the City of Sunrise. More than 2,000 pieces of literature were distributed to spectators along the parade route.



ALFREDO WILKIE



HERB PRITCHARD

**Ocala**—Last year, Ocala, Fla., church members pinned love offering envelopes on a barren Christmas tree after the pastor, David Swinyar, urged the congregation to think outside the box. The 2006 annual offering of \$5,631.39 helped fund a youth mission trip to Nicaragua and was also used in the community for the Alpha Center for Women.

**Fort Lauderdale**—Ben Carson, M.D., head of pediatric neurosurgery at John Hopkins Children's Center, Baltimore, Md., was a guest speaker at the Fort Lauderdale church. Jeffrey Thompson, Ph.D., pastor, presented Carson with a copy of his new book, *Legacy of the Pioneers*, the history of the Adventist Church in the Cayman Islands.

**Fort Myers Shores**—A family-life weekend in September involved the youngest to the oldest in the church family. Sabbath school opened with two songs performed by the children's divisions. Guest speaker Noel Shanko, Florida Conference assistant to the president, presented a sermon entitled, "Can One Person Make A Difference?"

On Sunday, eight

couples participated in a wedding vow renewal service and reception: Ernest and Loa Gordon, 48 years; Stanley and Lystra Reyes, 40 years; Robert and Olive Ferguson, 37 years; Leo and Mirna Flynn, 35 years; Peter and Karen Reyes, nine years; D.B. and Linda Young, four years; Jason and Cindy Rone, one-and-one-half years; and Charles and Amanda Hess, six months.

**Lauderhill**—When the city of Lauderhill proclaimed that September 1 was Lauderhill Seventh-day Adventist Church Day, it culminated a week of celebration for the 25th anniversary of the church. Originally begun with the vision of six individuals, the church now has a membership of 823 and has planted four additional congregations.



## Bulletin

Four members of the Dalton, Ga., **Hands of Praise sign language choir** recently performed at three churches in Jamaica.

Approximately 100 huddled to share ideas and celebrate at the annual **Youth Workers Convention** in Cohutta Springs.

More than 300 gathered for the annual **Atlanta lay-led church plant convocation**. The guest speaker was Roy Gane, seminary professor, Andrews University.

A **ground breaking** for the new Chestatee, Ga., church took place in early September.

The **Newport, Tenn., church** started a new project, "Its My Very Own..." They fill bags with useful items for children displaced by methamphetamine.

**Six were baptized** at the Brunswick, Ga., church from a recent evangelistic effort held by Hector Hernandez, pastor.

Two hundred and forty-seven women attended the fall **Women's Ministry Retreat** held in Gatlinburg, Tenn. The next retreat will take place March 28-30, 2008, at the Cohutta Springs Conference Center.

Visit [www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com) for more **news and resources**.

## GCA Students Impress Local Leader

Late summer, 2007, Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA) students Ashley Sorenson and Joanne Echeverria visited the home of Mary Barclay in Bremen, Ga., as they were going door-to-door selling Maga-Books. The young women did not realize that Barclay was the executive director of George Chambers Resource Center, a private, non-profit agency that provides servic-

es to men and women with developmental disabilities. Barclay was so impressed by



*Ashley Sorenson (left) and Joanne Echeverria (right) stand behind Mary Barclay.*

the students that she talked with fellow Kiwanis Club member and GCA employee Nancy Gerard and arranged for GCA students to work at the resource center. Currently, four students from GCA are working with adult clients teaching them art, computer skills, reading, and math. Three clients are now working towards getting their GEDs.

—BY WENDI KAY BARCLAY

## Joe Blevins Falls Asleep in Jesus

Joseph Abraham Blevins, the late pastor of the Deer Lodge/Jamestown, Tenn., churches, died while preaching a three-part evangelistic series for the Methodist church in Jamestown, on October 9, 2007.

"I don't know another pastor who practiced more intentional bridge building with the community and reached out through preaching the Gospel across denominational boundaries," says Steve Haley, vice president for administration/secretary for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. "The last words on his lips were 'the Lord'."

He served the Seventh-day Adventist Church for more than 28 years working as a literature evangelist for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference; district publishing director for the Southern Union; and publishing director for the Gulf States Conference. A pastor in the

Georgia-Cumberland Conference for 22 years, Blevins worked in the Summerville/Center Grove (Rock Spring),



*Joe Blevins passed away, October 9, 2007, while preaching an evangelistic series.*

Ga., churches; the Lakeland Ga., church; the Andrews/Murphy, N.C., churches; the McMinnville/Spencer/Sparta, Tenn., churches; and the Deer Lodge/Jamestown, Tenn., churches. He was ordained to the Gospel ministry in 1987.

An Israeli citizen, he was born in Agadir, Morocco, in 1946 into a Jewish Orthodox home. As a

young man he moved to New York City and was invited to join a youth group of Seventh-day Adventists.

Because of this friendship, Blevins decided to become an Adventist and was baptized. His parents disowned him and he lived with the local Adventist pastor until enrolling in college. He earned an associate's degree (Bible worker) from Newbold College in 1967, and went on to complete a bachelor's degree from the London School of Economics in 1969.

"Joe loved the Lord more than anyone I know," says Tim Leffew, publishing director for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. "I don't know if I would be in the ministry without him."

He is survived by his wife Charol and daughters Shoshana and Katie Beth.

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

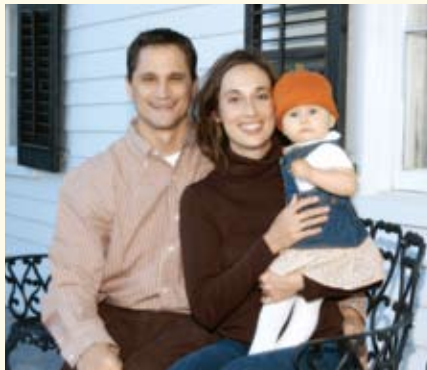
## Bryan to Serve at Collegedale Church

Alex Bryan has been named the new associate pastor for the Collegedale church.

Bryan led an evangelistic initiative in Atlanta in 1996, the New Community Fellowship, aimed at reaching secular young adults with the Gospel. Bryan resigned from denominational employment in 2002 to pursue this evangelistic passion, and not without success. Earlier this year, however, Bryan and his wife, Nicole, came under increasing conviction to reconnect with the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Months of candid dialog in various settings culminated in a clear vote of support from the Executive Committee of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, October 24, 2007, offering Bryan renewed employment and this position.

"I learned many things through this experience," reflected Bryan. "First, I learned how to begin and enjoy authentic relationships with people outside the Church, how to love them unconditionally, and how to have spiritually sig-



Alex and Nicole Bryan sit with their daughter, Audrey.

nificant conversations with non-Christians. Second, I learned to appreciate the unique gifts of Adventism (the seventh-day Sabbath, global community, the consistent grace of God) from

unexpected vantage points.

"I believe Seventh-day Adventists are uniquely positioned to address (the) three big issues of our times," Bryan continued: "stress, uncertainty, and ugly gods. God's remedy for stress is Sabbatical life.

God's remedy for uncertainty is the surety of Heaven. God's remedy for ugly gods (visions of deities as terrorists, who torture people in hell forever, or blow up buildings, for example) is a picture of a graceful God, the desire of this and every age, Jesus Christ."

"It is my pleasure to welcome Alex back to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference," says Ed Wright, D.Min, president of the Conference. "I am honored to represent an organization that is clear in its own identity, but also bold in acting as an agent of reconciliation."

Bryan will serve as pastor for mission and ministry on the staff of the Collegedale church, led by John Nixon, D.Min., senior pastor. He will begin responsibilities this month.

Bryan graduated from Southern College (now Southern Adventist University) in 1993. He earned a master of divinity degree from Andrews University in 1996, and is currently a doctor of ministry student at George Fox University in Portland, Ore.

Bryan married Nicole Ward in 1999. Their daughter, Audrey, was born in 2006. They enjoy a love for the out-of-doors, specifically cycling, hoping to pedal bicycles across America one day. Several summers ago Bryan and Nicole cycled from Idaho to the Pacific Ocean together. Audrey, now 22 months old, is in tricycle training.

—BY ED WRIGHT

## Andrews Citizens Walk the U.S.A.

Carl Hartman, personal ministries leader for the Andrews, N.C., church, organized a city-wide wellness

walk for the Andrews community, which concluded with a celebration program, October 8, 2007.

As part of the project, called "Walk the U.S.A.," participants collected "miles" through various physical activities such as walking, swimming,

jumping rope, and playing tennis. Using these miles, the group simulated walking the 4,000-mile round trip journey of the Appalachian Trail. But, they didn't stop there. Participants continued to walk the entire 10,870-mile perimeter of the United States, which took roughly three-and-one-half months. In total, 18,462 miles were accumulated by 178 people during the program.

"Physical activities contribute not only to physi-

cal health, but to spiritual health, as well," said Hartman.

E.W. Dempsey, Conference health ministries director, was excited about the wellness walk. "Carl Hartman has set a perfect example for how churches can get involved in their communities," he said.

Hartman hopes to continue the project, spring, 2008.

—BY REBECCA BROOKS



Carl Hartman paints the path of the wellness walk on a sign in Andrews, N.C.



## Nehemiah Project Draws Generous Giving



*The audience waits as a pastor from each church district places their portion of completing the project on the gymnasium wall.*

Anticipation registered on the faces of the Bass Memorial Academy (BMA) students and staff, alumni, parents, pastors, and other supporters of the academy, who had come to witness the result of the Nehemiah project.

For the past 52 days, a concentrated effort had been made to fill the gap left in funding the rebuilding of BMA after Hurricane Katrina demolished most of the campus. Just as Nehemiah organized the people

into individual groups to restore Jerusalem's wall, each church congregation had been given responsibility for a portion of the debt.

The BMA wind ensemble, the handbells, and the choir performed in a special program of praise, concluding with the congregation joining them in a hymn of celebration.

Kathleen Martin, interim superintendent of education, introduced the quarter campaign which

church school students within the Conference had collected. Then pastors from each church district came forward and posted on the gymnasium wall a poster which represented their churches' part in giving to the project.

Many in the audience had been a part of the first campaign to raise pennies for the building of the academy in 1959, and they remembered how the pile of slippery, copper pennies had grown as children and

parents had come to give their offering. At that time a million pennies had been collected. Now they wanted to see if the same spirit of sacrificial giving would prevail, and they were not disappointed. More than \$378,000 in offerings and pledges were reported.

Gordon Beitz, Southern Adventist University president, spoke during worship. A meal was served to everyone, and a tour of the campus followed.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

## Marianna Academy Begins Second Year

The Marianna, Fla., church has entered the second year of providing education for its children and for those in the community who desire an affordable, quality, Christian education.



*Teacher Dennis Greenawalt (back row, left), Theodore Goolshy, Logan Cable, Dustyn Atkinson (front row, left), Lacy Gullett, and Andrea Pelbam*

The school year started in August with the blessing of Dennis Greenawalt, substituting for the regular teacher, Amanda Spillane, who was on maternity leave. The student body also welcomed a new second grader from the community,

Dustyn Atkinson.

