

May 2008



T SOUTHERN

# TIDINGS

*Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family*

## The Adventist EDGE *Where Students Come First*



# Do Adventist Schools Measure Up?

Parents want to know if Seventh-day Adventist schools are measuring up when it comes to academic excellence. It's a legitimate question. We know Adventist education makes a difference when it comes to spiritual values and helping students with life choices. We also have confidence in a curriculum that is overt in its understanding and acceptance; for example, of God as Creator and that the only solution for sin is Jesus. We are very confident that students will study in an environment where teachers and students pray and study God's Word together.

I have also heard the inquiry from parents regarding the achievement levels of students in our schools. How do we compare to large public schools, for example, when it comes to testing outcomes? We need the facts to help parents make the best decisions. In 2006, the Church in North America began a major study — CognitiveGenesis.

The study tested more than 30,000 students, grades 3-9 and 11, in all conferences in the North American Division. The standardized tests given in the United States were the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills, Iowa Tests of Educational Development, and the Cognitive Abilities Test. In order for the research to be valid, the results needed to be "controlled for cognitive ability." In other words, each student's achievement level can be predicted based on the student's score on the cognitive ability tests. So, if a student was in the middle on ability, we would expect an achievement score would also be in the middle. The question was, how did they test given their level of ability. The preliminary results? **Students in Seventh-day Adventist schools scored about half a grade level above what you would predict on average. In addition, overall achievement, or composite, was above the national norm in ALL grades. And furthermore, achievement was above average for ALL subject areas: reading, language arts, math, social studies, science, and sources of information.** Praise the Lord!

And, there's more! Achievement was very similar no matter the size of the school, the number of students per grade, the number of students per teacher, the number of grades per teacher, or the grade-range within the classroom. That means that students in a one-teacher school tested just as well as students in a large multi-teacher school. I believe this is more than remarkable and more than coincidence. I believe we have a precious asset in what we call Adventist education. And, through the Adventist EDGE in the Southern Union, we expect to excel to greater achievement. I believe that a spiritually based education should not sacrifice academic excellence and achievement. On the contrary, a God-based education should enhance achievement.

The Church will continue to drill down into these results. For example, we will know how student, parent, teacher, and school factors are related to achievement. We have one of the answers already. Question: Does limiting the amount of time a student spends watching television affect achievement levels? Answer: The data shows that the more the parent limits the amount of time watching television, the higher the achievement of the student.

CognitiveGenesis is a significant study. And, I personally thank each teacher, each administrator, each staff member, and all who make a difference — now documented — through Adventist education.



**Gordon Retzer**  
*Southern Union  
President*

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Cover: Zion Leete (front row, left), Breanna McIntosh, Hannah Lee, Brery Salcedo (back row, left), Stephen Douglas, Alex Staton, Marlee Staton, and Reyna Goodridge, students from Duluth Adventist School in Duluth, Georgia, enjoy participating in the Adventist EDGE Journey to Excellence.



# Where Students Come First

## *The Adventist EDGE*

BY CONRAD L. GILL

*The Adventist EDGE has been a GREAT Southern Union start to a new Adventist school system for the 21st century.*

Something very exciting is happening in Southern Union Conference schools. Teachers are actively pursuing professional development to master new strategies, and students are excited and engaged in experiential and active, hands-on learning. Schools are embracing the comprehensive improvement plan developed by the stakeholders — you, the constituents. Parents are partnering with schools for student success. Test scores are up.

Enrollment is increasing. And, funds are available to assist schools that choose to pursue the Adventist EDGE School of Excellence Award.

By the grace of God, we are changing the climate and culture of Adventist education — one school at a time. Collaboratively, Southern Union educators have agreed that “Students Come First!”

### **Adventist Education — A Continuum of Change**

Students come first, and we know that teachers are the “value-added” ingredient in the ministry of Christian education and the learning process. Our parents and constituents have asked for **change**, and we are responding to your request:

1. Establishing relevancy and rigor in our curriculum that is engaging and challenging
2. Improving the climate through intentional customer service, inclusion of volunteers, and improved facilities
3. Improving teaching by providing consistent and on-going staff development for teachers, administrators, and staff
4. Providing online lesson and unit planning software, training, and tools for every teacher; and, challenging within teachers the desire to achieve the coveted Excellence In Teaching Award



*Children at Jacksonville Adventist Academy learn through hands-on activities.*

5. Learning about connections and brain-based strategies that show teachers how to include all students in the learning process, while still meeting individual needs — leading to student achievement and mastery

6. Reaching out in cooperation to self-supporting schools, as well as homeschool students and parents, as we participate together in evangelism for our children and youth

7. Developing and supervising age-appropriate curriculum and activities for early learning center ministry in partnership with working parents

## Debunking MYTHS about Adventist Education

MYTH: Adventist school academic standards are low . . .

**REALITY:** Adventist schools, regardless of size and location, effectively instruct and nurture students academically and lead students into meaningful relationships with God, as evidenced by both Cognitive Genesis and Valuegenesis research.

MYTH: Adventist school curriculum is weak . . .

**REALITY:** Adventist schools offer a well-rounded curriculum that is based on national, state, and Adventist standards. Textbooks are written or approved in accordance with denominational beliefs and practices. Curriculum committees, made up of educators (K-16) from across North America, meet every summer to write and revise curriculum guides.

The Southern Union has developed standards for elementary and secondary subjects that have been recognized across North America. They have clear indicators and benchmarks that guide educators in determining what each student should know and be able to do.

MYTH: Adventist school multi-grade classrooms result in inferior education . . .

**REALITY:** Student achievement

in multi-age, multi-grade classrooms has distinct advantages in the development of thinking skills. Teachers are trained to teach in many different styles of learning, or “whole-brain” learning. As they address different age groups in a classroom, they move in and out of each child’s comfort zone, fostering the opportunity for students to stretch in many directions with confidence.

Students’ resourcefulness is nurtured as they learn and glean information, both intentionally and accidentally, while participating in a non-threatening environment.

Meeting individual needs while teaching the whole class takes place naturally in these classrooms.

Student learning, comprehension, and application is reinforced by explanation, experience, repetition, and regular opportunities for students to help and/or teach other students in a seamless, safe, and nurturing setting.

MYTH: Adventist school facilities are under-equipped and inferior . . .

**REALITY:** While not every school has the same financial resources, with very few exceptions, every Adventist school has the facilities, equipment, and materials essential for quality education. Education and technology has changed significantly over the years, and Adventist schools strive to meet the technical needs of their students.

Superior schools are driven even more by excellent teaching than by their facilities and equipment. The Adventist EDGE comprehensive school improvement initiative is

designed to place schools on a continuous tract of improvement that leads to excellence in all categories. Ongoing and meaningful teacher learning and training is the key factor in this process. EDGE, or Educators Delivering Great Education, summarizes our Southern commitment to *excellence* for every student and stakeholder.



*Shawanna Taylor-King assists one of her students, Nicolette Hassell, with a computer assignment at Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy.*

MYTH: Adventist schools are no different than public schools or other private schools . . .

**REALITY:** Adventist schools and the Adventist EDGE are based on an educational Journey To Excellence\* which begins on earth and leads toward Heaven. Adventist Christian education, according to Deuteronomy 6, is a *divine imperative*. I feel that preparing ourselves and our children for Heaven should summarize our purpose for living.

Ellen G. White, in the book *Counsels to Parents Teachers and Students*, pg. 401, makes this statement:

“The subject of education is one that should interest every Seventh-day Adventist. The Lord says to us, Seventh-day Adventists are not to place themselves under the counsel and instruction of teachers who know not the truth for this time. The molding and fashioning of minds

should not be left to men who have not comprehended the importance of a preparation for that life which measures with the life of God.”

I hope you can agree with me that this imperative statement is difficult to ignore.

As active participants in the Adventist EDGE, we invite all families and students to team with us as participants in the ministry of Christian

education. Please also pray for the leaders as they engage in 180-day-a-year evangelistic campaigns all over the Southern Union.

“Where Students Come First” is not a myth, but a present reality. Therefore, planning for excellence must be our number one preoccupation. *Excellence is never achieved by accident.*

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Diane Ruff, *Elementary*

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*Development Specialist*

*\*Journey to Excellence is the North American Division plan for educational change in the 21st century.*

# Starting Out — A Team Effort

BY TAMARA LIBONATI

## Did you know?

There are approximately 255 early childhood education and care (ECEC) programs in the North American Division (NAD).

More than 6,000 children from birth to five years of age are being served in church- or school-operated programs for early childhood education and care.

Of the 255 early childhood education and care programs, 92 are in the Southern Union Conference.

Throughout the Southern Union's eight states, 2,500 children from birth to five years of age are enrolled in church- or school-operated licensed early childhood programs or school-based pre-kindergarten classrooms.

Some programs have had their doors open to the church and community for decades. There are programs in Gulf States, South Atlantic, Georgia-Cumberland, South Central, and Florida conferences which have been serving children for 25 to 50 years.

At the same time, you

will find new programs starting each year, such as those begun this year in Carolina, Kentucky-Tennessee, and Southeastern conferences.

The Southern Union Conference early education leadership has ...

- Developed a professional growth certification program for ECEC personnel
- Created, implemented, and are piloting for the North American Division Office of Education (NADOE) an accreditation process for licensed early childhood programs and school-based pre-kindergarten programs

- Worked diligently with the NADOE, Review and Herald Publishing Association, and Griggs University to produce research-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum for young children, birth through pre-kindergarten — the standards for which are currently being piloted in ECEC classrooms around the Union

- Trained pre-kindergarten teachers and early childhood program directors to use *4MAT for Early Childhood* lesson planning to honor the natural cycle of learning from the start



JULIE JONES HENSON

*Planting flowers is fun, according to these young children of central Florida.*

## Where does success begin?

Excellence from the start begins at birth in a God-centered, Results-oriented Environment, Aligned with Adventist and national standards, in a Team effort. We want to nurture the love of Jesus and the standards He wants each one to live by, now, and for eternity. It's a team effort that enlists the cooperation of the home, the church, the school, and the early childhood education center.

# Developing Hearts and Gifts for Service

BY JANESTA WALKER

Excitement! Enthusiasm! Education! Fun! Progress! Great things are happening at Asheville-Pisgah Christian School (APCS). With a steadily increasing enrollment of 90 students, APCS is enjoying the abundant blessings that God is pouring out on our campus. Our teachers are 4-MAT certified and are using cutting edge methods in their classrooms.

In addition to regular classroom instruction, APCS has started the Hope Learning Center, where special needs students are given individualized instruction. Because of our belief in a well-rounded education, all students at APCS participate in art, music, and physical education classes as well. As a result of this excellent instruction, our students are achieving exceptional scores on their national achievement

tests. Most importantly, an APCS education also includes Christian character development initiatives such as our Kids are Kind program, which includes Peacemakers training and practical service opportunities. These programs are helping our students develop a daily walk with Jesus.

Our recently renovated facility includes a designated art room; a spacious, well-equipped library; and a modern computer lab, in addition to beautiful classrooms. Future building plans include the addition of a cafeteria and a fitness center. Our home and school organization is thriving with the support of many willing parents who give their time to plan exciting events such as our annual fall festival and school talent show.

All of these things make APCS a

shining example of the difference that Adventist education can make in the lives of God's kids.



*Students of Asheville-Pisgah test-drive the new computer lab.*

# Big Things Come in Small Packages

BY BECKY CARPENTER

In this computer age in which we live, a parent/teacher conference via a webcam may not seem that unusual — but in a one-room schoolhouse?

Sherry Housley, who has been the

teacher for the Camden Seventh-day Adventist School for 19 years, was able to speak to both parents of three of her students due to this amazing technology. Antonio, grade 1, Dominique, grade 7, and C'Asia, grade 7, pictured here with Housley and their mother, Yvonne Bermudez, were excited to speak to their father, José, a member of the US military stationed in South Korea.

The Bermudez family finds Christian education to be important enough to make sacrifices. The decision was made to forgo leave so the children would be able to stay in this school. The atmosphere of this small Church school helps to provide the family atmosphere needed to help meet the needs of a family separated by miles, but not by purpose.

This small one-room school in South Carolina is very involved in the educational initiatives of the Southern Union and the North American Division, including the 4-MAT lesson planning strategy. After being questioned about the size of the school and the educational opportunities available, Yvonne Bermudez remarked, "This is a great example of the fact that big things come in small packages. The Camden school strongly believes in technology as a tool for education. Each of the school's 11 students has a computer for their use. Making moments like this possible is a good reason why."



*Teacher Sherry Housley (standing, left), and the Bermudez family conferenced with dad Jose in South Korea via webcam.*



# SERVING OTHERS, SERVING GOD

BY SARAH GRISSOM

Here at Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA) we understand that service can help us in all areas of life. It not only helps us understand how God wants us to treat others, but it strengthens our academics, gives meaning to our work, and enriches our day-to-day activities.

