


November 2008

T SOUTHERN TIDINGS



Gone to
San Salvador

Women in Ministry

In the Adventist Church, we love to have meetings, conventions, rallies, fellowship gatherings, convocations, special events, and congresses — we just love to get together. I think it's great. We have youth meetings, and singles weekends, and men's conventions, and women's conventions, and family life seminars, and evangelism rallies, and camp meetings, and prayer meetings. Jesus promised that where two or three gather in His name, He, the great God of Heaven and Earth, meets with us.

One Voice, One Vision, an incredible women's ministry convention in Atlanta is now history. Laura Smith, Southern Union women's ministries director, and Cheryl Retzer, women's ministries advisor, along with our talented conference women's ministries directors, planned and executed a thrilling event involving 2,000 women from the Southern Union and beyond. One Voice, One Vision declares that women working together and worshipping together can have an impact on an entire city. That's exactly what I observed.

The worship and seminar experiences were certainly powerful and practical, but what impacted me the most was to see the Friday community service activities in Atlanta, where more than 700 women touched the lives of thousands of people. It was incredible and I've never seen anything like it. I visited shelters and other places where the down and out, many through no fault of their own, spend their lives. I saw Adventist women smiling and giving out literature on the streets of downtown Atlanta. Because this event is a part of Good News Atlanta, the joint effort of South Atlantic and Georgia-Cumberland conferences, it was planned to let agencies and Atlanta businesses know that Seventh-day Adventists are loving and caring people who want to help make life better and sweeter for those who are hurting.

I was moved and touched when I visited a shelter and saw caring Adventist women giving facials to homeless and misplaced women. The love that was shared as our women, angels to those who were receiving a healing touch, ministered to hollow and hopeless women must have made Jesus happy. I doubt these women at the shelter had ever had a facial and been cared for with such tenderness. It was a great witness to the love of Jesus who went about doing good.

I shared with our Southern Union Executive Committee that, as I watched dozens of women receive these facials, I said to myself, "If men had been together in a committee for a thousand years, we would never have come up with the idea of giving facials to hurting women!" We need both women and men in ministry. We need the perspective of both women and men on our committees and in church boards. I'm thankful that on the Southern Union Executive Committee we have many women who share their unique perspective. And recently, we were thrilled to hear several of these women share how they each preached a full evangelistic meeting in San Salvador with hundreds being baptized.

Women in ministry, men in ministry — God needs both.



Gordon Retzer
*Southern Union
President*

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Gone to San Salvador

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN III



Southern Union committee members leave the hotel with their computers and projector cases to go preach.

Why would nine Southern Union Executive Committee members go to San Salvador? What was their purpose?

“At the beginning of this quinquennium, the Southern Union Committee set several goals,” explains Gordon Retzer, president of

al evangelist, Dennis Ross, with his wife, Jacqueline, was in the group.

When asked why she chose to go preach, Louise White, a registered nurse, said, “I chose to participate because I have always been interested in doing the Lord’s work and when the opportunity arose,



Committee members and their spouses: Linda Medastien (seated, left), Louise White, Joyce Thrower, Milagros Tomei, Thelma Bonbam, Mary Pulliam, Sheila Davis, Shirley Camp, Jean Jacques Medastien (standing, left), Jerome White, Ronald Chunn, Samuel Bonbam, Melvin Davis, and David Camp.

the Southern Union. “One of those goals was to see laypersons involved in evangelistic preaching.”

The first wave of the thousands of laypersons in our churches, who will be involved in preaching the Gospel in the months and years to come, came from among our Union committee members. These nine lay members from various professional backgrounds, who had never preached an evangelistic meeting, offered themselves to God for the salvation of souls and went to San Salvador to preach ShareHim meetings. They were accompanied by six Union staff, five A.S.I. members, and eight students from Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences who also preached their first meetings. Only one profession-

I accepted. I wanted to do Bible studies in my community, but could never find the time or courage. I felt that I did not know enough Bible to teach others. “



Francisco Castro, pastor, baptizes 93-year-old Don Antonio, who was married for more than 40 years to an Adventist wife. After she died, a member of the Diez de Septiembre Church, where Milagros Tomei was preaching, invited him to the crusade. Concluding a long, intense, internal struggle, he said, “I can fight no longer.”