The church recognizes the blessings a school brings and is thankful they are off to a good start this year.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

## ACS Certifies Pensacola Volunteers

Whether wildfires in California or hurricanes on the Gulf Coast, disasters occur somewhere in the world every day, and victims need immediate help. While many church members want to reach out to help those affected with donations, the greatest need, according to Ray Elsberry, Gulf States Conference director for Adventist Community Services (ACS) disaster response, is for trained volunteers to assist in relief operations. He recently conducted an ACS course in Pensacola designed to certify volunteers to assist in ACS disaster response operations.

"In the future all volunteers involved in organized disaster relief will have to have some training and a photo ID," Elsberry noted. That is one of the reasons ACS is attempting to certify as many volunteers as possible.

In Pensacola some 30 church members attended the eight-hour training course focused on donations operations.

Roger Reyes, a member of the University Parkway church, paid the \$5 fee for each of the participants who completed the course to purchase their official ID badge. "I think it's an excellent idea," said Reyes. "Like CPR training, the more people who are prepared to deal with these disasters, the better."

ACS coordinates with FEMA and the American Red Cross, the lead agency in this country, in providing emergency collection, warehousing, and distribution services. Elsberry, who

pastors the Tupelo, Miss., church, noted that ACS currently has agreements with Florida and Alabama, and is working on one with Mississippi. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, people were very appreciative of ACS volunteers, not only for the supplies they distributed, but also for the caring response. "Our man-

date is from both the Old and New Testaments," said Elsberry, citing the ministry of Jesus as described in Matthew 9:35,36, and the prophet's admonition in Isaiah 58:6,7, which support the ACS mission, "To serve the poor and hurting in Christ's name."

—BY GLENDA HASS



Thirty church members attended the eight-hour training course focused on donations operations.

## Tenth Hispanic Camp Meeting Held

Eight new Hispanic members were baptized on Sabbath afternoon, September 15, 2007, during the 10th annual Hispanic camp meeting. The 350 people who attended the camp meeting, held at Camp Alamisco, were a testament to the rapidly expanding Hispanic work in the Conference.

Roger Alvarez, Southeastern Conference Hispanic coordinator, was the speaker. The attend-

ees enjoyed an inspiring, musical concert by Miquel Angel Cabrera. Other activities during the weekend included workshops, children's programs, Saturday night games and sports, and time to relax and enjoy water activities and sports on Sunday.

—BY REBECCA GRICE AND ROCIO ROBERTS



More than 350 people attended the tenth Hispanic camp meeting.



## Three Storms Bring 3ABN in Answer to Prayer

Joyce Bruce's introduction to the Seventh-day Adventist faith and 3ABN took place in a rather unique way. Here is her story.

In January of 2006, Joyce had become very disillusioned with "Dish" television and decided to get rid of it. She was ready to accept whatever channels were available from an outside antenna.

When she first hooked it up, she received three snowy channels. Then there was a terrible thunder storm. When it was over, she noticed she had gained three more channels. She thought, "Wow! This is great!" Also, all six channels now came in clear. She thought again, "Wouldn't it be nice if I could get a couple of Christian stations along with these local stations." Then there was another thunder storm, following which two

Christian channels appeared. She said, "Thank you, Lord!"

Joyce started watching the Christian channels, but the preaching left her with more questions than answers. "What I read in my Bible did not correlate with what I heard being preached," Joyce says.

At this point, Joyce prayed "very loudly" to the Lord and said, "God, can you please give me a channel on this box that preaches the truth about You?" He answered her prayer



*Joyce Bruce points to her simple antenna that brought 3ABN to her.*

abruptly! All of a sudden, a big cloud came over her mobile home, and a very intense thunder storm followed. This time when she turned the television back on, up came 3ABN

— channel 34. She said, "Hello, who are you? I've never seen you before, not even on Dish!"

Joyce started watching and got excited. For the first time, she was actually hearing the truth as she

had read it in her Bible. She watched this channel exclusively every day. Everything that was preached provided her with answers to most of the questions she had for many years. She thought, "Now I have to find a Seventh-day Adventist Church so I can see if they are as genuine as they seem."

Her search eventually led her to the Hendersonville, Tenn., church. "The people were so friendly and made me feel right at home. I fell in love with them, and I guess they did with me, too," she says. Joyce was baptized on February 18, 2007, at her own request even though she had been baptized before. "I thank God for giving me 3ABN so that I could meet His followers of truth," says Joyce.

—BY JOYCE BRUCE AND  
CLARA HANSEN

## Lancaster Church in Independence Day Parade

The Lancaster, Tenn., church participated in the third annual Lancaster Independence Day Parade festivities on July 1, 2007. The event was organized three years ago by the local Baptist church, which invited all the churches in the county to take part in the project. The theme was "One Nation, Under God."

The Lancaster church is active in religious liberty and saw this as an op-



portunity to witness in the community through cooperative effort. Ann Walper, Lancaster's religious liberty coordinator, served on the planning team for the event.

In addition to the parade, the program included the singing of the national anthem, a speech given by a local pastor touching on the preciousness of our national heritage, and afterward, bluegrass gospel music. Several booths were set up offering refreshments. The Lancaster church provided sno-cones, popcorn, and free literature.

Participating in this annual event has allowed

the Lancaster church to distribute many pieces of literature to the local community. At this year's parade, church members gave away copies of *The Great Controversy*, the A.T. Jones *What Is Patriotism?* booklet, and Doug Batchelor's *Panorama of Prophecy* Bible study CD to people who stopped by for refreshments.

—BY LESLIE WALPER

## CHIP Changes Lives for Individuals, Community

At the September 9, 2007, graduation ceremony for the second CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) in Centerville, Tenn., one prominent community participant shared his testimony. "Apart from the birth of my children," he exclaimed, "this CHIP class has been the most life-changing event I have ever experienced."

Another suggested CHIP had a greater impact on Centerville than any other project he had ever seen. Many others agreed and expressed their joy and satisfaction with the results they were experiencing after just one month on the CHIP program.

The 34 (including a dozen participant volunteers) graduates of the CHIP-1 class in February of this year, plus a visit and public presentation by Hans Diehl, M.D., in June, ignited the flame of enthusiasm for CHIP-2, which graduated 26 individuals in September.

CHIP was developed by Diehl as a community-based, lifestyle program focusing on nutrition and exercise, and aimed at reducing coronary risk, while at the same time improving other lifestyle diseases, including diabetes and overweight. It runs for 16 nights during a four-week period, and is a very intensive educational course. Participants



*A participant gets her blood drawn for CHIP-2 at the Hickman Community Hospital.*

were fully informed prior to the beginning of the program about the commitment needed for success, and attendance and participation in both groups was exceptional.

Graduates came from all walks of life, including a number of influential individuals in the community. Their reports evidenced

an impressive drop in health indicators checked by lab testing at the beginning and end of the program. Several had previously undergone bypass surgery, a number were diabetic, had high blood cholesterol

levels, and other indicators of lifestyle problems. All adult ages were represented in CHIP-2, with the oldest being 81 years of age.

Group averages for CHIP-2 showed a decrease of more than 17 percent in total blood cholesterol, a drop of 18.5 percent in LDL cholesterol, and 10.6 percent in triglycerides. Glucose came down 9.8 percent, and the total weight loss for the group was 186.7 pounds, which averages a seven-pound

loss per person. These results are better than medication and in less time than most medications take.

Newspaper coverage was exceptional, with several positive articles and color pictures describing the programs. P. William Dysinger, associate dean emeritus of the School of Public Health

at Loma Linda University, initiated the CHIP concept in Centerville. He developed personal relationships and gained the support and participation of several local entities besides the Martin Memorial church, including the Hickman Community Hospital, the First National Bank, and the largest church in town, the Centerville Church of Christ. He and his wife, Yvonne, ran the CHIP-1 program with volunteer help from church members. CHIP-2 was co-directed by Edwin Dysinger, MSPH, and several trained volunteers.

Martin Memorial members praise God for the blessing this program has been, not only for the participants, but also for those involved in conducting the program. The opportunity to make close friends in the community has been priceless. CHIP-3 is being planned for January, 2008, and several individuals have already pre-registered.

CHIP volunteers pray that their efforts will result in continued blessings for the community as needy persons learn about and choose to follow better ways of life.

—BY YVONNE  
DYSINGER



*Two participants interact during a break in the evening program.*



## Women Cruise “One Voice–One Voyage”



*Pictured are some of the women who participated in the share-book ministry, posing by one of the mariners in the Bahamas.*

The islands and seas of the Caribbean were alive with the sounds of the women of South Atlantic Conference during the “One Voice–One Voyage” retreat cruise.

More than 300 women, smiling and laughing, cheering and celebrating, boarded the Carnival Sensation cruise ship docked at Port Canaveral, Fla. From early in the morning until every person was aboard, either Sylvia Wilson, Conference women’s ministries director; or Danyielle Jackson, young women’s ministries coordinator, greeted and checked to make sure that the voyagers were prepared for what was about to take place.

Deborah Harris, CEO of “Praying for Our Children, Inc.,” was the speaker for both Sunday and Wednesday meetings. Harris challenged

and charged the women to duty. “We own the entire Carnival Cruise line and the Atlantis Hotel in Nassau,” she said. “It all belongs to God and because we are His, it belongs to us, too!” Harris continued, “And, God will throw each of our sins into the bottom of that great big ocean out there.” There was much shouting and rejoicing on the sea. Hearts were melted and hurts were healed through Harris’ sermons.

Early Monday morning, Janice Carter, Georgia state women’s ministries director, invited the Holy Spirit to join the group; and Joyce Hairston, coordinator for special services and women’s elders consultant, led the women in “Communion on the Sea.” Geneva Horne, former North Carolina women’s ministries director, presented a spiritual lesson during the Lord’s Supper; and Hilda Rouse,

current North Carolina women’s ministries director, thanked God for allowing the women to partake of the sacred emblems.

The retreat cruise began with a tropical depression, and rain poured on the first day. The women prepared themselves to get soaked, and went out in “One Voice” to share God’s love in Freeport,

Bahamas. Vendors in the straw markets and pedestrians on the streets were targets for a blessing. Before the women left the ship clad in pink tee-shirts and carrying their share-books, they were approached by onlookers for “that book about Jesus.” “Do you have it in Korean? Chinese? Can I have one for my friend?” The women were asked to autograph their books. At the end of the day, more than 1,100 share-books and pieces of literature were distributed.

Some of the women had an opportunity to visit the Bahamas Conference office, schools, and area churches. One of the most profound visits was to a liquor store by Dalphine Gainey from High Point, N.C. Gainey missed the share-books experience, so she loaded her pockets with tracts and went out to

share on her own. When she passed the liquor store, she took a second look, and ran back to share God’s Word with the proprietor. “Here’s something that will really make you feel good!”

The group came together from various parts of the country on five chartered buses, five different airlines, several vans, a few cars, a couple pickup trucks, and one limousine. The South Atlantic women (North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia) were joined by New Yorkers, Pennsylvanians, Floridians, and Virginians. Women also came from Alabama, New Jersey, Tennessee, and Michigan.