## Service for One Another

Each Friday evening at Vespers, students serve each other by giving H.O.G (Hand of God) awards. Time is spent sharing how we've seen the hand of God in each other. In Romans 12:10,11 it says, "In love of the brethren be tenderly affectionate one to another; in honor preferring one another; in diligence not slothful; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord."

Service for one another unites our campus. Prayer groups give students the chance to build their spiritual lives while building relationships with each other.



*Tornado clean-up enlisted the help of 45 students.*

## Service for the Carolinas

Hebrews 12:28 says, "...whereby we may offer service well-pleasing to God with reverence and awe." Service that is well pleasing to God can happen not only on our campus, but all around us as well. This summer a "service group" of students will be traveling around the Confer-

ence, serving wherever they are needed. They will be helping with Vacation Bible School programs, church services, yard cleanup, and painting.

## Service in the Community

"I thank Him that enabled me, even Christ Jesus our Lord, for that he counted me faithful, appointing me to His service" Titus 1:12. Every Monday is a community service day for one class to go out into the community and serve. Students clean up the roads, help

with mass mailings, serve at the food bank, and volunteer for many other local organizations.

## Service to the World

Mission trips are a priority. A few weeks ago the school received a phone call asking for help in Tennessee, following the tornadoes. In 24 hours a group of 45 students loaded a bus and left for Tennessee, eager and ready to serve. Every year students are given the opportunity to go on a mission trip. Two of the last four years, all staff and students participated in mission trips off campus.

Mount Pisgah Academy's desire to serve everyone and anyone is contagious. We believe every time you serve, you share a little bit of God's love with others.

*Sarah Grissom is a freshman at Mount Pisgah Academy.*



*Students pray together, uniting the campus.*



# On the Cutting *EDGE*

Adventist schools in Florida keep getting better and better! And, as Conrad Gill, Southern Union Office of Education director, so aptly states, “Excellence is never by accident.”

Since the launching of the Adventist EDGE, the Florida Conference Office of Education has intentionally planned for school improvement. “Donor monies have allowed us to provide new classroom materials, connect teachers with peer mentors, and continue a high-quality professional development track,” says Jim Epperson, Ed.D., Florida Conference vice president for education. “Enthusiasm is building as we strive for success on every level — in the office, in the field, and for every child that God entrusts to us.”

The Conference began their journey to improvement five years ago by launching a literacy initiative. Teachers have been given intensive training in classroom practices that boost the reading and writing skills of children. Last year, the Office of Education began researching ways to increase the effectiveness of other areas of the curriculum, including subjects like science, mathematics, physical education, and the arts.

At a recent meeting, mathematics teachers began the groundwork for setting up a process that will strengthen the elementary mathematics program, preparing students for success in academy math classes. “It is truly exciting to watch these teachers work,” says Nancy Melashenko, associate superintendent of education. “The energy and vision that they bring to the table will result in great strides for our entire K-12 system.”

In addition to building on our strong literacy base and improving content-area instruction, the Conference has committed to addressing one of the most vital areas of the Adventist EDGE for the 2008-2009 school year. “Right in the middle of the acronym GREAT stands the initial ‘E’ for ‘Environment that nurtures,’” states Arne Nielsen, administrative superintendent. “That is the heart of everything we do. Our goal is to provide an atmosphere of support, optimism, and dignity for everyone that comes through our doors, whether it be a parent, child, the school janitor, the secretary, teacher, or board volunteer. We want our schools to be safe places where people feel honored and valued.”

In order to achieve that goal, the Conference has scheduled Jim Roy, author of *Soul-Shapers*, to begin working with teachers this fall. “We’ll start the process by giving all of our teachers the big picture during our October inservices,” Nielsen states. “Then we’ll follow up by offering school principals the opportunity to go more in-depth with Roy, training staff in ‘choice theory’ and developing schools where these principles can be seen in action every day.”

In the Florida Conference, the driving force behind all of this innovation is the heart of the child. Our impetus for excellence is best expressed by the opening lines of our mission statement: “Every child is a unique individual, created in the image of God with distinctive gifts, talents, and abilities. It is our belief that the work of true education is to equip students to think and to act with breadth of mind, clearness of thought, and the courage of their convictions. We believe that each child has a special purpose for being placed on this Earth.”



*The science program at Walker Memorial Junior Academy is well-known for its relevant curriculum.*



# What Makes Us Different?

BY CAROLYN JENSEN

Forest Lake Academy (FLA), located on a beautiful campus in Forest City between Altamonte Springs and Apopka, appears to be a typical Seventh-day Adventist boarding school, but really there is a difference.

Is the difference because of the campus religious activities? Students attend Vespers, Sabbath School in the Campus Chapel, worship in the Schmidt Auditorium with Forest Lake Church's "Deeper" service, and Adventist Youth Society in the Campus Chapel. There are religious emphasis weekends with special speakers and activities, and students can participate in an annual mission trip. Because of proximity to the beach, there are traditional beach Vespers. All religious activities encourage relationships with God, family, and friends.

Are FLA's academics the reason for the difference? FLA offers three diplomas: general diploma, college prep diploma, and honors diploma. The following statistics display high academic rating for FLA:

- 94 percent of graduates in the past three years have continued their education in colleges or universities
- 77 percent of the Class of 2008 will be graduating with the college prep diploma; 10 percent will graduate with the honors diploma; and 12 percent are enrolled in dual enrollment classes with Florida Hospital College of

Health Sciences and Southern Adventist University

- 20 percent of the entire student body of 514 have maintained a GPA of 3.75 or above for three consecutive marking periods and qualify to be invited to the Celebration of Excellence
- 10 percent of the student body have been selected for the National Honor Society

The graduation requirements meet the requirements of the Southern Union and North American Division, as well as the Sunshine State requirements. Teachers are highly qualified and plan interesting classes



*Students like to relax in the Student Center between classes. Seniors Christina Verrill, Renneta Reynolds, and Yvonne Pacamalan enjoy time together.*

with activities to meet varied learning styles.

Is there a difference in campus activities? The campus buzzes with activity on a typical day with art classes, music organizations, team sports, community service, and work experiences.

One difference is FLA's distance learning program, AE21. Students can take advantage of Seventh-day Adventist Christian education in their hometown or at home, studying through an accredited online program. Two service-oriented trips are planned each year, bringing the students together. Students participate in the graduation exercises on campus.

So, what really makes FLA different? We submit that the difference involves the combination of the characteristics mentioned above. FLA is dedicated to a vision, directed by a cohesive leadership team that is committed to nurturing Christian faculty and staff and supporting a spiritual environment. Each program is measured by the mission statement that binds all programs and activities into one.

The mission of Forest Lake Academy is to challenge its students and staff to develop and model:

- Love and service for God
  - Respect for self and others
  - Intellectual growth
  - Christ-like character for eternity
- Carolyn Jensen is academic dean and English teacher at Forest Lake Academy.*



# A PLACE FOR LEARNING, PRAYER, AND SERVICE

BY LUIS CORTES

Greater Miami Adventist Academy (GMAA) provides a Seventh-day Adventist education for the youth of south Florida. Our world is filled with violence and immorality; therefore, our

children need a safe place where they are loved and encouraged to succeed. GMAA provides this kind of environment, while students also develop spiritually, socially, physically, and academically.

GMAA is a place for prayer, fun, friendship, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Every morning, teachers begin their classes with prayer and devotion. Many students travel with our ministries department to different countries, sharing God's Word on mission trips. Lifetime friendships are formed here. Our athletic department is an



*Students witness to others through song.*

extension of our classrooms. We have different varsity sports which include basketball, volleyball, softball, and soccer.

Here at GMAA, the Lord has blessed us

tremendously for the past three years. We made a commitment to give our school to Jesus, and He has done wonders here. We have baptized 46 students, our finances have moved toward the black, and last year we received a clean audit with a \$100,000 profit. Our academic program has progressed into a highly competitive arena with students graduating with more than 30 possible

college credits. We offer advanced placement classes in math and science. Our SAT scores have risen in the past three years. Our mean average on the SAT increased 25 points, compared to the rest of the nation whose average decreased 10 points. More than 80 percent of our teachers have a master's degree, and all care greatly about the individual success of each one of our students. When one gives themselves completely to Jesus Christ, there is only one way, and that is up — towards Jesus.

*Luis Cortes is principal at Greater Miami Adventist Academy.*



*GMAA invites students to be baptized*

## Scholarship Reaps Baptisms

BY DOLENDIA MURDOCK AND  
TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER



DOLENDIA MURDOCK

*Stephen Murdock (left) stands with Cody Miller, Karen Henninger, Abbie Henninger, and Alex Matias as they prepare for baptism. Miller says, "I feel like a different person, spiritually."*

Abbie Henninger, a sixth grade student at LaGrange Seventh-day Adventist School in Georgia, and her mom, Karen, were baptized into the LaGrange Church last year. What is unique about this event is that Abbie was a recipient of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Education Evangelism Grant.

Last Year, the Georgia-Cumberland Conference evangelism sub-committee began a program in conjunction with the Conference education department to fund education evangelism grants in schools throughout the conference. The schools apply for the grant and decide how to offer the grant at their school.

"Evangelism is a process of ministry that has many facets — teaching and discipling these children is one that is supported by more than five

percent of our overall evangelism budget," says Stan Patterson, vice president for pastoral ministries. "We are delighted to join with our Office of Education in this ministry that reaches out for the hearts and souls of this special group of children."

LaGrange Church district pastor Stephen Murdock preached on "The Storms of Life," and as the closing appeal was given, six youth from the school and

two adults came forward. The next week, two more students and another adult asked to be part of the group; a total of 11 requested baptism. Abbie and her mom were among this group.

During March 2007, church school students Cody Miller, Abbie Henninger, and Alex Matias, as well as Karen Henninger, were baptized. By the close of 2007, two more students had been baptized and five more are currently studying.

"That I was baptized with my mom was special," said Abbie. "Not all people are baptized with their mom. It's really amazing, and we are close." Her mom had been baptized before, but in meeting with the pastor, each decided to give her heart to God.

"Each day in Georgia-Cumberland Conference, 2,500 students receive blessings from their teach-

ers," said Cynthia Gettys, Conference vice president for education. "We are thrilled with how God is blessing the Education Evangelism Grant."

The LaGrange harvest is the result of the team ministry of Julie Hood in the school, Yvonne Eller in the Pathfinder club, Stephen Murdock at the church, and the church as a whole.

### Making the Grade

A study begun in 2005 shows that, on average, Georgia-Cumberland Conference students in grades 3-8 rank in the top one-third of all students tested. The study monitored student achievement in grades 3-8 using the Iowa Test of Basic Skills, a nationally recognized norm-reference test.

Another comparison of Georgia-Cumberland students during several school years shows students begin averaging a half-year above grade level in third grade and move to a full two-and-a-half years above grade level by the time they reached the seventh and eighth grades. This shows that although the students are above level by third grade, the longer they stay in the school system, the more advanced they become.

*Bill Reinke, Central Region education director*

# Students Are the Most Important People



BY DAVID DENTON

Martin Odella never really gave much thought to where he would go to high school. As a student at a public middle school, the natural assumption was that he would go to the local high school for ninth grade. He wasn't very excited about that idea. As a relatively recent arrival to the United States, he had heard plenty about the environment at the local high school. A year or so before leaving Uruguay to come to the United States, he and his family became members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. His experience in middle school showed him the environment of a public school could often be in conflict with his own values. The closer he came to completing eighth grade, the more anxious he got.

Manuel Ale, a teacher at Atlanta Adventist Academy (AAA), became friends with the Odellas and suggested they enroll him at Atlanta Adventist Academy. Martin was very excited at the prospect. After much planning and prayer, especially concerning the financial aspects of the decision, he enrolled at AAA and immediately began making friends among the students and faculty.

"I remember two things," Odella says of his first days on campus: "The way the buildings were laid out with doors opening to the outside was just like schools in Uruguay, and visiting and joking with the principal in his office." The openness of the teachers to the students, which makes it possible to have a friendly relationship, is one of Odella's favorite things about AAA.

"They push you more," he says. He can remember times when teachers have confronted him about

a missed assignment or work that wasn't done as well as it could have been. He knows that if he has a choice between a difficult class and an easier one, someone is going to encourage him to try the challenging subject. Of course, much of Odella's experience has been built around challenges.

"One of the hard things about being at AAA is that I have to work quite a bit to help pay for it," he says. In the past year alone, counting the summer, Odella has successfully worked at three separate jobs to help his family afford a Christian education. In the summer, he canvassed as part of the MagaBook program, the earnings from which — along with a match from AAA — made a significant impact on his school bill. During the school year, Odella works with the school's Care-Connections program, where he earns money towards his school bill by providing companionship and assistance for an elderly woman who is cared for by his mother. He also works five to eight hours a week cleaning the school for additional income to put on his bill. If you ask him if all the time and effort is worth it to be able to attend AAA, he will tell you it absolutely is. Even though he could go to a public school for free, he feels that AAA offers a "better education."

Part of that better education certainly has to do with the opportunities he has had for spiritual growth. Now in his junior year, Odella has participat-

ed in a catalogue of spiritual activities and experiences. He has gone to every prayer conference and has been involved with *AAAct for 1*, the school's drama ministry.

If you ask him what he remembers the most of all the spiritual activities he has experienced, he will not hesitate. "I really enjoyed the time we spent in Mississippi helping to clean up and distribute food and clothes and other stuff after Katrina," he said. "You could see the people coming for help and how unhappy and sad they looked, and then see them smile and have a happier look on their face as they went away with their food and clothes, and it felt good to help them."

Odella is a "people person." He loves to interact and connect with others, whether to help them or to just have fun. In fact, when asked what the single best thing about AAA was, he had no problem thinking of a reply. "The people," he said. "The people are the best thing."

*David Denton is principal at Atlanta Adventist Academy.*



*Martin Odella says that the people are the best thing about Atlanta Adventist Academy.*

# Blessed by Community and Growth

BY KAREN ROSS AND REBECCA BROOKS



*Orchestra members pause for a photo before a performance at Carnegie Hall.*

DAVE DJERNES

Although blessed by the Collegedale community and enrollment growth, Collegedale Academy's (CA) mission challenges us to persevere and not take our blessings for granted.

While we have enjoyed the distinction of being named a School of Excellence, the beneficence of a three-year-old science/technology building, and the affirmation of consistently performing above state and national ACT scores, we persevere with facility improvements, technology for instruction, and continual evaluation of test scores for curriculum performance. Parent volunteers sustain and make many projects possible, which simultaneously develops a sense of community and ownership.

Collegedale Academy encourages student participation in mis-

CA's orchestra and cross-country team epitomize our enduring purpose of nourishing Christian growth and confidence while witnessing and ministering to others.

Culminating in months of preparation and work, CA's 35-member orchestra performed in Carnegie Hall on March 26, 2008. The New York Band and Orchestra Festival invites international high school, college, and community musical groups to an adjudicated performance, of which Collegedale was the only orchestra to receive a gold rating. When asked their perceptions, students repeatedly attribute

sion trips, evangelism, and outreach, whether with the homeless in Chattanooga; disaster-traumatized in Waveland, Mississippi, or Savannah, Tennessee; impoverished in the Appalachians or Costa Rica; and the war-ravaged children in Uganda.

God, the community, and their fellow musicians with such a rewarding witnessing opportunity. "I thank God for giving us the opportunity and talent to play there," states Daniel Salazar.

Since 1995, CA's cross-country runners have witnessed to the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) about their commitment to the Sabbath when either individual runners or the entire team has withdrawn from the competition because of Saturday races. After surveying its members and dialoging with the TSSAA about the feasibility of changing to a weekday, CA's request has been granted.

Like the cross-country team, CA will persevere until we have finished the course.

*Karen Ross is the librarian at Collegedale Academy, and Rebecca Brooks is assistant communication director at Georgia-Cumberland Conference.*



REBECCA BROOKS

*Coach Ryan Perry (left), Daron Degrave, Elshell Burtus, Doug Gammenthaler, George Machoka, John Wiygul, Bryan Otis, and Patrick O'Brien won the Regional Championship in 2007.*



## An Invitation to "Come Back Home"

BY NANCY GERARD

Every academy trumpets its successes — record enrollments, full dorms, cutting-edge technology, academic achievements of graduates, spiritual victories and baptisms, and the services our alumni render to God and the Church. Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA) is truly blessed to be experiencing all of these successes.

However, every school has former students who leave with a sense of woundedness, those who "fall through the cracks" socially, some who fail academically, and others who reject their spiritual roots. What do we do about our corporate and personal shortcomings? How do we seek reconciliation with those who have been wounded?

Inspired by the words of God through the prophet Ezekiel, which read, "I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak... Ezekiel 34:16." GCA has been on a mission this year to reach out to former students.

In the fall of 2007, all alumni and attendees for whom GCA had accurate addresses were sent the book *Searching for a God to Love* by Chris Blake, along with a letter from the principal. The letter sought reconciliation and forgiveness for mistakes made by people and the institution. It implored them to read

the book and find a picture of a God Who loves them no matter what they have done or who they've become.

As plans were being made for this year's Alumni Weekend, we decided to intentionally create a warm, welcoming, inviting environment. The staff prayed that God would bring the people back to GCA who needed to hear the messages of the weekend.

versations on Coming Home: My Story, His Story, Your Story." The chaplains spoke of their own wanderings and mistakes. They presented a picture of a God Who longs for our friendship that He waits to return — just hoping and working for "one more" to come home.

The speakers stayed after the church service to pray and speak with those who wanted to talk.

While talking with one alumnus, John Strickland asked, "Where do you go to church?" She responded, "I don't go to church anymore," but then she said, "Pastor John, I'd like to come visit your church."

Another alumnus told a friend, "I drove all the way home from GCA in silence. I wanted to reflect." He asked, "How can I get a copy of that sermon? I'd really

like...no, I really NEED...to hear it again."

GCA may not know the final outcome of the book mailing or of Alumni Weekend until we get to Heaven. Until then we will continue to pray that God will fulfill His promise to "search for the lost and bring back the strays...bind up the injured and strengthen the weak..."

*Nancy Gerard is the director of development and alumni relations at Georgia-Cumberland Academy.*



*Volunteers gathered to pray before the books were mailed out to alumni.*

The Friday evening Vespers program, presented by the class of 2003, provided an energetic and inspired version of the story of Jacob and Esau, called "The Reunion," that left attendees with this message from God — "No matter what you've done, no matter who you've become, I love you! Come back home!"

Former chaplains John Strickland, Roger Bothwell, and LeClare Litchfield, were asked to share the Sabbath morning message. Their three-part sermon was entitled "Con-

DOUG NESMITH

# On the *EDGE*

BY ELIZABETH LONG

What is Adventist EDGE? Adventist EDGE is **E**ducators **D**elivering **G**R**E**AT **E**ducation through **G**od-centered teaching, with **R**esults oriented in an **E**nvironment that nurtures, **A**ligned with *Journey to Excellence*, and a **T**eam effort. What does that mean? It means students are receiving a quality education where school subjects are taught, along with basic values they will carry for the rest of their lives. This is done by a dedicated teaching staff, whether in a one-teacher school or a large multi-teacher facility.

Christian education is important to the Adventist Church because the students of today are the future Church leaders of tomorrow. What makes Gulf States Conference schools

Adventist EDGE schools? Part of the reason is the quality education, in a Christ-centered atmosphere where students receive the necessary academics to succeed scholastically, and instruction that reflects the philosophy and standards of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to develop a strong base for Adventism.

Opportunities are provided for students to witness. One example is the education mission trip 13 students and seven adults took during spring break to Nicaragua. They helped with building projects at the Fuente de Vida (Fountain of Life) children's orphanage. Their time was spent hauling dirt into houses for flooring to be laid over, and everything had to be accomplished by hand. About 520

work hours were provided for the building where 31 children, most of them victims of the 1998 mudslides, reside.

Excellent academics are evident by the standardized test scores. Teachers provide instruction at the students' level. This builds a framework for students to learn in a progressive manner. Teachers take classes, attend seminars, workshops, and staff development sessions to support their teaching.

Teachers integrate spiritual values into the class curriculum. Bible verses are used as part

of reading and language arts. Discussions during Bible class involve Adventist worldview perspectives, personal values, and spiritual growth.

Students share their talents with the local churches, which helps them become a vital part of the church community. Church members pray for the school, teachers, and students. Often individuals in the church assist with tuition for the students for families with financial challenges.

At the annual education fair, students participate in events such as geography, spelling, math bees, orations, science, and art projects. The education fair, the outdoor school, and a variety of field trips take them out of the classroom and into a different learning environment.

Home-schooled children are invited to many of the activities conducted through the school. Montgomery First Seventh-day Adventist School was the first school to umbrella a home school in Alabama. This makes a win-win situation for the students and the school.

When students in Gulf States are surveyed, they express thankfulness for peaceful, safe-learning environments and Christian teachers. The Office of Education is also thankful for the dedicated individuals who believe the 180 days a child is in school is an evangelistic opportunity for reaching students, their parents, and the community.

*Elizabeth Long is the administrative professional for the Office of Education.*



*One project at the orphanage was to group rebar together by hand for the footers and columns of the maintenance building, in preparation for pouring of the cement.*



# Creating Well-rounded Young Adults

BY KIM TWOMLEY

When Luke gives us a rare glimpse of Jesus' childhood, he tells us that Jesus developed intellectually, physically, spiritually, and socially. In other words, He was a whole, well-rounded person. At Bass Memorial Academy (BMA), we use this exact pattern to help students develop into balanced, well-rounded young adults.

these students have a jump start on their freshman year of college, but the monetary savings are also significant.

Another exciting development is our new English Learning Lab or ELL class. Through a grant, the school has developed this program to reinforce English language skills for students who struggle in this area and for those whose primary language is something other than English. The lab is interdisciplinary: reading and vocabulary skills are reinforced for history, science, and other disciplines, as well as English.

Physical fitness is a fun and healthy component of any curriculum. If playing is good, why not play twice as much? The necessity to rebuild after

Hurricane Katrina presented the perfect opportunity for doing just that. Although the footprint of the gymnasium remained the same, builders were able to reconfigure the floor space and double the amount of playing area. The extra practice room apparently paid off: the girls'

varsity basketball team placed second at the annual basketball tournament this winter.

This year, two exciting things happened with the students' spiritual education. First is the church plant project in Wiggins, Mississippi, led by English teacher Drew Rester. The town of approximately 4,000 is about 25 miles south of BMA and had never had an Adventist presence. The students have been fundamentally involved in every aspect of the church plant, from strategizing to implementation. The result is a full-fledged church company in downtown Wiggins, complete with church building and an average weekly attendance of 40 people.

The second important development is a homiletics class. Students who are interested in learning to share their faith in a formal forum have been working with Jeff Marshall, the boys' assistant dean, to develop sermon topics and practice their public speaking skills. When they are ready, these students participate in a church outreach program by providing the church service, including the sermon, at one of Gulf States Conference's constituent churches.

Combine all these aspects of life at Bass with the busy social agenda the Student Association schedules for everyone, and the results are enlightened, healthy, grounded, dynamic young adults.

*Kim Twomley is in recruiting and development at Bass Memorial Academy.*



*Martin Shaw, senior, plays varsity basketball point guard.*

To fulfill this objective, BMA is expanding its list of college class offerings for the upcoming 2008-2009 school year. Eligible seniors may participate in dual enrollment classes which will satisfy their senior year requirements while simultaneously earning college credit. Not only do

# There is a Difference

BY LARRY W. BOUGHMAN



*Ridgetop Adventist Elementary is on track to becoming an EDGE School of Excellence.*

Adventist education is more than reading, writing, math, and computer classes. Every day Adventist teachers have worship and prayer with their students. During worship the teachers ask students if they have special requests for prayer, and most students will ask their classmates to pray for someone in their family.

Every Adventist school provides opportunities for students to experience selfless service for others, namely through community outreach, mission trips, or visits to nursing homes.

Never before in the history of Adventist education has there been such support from the North American Division, the Southern Union, and the Kentucky-Tennessee Confer-

ence to provide quality training and support for our teachers. Our goal is to provide the best education possible.

Never before in the history of Adventist education have we had so many parents involved in supporting our schools and giving leadership as they serve on school boards and as volunteers. It is truly a team effort.

Our schools are in the process of moving from good

to GREAT. Change is hard and takes time, but **it is happening**, and it is because we realize, as a team, that we are preparing our children not only for this world, but also for the world to come.

We are living in very trying times, with more temptations facing our young people than ever before. We must provide them with a safe, caring, and nurturing environment to learn and grow.

Our schools do make a difference. Here is a testimony from Tom Day, a parent who was not able to attend Adventist schools, but made sure his children had the opportunity. “With teen years upon us for our daughters, Rachel and Rose, it was time for a special talk. It would bring up some hard memories from

my past, because junior high school had been a difficult time for me. I remembered smoke-filled restrooms, nasty language, and crude behavior of classmates. It made me cringe to think my children could have some of the same trials.

“Our children attended school at Ridgetop Adventist Elementary. I knew we had avoided some of the obvious trials I had faced in public school — Sabbath conflict and drug abuse. There was still peer pressure, and I could still remember some of those crude comments made by classmates and how it could hurt.

“Painfully, I began my conversation, leaving out some of the worst moments, focusing on how peer pressure did not determine our selfworth, but God did. My girls listened intently as I covered what was on my heart. Rachel, our oldest, broke the silence when I finished and said words I will always treasure. ‘Daddy, that must have been very tough, but I have never experienced anything like that.’ My goal was realized by sending our children to SDA schools.

“It was a praise moment for my family. We thanked God for the dedicated teachers and great fellow students that our family knew and loved.”

Our school system is a blessing, and we need to take advantage of working together through the home, Church, and school.