The women’s leader for Atlanta’s West End church brought the most women. Because of her hard work, she will receive a free trip for the next women’s ministries cruise.

The women came to speak in “One Voice,” and no matter what obstacles they had to overcome to get to the sea, or whatever obstacles faced them on the water, they held fast to Jesus, just as they held fast to steady themselves on the rocking waters, looking upward and forward in order to sail on the ultimate “One Voyage.” The cruise reminded many of the celebration that will one day be shared with Jesus.

—BY SYLVIA J. WILSON

## Mt. Olive Member Named Teacher of the Year



*Carvil Phillips (left), his wife Rose, and Shannon Fluonnory, principal, Stonewall Tell Elementary*

Carvil Orville Phillips has been teaching at Stonewall Tell Elementary in Atlanta, Ga., for 10 years. He is loved and respected by his colleagues, students, and parents. He chairs the exceptional education department and teaches fifth grade.

Phillips usually has the most challenging students in the entire school. If there

is a student that a teacher cannot handle, they are first taken to Phillips' classroom before sending the child to the office. Although he has students with all types of situations and disabilities, God has blessed him to be able to get through to each one of them.

Phillips is demanding of his students, but somehow, they know he loves them, and they actually call him at home or on his cell phone just to see what he is doing.

One year he had a student whose mom was a single parent and had to work on Thanksgiving Day. The children were home

alone with hardly anything to eat, not even a Thanksgiving meal. Phillips, and a deacon from his church, Mt. Olive in East Point, Ga., brought the family a basket of food and cooked a hot meal. The mother and her family were appreciative of their thoughtfulness and kind gesture.

Phillips received degrees from Caribbean Union College in Trinidad; Oakwood College in Huntsville, Ala.; Columbia University in New York City; and Cambridge University in Boston, Mass. He believes that regardless of the situation, every child can learn. This is one of the reasons why his colleagues were proud to nominate him for, Teacher of the Year for 2007-08 of Stonewall Tell Elementary School.

Phillips was formally honored, with other teachers representing their various schools in the Fulton County School System, during a banquet at the Cobb Galleria Center in Marietta, Ga., on October 19, 2007.

Phillips was born and reared on the island of Barbados, and has been married for 21 years to the former Rose E. Davis, who is also an educator with the Fulton County School System. They have three daughters: Constance, 18, a sophomore at Oakwood College; Roscille, 14, a freshman at Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy; and Alexandria, 11, a sixth grader at Berean Junior Academy.

Phillips solicits prayer as he continues to daily witness to his students and co-workers.

## Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Tours Europe



A group of 37, including 24 students and 13 teachers, parents, and chaperones from Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA), were blessed with a "European Educational Explosion." The group flew from Atlanta, Ga., to Frankfurt, Germany, and after a brief stay flew on to Rome, Italy. With Mediterranean Sea

views from their hotel windows, the GAAA travelers reflected upon the Bible stories of Paul on the "Great Sea." This mission-minded excursion was bursting with excitement.

While in Rome, the group visited the Vatican, Pantheon, Colosseum and other attractions, enjoying the ancient history of the Romans. They rode from Rome to Assisi and Florence, experienced feelings of safety inside the massive fortresses, and climbed high into the towers.

From Milan, Italy, the students took an overnight train to Paris, France, where they explored French culture. Two students from GAAA spoke fluent French, but all the students had rehearsed certain phrases. A nocturnal climb up the twinkling Eiffel Tower brought many smiles from the students.

In Paris, the students sang on the steps of the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and filled the subways with whispers of Jesus. On Sabbath the group enjoyed services at a small church outside of Paris. The greatest joy was seen in the ac-

ceptance of their Buddhist tour guide joining them for church.

The European tour headed across the English Channel on another train. "They speak English—it's different, but we understand it," the students said as they made their way to Buckingham Palace, Piccadilly Circus, and later Trafalgar Square.

The students were thankful to God, as well as their parents and sponsors, for the opportunity and experience this trip provided.

—BY SYLVIA J. WILSON



## Masons Celebrate 65th Anniversary

Sabbath, October 13, 2007, was a special day at Emmanuel church in Greenwood, Fla. The church planned a surprise anniversary celebration for Richard and Henrietta Mason during the worship service. The couple renewed their vows and said "I Do" to each other again. Richard and Henrietta Mason were married on October



*Juleun A. Johnson, pastor, congratulates Richard and Henrietta Mason during the celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary.*

21, 1942. Residents of Trenton, N.J., originally, the Masons moved to Cottdale, Fla., in the early 1990s. Both are 80-plus and retired. Richard is a retired highway inspector for the state of New Jersey. Henrietta retired from serving as an

administrative aide to the mayor of Trenton, N.J. In addition to daily activities, Henrietta serves as the first elder at Emmanuel church. The couple has five children (one deceased), eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

—BY JULEUN A. JOHNSON

# Southern Union News

## Maranatha Teams Up with Advent Home

Fifty enthusiastic older adults, 47 to 82 years young, from Maranatha Volunteers International, helped build two staff houses for Advent Home, Calhoun, Tenn., during October, 2007.

"They refuse to sit in rocking chairs and rot," said Sadie Torrez, Maranatha coordinator. "Instead, they choose to travel throughout the United States and the world, building for communities in need."

"Maranatha did what Advent Home did not have money to do—construct homes for staff who make personal sacrifices to help at-risk teens become successful citizens," said Blondel Senior, Ph.D., Ad-



*Sadie Torrez (front, center), Maranatha Volunteers coordinator; and Blondel Senior, Ph.D., Advent Home director, sit with volunteers who recently helped complete staff housing for Advent Home Youth Services in Calhoun, Tenn.*

vent Home director.

Doug Crawford, construction supervisor, was impressed with their dedication and hard work. Men and women worked

side by side on the two, 1400-square-foot houses. "Women can do anything the men can," observed Sharon Ray from Michigan. "They teach us what we

don't know, and they're patient with us."

Advent Home is a residential education program which provides special schooling for 12- to 16-year-old ADHD boys, many of whom were dismissed from public or private schools. Advent Home helps them with their learning problems and negative self-image.

Senior wants the houses completed soon, and needs additional volunteers for painting, plumbing, electrical work, dry wall, and trimming. If you care to help, please contact Elsie Owens at 423-336-5052, x 222; or [eowens@adventhome.org](mailto:eowens@adventhome.org).

—BY BARBARA GRAHAM

# A Journey to Excellence

BY EVELYN DILL

The 110th Anniversary Banquet of Ephesus Academy and its first alumni weekend were celebrated August 3-5, 2007, at Ephesus church, the Academy, and the Sheraton Birmingham Ballroom, in Birmingham, Alabama.

The activities began on Friday night with a program entitled, "A Historical Journey—A Night to Remember," reflecting the academy from 1897 to 2007. Alumna Joann Dickson-Smith served as mistress of ceremonies. Wilma Pride, Annie Sellers, and Mildred Watkins, assisted by Delsey W. Austin, facilitated the Friday night and Sabbath school programs.

On Sabbath morning, alumnus Cornelious Torrence served as the Sabbath school superintendent. Following Sabbath school, Sandra Jemison directed a parade of alumni professionals through the sanctuary.

Worship began with Auldwin Humphrey, pastor, presiding. A musical prelude by the alumni choir and a guest orchestra from Nashville, Tennessee, was directed by Robert Taylor, elder. The music by the mass choir, praise team, Brenda McKenzie, and the orchestra was worshipful. Robert Taylor and Murray Joiner, Sr., received the two Distinguished Service Awards.

Benjamin Browne, Conference



The Boykin-Watkins Award was named in honor of two former outstanding teachers, Mildred Watkins and Eunice Boykin. A deserving student will receive the award each year.



U.S. Congressman Artur Davis, for the Seventh Congressional District of Alabama

president, shared inspirational remarks, and his wife, Janice Brown, Ph.D., read the morning scripture. One feature was when Milton Brown, M.D., professor of oncology and neuroscience at Georgetown University, and a nationally acknowledged scientist, was awarded the Ephesus Academy Alumnus of the Year Award by Stephanie Dingome, general chairman.

Charles E. Bradford, retired president of the North American Division, presented the Sabbath message, "A Good News Day." Distinguished guests present at this service were Danny Blanchard, Ph.D., and Commissioner Larry Langford. After the fellowship luncheon, Bradford gave an overview of his book, *The African Connection and the Sabbath*.

"The Interrogation of Kevin" was performed by talented student actors of Ephesus Academy; it was written and directed by Mason West, III, principal.

The annual banquet was held Sunday at the Sheraton Birmingham Ballroom, culminating the celebration of "A Journey to Excellence."

Wilma F. Germany opened the event and introduced the master of ceremonies, Stanley Mims, Ed.D., superintendent of Birmingham Public Schools.

Danny Blanchard introduced guest

speaker Congressman Artur Davis. Dignitaries in attendance were Jefferson County Commissioner Sheila Smoot, and City Council Members Carole Smitherman, Steve Hoyt, and William Bell.

Several awards were given during: 1) Alumna of the Year Award: Janice Johnson Browne, missionary to Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Djibouti; diplomat and educator; 2) Family of the Year Award: Harvey/Morris Family; 3) Philanthropy Award: Grace Brown; 4) Spirit of Ephesus Award: Hattie Allison and Walter McClanahan. Jessica McKnight received an award for being the first 12th grade graduate from Ephesus/Oakwood Academy.



Charles Bradford (left), Sabbath speaker; Murray Joiner, Sr., former Ephesus pastor; and Janice Browne, Ph.D.

Chairman Stephanie Dingome recognized the committee's dedication and passion for Ephesus Academy. Their purpose is to raise funds so the Academy can become a fully accredited senior high school, and to develop a long-range plan to ensure financial and academic stability.

Auldwin Humphrey gave closing remarks, which brought conclusion to a memorable weekend.

Evelyn Dill is editor of the Ephesian Antidote News, a publication of Ephesus church.



## AY Takes an Historic Flight

Each passing day members of our “Greatest Generation” are dying. They lived through World War II, desegregation, and the fall of Communism.

As Tabernacle church members celebrated Education Day on September 29, 2007, their youth received a firsthand recounting from a key figure in 20th century African-American history.

Lt. Col. Eldridge Williams, an original member of the Tuskegee Airmen, was the featured speaker during the Adventist Youth Society meeting.

The Tuskegee Airmen was the name of the first group of African-American pilots who flew with distinction during World War II, as the 332nd Fighter Group of the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Williams told of his path to join the all-black combat unit. In an effort to eliminate the program before it started, the War Department set up a system to accept only those with a level flight experience or higher education that was expected to be hard to fill.

It backfired when men such as Williams still passed the stringent requirements. Just because there was nothing physically wrong with him didn't stop the doctors from failing him during his physical examination.

He was rejected with an eye problem called cupping of the optic nerve that not only left him disappointed, but afraid for his health. The diagnosis bothered him for more than 60 years until a

member of the congregation, Selwyn Carrington, M.D., let Williams know there was nothing wrong, but it was a characteristic found among African-Americans. It posed no threat to his long-term eye health, even at age 90.