*Larry W. Boughman is the superintendent of schools at the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.*

# Part of God's Divine Plan

BY STEVE BAUGHMAN

The birds are singing, the daffodils are dotting the lawn, and the weather is warming — spring has come to Highland Academy. It's amazing how quickly a year can go by! It seems like only yesterday that the faces of students new and old were swarming over campus, excited with what the new school year held in store for them. Now those same faces are eager with the anticipation of the coming summer and the relaxation that comes with it.

There is a lot that takes place during the course of a school year. Sometimes it seems that there is, in fact, too much to fit into one 10-month span. Our seemingly indestructible bus has carried Highland students up and down the eastern half of the United States; traversing more miles and consuming more gallons of diesel than one likes to think about. Our Highland Gymnix have dazzled audiences throughout the southern United States, while our bells, band, and choir groups have toured and performed throughout the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

Of course the busyness of a school year consists of more than just touring groups. The classes at Highland have been in full swing since day one. Fully embracing the Adventist EDGE and striving to stress not only rigor but also relevance, the teachers at Highland have been crafting lesson plans and classroom

experiences that will hopefully instill in our students the sense of lifelong learning for which our school strives. Whether cooking Greek cuisine in world history or building bridges in physics, our students are getting the chance to learn about the world in which we live in practical and meaningful ways.



*The sophomore class reenacts the "Battle of Marathon" in Randy Bishop's integrated world history/English II class.*

The most important element of the Highland experience, however, isn't necessarily achieved through the tours, the performances, or even the classes. More than any other single skill, we long for our students to come away with a sense that they better understand the true love and joy that can be experienced in living a life in Christ. We want students at Highland to recognize that it is God's given talents that enable us to perform the musical numbers and the gymnastics routines, and as such should be done to His honor and glory. The teachers strive to show that, through every aspect of the hu-

man experience, it is ultimately God's divine plan that ties together every fact and event that is studied in any given class.

At Highland we stress the importance of service to others, whether through community outreach days spent helping our neighbors, or building churches and classrooms

for underdeveloped countries. Every student who spends time at Highland is given the opportunity to not only learn about the wondrous love of God and what His ultimate sacrifice means for them, but also has a chance to share that love with others.

As the school year draws to a close, it is all too easy to forget about everything that has been done during

the past several months. It is important to pause and reflect on the wonderful experiences God has provided for us, and the countless blessings He has bestowed on our campus this past year. Only, rather than growing complacent with reflections on the past, I am already excited and stirred about what God has planned for next school year here at Highland.

If you would like more information about everything going on at Highland or would like to join us next school year, please visit: [www.highland-academy.com](http://www.highland-academy.com).

*Steve Baughman teaches English and American history at Highland Academy.*

# Serving With a Mission

BY ROBERT STEVENSON

Madison Academy chose to take on an ambitious mission trip this year. Typically mission trips involve going to a different country and taking on a building project. This year Madison chose to take on both an ambitious building project and an international choir tour to Argentina.

After leaving from the Nashville International airport, with a layover in Dallas and then landing in Buenos Aires, the two groups spent one day sightseeing and then split up. The mission trip headed out on a six-hour drive to River Plate College, and the choir headed to local church members homes to rest before a rigorous tour schedule.

During the next week, while the building crew worked near River Plate College, the choir sang in Adventist churches and in large performing halls to the general public. Both groups made huge impacts in the communities they served.



*Madison Academy students enjoy a photo break during one of their visits in Argentina.*

As the building crew worked, the local people came by to watch in awe as they hustled to see how much they could accomplish in the time they had. They completed the first floor of a church building in one week, using up all the bricks provided and leaving the building ready for the second phase of construction. With 22 students and six adults, the construction crew distinguished themselves not only for what they were able to accomplish, but also for how well they behaved.

The choir performed in Buenos Aires, Cordova, and at River Plate

College. With few exceptions they performed at packed venues and thrilled audiences wherever they sang. The students, parents, and sponsors enjoyed the celebrity status they were given wherever they traveled. The conductor, Waldemar Wensell, is a native to Argentina, and his former students organized much of

the tour. The choir performed three or four times a day and traveled at night between cities to maximize its performing times.

By the end of the week, all of the students and sponsors were ready to sleep in their own beds, and many were craving Taco Bell. Everyone arrived home safely with memories that will last a lifetime and experiences that will never be equaled. We all praise God for His blessing on a very successful experience, and for the opportunity to serve Him.

*Robert Stevenson is the principal at Madison Academy.*

# Schools Making a *Difference*

BY SHIRLEY JOHNSON  
AND HENRIETTA BISHOP

South Atlantic Conference operates 20 elementary schools in Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. All are involved in the ongoing journey to develop exemplary schools where learning will be maximized. Since its inception, Adventist education has been founded upon biblical principles which are integrated throughout the curriculum. In fostering this ideal, the Adventist EDGE initiative seeks to help students develop and maintain a personal relationship with Jesus through Christ-centered teaching, faith-building experiences, and opportunities to joyfully minister to others at home and abroad.

We salute all of our schools for their diligence and hard work in accepting this challenge, and would like to share how three schools are embracing this concept.

## Jack Hanna School

Jack Hanna School in Florence, South Carolina, is fortunate to be in a location that is supportive and involved, financially and manually. At least five or more volunteers come consistently to work with students who need extra help. In addition, the school was awarded the Goody's Volunteer Grant which also provides a volunteer to assist with the kindergarten program.

The principal, Doris Hanna-Jones, who is trained in special education, networks with the Title One and After School Plus programs. This associa-



*Students at the newly opened Atlanta Adventist International School enjoy using the computers as a part of their learning experience.*

tion offers materials, teacher-training, and Title One funds to provide services for qualifying students, and thereby enhances the overall school program. Jones assists the Office of Education by preparing packets of information to share with Conference schools. She also conducts seminars or workshops to help teachers plan instruction for exceptional students.

## Berean Junior Academy, Gethsemane Seventh-day Adventist School

The next scenario gives a view of what can happen when mission-minded teachers, administrators, parents, and students collaborate to aid students in creating their own visions of how they can make the world a better place.

Two principals, Henrietta Bishop and Equilla Wright, teamed up to plan a mission trip to Panama. Soon the schools enthusiastically began to make preparations, and raised more than \$2,000 collectively for the

projects. The group, including nine sixth through eighth graders from Charlotte-Berean Junior Academy and Raleigh-Gethsemane Seventh-day Adventist School, along with parents, a contractor, a plumber, and a nurse, traveled to Panama on April 18, 2007.

The projects included putting up a much-needed fence

around the Adventist school, Escuela De Ciudad Radial; installing lights in the computer lab; repairing electrical fixtures; and contributing financially to other projects and educational supplies.

Wright taught classes in Bible with the aid of an interpreter. The visiting students shared by teaching their new friends many of the songs which they sing for worship. They also attended the local church and presented gifts to the senior citizens there.

In spite of the busy schedule, the participants were able to visit the Panama Canal and other historic sites while in Panama. When the trip ended the attendees were no longer passive listeners of missionary stories — they themselves were now missionaries, with a fresh understanding of what the term implies. One parent testified, "It helped change my child's life and helped her to refocus her goals in life."

The trip made such a profound impact that the planners want to conduct the event every two years.

# School Directory

Your Guide to Schools in the Southern Union



*Adventist schools meet the needs of the entire child in a safe and nurturing environment, providing critical, values-based character education.*

## CAROLINA CONFERENCE

### ACADEMY (GRADES 9–12)

Mt. Pisgah Academy/Candler, NC,  
828.667.2535

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK–8)

Adventist Christian Acad./Charlotte, NC,  
704.366.4351  
Adventist Christian Acad./Raleigh, NC,  
919.233.1300  
Asheville-Pisgah School/Candler, NC,  
828.667.3255  
Beaufort SDA School/Beaufort, SC,  
843.846.1395  
Brookhaven SDA School/Winterville, NC,  
252.756.5777  
Camden Adventist School/Camden, SC,  
803.432.0541  
Charleston SDA School/Charleston, SC,  
843.571.7519

Columbia Adventist Acad./Lexington, SC,  
803.796.0277  
Crossroads Adv. School/Statesville, NC,  
704.878.2070  
Eddlemon Adv. School/Spartanburg, SC,  
864.576.2234  
Elizabeth City School/Elizabeth, City, NC,  
252.335.0343  
Fayetteville Adv. Christian/Fayetteville, NC,  
910.484.6091  
Five Oaks Adv. Christian/Durham, NC,  
919.493.5555  
Florence Adv. School/Florence, SC,  
843.669.9858  
Greater Charlotte Christian/Charlotte, NC,

704.531.9230  
Greenville SDA School/Greenville, SC,  
864.232.8885  
High Country Christian/Banner Elk, NC,  
828.898.3677  
Johnston, William SDA/Hickory, NC,  
828.837.4005  
Myrtle Beach SDA School/Myrtle Bch, SC,  
843.449.9150  
Poplar Springs SDA/Westminster, SC,  
864.638.5963  
Salisbury Adventist School/Salisbury, NC,  
704.633.1282  
Silver Creek Adventist/Morganton, NC,  
828.584.3010

*The Adventist EDGE, the school improvement initiative in the Southern Union, is the only such program of all the unions throughout the North American Division.*

*A total of 20% of teachers  
in our Union are certified  
4-MAT trainers.*

Tri-City Junior Academy/High Pint, NC,  
336.665.9822  
Tryon SDA School/Lynn, NC,  
828.859.6889  
Wilmington SDA School/Wilmington, NC,  
910.762.4224

## FLORIDA CONFERENCE

### ACADEMIES (GRADES 9–12)

Forest Lake Academy/Apopka, FL,  
407.862.8411  
Greater Miami Academy/Miami, FL,  
305.220.5955

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK–8)

Beryl Wisdom Adventist School/Orlando,  
FL, 407.291.3073  
Bright Horizons Christian Acad./Grove-  
land, FL, 352.429.8059  
Cocoa Adventist School/Cocoa, FL,  
321.636.2551  
Deltona Adventist School/Dade City, FL,  
386.532.9333  
Forest City Adv. School/Altamonte  
Springs, FL, 407.299.0703  
Forest Lake Education Center/Longwood,  
FL, 407.862.7688  
Gold Coast Jr. Academy/Boynton, Beach,  
FL, 561.364.7388  
Gulfcoast Adventist School/St. Peters-  
burg, FL, 727.346.2141  
Heritage Jr. Academy/Ocala, FL,  
352.236.2420  
Indigo Christian Jr. Acad. /Daytona Beach,  
FL, 386.255.5917  
Jacksonville Adv. Acad. /Jacksonville, FL,  
904.268.2433  
James E. Sampson Memorial/Ft. Pierce,  
FL, 772.465.8386  
Life-Changing Christian Acad. /Mt. Dora,  
FL 352.383.9920

*There are 2,502  
pre-school and 11,636  
school-aged children  
attending Adventist schools in  
the Southern Union.*

Melbourne-Palm Bay SDA School/Mel-  
bourne, FL, 321.727.8877  
Miami Springs Adv. School/Miami Springs,  
FL, 305.888.2244  
Naples SDA Christian School/Naples, FL,  
239.597.2033  
New Port Richey Adv./New Port Richey,  
FL, 727.842.8919  
N. Florida SDA Elem. School/High  
Springs, FL, 386.454.2777  
Okeechobee Adv. Christian/Okeechobee,  
FL, 352.236.2420

Orlando Jr. Academy, Orlando,  
FL/407.898.1251  
Osceola Adv. Christian School/Kissim-  
mee, FL, 407.348.2226  
Port Charlotte Adv. School/Port Charlotte,  
FL, 941.625.5237  
Sawgrass Adventist School/Plantation, FL,  
954.473.4622  
Tampa Adventist Academy/Tampa, FL,  
813.228.7950  
University SDA Church School/Orlando,  
FL, 407.657.6904  
Venice SDA Elementary School/Venice,  
FL, 941.493.0997  
Walker Memorial Jr. Acad./Avon Park, FL,  
863.453.3131  
W. Coast Christian Acad. /Bradenton, FL,  
941.755.9667  
W. Palm Beach Jr. Acad./W. Palm Bch, FL,  
561.689.9575  
William A. Kirlew Jr. Acad./Opa Locka, FL,  
305.474.4760  
Winter Haven Adv. Acad./Winter Haven,  
FL, 863.299.7984  
ZL Sung SDA School/Gainesville, FL,  
352.376.6040

## GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE

### ACADEMIES (GRADES 9–12)

Atlanta Adventist Academy/Duluth, GA,  
404.699.1400  
Collegedale Academy/Collegedale, TN,  
423.396.2124  
Georgia-Cumberland Acad./Calhoun, GA,  
706.629.4591

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK–8)

A.W. Spalding SDA School/Collegedale,  
TN, 423.396.2122  
Augusta SDA School/Augusta, GA,  
706.651.0491  
Becker Adventist School/Atlanta, GA,  
404.299.1131  
Carman Adventist School/Marietta, GA,  
770.424.0606  
Coble Elementary School/Calhoun, GA,  
423.336.5052  
Columbus, SDA School/Columbus, GA,

706.561.7601  
Cookeville Christian Elem./Cookeville, TN,  
931.537.3561  
Cumberland Heights SDA/Coalmont, TN,  
931.692.3982  
Douglasville SDA School/Douglasville,  
GA, 770.949.6734  
Duluth Jr. Academy/Duluth, GA,  
770.497.8607  
Dunlap Adventist School/Dunlap, TN,  
423.949.2920

*The Southern Union has  
witnessed 6,704 students  
baptized in the last  
five years.*

Faulkner Springs Christian/McMinnville,  
TN, 931.668.4092  
Greenville Adventist Academy/Greenev-  
ille, TN, 423.639.2011  
Inez Wrenn SDA School/Crossville, TN,  
931.484.3150  
Jasper Adventist Christian School/Jasper,  
TN, 423.942.1819  
Jellico SDA School/Jellico, TN,  
423.784.9355  
Josephine Edwards Christian/Elijay, GA,  
706.635.2644  
Knoxville Adventist School/Knoxville, TN,  
865.522.9929  
LaGrange SDA School/LaGrange, GA,  
706.884.8572  
Lakeland Adventist School/Lakeland, GA,  
229.482.2418

*Students in Adventist academies are 50% more likely to take advanced placement, honor, or dual-enrollment college classes in science and math than public school students.*

Learning Tree Elem. School/Dalton, GA, 706.278.2736  
 Lester Coon Apison SDA/Apison, TN, 423.236.4926  
 Maryville SDA School/Maryville, TN, 865.982.7584  
 Meister Mem. SDA School/Deer Lodge, TN, 931.863.4944  
 Misty Meadows SDA/Ringgold, GA, 706.937.9923

*Students in Seventh-day Adventist schools score above the national average in reading, math, and language arts.*

Morristown SDA School/Morristown, TN, 423.586.4198  
 Murphy Adventist School/Murphy, NC, 828.837.5857  
 Oglethorpe SDA School, Oglethorpe, GA, 478.472.2388  
 Ooltewah Adventist School/Ooltewah, TN, 423.238.4449  
 Pikeville SDA School/Pikeville, TN, 423.447.3026  
 Savannah Adv. Christian/Savannah, GA 912.748.5977  
 Shoal Creek Adventis/Sharpsburg, GA, 770.251.1464  
 Standifer Gap SDA School/Chattanooga, TN, 423.892.6013  
 Tri-City SDA School/Gray, TN, 423.477.4600  
 Wildwood Adventist Elem/Wildwood, GA, 706.820.1493  
 Wimbish Adventist School/Macon, GA, 478.477.4600

## **GULF STATES CONFERENCE**

**ACADEMIES (GRADES 9–12)**  
 Bass Memorial Academy/Lumberton, MS, 601.794.8867

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK–8)**  
 Bass Christian Elementary/Lumberton, MS, 601.794.8867  
 Big Cove Christian Acad./Owens Cross Road, AL, 256.518.9642  
 College Drive SDA School/Pearl, MS, 601.664.1408  
 Corinth Adventist School/Glen, MS, 662.286.3600  
 Emerald Coast Christian/Ft. Walton Beach, FL, 850.243.1910  
 Emmaus Christian School/Columbus, MS, 662.241.7264  
 Floral Crest SDA School/ Bryant, AL, 256.597.2582  
 Gulf Coast SDA School/Biloxi, MS, 228.392.5727  
 Hoover Christian School/Hoover, AL, 205.987.3376  
 Marianna SDA School/Marianna, FL, 850.482.2659  
 Mobile Jr. Academy/Mobile, AL, 251.633.8638

Montgomery SDA School/Montgomery, AL, 334.272.6437  
 Mountain View Adv. Academy/Pell City, AL, 205.640.5951  
 Panama City Adventist School/Panama City, FL, 850.769.3405  
 Pensacola SDA Jr. Academy/Pensacola, FL, 850.478.8838

## **KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE**

**ACADEMIES (GRADES 9–12)**  
 Highland Academy/Portland, TN, 615.325.2036  
 Madison Academy/Madison, TN, 615.865.4055

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK–8)**  
 Bill Egly Elementary School/Lawrenceburg, TN, 931.762.6279  
 Centerville Elementary School/Centerville, TN, 931.729.9856  
 Columbia SDA Elementary/Columbia, KY, 270.384.6798  
 Covington Christian

Academy/Taylor Mill, KY, 859.431.9933  
 Dickson Adventist Elementary/Dickson, TN, 615.446.7030  
 Highland Elementary School/Portland, TN, 615.325.3184  
 Hines Memorial Elem. School/Jackson, TN, 731.427.0012  
 Lexington Jr. Academy/Lexington, KY, 859.278.0295  
 Louisville Jr. Academy/Louisville, KY, 502.452.2965  
 Madison Elementary School/Madison, TN, 615.865.4575  
 Manchester SDA Elem./Manchester, KY, 606.598.5427  
 Memphis Jr. Academy/Memphis, TN, 901.683.1061  
 Pewee Valley Jr. Acad./Pewee Valley, KY, 502.241.4354  
 Ridgetop Adventist Elem./Ridgetop, TN, 615.859.0259  
 Tullahoma SDA Elem./Tullahoma, TN, 931.455.1924  
 Woodbury SDA School/Woodbury, TN, 615.765.5330

## **SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE**

**ACADEMY (GRADES 9–12)**  
 Greater Atlanta Adv. Acad./Atlanta, GA, 404.799.0337

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK–8)**  
 Abney Chapel/Fayetteville, NC, 910.488.7525  
 Baldwin Chapel School/High Point, NC, 336.889.7930  
 Berea Jr. Academy/Sumter, SC, 803.469.6580





Berean Christian Jr. Acad. /Atlanta, GA,  
404.799.0337  
Berean Jr. Academy/Charlotte, NC,  
704.391.7800  
Bethany Jr. Academy/Macon, GA  
478.746.7499  
Carolina Adventist Acad./Whiteville, NC,  
910.640.0855  
Decatur Adv. Jr. Acad/ Stone Mountain,  
GA, 770.08.2188  
Emanuel SDA Jr. Academy/Albany, GA,  
229.420.9823

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK-8)**  
Alcy SDA School/Memphis, TN,  
901.775.3960  
Avondale SDA School/Chattanooga,  
TN, 423.698.5028  
Bethany Christian Acad./Montgomery,  
AL, 334.264.2101  
E.E. Rogers SDA School/Jackson,  
MS, 601.981.2648  
Emma L. Minnis Jr. Acad./Louisville,  
KY, 502.774.2108  
Emmanuel SDA School/Mobile, AL,  
251.478.1140  
Ephesus Jr. Acad-  
emy/Birmingham, AL,  
205.786.2194  
F.H. Jenkins School/  
Nashville, TN,  
615.227.8992  
Oakwood Elem. School/

*More than 85% of Adventist  
academy graduates in the  
Southern Union attend  
college, as compared to 66%  
of public school graduates.*

FL, 321.733.4551  
Palm Beach SDA Bilingual School, Rivi-  
era Beach, FL, 561.881.0130  
Perrine SDA School, Miami, FL,  
786.228.9549  
Shiloh SDA School, Ocala, FL,  
352.629.6857  
SEC Innovative Program, Mt. Dora, FL,  
352.735.3142

*Children who graduate from Adventist  
schools and remain in the Church throughout  
their adulthood number approximately 70%.*

Ephesus Jr. Academy/Wilmington, NC,  
910.762.9989  
Ephesus Jr. Academy/Winston-Salem,  
NC, 336.724.3046  
Gethsemane SDA School/Raleigh, NC,  
919.833.1844  
Lithonia Adventist Academy/Lithonia, GA,  
770.482.0294  
Napoleon B. Smith Acad./Greensboro,  
NC, 336.273.0054  
Oakland Avenue School/Florence, SC,  
843.669.8402  
Ramah Jr. Academy/Savannah, GA,  
912.233.3101  
Smithfield SDA School/Smithfield, NC,  
919.934.8313  
Vanard Mendinghall Acad/Orangeburg,  
SC, 803.535.3737

Huntsville, AL, 256.726.8358  
University Elem. School/Knoxville, TN,  
865.524.1424

## **SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE**

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (PREK-8)**  
Broward Jr. Academy, Plantation, FL,  
954.316.8301  
Daughter of Zion Jr. Academy, Delray  
Beach, FL, 561.243.0715  
Elim Jr. Academy, St. Petersburg, FL,  
727.327.8651  
Ephesus Jr. Academy, Jacksonville, FL,  
904.765.3225  
Ephesus Jr. Academy, West Palm Beach,  
FL, 561.832.9789  
Miami Union Academy, N. Miami, FL,  
305.953.9907  
Mt. Calvary SDA School, Tampa, FL,  
813.238.0433  
Mt. Olivet SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, FL,  
954.792.6010  
Mt. Sinai Jr. Acad-  
emy, Orlando, FL,  
407.298.7871  
New Hope  
SDA School,  
Ft. Lauderdale,  
FL 954.587.3842  
Palm Bay SDA  
School, Palm Bay,

## **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

Florida Hospital College of Health Sci-  
ences/Orlando, FL 407.303.7747  
Oakwood University/Huntsville, AL,  
256.726.7000  
Southern Adventist University/  
Collegedale, TN, 423.236.2765

Self-supporting and home-operated  
Seventh-day Adventist schools, although  
presumably confirming to the same guide-  
lines, are not included in the above list.

*The Southern Union is  
home to 92 pre-K facilities,  
187 elementary schools,  
16 academies, 1 college,  
and 2 universities.*

## **SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE**

**ACADEMY (GRADES 9-12)**  
Oakwood Adventist Acad./Huntsville, AL,  
256.726.7010

*More than 80% of graduates from  
Adventist high schools successfully  
complete college degrees, compared to  
only 14% of public  
high school graduates.*

## **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in all of its church schools, admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools, and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or local programs, and extracurricular programs.



# A Complete Package for Learning

BY CHRISTOPHER COKE

Education at Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA) is three-fold in nature. The school is proud of its academic excellence, its Christian learning environment, and the wide array of extra-curricular activities it offers to satisfy the social needs of each student.

The curriculum at GAAA encompasses mastery of the sciences, mathematics, language arts, foreign languages, and general studies, preparing the student for advanced or college preparatory placement.

Learning occurs in a Christian environment, fostered by caring teachers and counselors. A school week infuses chapel, classroom worship, and open prayer during customary school activities. These activities enhance and stimulate the spiritual growth of the students.

In addition to academics, numerous elective courses are also offered. Band, GAAA Concert Choir, auto mechanics, drama, hand bells, home

economics, basketball, Chess Club, 4-H Club, newspaper, and cosmetology are the main extra-curricular activities GAAA offers.

This school year, Helene Harris, GAAA's guidance counselor, was instrumental in implementing a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program through Job Corp. Nine seniors receive a monthly stipend for participating in the program, and help will be provided for employment once they have passed the state exam. They are happy to acquire skills that will give them employment during the summer and when they go on to college.



*Danielle Byrd instructs students in the anatomy-physiology lab during a dissecting activity.*

inch, wide screen, high definition, flat screen panels. This will allow additional courses to be taught in the areas of web page design and video editing. Orlando King, GAAA principal, was instrumental in facilitating this much needed improvement to help keep students abreast with the age of technological advancements.

These and other facets of GAAA makes the program a complete package and allows students to learn on a three-dimensional level, catering to the mental, spiritual, and social aspect of learning — as a graduating senior and editor of the school newspaper — I believe this is what gives our school an EDGE.

*Christopher Coke is a senior at GAAA and editor of the school newspaper.*



*Nine students are participating in the Certified Nursing Assistant program this year.*

The recent computer lab upgrade has brought a new technology dimension. The lab has been outfitted with computers with Pentium quad processors and running Vistas Ultimate, as well as 22-

# Experiencing God's Blessings

South Central Conference Education Department covers Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee. We have 10 schools, with an enrollment of approximately 670 students. Each of our schools follows the Southern Union initiatives, which include extracurricular involvement in global missions both locally and abroad. All schools are experiencing God's blessings and successes, and two are featured in this article.

## Avondale's Band Praises God

Avondale is a traditional, small Adventist elementary school located in the rolling hills of Chattanooga, Tennessee. As we began the 2007–2008 academic year, we incorporated into our curriculum *Gardener's Multiple Intelligences* educational teaching strategy. With this method, we stepped out in faith and purchased enough band instruments for the third through eighth grade students. Being a small school, we lacked the finances necessary to fund this project. However, today Avondale owns all of the instruments that our students use. We also use them when we minister to our three constituent churches: Orchard Park, New Life, and Real Truth Seventh-day Adventist churches.

We are thankful for our band instructors who accepted the challenge of teaching our students. Many students had never played an instrument, but are now able to read music and play extensively through various genres of music. Cleveland Hobdy, pastor of New Life Church; Cheryl Forester; and Becky Reynolds donate their time weekly to assist our stu-

dents in the development of a skill that will benefit others for a lifetime. We are thankful that we serve a God who owns the cattle on a thousand hills and takes time to make sure that His children enjoy the benefits of His wealth.