The racism continued even after he joined the 332nd. A hearing was convened before the House Armed Services Committee to determine whether the Tuskegee Airmen experiment should be allowed to continue.

The committee accused the Airmen of being incompetent—based on the fact that they had not seen any combat the entire time the “experiment” had been underway.

To bolster the recommendation to scrap the project, a member of the committee commissioned and then submitted into evidence a “scientific” report by the University of Texas, which purported to prove that Negroes were of low intelligence and incapable of handling complex situations, such as air combat.

Eventually, however, the Tuskegee Airmen were cleared for combat. Williams recalled that one white officer chose to transfer to a battlefield war zone rather than serve under a black officer. “I never saw him



*David L. Peay (left), pastor, thanked retired Lt. Col. Eldridge Williams for sharing his Army Air Corps experience during AY.*

again,” Williams said.

Once overseas, the 332nd compiled an impressive combat record. The Luftwaffe, the Nazi air force, called the airmen the “Schwarze Vogelmenschen” or “Black Birdmen.” The allied forces called the Airmen “Redtails” or “Redtail Angels” because of the crimson paint on the vertical stabilizers of the unit's aircraft.

Reportedly, George Lucas, the creator of the Star Wars movies, is in preproduction of a movie called “Red Tails.”

When asked in an interview about the project, Lucas said, “they were the only escort fighters during the war that never lost a bomber, so they were, like, the best.”

Many of the Allied fighters requested a Redtail escort without knowing the pilots were black.

Williams retired from the service in 1963, but his contributions to African-Americans did not end there.

He still stresses the importance of education for young people to improve their situation.

To prove it, Williams donated proceeds from his memorium to the Tuskegee Airmen scholarship fund and encouraged Tabernacle's

young people to apply.

He isn't bitter, but does not forget the treatment. Sixty years might seem like a lifetime, but in the annals of time it was not that long ago.

Williams recounted that 350 Tuskegee Airmen received the Congressional Medal of Honor from President Bush, March, 2007, during a ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda.

State Representative Ronald Brise, Tabernacle's education director, also thanked Williams and said he would do everything in his power for the state of Florida to recognize his accomplishments on an official level.

“It's great for the kids to see a living piece of history up close,” said Shadrach Henry, a high school history teacher. “It inspired me, so I'm sure it inspired them.”

Read more of this story at [www.secsda.org](http://www.secsda.org).

—BY JOHN DEVINE

## Camp Meeting Airs Conference-wide

We have been admonished by Ellen White to exploit technology to spread the Gospel.

She states, "Let the workers for God manifest tact and talent, and originate devices by which to communicate light to those who are near and to those who are afar off." *The Voice in Speech and Song*, page 282.



Roger Alvarez (right), Conference Hispanic ministries coordinator, delivers his sermon in Spanish with translator Raul Cruz, pastor.

Southeastern began broadcasting portions of its camp meeting services four years ago. However, Willie L. Taylor, Conference president, had a desire to



Nicole Brise, Conference prayer and women's ministries director, delivers her sermon in French with translator Lesly Jacques, pastor.

do more than just broadcast camp meeting.

His vision was to conduct camp meeting conference-wide. To that end, the 2007 camp meeting services were broadcast nightly.

"Camp Meeting Conference-wide' is not just a slogan," stated Taylor. "It is an opportunity for the entire Conference to synergistically incorporate our Lord's Commission and reap where we have sown."

Mark Finley, vice president of the General Conference, and Randy Stafford, a pastor in the South Central Conference, were the featured speakers for camp meeting. Other speakers included Nicole Brise, Conference women's and prayer ministries director; and Roger Alvarez, Conference Hispanic ministries coordinator.

A key component of the conference-wide camp meeting initiative was a conference-wide baptismal service.

Both Sabbaths William Byrd, Miami Bethany pastor; and Barry Bonner, Tampa/Progress Village and Westside pastor, led from the pavilion baptistry while, at the same time,

ministers and elders in local churches conducted a baptismal services.

The initiative resulted in the baptism of 160 individuals.

The services had impact beyond the walls of the Conference.

A mother and her teen-age daughter were impressed to watch the services on Hope TV after they learned that Mark Finley would be speaking. The daughter was scheduled to undergo an abortion on that following Monday. The mother had been praying her daughter would change her mind and keep the baby.

During the broadcast, Clarence Wright, Conference church ministries director, interviewed Moses Brown, who was the result of a rape. Brown shared how he was grateful that his mother decided to keep him. Brown was adopted by an Adventist family and is now an accomplished vocalist and lay evangelist.

After viewing the interview, the teenager was moved to keep the baby.

In addition to being broadcast on



William McMiller interviews Mark Finley on Southeastern Internet Radio.

Hope TV via satellite and streaming Internet video, the services were also streamed by way of the Conference's Internet radio.

Viewers from South America, Jamaica, Canada, and North America also had the opportunity to participate in the nightly broadcasts as they submitted e-mails that were read on air.

The camp meeting services and the Moses Brown interview can be viewed at [www.secsda.org](http://www.secsda.org).

—BY ROBERT HENLEY



Mark Finley delivered the sermon, "The Best is Yet to Come," which aired on Hope TV.



## Agape Huntsville 2007 Revives Goodwill Initiative

They arrived by the busloads, decked out in matching blue jeans, tee-shirts, and work gloves, their mission to lend a helping hand to their neighbors and to show them the true meaning of *agape* love. That was the primary aim of this year's Agape Huntsville 2007, Oakwood College's second city clean-up event focused on the tidying and beautification of local parks, school grounds, and roadways in the growing northern Alabama community.

The first Agape Huntsville venture took place in 2005, but was placed on the back burner last year to accommodate more pressing projects. When this year's religious vice president, Antoine Dumas, appealed to administration to revive the goodwill initiative and make it an annual campus-wide event, John Anderson, vice president of academic



*Mayor Loretta Spencer thanks Oakwood faculty, staff, and students for setting an example of brotherly love and service in the city of Huntsville, Ala.*

affairs, could not refuse. The Office of Spiritual Life, under the spiritual leadership of Rupert Bushner, Jr., chaplain, joined hands with the city of Huntsville's Operation Green Team to organize seven teams composed primarily of students, but also inclusive of faculty, and staff. Classes were suspended for the day in order to facilitate and encourage participation.

The buses left campus on September 20, 2007, carrying energetic teams of students, faculty, and staff. Once they arrived at varied venues, the teams spread out, ready to tackle the overgrown

hedges, fences, flowerbeds, and littered roadways that faced them.

They returned in the afternoon to allow participants a chance to be refreshed at a prepared luncheon under a huge canopy erected on the grounds of the campus's Unity Pond. Later, they listened to Mayor Loretta Spencer's words of appreciation for taking the initiative to give back to the city of Huntsville and Madison County.

When asked what was so unique about Agape Huntsville, Anderson re-

sponded that it provided an avenue for faculty, staff, and students to come together collectively and practice the practical applications of community service. The event is a direct tie-in to the institution's 2007-2008 "Do Good" theme, set forth by Delbert Baker, president of Oakwood College, at the 2007 Colloquium in August, challenging the entire campus to seek opportunities during the school year to engage in random acts of kindness in which service is offered without regard for personal gain. Baker took time out of his schedule to work shoulder-to-shoulder with the



*Delbert Baker, president of Oakwood College, and staff members put some elbow grease into trimming back the overgrowth along a Huntsville city school fence.*

other participants. While out, team members also went door to door offering prayer and encouragement to community residents.

—BY MICHELE SOLOMON



*Oakwood students clean up the litter along a neglected roadside.*

# A Think Tank is Born

BY MICHELE SOLOMON

They came from all over, defying threatening rain clouds, to celebrate the grand opening of the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center (BCBLC), on the Oakwood College campus, October 22, 2007. The new structure is an expansion of the religion and theology complex and offers opportunities for continuing education in pastoral studies.

It is named for three denominational leaders who continue to provide outstanding, proven ministerial models of leadership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. All three men were honored at a special reception that followed a red-carpet entrance to the building. Charles E. Bradford, retired former president of the North American Division; E. Earl Cleveland, D.D.; and Charles D. Brooks, retired emeritus speaker/director for Breath of Life, were recognized for their contributions to church administration, global evangelism, and media ministry, respectively.

The line-up of guests who came to witness the official ribbon-cutting ceremony was staggering. In addition to community members, local pastors, donors, Oakwood's faculty, staff, and students, the honoree list included General Conference officials, conference presidents, the Oakwood College Board of Trustees, and public officials. All, including Oakwood's oldest former president, Garland Millet, now 94 years old, gathered around the building's granite-clad cornerstone as administrators and special honorees made the historic cut into the ceremonial red ribbon.

Representing the General Conference were Jan Paulsen, president; Ella Simmons, vice president; Bob Lemon, treasurer; Matthew Bediako, secretary; and Garland Dulan, education director.



*G. Alexander Bryant, Central States president, (left); Jan Paulsen, president of the General Conference; Charles Brooks, retired emeritus speaker/director for the Breath of Life Television Ministry; Harold Lee, program facilitator for the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center (BCBLC); Charles Bradford, retired former president of the North American Division; and E. Earl Cleveland, D.D.; prepare to cut the ribbon, marking the official opening of BCBLC.*

North American Division guests included Don Schneider, president of the North American Division and chair of the Oakwood College Board; Alvin Kibble, vice president; and Roscoe Howard, secretary. Representing the regional conferences were Charles Cheatham, chair; and G. Alexander Bryant, vice chair, both members of the Regional Presidents' Council. Gordon Retzer, president of the Southern Union; and Benjamin Browne, president of the South Central Conference, were also in attendance.

The concept for this innovative ministry reaches back to the 1980s, and was officially founded in 1999 when it was initially known as the Bradford-

Cleveland-Brooks Institute for Continuing Education in Ministry (BCBI). However, the facility was later renamed. The center is the result of prayerful collaboration between Oakwood College and the regional conferences of North America.

The 10,000-square-foot technology-ready building will facilitate the training of pastors and lay workers for the Church, along with providing workshops, conferences, and seminars on ministry and lifestyle development. The main focus of the center is the provision of faith-based, relevant, lifelong learning opportunities for clergy and non-clergy in ministry. Participants in these studies will be offered Christ-centered strategies to address Church and societal issues. The center's aim is to become a think tank for Church and community members of all faiths working together to develop resources for excellence in ministry. The facility will also provide instructional space for the first Master of Arts degree offered on Oakwood's campus in pastoral studies.



*Members of the Oakwood College Board of Trustees, Oakwood College administrators and officers, and special honorees and their spouses pose for a group shot during the opening reception at BCBLC. Eibel Bradford (seated front, left), Charles Bradford, E. Earl Cleveland, Charles Brooks, Walterene Brooks, and Garland Millet are pictured in front.*



## Students Participate in Creative Prayer

In conjunction with Southern Adventist University's annual "InTents" week of prayer in October, the university housed its first prayer room of the academic year designed to strengthen students' prayer lives.

Students entering the prayer room guided themselves through the 14 stations, which took students through a journey of differ-

ent aspects of prayer. Some stations focused on prayers of confession, others on prayers for the Holy Spirit or intercessory prayers. Students were



*On these masks, students wrote prayers of confession about the masks they wear in their daily lives.*

even invited to draw prayers or create them out of clay.

"The prayer room was a way for us to express ourselves creatively in prayer," says Rick Anderson, a junior religious studies major, who experienced the prayer room. "It taught us to speak and listen to God in new ways."

—BY NATALIA LOPEZ-THISMON

## Church History Brought to Life

Southern students were able to experience Adventism's rich history thanks to 2001 graduate Michael Campbell, who returned to his alma mater to host an Origins of Adventism Tour.

While a student at Southern, Campbell first conceived the idea of a

tour and in 1999 made it into reality with the help of religion professor Jud Lake. Today, he is a pastor with an in-depth knowledge of church history from years of collecting original Adventist books and working at the White Estate.

"It's significant to re-

member the sacrifice and commitment our pioneers made for Jesus Christ," Campbell says. "This tour helps catch the idea of what it was to live then, to become passionate about what they were passionate about."

About 25 Southern went on the tour in October,

visiting historic Adventist sites in New England, such as Joseph Bates' home, Old Sturbridge Village (a reenactment of daily life in early 19th century America), the birthplace of Uriah Smith, and the William Miller Farm.

—BY ANH PHAM

## Graduates Create Modern Resources for Pastors

It's been said that film is the language of postmodern society. With this in mind the General Conference's Centre for Postmodern Studies is using film as a primary tool for reaching a secular audience and for inspiring believers. To produce these films, the centre is utilizing the talents of recent Southern Adventist University film graduates: Leslie Foster and Mickey Seiler.

"There are people who go into artistic programs of study who want more than

anything else to use their gifts and talents for the glory of God and the good of their church," says, assistant director for the Centre



*Southern film graduate Mickey Seiler (left) sets the stage for a scene in a short film.*

for Secular and Postmodern Studies, Sarah Asaftei, who is also a Southern graduate. "Southern is preparing a great service to the church

by training young people to make a difference through visual media."

Among the film projects Foster and Seiler are producing for the centre is a series of

sermon illustrations known as "paradigm\_shift."

Samples of the paradigm\_shift films can be viewed online at [youtube.com/tedmedia](http://youtube.com/tedmedia) (in the Video Log 2 section). There is also a limited quantity of DVDs containing ten paradigm\_shift films for pastors and lay members to use in churches and outreach. The centre plans to release a new set of 10 clips each year. Those interested in purchasing a DVD may email [ask@reframe.info](mailto:ask@reframe.info).

—BY LORI FUTCHER

# Remembering 107 Years

Happy 107th belated birthday wishes are given to Violet Richardson of Talking Rock, Georgia, who was born November 30, 1900, in Montana. Richardson has seen a lot of changes, and when asked what her secret for a long life is, she replied, "I just didn't die."

"I pray every night to be a means to help someone in some way," says Richardson. Through her life of being a nurse, mother, church worker, prison ministries worker, and more, she has done just that.

Today the availability of modern conveniences is taken for granted. Richardson shared that it took her father five days to go to town, two to drive the 40 miles with a horse and wagon, one day to shop, and another two days to drive home.

Richardson grew up in Montana. Her parents, the Loutzenhisers, had recently traveled via covered wagon from North Dakota before she was born. They were farmers with 360 acres and no electricity, but used oil lamps. They had no bathroom,

but they did have a "privy" out back and a galvanized tub for baths. "Mother rubbed our clothes on the board on the lack of a washing machine," says Richardson.

The nearest neighbors were Seventh-day Adventists, and one day they held meetings in a nearby school house. When there were meetings, everyone went because there was nothing else to do. "Everyone enjoyed until they started talking about the Sabbath. Many quit then. My folks kept going because they were using the Bible and proving all they said. They accepted the truth then." Richardson was just 10 years old.

At the age of 20, Richardson married a man named Walter. She so enjoyed her job as a nurse that she turned down many suitors while waiting for the person God chose. She and Walter have three children, 13 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and 19 great-great grandchildren.

In 1989, a few years after her husband died in 1984, Richardson moved to Tennessee to live with her daughter and son-in-law. She began working in



Violet Richardson and granddaughter Carolyn Hullquist are both members of the Jasper, Georgia, church.

prison ministry. "I was never afraid, I was 'Grandma' to all of them," says Richardson. She remembers choosing Monday nights for their ministry and having little talks and showing videos. "Many were baptized," she said of her 15 years in prison ministry. She still keeps in contact with many through phone calls and letters.

Richardson moved to Georgia in 2005 with her family. She has lost her vision and most of her hearing, but remembers everything about her life. "She is loving and kind and wears the same beautiful smile everyday!" says Michelle Nelson, her care giver of two years.

"I am fortunate to live next door to her," says granddaughter Carolyn Hullquist. "She would give me 25 cents incentive to keep my room clean as a child, and did Sabbath school work teaching Primary. She is a most loving grandma."



Five generations: Violet Richardson (left), is seated with daughter Leta Davis, granddaughter Carolyn Hullquist, great-granddaughter Trudi LaFlair, and great-great-grandson Gideon LaFlair.



*Southern Union Feature*



THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE  
BY GARY MOYER

Around this time of year, many of us begin thinking of things we are thankful for. And, isn't it true that most of the things we are thankful for are indeed "things?" These tangibles may be objects such as a home, or they may be people we appreciate and have a relationship with, such as a spouse, child, parent, or even Jesus Christ. As Christians, because everything we have is a gift from God, including salvation, we want to be good stewards or managers of these gifts. But, Ephesians 5:15, 16 reminds us of another intangible gift from God that we all have: "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

God wants us, as His good stewards, to know that it's time to "redeem" our time—to use it wisely. Why? Because "the days are evil." As Adventists we know that the increase of wickedness in our world is one sign of Christ's soon return, and that time, as we now know it, is running short. So, we are to be careful stewards of our time because it is a precious commodity that is running out.

Ellen White, in *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 342, wrote: "Our time belongs to God. Every moment is His, and we are under the most solemn obligation to improve it to His glory. Of no talent He has given will He require a more strict account of than our time." WHY is that? Well, as Ben Franklin said, "Time is the stuff life is made of." And, since God is the Life-Giver and Sustainer, our time is His. He wants us be good stewards of our time. The time of your life is God's. It's short. It's important. So, make it count.

The text in Ephesians told us to "walk circumspectly." That means I need to carefully consider what I am doing with my life. I am to use my time wisely, taking time for the important things, especially the things that are important to God. If we are using our time wisely, and true wis-

dom comes from God, then we will be using our time to do things that God deems important for us.

### WHAT ARE THE IMPORTANT THINGS?

**Time with God** – If I truly love the Giver of time, I'll take time for the Giver. In Psalm 16:11 David says to God, "In your presence is "fullness of joy." When you love someone, when someone is important to you, you find joy in spending time with that person. When Jesus walked the Earth, people flocked around Him. They loved to spend time with Him. They felt His love, they loved His teachings, and they needed His healing. Do you and I really love Him?



If we do, we'll make time for Him in Bible study and prayer. We've all heard that love is spelled T-I-M-E. How much time will you need to spend with God in study and prayer? Pray and ask the Giver of time, and He'll let you know. We really need to allow God to reorder our priorities. I find it interesting that we easily find plenty of time to

watch a three-hour football game, and hours of soaps or sitcoms, but we struggle to allot 30 minutes with God.

Do you know what is perhaps the greatest benefit of spending time with Jesus? We are reminded in 2 Corinthians 3:18 that by "beholding" Him we become "transformed" into His image. Isn't that what we all want and need? The football game just transforms us into couch potatoes.

And, if we're going to talk about time with God, we can't forget the Sabbath. When we remember the Sabbath, we remember Him. When we worship God on His Sabbath, we show Him we love Him, that He's important. We testify that the time of our life is God's. Leviticus 23:3 reminds us that the Sabbath is not only a day of rest, but a "holy convocation." It is a time set apart by God for His people to meet with Him publicly, in corporate worship.

Simply put, Sabbath is the most important day of the entire week. Yet, on Sabbath, many consistently find themselves playing the rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland*: "I'm late, I'm late, for a very important date." Sabbath is a very important date every week, and being on time to Sabbath school and worship is good stewardship. Interestingly, most of us get to our place of employment on time five to six days a week. I can imagine how my Savior feels when I just can't seem to get to church on time, on the most important day of the week. When I sing, "Oh, How I Love Jesus," I need to remind myself again, that love is spelled T-I-M-E.

If I'm in a hurry to leave the holy meeting with my Savior, I need to ask myself, why? Is potluck physical food more important to me than Sabbath spiritual food? Somehow it's thrilling when the ball game goes into extra innings, but not when the sermon does. In reality, the big game here on Earth is in the bottom of the ninth, and God tells us in Hebrews



10:25 that we should not forsake “the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the DAY approaching.” The time of your life is God’s. Why not make it count, spending time with God in prayer, study, Sabbath worship, and good Christian fellowship?

**Time for Family** – It’s no surprise that God places a high value on family. His life includes family—a Father, with His Son, and His Bride—the Church, a group He also calls His children. Ephesians 5:25 reminds husbands to love their wives as Christ loved the church. Titus 2:4 tells wives to love their husbands and children. Ephesians 6:4 tells us to train children in the Lord’s ways. The fifth commandment tells the children, “Honor your parents.” Good stewards, those who love the Lord and are thankful for His blessings, will take time out for family. If you have no family—perhaps you are single, divorced, or your family lives a great distance away—then substitute your friends and Church family.



I think we can all agree that family time is very important. Yet, there’s only so much time in a day, and often we feel like circus jugglers, trying to keep numerous balls in the air—work, family, recreation, exercise, etc. Some of the balls we juggle are rubber. They will bounce back if dropped.

But, some are glass. Family is a glass ball. If you drop the ball there, it may shatter, and it’s often hard to put back together. It’s second only to GOD.

Generally speaking, if you call my house on Sunday you’ll get my answering machine. That’s my family day. As a preacher and administrator, six days a week my family shares me with God’s Church. As you might suspect, I try to spend some time with my family every day, but Sunday is a full family day at our house. Family is an important element of the time of our lives.

**Time for Work** – Another important time of our lives, according to God, is our work. We are told matter-of-factly in 2 Thessalonians 3:10 that if a person isn’t willing to work, he shouldn’t eat. In fact, if I do love my family I will be at my job on a regular basis. Notice the importance God puts on this time of our lives in 1 Timothy 5:8: “But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his own household, he has denied the faith, and is worse than an unbeliever.”

Wow! No comment necessary there. And, in a world of waning work ethics, shouldn’t God’s people be some of the best workers there are? The principle taught in Colossians 3:22-24 tells us that we are to work at our jobs as if serving the LORD. But, we need to be careful to remember that our jobs are rubber balls. They must never come before God and family. And

some of us, I’ve noticed, focus so much on working those six days that we sometimes lean towards workaholicism, as if we have to earn the Sabbath rest. We’re almost dead by sundown, and when we do get to church, we’re snoozing during the sermon.