*Renee Whiting is the principal at Avondale Adventist School.*

## Bethany Hosts Living Legends

The Golden Eagles — students, administration, faculty, and staff — of Bethany Christian Academy in Montgomery, Alabama, were proud to host an impressive array of resource speakers as they studied civil rights history and women in history. Among the inspiring guests were living legends Johnnie R. Carr and Ertha Pascal Trouillot. Their presentations led students and adults on an enhanced educational journey of historical proportion.

Johnnie R. Carr, a 97-year-old civil rights icon inspired and motivated faculty, students, parents and community guests as she shared her courageous experiences as a co-laborer with Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks. The Bethany Golden Eagles experienced the timely blessing of

her visit just two weeks prior to her passing.

Ertha Pascal Trouillot, a former president of Haiti, intrigued and mesmerized the Bethany Golden Eagles with her own inspiring journey from lawyer to Supreme Court judge to president. Trouillot shared her life sketch in French as her daughter, C. Yantha Corbier, translated. History, geography, and culture were creatively integrated in a lesson that truly epitomized the Adventist EDGE (Educators Delivering GREAT Education) concept.

Bethany Golden Eagles were enriched spiritually, academically, and culturally as history was personified, and these experiences were recorded as lifelong memories.

*Reggenia Baskin teaches the fourth grade class at Bethany Christian Academy.*



*Ertha Pascal Trouillot (front row, right), former Haitian president, shared her life sketch in French as her daughter, C. Yantha Corbier (front row, left), translated. Also pictured here are the fourth grade Golden Eagles with Reggenia Baskin (rear).*

# CONTINUING THE VISION

BY OLIVIA BEVERLY AND  
DELMA HARVEY

Nestled on the perimeter of the campus of Oakwood University, Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA) has been an institution fostering academic excellence for many, many years. Established in 1945 as a laboratory school for the College of Education, the K-12 Academy still serves as a major training institution for the Education Department, as well as other departments at Oakwood University.

Each year OAA serves more than 150 Oakwood University students from all over the United States and abroad, including students from the College of Education, as well as the Nursing, Psychology, Mathematics, and Theology departments, for their observation and student teaching experiences.

During the years, some students have returned to teach at OAA. Others have reached academic heights of monumental proportions and are now working in a myriad of careers. An added significant benefit for the Academy has been the opportunity to collaborate with faculty of the various departments from the University.

Academy students participate in numerous learning experiences, both in and out of the classroom. In keeping with our mission to provide a spiritual, academic, so-

cial, and physical environment that “Develops, Nurtures, and Affirms” (DNA) students for an eternity of service to God and a lifetime of service to humanity, OAA continues to press forward in providing a rigorous academic and extracurricular program of study.

The 2007-2008 school year has been a spiritually rewarding and reflective year. This year students from OAA attended four Bible conferences, participated in and

the school by performing regularly at area constituent churches, under the direction of Philip Williams.

Our vocational Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program celebrated its third year of providing invaluable technical training for our students through the guidance of Aline Dormer, a retired professor from Oakwood University. We have expanded the nursing program to include members from the Huntsville community. The CNA training

provides the opportunity for both OAA and community students to become certified by the state of Alabama and work in nursing homes, hospitals, and other healthcare-related facilities.

To continue the vision set forth by our founders, OAA is finally embarking upon the building of a new K-12 facility. The new state-

of-the-art academy will help us enrich our curriculum with some of the basic components set forth and E.G. White by allow us to provide a learning environment that emphasizes hands-on learning experiences. We look forward to continuing on the upward path of educating our students for eternity — not just the here and now.

*Olivia Beverly is the K-12 head principal at Oakwood Adventist Academy, and Delma Harvey is the K-8 principal.*



*Oakwood Elementary orchestra*

conducted three weeks of prayer, celebrated their Adventist heritage, participated in numerous constituent church programs, and traveled to several churches outside of South Central Conference to participate in educational programs. The Academy Choir alone has not only traveled to Southern Adventist University; Columbus, Ohio; and Knoxville, Tennessee; but has also participated in several choir festivals and competitions. The Academy Choir also represents

# Education *Leads* to Redemption

BY CAROL BYRD

The Southeastern Conference Office of Education is working with our churches to promote the advantages of Christian education for girls and boys in the Conference. Southeastern has witnessed a tremendous increase in enrollment in all 15 of its schools. One school is a full-time academy, three are junior academies, and 11 are elementary schools. There are 83 teachers serving 1,095 students. In addition, Southeastern operates 12 early childhood education centers with a total enrollment of 380 children.

The Office of Education strives to offer the best education to all students. The Adventist EDGE concept, “Educators Delivering GREAT Education,” is always stressed and upheld. Professional development presentations have been selected to meet the needs of educational personnel at Conference and school in-services. The students’ individual needs are met with trained and qualified personnel who are able to anchor the students in a relationship with God first, and then prepare them for a joyful life of service in their chosen careers. The optimum goal is 100 percent of students from Adventist homes to be students in Southeastern schools.

One hundred percent certification of all teachers is one of Elisa Young’s, Conference education superintendent, goals. The development of the Oakwood University – Southeastern Teacher Institute has made it possible for every teacher to achieve North American Division teacher certification. More than 80 teachers from the Southeastern and Florida confer-

ences have jointly participated in the program.

God has blessed Southeastern with several new school facilities this year. Ephesus – West Palm Beach, Florida, completed the construction of a state-of-the-art facility that cost more than \$4 million. The complex is equipped with gymnasium, commercial kitchen, 13 classrooms, library, science lab, and computer lab. Elim Jr. Academy in St. Petersburg has an impressive 18-classroom building, a full-size regulation gymnasium, and a fully equipped commercial kitchen. Bethel Adventist School in Florida City and Perrine School both are lovely new facilities.

The annual Conference Spelling Bee was hosted by the Mt. Sinai School in Orlando, Florida. The spelling bee was very enthusiastic and challenging, lasting 38 rounds.

Southeastern’s annual Education Rally was recently held at the Ephesus – West Palm Beach School. Former graduates of Miami Union Academy (MUA) were honored. Miami Union Academy also hosted the “Step Up for Students Rally,” with Florida Governor



*Juan M. Garcia (left), MUA chaplain, baptized 13 students after the annual fall week of prayer, including Madeline Gustave.*

Charlie Crist in attendance. Crist expressed his gratitude to Miami Union Academy for providing a quality educational experience for the youth in south Florida.

Evangelism is always in the forefront of Southeastern schools. Several students have been baptized as a result of Bible classes, student weeks of prayer, baptismal classes, and religious chapels in our schools. In the highest sense, the work of education and the work of redemption are one, for in education, as in redemption, “other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ” *Education*, page 30.

*Carol Byrd is the associate education superintendent for the Southeastern Conference.*

# Shaping Leaders for Today and the Future

BY ESMERALDA GUZZMAN-HARRIS

Equipping young people with the tools to make a difference in this world is such a daunting task, but one we must strive to reach as Seventh-day Adventist Christian educators. Preparing them to be productive citizens of this world, and to be ready for the Earth made new, is one of the main reasons that Miami Union Academy (MUA) exists today.

There are about 42 nationalities represented at MUA. "We enjoy the diversity of God's rainbow," states Regina Harris, MUA principal. The need to create awareness about our different cultures, and promote an atmosphere of tolerance and appreciation for each other, inspired the birth of the International Club.

The main objectives of the International Club are to focus on diversity, and look for practices to improve our relationships with people from different backgrounds. We have visited different consulates in south Florida in order to research the various backgrounds represented at our school. A different country is featured each month and the heritage celebrated.

The "Heritage of a Dream" award ceremony was held this year on February 28. The ceremony recognizes students and community leaders based on citizenship; academics; commitment to personal improvement; involvement in community service; and their desire to promote equality, kindness, respect, and harmony among their peers and the student body as a whole. We have a Heritage Wall at MUA with

the names of all the honorees for the past three years.

Brittany Farrington-Beasley, a senior, was honored at the Heritage of a Dream awards ceremony. Brittany was recognized because of changes she has made since attending MUA. Brittany says, "Being in an Adventist school has forced me to make a change in my life and not just accept mediocrity." She says that she feels much more comfortable at MUA because of the close-knit staff; and because when you make a mistake, you are encouraged to pick yourself up and move forward. "I have learned that everything is not acceptable. Common courtesy and respect should cause you to present yourself in a much better way."

Joshua Ortiz, another high school student awarded, also spoke of how receiving a Christian education has changed his focus on life. He says, "I was chosen because of my change in behavior, and because I show much more respect to my teachers and fellow classmates." Both students spoke of how their prayer life has changed since being in an Adventist school, and how they have a closer relationship with Christ. They view Christian education as a shelter from this harsh world, and they con-

sider it a safe haven.

By providing a quality Christian education, MUA has had a hand in molding and training hundreds of young people, and preparing them to assume their roles in this community.

Ronald Brisé, the first Adventist



*Joshua Ortiz, the 11th grade recipient of the MUA Heritage of a Dream Award, receives the award from Shelly Garner, MUA assistant principal, as his father proudly stands by his side.*

to serve as a Florida State Representative says, "Adventist Christian education is the answer to make a difference in the lives of our future leaders. We must not cease in our efforts. We must not get weary." Brisé, a Haitian-American, is a proud graduate of MUA. Yes, Christian education does pay!

*Esmeralda Guzzman-Harris sponsors the International Club.*

## Providing Remedial Schooling

ADVENT HOME — Calhoun, Tennessee

BY BARBARA GRAHAM

The ministry has changed its name, but not its mission. Advent Home Learning Center, Inc. (AHLC), formerly Advent Home Youth Services, Inc., remains a symbol of hope for reversing ADHD in teenage boys. During the years, the Center continues to provide quality remedial education for special students and to successfully mainstream them back into the regular school system.



*Small classes benefit students.*

Most Advent Home students are several grades behind when they enroll. Remedial classroom instruction, small classes, an intensive tutoring program, and year-round enrollment all help to get students back on grade level — a requirement for graduation.

Total quality improvement includes dedicated teachers who either have or are pursuing master's degrees. The Center is accredited for five years.

A survey by the E.A. Sutherland Education Association (EASEA) reported very high parent satisfaction with the overall school program. Most parents believe AHLC teachers are preparing their sons for more advanced educational opportunities and spiritual growth.

Educational field trips are an essential part of the curriculum. Last summer a group traveled to

Costa Rica. The "Healthier You Wellness Program" provides students the opportunity for hands-on learning by conducting health expos in neighboring public schools.

The school is housed in the attractive Barbara Cox Learning Center. It contains spacious classrooms, a library, offices, and an auditorium. An electronic library, containing more than 3,000 volumes, was recently installed. Technology and *Switched on Schoolhouse (S.O.S.)* are used to offer online courses.

Advent Home Learning Center continues to follow the biblical admonition, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

*Barbara Graham is writer/editor for Advent Home Learning Center, Inc.*

## Ninety-Eight Years and Counting

FLETCHER ACADEMY — Fletcher, North Carolina

BY ROB GETTYS

We've all heard the saying, "The more things change, the more they stay the same," and very often it is true. With all of the changes that have taken place in nearly 100 years of operation, Fletcher Academy is still a school that is focused on introducing young people and their families to Jesus Christ.

Sure, we often use interwrite "smart" boards instead of chalkboards for the teachers to help present their lessons in the classroom, but the central focus is still "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son..."

Yes, many of our students may have traveled to attend Fletcher from as far away as Korea, Ethiopia, or

Mexico by airplane, rather than riding a horse from nearby Hendersonville, North Carolina, but the central focus is still "My grace is sufficient for thee."

In the past 98 years, our educational landscape has changed significantly; however, our mission of encouraging students to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ won't change until we're in Heaven with Him. Fletcher remains committed to "Educating for Eternity by providing a distinctly Adventist education which prepares every student for a life of service." Please visit us at [www.fletcheracademy.com](http://www.fletcheracademy.com)

*Rob Gettys is the principal at Fletcher Academy.*



*Ceeo Choi (left), Rob Gettys, Karen Cottrell, and Cecely Garcia*

## The Ultimate Education

**HARBERT HILLS ACADEMY — Savannah, Tennessee**

BY STEVE DICKMAN

Harbert Hills Academy exists to transform lives. Students are on a journey of getting to know God better — through His Word, through academic pursuits, and through hands-on and project-based learning experiences.

The natural cycles of learning from the 4-MAT program are being integrated into each class so that all students have the opportunity to excel. The great principles of education, as instituted by God in the original school in the Garden of Eden, are applied. Nature, the farm, the field, and the laboratory are part of the schoolroom, with opportunities to see and experience the handiwork of the Creator.

The hands-on training program

also allows students to earn a significant portion of their way through school — learning self-discipline, the value of work, and how to think and act for themselves. Students learn to care for the elderly; build houses; repair automobiles; and grow, preserve, and cook food. Students also learn how to effectively help others at home and abroad, through mission and community service opportunities.

Day by day, students are transformed into active, lifelong learners who are drawing nearer to Christ and

going forth to satisfy “the greatest want of the world.”

*Steve Dickman is the president at Harbert Hills Academy.*



*In the lab are Katrina Mebane (left) and Sarah Jens.*

## God Working Through Young People

**HERITAGE ACADEMY — Monterey, Tennessee**

BY DEBBIE BAKER

Heritage Academy has a rich history. Its roots began at Madison College, dating back to 1904. The curriculum follows Tennessee state guidelines and is accredited as a Category II school with the state of Tennessee. On average, 80 percent of graduates choose to go directly to college, and many of them are involved in Church work around the world. They include pas-



*Disaster clean-up from Florida tornado, March 2007*

tors, nurses, physical therapists, nurse practitioners, contractors, educators, pilots, and more.

“Being well prepared academically is only a small part of what I carried away from Heritage Academy. What helped me the most was the work ethic I developed. Now while in college, I work and go to school, which took no effort to get used to thanks to Heritage. The whole idea of the work ethic during high school made my transition entering college life effortless.” Jessica Martins, Southern Adventist University sophomore.

Recognizing that the work of true education and the work of redemption are the same, a personal relationship with Christ is first and foremost. Heritage staff, students, and administration study

together, pray together, and seek new innovations in learning. These innovations put into practice at Heritage include a variety of outdoor venues that can be used by teachers and students for learning, a scheduled hour of personal devotional time each morning, training in literature evangelism and giving Bible studies, FEMA certification, American Red Cross First Aid/CPR training for disaster response, the creation of inspirational and motivational programs through video production, and a new mission pilot program designed to train young people to enter mission aviation following academy.

When a young person has the opportunity to take advantage of all these aspects of learning, the Lord does mighty things in them and through them.

*Debbie Baker is the administrator at Heritage Academy.*



## Proclaiming the Name of Jesus

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY — Dayton, Tennessee

BY CHUCK HESS

Students from Laurelbrook Academy recently returned from a mission trip to Eden Garden Orphanage in Haiti. While there, students and staff worked together to build a medical clinic, hold a two-week evangelistic series for the community, and present Vacation Bible School for 60-70 children each night. Basic medical care was also provided to the community through our nursing staff.

It was a life changing experience for many of the young people. Here are a few of the comments:

“I loved the kids the most. They were so eager to learn and to help, and so starved for love and attention.”  
- Leeann Brown, sophomore

“It was great to use the skills I learned in school to help people in need.”

- Chuckie Hess, sophomore  
(preacher and builder)

“To see the people standing in



response to a call was an awesome experience!”

-Ali Small, a junior (after preaching on Heaven)

“To be able to take the training of the head, the heart, and the hands from the classroom and translate it in “service” to others while proclaiming the name of Jesus is what Christian education is all about. It is exciting to work with young people as you see them make that connection and see the difference it makes in their life decisions and their future involvement with the Church.”

Chuck Hess is the principal at Laurelbrook Academy.

## Another Path of Adventist Education

HOMESCHOOLING — Across the Southern Union

BY SHEILA ELWIN

Traveling alongside the traditional system of learning is another group of Adventist educators — home educators. Both groups have placed children first, and both groups have a final goal of salvation in mind for their youth, though their paths are sometimes different.

“The biggest reason [we homeschool] is a lack of Adventist schools in my area,” says Leigh Pritchett who homeschools her daughter in Georgia. “Now that I have come to terms with the thought of homeschooling, it seems the natural choice.”

Charity Pitton, with two children in Florida, says she decided on home education “to offer more individualized instruction and pacing to my sons.” She finds that her family has been blessed by the flexible schedule: “My children have more

flexibility during their day to accompany me on visits to older church members, service projects, nature parks, etc. Because they are with me on these outings, they develop a strong sense of belonging to a wider community.”

“Every day, this world becomes a more fearful, stressful place to be,” notes Vinette Brown Dye, educating two sets of twins in South Carolina. “I know I must literally *saturate* them in an environment where all of their choices are Holy Spirit approved,” she says.

“We at home teach our children to respect others, work diligently, and love God,” says Joyce Yoon, who homeschools three children in North Carolina, while a fourth attends Fletcher Academy. She speaks for all Adventist educators — at home and at school — when

she says, “Above all, we all want to prepare them for life here, but more importantly for eternal life in heaven.”

Sheila Elwin is a homeschool mom, proofreader for the Southern Tidings, and a freelance writer/editor in Atlanta.

### Are you an Adventist home educator?

We are looking for ways to support our homeschoolers, and are compiling a contact list so we can reach you to suggest resources and listen to your ideas. Please contact Currine Harris at 404-299-1832, x439 or [charris@southernunion.com](mailto:charris@southernunion.com) to be added to the list.

## Defying Physics *While Studying About It*

BY JAIME MYERS

Ask Albert Einstein if a student in Florida could observe and respond to an experiment in Tennessee, and he would probably say no. Yet that's exactly what happens when Ken Caviness, Southern Adventist University physics professor, connects with his class at Forest Lake Academy.

Surrounded by high-tech tools and physics equipment, Caviness asks a question about the relative humidity level with a set of hypothetical environmental variables. At Forest Lake Academy, more than 550 miles away, his students consult their notes and field the correct answer.



*Ken Caviness demonstrates how his lectures appear to the students in Florida. When he is giving a live lecture, Caviness sees the Florida classroom on his monitor with an inset of himself in the lower right-hand corner.*

Using a technology called VCAM (video conferencing application management), Southern Adventist University professors have the capability to teach dual-enrollment classes, such as "Exploring Physics," at multiple academies throughout the Southern Union and across the country.

"This is the cutting edge of education technology," says Pegi Flynt, online campus director at Southern. "I don't know of any other Adventist

institution using VCAM technology in this way. This is the future of education."

VCAM works like a multifaceted phone call. With a video camera, microphone, speaker, and television screen, a Southern professor can call his or her class hundreds of miles away. Once connected, the professor can see and hear the class on the screen, and the class can see and hear its professor — live. If a professor teaches a class at multiple academies, he or she can see up to eight classes on the screen at a time and can cycle through even more.

In the physics class, Caviness can use the camera to zoom in on a particular student or watch them perform an experiment. His students at Forest Lake Academy have been outfitted by the Florida Conference with three lab stations, each including laptops and physics equipment. Caviness can use the laptop in his lab to see what's on his students' screens. He also has a Smart Board Symposium tablet computer on which he can write equations and show pictures, graphics, and websites, which are then instantly visible on the television screen at Forest Lake Academy. In addition, he has a second dedicated camera to point out specific passages in the textbook.

"Sometimes there are challenges," says Caviness, "but they are worth doing. It's good for us to try new things and expose students to college-level classes."

Currently, two classes are being taught via VCAM — Spanish and physics. For the 2008-2009 school year, three classes will be offered, Spanish, French, and physics.

"There are many advantages for the academies that offer VCAM classes," says Flynt. "Their students

will be able to study under seasoned professors, many with a Ph.D. It allows them to add diversity to their catalogue by offering classes that they would otherwise be unable to offer. And the more academies that sign up for VCAM classes, the more affordable it becomes for all of the participating academies."

Academies interested in participating in next year's VCAM classes can visit [online.southern.edu](http://online.southern.edu) for details.

*Jaime Myers is a senior English and international studies major at Southern Adventist University.*

### Another Way to Get a Head Start

High school students wanting to take dual-enrollment classes from Southern need not wait for their academies to acquire VCAM equipment. They also have the option of individually taking online classes, which allows them to get a head start on his or her college education. Students taking online classes are able to watch lectures, take quizzes, and submit homework from the comfort of home.

The online classes being offered for dual-enrollment credit for the 2008-2009 school year:

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For more information about Southern's online programs, visit [online.southern.edu](http://online.southern.edu).

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**VEGAN COOKS NEEDED.** Prepare/serve vegan meals for small, non-profit, ministry in Calhoun, TN that provides remedial schooling, residential care for boys with ADHD and special learning/behavioral needs. Rewarding opportunity for service, leadership. FAX Resume to: Blondel Senior: 423-336-8224; or call 423-336-5052. [info@adventhome.org](mailto:info@adventhome.org) [bsenior@adventhome.org](mailto:bsenior@adventhome.org) [5]

**CHILDREN'S PASTOR POSITION** available at the Florida Hospital Church. Duties will include children's ministries at the church as well as chaplain responsibilities at Orlando Junior Academy and the Children's Academy at Loch Haven. Seeking a fun, energetic, creative individual who loves children's ministry, knows how to delegate, and is open to new ideas. For more information, call 407-898-0451. Email your resume with

references to [andy.mcdonald@filosp.org](mailto:andy.mcdonald@filosp.org), fax to 407-896-5518 or mail to 2800 N Orange Ave, Orlando, FL 32804. [5]

**OKLAHOMA ACADEMY**, a supportive ministry of the church, is accepting applications for the following positions: Registrar, Maintenance, Cafeteria, and a Farmer. Call 405-454-6211; email [oa@oklahomaaacademy.org](mailto:oa@oklahomaaacademy.org); or go to [www.OklahomaAcademy.org](http://www.OklahomaAcademy.org) for details. [5]

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**VICTORY IN JESUS** by Pastor Bill Liversidge. A new book or 5CD series explaining how Victory over sin is possible by embracing HIS death and receiving HIS Overcoming Life. Available through [creativegrowthministries.org](http://creativegrowthministries.org); or your local ABC; or call 828-403-0653 (east coast), or 661-827-8174 (west coast). [5-10]

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**MISSIONS MADE POSSIBLE.** Non-profit ministry providing air transportation at no charge for sick and ill individuals to Southeast

USA medical treatment centers needs your help with donations to this ministry. Contact Ken Guill, President, Missions Made Possible (501 C 3 Corp) 407-423-1025, and cell# 407-929-8559. [www.missionsmadepossible.com](http://www.missionsmadepossible.com) [missionsmp@aol.com](mailto:missionsmp@aol.com) [5,6]

**SPONSOR A CHILD!** \$25 a month will send a child in India to a SDA school. It pays for tuition, housing, food, clothes, and medical. ADVENTIST CHILD INDIA is an official project of Southern Asia Division of SDA. 443-430-0476. [www.adventistchildindia.org](http://www.adventistchildindia.org) or [childcare@sud-adventist.org](mailto:childcare@sud-adventist.org) [5-10]

**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. ©

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Vicky Zygouris-Coe  
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Dick Stenbakken  
Raquel Arrais

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# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**ShareHim Leadership Council**—May 12-15. Oregon.

**MPA Graduation**—May 18.

**S. Carolina Women's Retreat**—May 23-26. NPR.

## 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.

**Florida Adventist Book Center**—Winter Park: 800-765-6955. Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: <http://www.floridaconference.com/abc/> or order by e-mail: [FloridaABC@floridaconference.com](mailto:FloridaABC@floridaconference.com)

**Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule**

May 31. Jacksonville Southpoint.  
June 1. Jacksonville First, Orange Cove, St. Augustine, Palatka, Palm Coast, New Smyrna. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)  
June 7. Naples.

June 8. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Lakeview, Winter Haven.

June 21. St. Petersburg.  
June 22. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City.

June 28. Sunrise.

June 29. Plantation, Lauderhill, Temple Adventiste in Deerfield Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)  
July 5. Tallahassee.

July 6. Perry, Cross City, Ocala, Silver Springs Shores, Belleview, Inverness.

July 12. Port Charlotte.

July 13. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

July 19. West Palm Beach.

July 20. Midport Road in Port St. Lucie, Ft. Pierce, Cocoa, Titusville. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, Palm Bay)

July 26. Maranatha in Miami.  
July 27. Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Pompano Beach, Jupiter.

**Evangelism Series**

July 5-Aug. 16. Homestead. Lester and Zula Pratt.

July 6-Aug. 26. Northwest Dade. Bill and Sunshine Waters.

Aug. 2-9. Tallahassee Spanish. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.

Aug. 30-Sept. 4. Melbourne. Lester and Zula Pratt.

**Hispanic Youth Retreat**—May 23-26. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: 305-225-0528.

**Community Bible Conference:** 114th Annual Florida Conference Camp Meeting—May 23-25. Forest Lake Academy, Apopka. Theme: Revive Us Again. Details: Poster and bulletin inserts at Florida Conference churches and <http://www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting>.

**Camp Kulaqua Summer Camp**—May 26-July 20. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Weeklong camps for ages 8-17 and families. Details: <http://www.campkulaqua.com/> or 386-454-1351.

**Spanish-language Family Camp**—July 18-20. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: 407-644-5000 x138.

**Spanish-language Marriage Retreat**—Aug. 15-17. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: 407-644-5000 x138.

**Children's Ministries Fall Convention**—Sept. 19-21. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Theme: Transformed By His Love. Details: [rburrill@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rburrill@cfl.rr.com), 407-644-5000 x136, or 321-303-7699.

## Georgia-Cumberland

**Complete calendar online**—[www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com)

**Moultrie Evangelism**—April 24-June 7. Moultrie, GA.

**Festival of the Family**

May 10. Austell, GA.  
May 17. Southside Church. Atlanta, GA.