By the way, let’s not forget to work our muscles and heart. We might list an exercise program under this category of work. The reality is, when we make the time to exercise we actually end up gaining that time back, because regular aerobic exercise makes us more efficient at our work. It also helps us to rest better. Speaking of rest...

**Time for Rest** – Not only do we need to take time for God, family, and work, but also rest. Our designer did not create us to go full tilt seven days a week. *Reader’s Digest* had an article by Wayne Muller that hit the nail on the head. It was entitled, “Stop the Week! Life is What’s Happening When You’re Too Busy to Notice!” Muller speaks of the universal refrain so often heard today: “I am so busy.” He says, “We say this to one another as if our exhaustion were a trophy, our ability to withstand stress a mark of character. The busier we are, the more important we seem to ourselves, and, we imagine, to others.” He goes on to lament how, as life speeds up, the wearier we feel, and “because we do not rest, we lose our way.” What is the cause according to Muller? He is not hesitant to proclaim, “We have forgotten the Sabbath.”

The fact is we need the Sabbath. Maybe that’s why God had to make it a commandment in Exodus 20, where He says in verses 8-10: “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work...” God says: I want you to remember the seventh-day Sabbath. You need to put aside your regular day-to-day activities and rest from those activities. Remember the Sabbath and forget the job, the shopping, and the housework. Our God wants us to know that constant work and busyness are not signs of success. They may, rather, be a sign of dysfunction.

Our creator’s design for mankind’s proper functioning incorporates Sabbath rest. You can’t build a successful life while ignoring the blueprints. The

principle of rest also includes sleep every night, not just in church on Sabbath. We all need daily downtime so we don't crash permanently. So, the time of our lives is God's, and we need to make it count. It includes time for God, family, work, rest, and also...

**Time for Outreach** – Jesus spent three and one-half years teaching, healing, and ministering to others. He then spent six long, agonizing hours dying on the cross to pay the sin-debt for a lost world. And then, after His resurrection, and before ascending to Heaven, He spoke these words from Matthew 28:19-20: “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

So, just before His time here on Earth ended, He told his disciples, those He had spent so much time with: The time of your life needs to include bringing others to Me. That's what Jesus told the demoniac He had healed: “Go tell others what I've done for you!” And, he did. Mark 5:20 says that “all marveled.” The woman at the well didn't keep Jesus to herself, but told others about Him. John 4 tells us “many believed” because of her testimony. In Luke 10, Jesus sent out the 70 to tell others the good news of the kingdom, and they returned rejoicing. What Jesus says to His disciples reading this article today is the same: The time of your life needs to include outreach. And if you'll take time for outreach, you will have the time of your life.

**Time to Prioritize** – Right about now, if you are like me you're thinking, “This all sounds nice, but how in the world do I make time for all this?” It is tough in today's world, isn't it? Some days I get so busy and backed up, I can hardly believe it. In fact, someone has said that B.U.S.Y. is an acronym for Being Under Satan's

Yoke. Jesus calls us to rest in Him and take His yoke on ourselves, for His yoke is easy, and His burden light. Matthew 11:28-30.

So, why is it so tough to get a grasp on time? Remember how Paul said in Ephesians 5:15 that “the days are evil?” That's not an understatement. The fact is that the evil one has injected into our society a menagerie of trivial and peripheral issues to get us sidetracked from the important things. It's so easy to get caught up in a frenzy of busyness where we confuse action with accomplishment, and the urgent replaces the important. And then we end up feeling guilty for not having time for the important things. I'd rather feel thankful for the time God has given me. How about you?

*The time of your life  
is God's.  
It's short. It's important.  
So, make it count.*

I firmly believe that the answer is for each of us to periodically have a prayerful priority planning session with God. Yes, the days may be evil, but our God is good, and the God who made time, will help us arrange our time. Thankfully, although time isn't tangible, it is manageable. But, it won't happen by accident. I need to get alone with my Savior and plead, “God, I love You. You have given your life for me, and now my life and my time are Yours. What are Your priorities for me?” We need to prayerfully develop goals for time with God, family, work, rest, and outreach. We need to write them down. Think about it, the Ten Commandments were very important, so God wrote them down with His own finger. If time with my family is truly as important as I say it is, then it ought to show up in my planner or on my PDA.

After developing my goals in all areas, I make a daily “to do” list—a set of objectives for accomplishing the goals. I then prioritize them and work on #1 until it's finished, check it off, then I work on #2, and so on. Yes, there will have to be some flexibility worked into the plan, but you keep that “to do” list with you. That way, when other “opportunities” to waste God's gift of time arise, you can look back at your list of priorities, see where you're at, and make the best decision. I know that this method of time management has been a great help to me personally. And though I'm still not nearly where I want to be, I hate to think where I would be otherwise. Jim Croce wrote a song called “Time in a Bottle,” he sang:

“If I could save time in a bottle,  
the first thing that I'd like to do,  
is to save every day till eternity passes  
away, just to spend them with you...  
but there never seems to be enough  
time to do the things you want to do,  
once you find them.”

Unfortunately, we can't save time in a bottle. It simply pours out in a steady flow, and there's not much left. But, if we will make it a priority, God will help us channel it into the important areas of our lives. Life is so fulfilling when that happens. The time of our lives belongs to GOD. This season, let's thank Him for it, and let's make it count.

*Gary Moyer is the stewardship  
director for the Carolina Conference.*

### **Time to Square Up With God**

As you consider your time with God ... Family ... Work ... Rest ... Outreach ... Prioritizing, let's also find time to “Square Up” our accounts with God before year's end. Let's end the year with our “Tithe and Offering” records clear with God. “As far as possible, make the past right, and ... return to the Lord His own, before this year, with its burden of record, has passed into eternity.”

—*Counsels on Stewardship*,  
page 98





... has taken Sabbath school members "into all the world"

With intent to promote the Seventh-day Adventist mission around the world, Mission Spotlight has taken Sabbath school members into some 160 countries and island groups.



## A 37-Year Ministry Retires

BY JUDY HEINRICH

Mission Spotlight, the monthly audio-visual program supporting the 13th Sabbath offering, is being retired with the 2007 December program.

It all began nearly 40 years ago when the late Oscar Heinrich, communication director of the Southern Union Conference at that time, went to Guatemala with his camera and a youth group. What he saw on that trip spawned ideas for communicat-

ing more effective reports on the world mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

After considerable experimentation and a trip to the Inter-American Division with a camera crew, three movies and four slide-cassette programs were released to 200 churches in three union territories. A survey of Sabbath school members on the acceptance and possible usage of such

programs was made, and a report was passed along to the General Conference Sabbath school department.

With enthusiasm, Fernon Retzer, Sabbath school director, worked with media producers to implement production of such reports. After two years, he called the Southern Union administrators asking if arrangements could be made for their communication department to take over the responsibility.

The General Conference and North American Division gave their blessing and approval, but offered no funds to launch it. The Southern Union gave verbal support, but had no obligation to fund a Division-wide endeavor. As a communicator, and believing in the need to



# Encouraging Words from Our Viewers

**A letter from Albert, Kansas --**

... we recently watched the Spotlight which featured Guatemala and the homes for orphans. We were so touched by this that we are requesting information on adopting two of the little girls ....

**A Sabbath school leader in White House, Tennessee --**

After viewing one of the Mission Spotlight programs from the Trans-Africa Division, our church determined

it would take about \$1,000 to build a church there, and we raised it in less than five minutes.

**Member in Havana, Arkansas --**

... I'd like to thank you for all the enlightenment I've gained on the mission of my church through Mission Spotlight.

**President, Mountain View Conference --**

Thank you for Mission Spotlight which brings people of other nations

right into our churches. Seeing their glowing faces reminds us of the universal brotherhood of man and the close ties of the Seventh-day Adventist Church family.

**A member in Cottonwood, Arizona --**

Mission Spotlight shows "how important it is for us to keep supporting the mission work around the world. It is a real blessing to hear and see the reports."



ists; interviewed church leaders and government officials; visited elementary schools, academies, colleges, universities, language schools, publishing houses, hospitals, nursing schools, clinics, medical launches, orphanages, food production facilities, and retirement centers operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church; listened to personal stories; and photographed

inform and inspire Sabbath school members to continue strong support of the world mission, Heinrich went to the bank and personally borrowed the money to produce three programs.

There were no facilities for production. The scripts were written in a bedroom. The negatives were developed and slides duplicated in a basement area at the union office. Packaging and shipping was done in a garage. And, the first shipment, which promoted the 13th Sabbath offering for the fourth quarter of 1970, went to 108 subscribing Sabbath schools—not enough participation to cover the expenses. But, Mission Spotlight grew quarter by quarter until, within ten years, it was serving more than 3,000 Sabbath schools in North

America, was being translated into the Spanish language, and master copies were being sent to six world Divisions for translation and reproduction into the format needed to serve the people.

Mission Spotlight introduced viewers to new cultures; reviewed historical events; told how and when the Third Angel's Message entered the country being reported; recorded choirs, quartets, soloists, orchestras, bands, trumpeters, and violin-

hundreds of people.

Mission Spotlight was all about people! On the early trips, there was Tshabangu, the 103-year-old man who drove the wagon that carried pioneer missionaries from Cape Town to western Rhodesia where the prime minister had given the church 12,000 acres of land to start a Christian mission. In Hong Kong, there was Harry Miller who gave his life to establishing hospitals and planting God's truths in the Far East. And, there





was Anne Julinssen, one of the most isolated members in the world. Anne lived 250 miles above the Arctic Circle on the island of Vardo. There were stories everywhere—conversion stories, miracle stories, protection stories, and stories of need.

There were also miracle stories on the home front. In 1996, the editing studios were burglarized. It was at the heavy time of production. Inadvertently, a documentary tape had been left on one of the recorders that was taken. It was an important part in one of the programs. On the very day replacement equipment was being delivered, the police came saying they thought they had possibly located some of the stolen items. Three blocks away in an apartment laundry area, part of the equipment was stacked in a corner—damaged and unusable—but the documentary tape was there on the recorder.

And, through all the hundreds of thousands of miles of travel—yes, millions of miles—there was the ever-protecting arm of the Lord. Many, many times it was keenly felt. In 1972, the Seoul, Korea, newspaper reported that a small plane had crashed near an offshore island and four persons were killed. But, the news report was an assumption. Our son, Jerry, was on that plane. And, he and a Korean doctor and nurse and the pilot walked away from a totally demolished mission plane.

In those early years of Mission Spotlight travel, there was little or no communication home—no cell phones, no e-mail, no fax machines—just slow mail and expensive overseas phone calls. The team left the Atlanta airport, and three or four weeks later those at home followed the confirmed schedule for pickup.

As a family—my late husband,

Oscar, and myself; our son, Jerry, and his wife, Donna; our daughter, Judy, and her husband, Ed; and our daughter, Ginger, and her husband, John—we have endeavored to open windows to show the accomplishments as well as the current needs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church throughout the world. During the 447 months of uninterrupted programming, reports have been made from some 160 nations and island groups.

Mission Spotlight thanks the hundreds of people who, through the years, contributed to its success—those who so faithfully traveled with us overseas to secure the materials; administrators of world divisions, unions, and conferences; Sabbath school directors and their secretaries; and those in the local churches who showed the programs.

It has been our privilege to produce and share Mission Spotlight!

## *Thanks for the memories!!!*



*Donna & Jerry — Judy C. Ginger Judy H.*

# So Easy to Forget

BY DON C. SCHNEIDER

Every country has memorials to its heroes.

In the heart of Washington, D.C., stands that colossal stone monument pointing 555 feet into the air. Just inside its base are stories of George Washington, the president who was “first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

Not far away is a glistening white marble shrine. Under its canopy is a gigantic statue of a thoughtful figure seated in a great stone chair. It’s the statue of Abraham Lincoln, a president greatly loved by Americans.

Standing in the middle of all these reminders, you get the feeling that the human mind needs a lot of prodding. Our tendency to forget drives us to jog our memories with monuments, anniversaries, and celebrations.

Jesus knew we would need powerful reminders of what happened in Gethsemane and on Golgotha, as the decades and centuries passed. Though He never seemed to enjoy ritual or ceremony, He is the One who said, “Do this in remembrance of Me.” Luke 22:19.

In the upper room He urged His followers to love each other. He said that by their love they would be recognized as His disciples. Then He showed them what He meant with an ongoing memorial.

Those disciples could hardly believe what He did. I, too, am filled with amazement every time I think about it. Picture Jesus picking up a towel, filling a basin with water, then kneeling in front of each disciple and washing his dirty feet. As He completed His menial task, He commanded

them—and us—to do what He did in humility and love.

So, each time someone kneels in front of me to wash my feet in preparation for communion, I see Jesus in my mind. I remember His command to love one another.

But, it wasn’t over. At the Passover Supper, this pivotal moment in history, Jesus and His disciples ate in order to remember. They remembered God’s delivery of the Israelite slaves from Egyptian bondage. They also looked forward to their future delivery from sin, to the Messiah’s death. Then Jesus, the actual Messiah, just hours before His death, set up a memorial for us using two items that were on the menu that evening. He was saying, *It’s so easy to forget! Please remember!* And, I do.

As I take that unleavened bread, I remember Jesus, His sinless body, bruised, beaten, and bloody. I see Him trying to drag that cross, my cross. I see the King of the universe hanging on that cross in my place. As I eat the bread, my heart says, *Jesus, I cannot fathom the pain you must have felt for me. Thank You!*

The grape juice, too, makes me think of Jesus: His flowing blood brought from His body by the lashes, the thorns, and the nails. He died that Friday, so I could live eternally with Him. And, as I sip the juice, my heart cries out, *Thank You for taking my death. I want to live for you today!*

Yes, it’s easy to forget. I want to remember and believe.

So, as the water trickles across my feet, as the crusty bread brushes past my lips and I crunch it, as the sweet

juice delights my taste, I remember Jesus. I think about Him. I receive Him into my life again.

*Dear Jesus, my servant King and suffering Savior, my powerful, risen Deliverer, I praise You for Your sacrifice today. I rest completely in Your mercy and grace.*

*Don C. Schneider is president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.*

## A Special Service Live Across North America

On Friday, December 28, a special communion event will link Adventists across North America in a service of joyful dedication. This event, carried live on the HOPE Channel, will unite hundreds of thousands of Seventh-day Adventists in North America in the experience of rededicating their lives to Jesus at the same time.

The service will be broadcast live at 5 p.m. Pacific, 6 p.m. Mountain, 7 p.m. Central, and 8 p.m. Eastern; and repeated two hours later in each time zone. The ordinance of humility should be completed by the time the program begins, and the emblems of Christ’s sacrifice should be distributed 15 minutes prior to the end of the 60-minute broadcast, making it possible for people across North America to participate together in this event of spiritual renewal. For more information, visit [www.nad.adventist.org](http://www.nad.adventist.org)



# Mission Gulu Provides Hope

BY JOY SEARCIE

Seventeen church members and friends from Buckhead Community Fellowship in Atlanta, Georgia, embarked on their first mission trip to northern Uganda, on July 9, 2007. This was the first time for many to visit and serve in Africa. The group took a year to plan the mission trip while learning about the terrible plight of the children in northern Uganda.

The Buckhead group, under the leadership of Todd Leonard, pastor, and Keith Wood, Ph.D., adopted a small school named UNIFAT in the town of Gulu. More than \$30,000 was raised from donations and a concert given by Wintley Phipps. Books, school supplies, sports equipment, and clothes were collected and shipped to Uganda in a huge container. It was not enough for the group to give funds and mate-



*Buckhead Community Fellowship Mission Gulu team: Jan Levin (front row, left), Sean and Joy Searcie, Walter and Marla Fordham, Patricia Jones, Kristen Wood, Keith and Brenda Wood, Andrea Jones-Horton, John Otto; Bill Levin (back row, left), Delores Rugless, Rhonda Maddox, Janice Debose-Wyrick, Winston Mills, and Daryl Jones*

rial goods—they wanted to travel to Gulu and give their time and love to the children that needed help.

After a 17-hour flight to Ethiopia, a night's layover, and a two-hour flight from Ethiopia, they arrived in Kampala, Uganda. Early the next morning, they squeezed their luggage into two vans and journeyed over bumpy roads and large potholes for six hours to Gulu. They arrived at the school late in the evening, and received a warm welcome from Abitimo, the founder of the school, several teach-

ers, and students. The children sang a welcome song, which brought the group to tears. It was painful to see the poor condition of the school. Classrooms were unfinished with no windows, unpainted walls, unfinished toilets, no electricity, and no water supply. Yet, with their meager resources, the group discovered that the UNIFAT School was one of the best in town.

For four days, the group visited with students, teachers, and community members. They helped build a much-needed fence around the school, carried bricks that had been made by hand, made mortar from gravel and rocks, carried water in jugs from a nearby stream, pushed wheel barrels loaded with mortar, and dug trenches. What would normally take one hour to do in the United States, took a full day.



*Walter Fordham (left), and Brenda, Kristen, and Keith Wood work on constructing the fence.*



*Rhonda Maddox (left), Winston Mills, and Joy Searcie busy at constructing the fence.*



*UNIFAT School before the construction of the fence.*



*UNIFAT students*



*UNIFAT's partially completed fence*

In addition to building a fence, the group learned more about the students and the plight of the community. They discovered that UNIFAT serves more than 1,200 students, some who are orphans. The classrooms house more than 90 students per grade, often cramping several children on small benches. Teachers are paid less than \$180 per month. The parents are eager to pay for their child's education, despite poverty. They eke out money from their meager income to pay school fees, buy uniforms, and obtain shoes for their children. Although school fees by US standards seemed low at \$200 per year, for these parents it is the equivalent of half their yearly salary. Many can only afford to send one child to the school. For the most part, if the children receive a seventh grade education, that is all they can afford for a lifetime. Some of the parents are widows who lost their spouses due to HIV or from the 20-year war. Others are single parents battling HIV/AIDS. Many mothers have fought two tragedies, one caused by endless war and the other by a deadly disease.

The group visited an internally displaced camp near the school. The camp housed hundreds of people, including a family of 10 cramped into one hut. These parents could not afford to send their children to

UNIFAT. They shared the pain they experience being destitute, displaced, and hopeless for many years. They shared their fear of returning to their homes for fear they may be killed. They requested ideas and hope about ways to change the life they live. Their culture and community have been destroyed. War has robbed them of their dignity.

UNIFAT is not just any ordinary school. The light of hope in the com-

impensed by Buckhead's willingness to help the school, and stopped questioning the construction of the fence. The group was thankful that their presence in the community had made an impact, and that the simple contributions made a difference to many.

On the final day, the UNIFAT students wanted to perform for the group. It was realized that regardless of the hardships the children endure, they rejoice in the little they have. They are hopeful and resilient, despite poverty. They expressed gratitude and asked the Buckhead group to visit again.

The group realized how blessed they are when they returned home, and that the journey of partnering with those who are less fortunate had just begun. There is so much to be done in northern Uganda, and more for the UNIFAT School. The fence needs to be completed, a well needs to be dug on the campus, the students need scholarships, a cafeteria needs to be added, and more

people need to visit UNIFAT and personally help with the needs of the school. The power of God can be utilized through each of us.

For more information on Mission Gulu, visit the website at [www.BuckheadCommunityFellowship.org](http://www.BuckheadCommunityFellowship.org) or write to Buckhead Community Fellowship, 4100 Roswell Road, Atlanta, GA 30342.



*Some of the women from the group teach the students how to sing "Father Abraham."*

munity is educating the children, and for many, UNIFAT is the only beacon of hope. UNIFAT is threatened by corruption. The local government officials questioned the land where the school is located, and were uncomfortable with the construction of a simple fence, the fence which the Buckhead group went to help build. Abitimo took the group to visit the governor and officials, and they were



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**ROOMS to RENT.** Brand-new Anchorage, Alaska Church has eight guest rooms, queen-size beds, private entrance, one handicap room, and kitchen/laundry facilities. Internet access. Sept-May rates: \$69.00 per night and June-Aug \$89.00 per night. All proceeds go to the church building fund. Call 907-868-3310 or 907-301-0703. (12)

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**CENTRAL FLORIDA REAL ESTATE** - Let Bob Fulghum (SMC '54) with 25 years experience in real estate, help you with your real estate needs. I also do property management, 407-896-6080 or 407-758-5807. (12-2)

**COLLEGEDALE GUESTHOUSE.** "A lovely retreat!" "We don't want to leave, ever!" says guests. 1½ bedroom, fully equipped kitchen, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. \$50/night for two (2-night minimum). Roger King 423-236-4688. View pictures at: www.rogerkingrentals.com Keep this ad! ©

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**WANTED VOLUNTEERS for PERU.** Spring break in the Amazon churches, schools, and medical groups. Anytime between March-July 2008. Visit: Peopleofperu.org/U4Peru@aol.com or call 208-459-8252. (12)

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT NEEDED.** Neil Nedley, M.D., is seeking a Physician Assistant with interests in Gastroenterology and Internal Medicine. Call Dr. Nedley to discuss the salary and benefit package of working with a health-minded, energetic team. Toll-free: 888-778-4445 or 580-223-5980. (12)

**A DIRECTOR is being sought for Kiddie Korral Child Development Center,** a community outreach of the Valdosta SDA Church. Candidate must have ECE experience (degree preferred) and a love for children. Duties include but not limited to: directing daily operations, staff scheduling and supervision, and good financial stewardship. Send resume to: KKCDC Board Chair, 1609 N. Slater St., Valdosta, GA 31602. Call 229-244-2042. Application deadline: December 31, 2007. (12)

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** seeks qualified applicants for faculty positions in the following departments and schools: Chemistry, Communications, Engineering, Library, Mathematics, Social Work, and Technology. For more information, please visit <http://www.wallawalla.edu/resources/employment/faculty-employment/>. All positions will remain open until filled. To apply, follow the application instructions listed with each position. (12,1)

**OB/GYN - North Georgia:** Overwhelming practice needs BE/BC OB/GYN for partnership or an associate. New building will be complete in summer, 2008. Local Adventist Hospital, Churches, and Academy. Community of 50,000 is a wonderful place to raise family and practice medicine. For more information contact Debbie at 706-629-7380, or email: dowens@4womenscare.com. (12-5)