**Regional Health Rally**

May 17. Georgetown, TN.  
May 24. Stone Mountain, GA.

**Executive Committee**—May 22.

**Graduations**

May 24. AAA and GCA.  
May 25. CA.

**Pathfinder Teen Mission Challenge**—June 1-17. Montana.

**Communication Workshop**—June 1.

**Women's Leadership**

**Certification, Level III**—June 6-8. Cohutta Springs.

## Gulf States

Complete Calendar online <http://www.gcsda.org>

**Bass Memorial Academy Graduation**—May 16-18.

**Conference Executive Meeting**—June 10. Conference Office.

**Teen Mission Trip**—July 12-28.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Association Board**  
May 13. July 22. Sept. 30.

**Conference Executive Committee**

May 13. July 22. Sept. 30.

**Highland & Madison Academy Boards**—May 8.

## South Atlantic

**Eastern NC Youth Federation**—May 17.

**Western NC Youth Federation**—May 31.

## Southern Adventist University

**First Summer Session**—May 5-30.

**Second Summer Session**—June 1-25.

**PreviewSouthern**—June 12-13.

**SmartStart (free option for first-time students)**—July 28-Aug. 22.

## Announcements

**Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend**—May 2-4. All alumni are encouraged to attend.

Mark your calendars. Call your classmates and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes, 1948, 1958, 1968, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1998. Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, and Church. All ideas and information welcome.

For communication purposes, we need your e-mail addresses. Send them to: [scross@broadviewacademy.org](mailto:scross@broadviewacademy.org) or call Shona Cross at 630-677-4387. Don't miss it!

**Madison College Alumni Homecoming**—June 27, 28. Honor classes: 1928, 1938, 1948, 1958, as well as all the years in between. Church service at 8:50 a.m., at the Madison Campus Church; be there and tell your friends too! Details: 615-865-1615.

**Mid-America Union, Rocky Mountain Conference, and Centura Health**—May 31-Aug. 30. Will be providing Sabbath services at Yellowstone National Park. Please plan to join these services if you will be visiting the Park this summer. Details: 303-282-3670.

**Upward SDA Church in Flat Rock, N.C., will celebrate its Homecoming and Mortgage-burning Sabbath**—June 14. All past members, families, and friends are invited to attend this joy-filled Sabbath in celebration of the 30-year anniversary and debt-free new Sabbath School addition. A fellowship dinner will follow the Sabbath services; bring a dish and share the victory. Details: 828-697-9876.

**Cruise with the Aeolians and Alma Blackton to Cozumel, Mexico**—June 19-23. See our website at [www.aeolianalumni.org](http://www.aeolianalumni.org) or call Tanja Spohn at 800-777-9529 EST, or email [Tanja@ClassicWorldTravel.com](mailto:Tanja@ClassicWorldTravel.com)

## Sunset

	May 2	May 9	May 16	May 23	May 30	June 6
Atlanta, GA	8:21	8:27	8:32	8:37	8:42	8:46
Charleston, SC	8:02	8:07	8:12	8:17	8:21	8:25
Charlotte, NC	8:09	8:15	8:21	8:26	8:31	8:35
Collegedale, TN	8:26	8:32	8:37	8:43	8:47	8:52
Huntsville, AL	7:32	7:37	7:43	7:48	7:53	7:57
Jackson, MS	7:42	7:47	7:52	7:57	8:01	8:05
Louisville, KY	8:35	8:41	8:47	8:53	8:59	9:03
Memphis, TN	7:46	7:52	7:57	8:02	8:07	8:11
Miami, FL	7:52	7:56	8:00	8:03	8:07	8:10
Montgomery, AL	7:27	7:32	7:37	7:41	7:46	7:50
Nashville, TN	7:35	7:41	7:47	7:52	7:57	8:01
Orlando, FL	8:01	8:05	8:09	8:14	8:17	8:21
Wilmington, NC	7:56	8:02	8:07	8:12	8:17	8:21

# Camp Meeting 2008 Schedule

## CAROLINA

**Hispanic Camp Meeting II** ..... May 16-19 ..... Nosoca Pines Ranch  
**English** ..... May 25-31 ..... **Theme: "We Are His Hands"** ..... Lake Junaluska, NC  
 Speakers: Lonnie Melashenko, Philip Samaan, Gordon Retzer, Bob Folkenberg Jr., and Gary Gibbs  
*Portions of Camp Meeting will be viewable at [www.carolinassa.org](http://www.carolinassa.org)*  
 Musical Guests: The Heralds  
**Hispanic** ..... Sept. 12-15 ..... Nosoca Pines Ranch  
**Eastern Carolina** ..... Sept. 26-28 ..... Oak Island, NC  
 Speaker: Ron Smith  
 Musical Guests: The Morss Group

## FLORIDA

**Florida Keys Camp Meeting**  
**English-language**  
 May 23-25.....Theme: "Revive Us Again"..... Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL  
*[Portions broadcast live via satellite on the Hope TV network. Details: <http://www.floridacampmeeting.com/campmeeting/>]*  
 Speakers: Karl Haffner, Mike Cauley, and annual Florida Hospital feature.  
**Campestre Hispano [Spanish-language]**  
 June 6-8..... Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL  
 Speaker: Ed Schmidt

## GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

**Korean**  
 May 16, 17..... Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA  
**English**  
 May 28-31 ..... Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN  
**Hispanic**  
 June 13, 14 ..... Georgia Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA  
**Olde Time**  
 June 19-21 ..... Deer Lodge, TN  
**Sabbath in the Smokies**  
 Sept. 5, 6 ..... Caves Cove Campground, Smoky Mountain National Park  
**Southern Deaf Fellowship**  
 Sept. 25-28 ..... Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL  
**Northeast Tennessee Church Retreat**  
 Sept. 26, 27 ..... The Oaks, near Greenville, TN

## GULF STATES

May 23-31 ..... **Theme: "Heaven is our Real Home"** ..... Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS  
 Speaker 1st Weekend: Jim Gilley  
 Evenings: Michael G. Hasel  
 Speaker 2nd Weekend: Dwight Nelson

## KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

**English**  
 May 23-31..... **Theme: "Know Him, Love Him, Serve Him"**..... Highland Academy, Portland, TN  
 Speakers: Dane Griffin, J. Alfred Johnson II, David Klinedinst, Judd Lake, Ronald Smith, and Bill Tucker  
 Seminar Presenters: Gordon Botting, Edwin de Kock, Vicki Griffin, Evelyn Kissinger, David Klinedinst, Marquita Klinedinst, and Judd Lake  
 Special Music: Micheff Sisters and Vonda Beerman  
**Hispani**  
 June 6, 7 ..... Highland Academy, Portland, TN

## SOUTH ATLANTIC

June 5-14..... **Theme: "Experience the Joy"** ..... River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC  
 Speaker 1st Sabbath: James Doggette  
 Speaker 2nd Sabbath: Charles Brooks  
 Youth Speaker 1st Sabbath: Keith Gray  
 Youth Speaker 2nd Sabbath: Jonathan Rolfe  
 Youth Ministries Presenters: "Lyrics & Melodies"

## SOUTH CENTRAL

Hispanic Camp Meeting  
 May 22-25 ..... Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL  
 Pathfinder Camporee  
 June 6-8 ..... Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL  
 June 6-14..... **Theme: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ"** ..... Oakwood College, Huntsville, AL  
 Speaker 1st Sabbath: Freddie Russell  
 Speaker 2nd Sabbath: Dedrick Blue  
 Youth Speakers: TBA  
 Women's Ministries Speaker: TBA  
 Ordination Service 2nd Weekend

## SOUTHEASTERN

TO BE DECIDED ..... Hawthorne, FL  
 Hispanic Camp Meeting ..... **TO BE DECIDED** ..... Hawthorne, FL

# Summer Camp 2008 Schedule

## CAROLINA

Nosoca Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC  
 [Register online at [www.nosoca.org](http://www.nosoca.org)]  
 S.I.T. (ages 16-17) ..... June 1-15  
 Mt. Bike (ages 13-16) ..... June 8-15  
 Horsemanship I (ages 11-13) ..... June 8-15  
 Basketball (ages 11-16) ..... June 8-15  
 Wheels (ages 13-16) ..... June 8-15  
 Water Sports (ages 13-16) ..... June 8-15  
 Adventure (ages 7-10) ..... June 8-15  
 Jr. I (ages 10-12) ..... June 15-22  
 Horsemanship II (ages 13-16) ..... June 15-22  
 Sports (ages 13-16) ..... June 15-22  
 Horse Camping Trip (ages 14-17) ..... June 22-29  
 Jr. II (ages 10-12) ..... June 22-29  
 Tween (ages 12-14) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Horsemanship III (ages 13-16) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Horsemanship IV (ages 11-13) ..... July 6-13  
 Teen (ages 13-16) ..... July 6-13

## GULF STATES

Camp Alamisco, Dadeville, AL  
 [Details: [www.Alamisco.org](http://www.Alamisco.org)]  
 Adventure Camp (ages 7-9) ..... June 8-15  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12) ..... June 15-22  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-16) ..... June 22-29  
 Family Camp I (all ages) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Family Camp II (all ages) ..... July 3-6

## SOUTH ATLANTIC

River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC  
 Summer Camp (ages 8-17) ..... July 13-20  
 Basketball Camp (ages 8-17) ..... July 20-27

## FLORIDA

Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL  
 [Details: <http://summercamp.campkulaqua.com/>]  
 Friendship Camp (ages 8-16) ..... May 26-June 1  
 Cub Camp (ages 8-10) ..... June 1-8  
 Junior Camp (ages 9-12) ..... June 8-15  
 Teen Camp (ages 9-12) ..... June 15-22  
 Horsemanship I - Intermediate (ages 11-13) ..... May 26-June 1  
 Horsemanship II - Beginner (ages 11-13) ..... June 1-8  
 Horsemanship III - Intermediate (ages 13-16) ..... June 8-15  
 Horsemanship IV - Advanced (ages 13-16) ..... June 15-22  
 Basketball Camp I (ages 9-12) ..... June 1-8  
 Basketball Camp II (ages 13-16) ..... June 1-8  
 Soccer Camp (ages 11-15) ..... June 1-8  
 Wheels Camp (ages 11-15) ..... June 1-8  
 Teen Mountain Adventure (ages 13-17) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Family Water Sports Adventure (all ages) ..... July 6-13  
 Cowboy Adventure (ages 13-17) ..... July 13-20

## KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

Indian Creek Camp, Liberty, TN  
 Blind Camp (mixed ages) ..... June 8-15  
 Cub Camp (ages 7-9) ..... June 15-22  
 Junior Camp I (ages 10-12) ..... June 22-29  
 Family Camp I (all ages) ..... July 1-6  
 Tween Camp (ages 12-14) ..... July 6-13  
 Teen Camp (ages 14-17) ..... July 13-20  
 Family Camp II (all ages) ..... July 20-27

## SOUTH CENTRAL

Camp Lee, Anniston, AL  
 Friendship Camp (ages 7-16) ..... July 6-12  
 Super Sports Camp (ages 7-17) ..... July 13-19

## GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Cohutta Springs Adventist Center, Crandall, GA  
 [Details: [www.cs-yc.com](http://www.cs-yc.com)]  
 Youth Camp Training ..... May 29  
 Junior Camp I (ages 10-12) ..... June 8-15  
 Golf Camp I (ages 13-17) ..... June 8-15  
 Paintball Camp I (ages 13-17) ..... June 8-15  
 Rock Climbing Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 8-15  
 Junior Camp II (ages 10-12) ..... June 15-22  
 Cycle Tour (ages 13 and up) ..... June 15-22  
 Paintball Camp II (ages 13-17) ..... June 15-22  
 Skateboard Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 15-22  
 S.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up) ..... June 15-22  
 Adventure Camp (ages 7-9) ..... June 22-27  
 Horse Pack Trip (ages 13-17) ..... June 22-29  
 Paintball Camp III (ages 13-17) ..... June 22-29  
 Wakeboard Camp I (ages 13-17) ..... June 22-29  
 C.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up) ..... June 22-29  
 Tween/Pathfinder Honors Camp (ages 12-13) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Gym-Masters Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Ultimate RAD Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Wakeboard Camp II (ages 13-17) ..... June 29-July 6  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 6-13  
 Basketball Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 6-13  
 Whitewater/Kayak Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 6-13  
 Teen Camp II (ages 13-17) ..... July 13-20  
 Golf Camp II (ages 13-17) ..... July 13-20  
 Wakeboard Camp III (ages 13-17) ..... July 13-20  
 Surf Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 20-27  
 Family Camp (all ages) ..... July 22-27  
 Ultimate RAD Camp West (ages 13-17) ..... July 27-August 5  
 W.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up) Every week (June 8-July 20)  
 Marine Life Camp (ages 13-17) ..... Dec. 28-31

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 Pee Wee Camp (ages 5-8) ..... TBA  
 Summer Camp (ages 8-18) ..... TBA

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