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**RVs!!!** Adventist owned and operated RV dealership has been helping SDAs for more

than 30 years. Huge inventory. Courtesy airport pickup and onsite hookups. Satisfied SDA customer list available. Call toll-free: 888-933-9300. Lee's RV City, Oklahoma City. Visit our website: [www.leesrv.com](http://www.leesrv.com) or Email: [LeesRVs@aol.com](mailto:LeesRVs@aol.com) ©

**VACATION on KAUAI, HAWAII, "The Garden Island."** Kahili Adventist School operates a scenic mountain park with 1-4 room cabins, sleeping 2-6 persons. All have kitchens complete with pans, utensils, dishes, etc. See pictures and rates at [www.kahilipark.org](http://www.kahilipark.org) Reservations: 808-742-9921. (12)

**WEIMAR HEALTH CENTER.** Nestled in the beautiful and tranquil foothills of the Sierra Nevada, can accommodate the needs of seniors for healthful living. Medical clinic and other natural remedies are readily available on site. Acute care hospital services are 10 minutes away in Auburn. Call 530-422-7933 for more information. (12)

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD** – New home-based business opportunity is changing ordinary lives into extraordinary lives. What you earn is up to you. Call 866-796-6178. (12)

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**EIGHT NATURAL REMEDIES** with James Johnson, M.D. Phone/fax 615-523-2136. Also online instructor-led NCLEX-RN® review nursing courses every month. [www.geocities.com/jjohnsonmd/nclex.html](http://www.geocities.com/jjohnsonmd/nclex.html) (12)

**NEEDED:** The Quiet Hour is looking for a diesel-powered sailboat, 45-55 foot, for medical work in remote Solomon Islands. Contact Michael Porter or Charlene West at The Quiet Hour, 800-900-9021, x116 or 111, respectively. (12,1)

**Project PATCH,** an accredited Christian therapeutic residential treatment facility for at-risk youth, seeks applicants for position of Juvenile Counselor. Minimum of Master's degree in related field. Experience required. For more information, visit [www.projectpatch.org](http://www.projectpatch.org) or contact Chuck Hagele at [chagele@projectpatch.org](mailto:chagele@projectpatch.org). Send resumé to P.O. Box 450, Garden Valley, ID 83622. (12)

**HOLY LAND TOUR.** Join Pastor Mike Curzon, an Adventist authority on Israeli heritage for an insider's view of the Holy Land. Experience the Via Dolorosa; cruise the Sea of Galilee; Sabbath service on Mt. Olives; see King David's Tomb, and many more. March 24, 2008, 10-day tour. Call or email Norma Jones for brochure/information. 877-740-6464, or email: [thomasej212@msn.com](mailto:thomasej212@msn.com). Norma Jones is an Adventist travel consultant specializing in all Christian travels. (12)

**CONFUSED BY ALL THE TALK ON DIET?** Attend the two Conferences on Vegetarian Nutrition on March 4-8, 2008 at Loma Linda University in California. For more information on speakers, topics, and motels, contact Stoy Proctor at 301-680-6718 or e-mail [sanchez1@gc.adventist.org](mailto:sanchez1@gc.adventist.org). (12-2)

**MUSIC AT THE 2010 GC SESSION in Atlanta, June 23-July 3.** Needed: high-quality sacred music from vocalists, instrumentalists, choirs, ensembles, etc. Please visit [www.gcsession.org](http://www.gcsession.org) for details and application. Send all requested materials to NAD Music Coordinator, Attn: Ron Christman, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600. Deadline for application: January 31, 2009. ©



# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**Pathfinder Council** – Jan. 4, 5. Nosoca.  
**Women's Ministries**  
**Mini-Retreat** – Jan. 25-27. Myrtle Beach.  
**Lay Advisory Retreat** – Jan. 25, 26. Nosoca.

## Florida

**Complete calendar online**—  
<http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar.html>  
**Florida Pathfinder Events**—  
<http://www.floridapathfinders.com/> or call 407-644-5000 x127.  
**Singles' Ministries Events and mailing list information.**  
 Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more.  
<http://www.asamcf.org/>,  
[djmiller4000@embarqmail.com](mailto:djmiller4000@embarqmail.com),  
 or 386-789-3235.  
**Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars**  
 Dec. 15. Victory in Port Saint Lucie.  
 Jan. 12. Clermont.  
 Feb. 2. Umatilla.  
 Feb. 16-17. Maranatha in Miami.  
**Power of Prayer 2008: Experiencing God's Presence**  
 prayer emphasis weekend.  
 Jan. 4, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Jan. 5, morning worship services and 4:00-6:00 p.m. Forest Lake Church, Apopka. Facilitator: Dr. Joseph Kidder. Details: [svatel@forestlakechurch.org](mailto:svatel@forestlakechurch.org) or 407-869-0680 x16.  
**Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule**  
 Jan. 5. Port Charlotte.  
 Jan. 6. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.  
 Jan. 12. West Palm Beach.  
 Jan. 13. Midport Road in Port St. Lucie, Fort Pierce, Cocoa, Titusville. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, Palm Bay.)  
 Jan. 26. Maranatha in Miami.  
 Jan. 27. Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderdale, Pompano Beach, Jupiter.  
**Winter Haven Church Concert Series**—Details: <http://www.winterhavensda.org/>, [pastor@winterhavensda.org](mailto:pastor@winterhavensda.org), or 863-224-2196.

Jan. 5. Marius Serban Worship Concert.  
 Jan. 12. Charles Haugabrooks. Feb. 2. Joe Pearles.  
 Feb. 23. Jaime Jorge Worship Concert.  
**Coronary Health Improvement Program (CHIP).** Forest Lake Church upper youth center, Apopka. Details: 407-869-0680. Jan. 5-7.  
 Jan. 20-Feb. 25.  
**Lake Union Academies Alumni Reunion** (formerly Michigan Academies Alumni Reunion). March 1. Forest Lake Academy, Apopka. Details: [rebecca.becker@flhosp.org](mailto:rebecca.becker@flhosp.org) or 407-814-1859.  
**14th Annual Retired Denominational and Hospital Workers' Retreat**—March 9-11. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Speaker: Jack Harris. Reservations required. Details: [rhshepard@netzero.net](mailto:rhshepard@netzero.net) or 407-331-3249.  
**Vacation Bible School Workshops.** Details: [rburrill@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rburrill@cfl.rr.com), 407-644-5000, x136, or 321-303-7699.  
 March 15. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland.  
 March 22. Miami Temple Church.

## Georgia-Cumberland

**Complete calendar online**—  
[www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com)  
**Festival of the Family** – Dec. 8.  
**Dalton Evangelism** – Jan. 5-Feb. 5. Dalton, GA.  
**Adventurer Director's Council** – Jan. 5.  
**Pathfinder Director's Council** – Jan. 6.  
**Pathfinder Teen Challenge** – Jan. 15-17.  
**India Mission Trip** – Jan. 27-Feb. 20.

## Gulf States

**Elders' and Deacons' Meeting** – Nov. 30-Dec. 2. Camp Alamisco.  
**Executive Meeting** – Dec. 11. Conference Office.  
**Bass Finance Committee Teleconference** – Dec. 12.  
**Literature Evangelists Yearend Retreat** – January 3-6. Gatlinburg, TN.  
**Pathfinder Council** – Jan. 11, 12. Camp Alamisco.  
**Teacher's in-service meetings**

with **Sandy Doran** – Jan. 13-15. Camp Alamisco.  
**ShareHim Boot Camp** – Jan. 18-20. Camp Alamisco.  
**Teen Invitational Caving** – Jan. 25, 26.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Association Board**  
 Jan. 15. March 11.  
**Conference Executive Committee**  
 Jan. 15. March 11.  
**Highland & Madison Academy Boards**  
 Jan. 17. March 20.  
**Conference Board of Education**  
 Feb. 14. April 10.  
**Eastern Kentucky Camp Meeting** – Feb. 29-March 1. Prestonsburg, KY.  
**West Tennessee Festival of Faith** – March 8. Memphis, TN.  
**Highland Academy Alumni Homecoming** – April 4-5. Honor classes include years ending in 3s and 8s (1998, 2003, etc.). See [www.highland-academy.com](http://www.highland-academy.com) for details.

## Southern Adventist University

**Online Registration** – Dec. 3-Jan. 11.  
**Christmas Break** – Dec. 20-Jan. 6.  
**PreviewSouthern** – Jan. 24, 25.

## Announcements

**Walker Memorial Academy 60th Anniversary** is being developed for the 2007-08 yearbook. If you are willing to share some of your best memories for the publication, contact Jeannette Zesch at 863-453-3131 or fax your submission to: 863-453-4925.

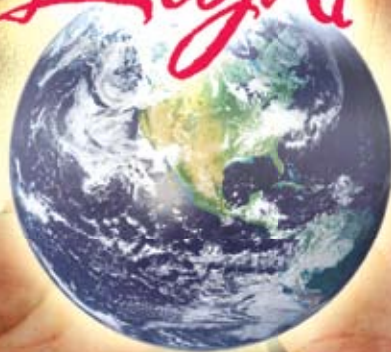
**Health Summit Orlando** – Feb. 1-9. Do you need motivation and new ideas for health ministry outreach? More than 25 seminars will be taught including the following brand new offerings: Forgive to Live, Reaching Out to Your Community, Foundations of Health Ministry (earning college credit), Women's Health, and Family Health. To learn more about this exciting training, which is co-sponsored by the North American and Inter-American Division Departments of Health Ministry, go to [www.nadhealthsummit.com](http://www.nadhealthsummit.com)

**Union College Homecoming** – April 3-6. Alumni, friends, and former faculty are invited. Honor classes are 1938, 1948, 1953, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988, and 1998. For more information, contact the alumni office at 402-486-2503, or [alumni@ucollege.edu](mailto:alumni@ucollege.edu)

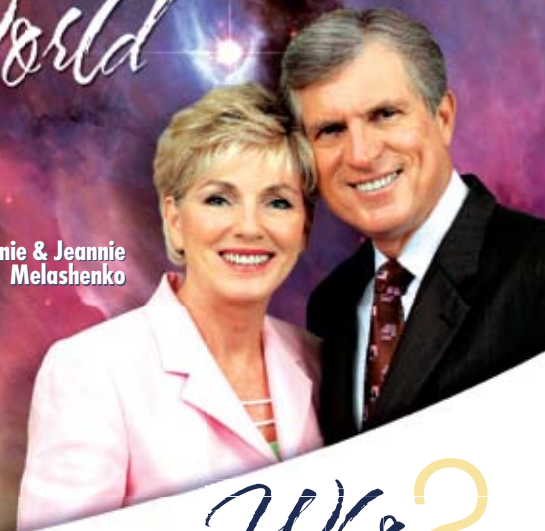
## Sunset

|                 | Dec. 7 | Dec. 14 | Dec. 18 | Dec. 21 | Dec. 28 | Jan. 4 |
|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| 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    | 4:42    | 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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