Clayton State University professor Jean Jacques Medastien went to preach at the risk of losing his job, but found God's purpose for his life while preaching in San Salvador at the Chankala Church.

Sheila Davis, also a registered nurse and university professor, responded, "I felt a strong urge from the Holy Spirit that I needed to go. Besides that, I longed for the experience of working more intimately with the Lord in the salvation of souls. I yearned to see His power in a way that is often not seen until times of the harvest. "

"When Elder Retzer introduced this evangelism campaign to the Executive Committee last year," says Samuel Bonham, an air force retiree, "I knew it was something I *needed* to do. My wife and I had discussed being a part of evangelism for some

time. Why we didn't do it before now, I don't have an answer. But, the Holy Spirit let us know, this was the time to begin. In my opinion, the Lord said, 'Go.' And we went."

But everyone did not find it so easy to go. Joyce Thrower and Shirley Camp resisted the fears that came from hearing stories about San Salvador being one of most dangerous cities in the world. Mary Pulliam, a school administrator struggled with a sense of inadequacy.

"I don't feel I can do this. I do not have what it takes." Another voice told her, "You are not a preacher." But, she committed to go anyway and never turned back. "When I finally stood up to preach the first night, my nervousness disappeared and a peace came over me."

For two weeks everyone prayed and studied each day, preached each night, and then stood amazed when at the conclusion of the meetings the report came that 1,073 persons were baptized. A later report indicated that an additional 521 individuals who made decisions were baptized during the next few weeks, bringing the total to 1,694. What a God we serve!

When everyone returned to the September Executive Committee meeting, every heart was full of joy and every mouth shared praise and testimonies of how they saw God's hand in their meetings.

Milagros Tomei, who is a retired human resources coordinator, excitedly told the story of Don Antonio, a 93-year-old man who was married for more than 40 years to an Adventist. He never attended church or supported his wife. After she died, a church member invited him to the crusade. He came and never missed one night. Finally, after an intense internal struggle he said, "I can fight no longer." He accepted Jesus Christ and was baptized.

Mary Pulliam shared how the power of the Holy Spirit saved José, a gentleman who was visiting San Salvador from Guatemala. On the final night he said, "I have listened to you each night, and I have gone home to study the scriptures you gave to see if what you said was in the Word of God. I found everything to be true. But, I did not make my decision until I heard your sermon tonight. After I heard it, I decided that I should become a part of this church, but I want to wait for my family to join with me." Mary encouraged him to go ahead and be baptized and then invite his family to follow him. He agreed and was prepared for baptism.

Clayton State University professor Jean Jacques Medastien, who went to San Salvador at the risk of losing his job, reported that once there he kept asking God, "Why have You called me to San Salvador." On the final night of the meeting, the last person to be baptized was a man of whom the pastor said, "I have been studying with this man for 10 years, and he has never shown interest in getting baptized until he heard your sermon on baptism." Medastien says, "That



Shirley Camp, a registered nurse and lawyer, preaches at the Las Victorias Church in San Salvador.



Joyce Thrower learns to make pupusas, a popular El Salvadoran food, with ladies from the Mt. Carmen Church where she preached.

was it for me! I knew then that God sent me to San Salvador to help save that man.”

2009 is the Year of Evangelism. We are praying to baptize 25,000 in the Southern Union in 2009. Samuel Bonham, who saw God work in San Salvador, asserts, “The goal of 10 percent membership increase in each Southern Union church, during the North American Division (NAD) 2009 Year of Evangelism, can become a reality as we pray together, and agree to permit God to radi-

cally use all who are willing to study, teach, and preach as He has commissioned us.”

Ronald Chunn is so fired up that his commitment is “to enlist every member of my local church in an evangelism project. We must see evangelism as a 52-week campaign. Therefore, we must plan week by week, department by department, and activity by activity – inside and ‘outside the box’ – with the focus on soul winning.”

Moved by the Holy Ghost, and with a burden to see even more people saved right here in our territory, Gordon Retzer asked the Southern Union staff and Executive Committee members, “Who will be willing to preach a meeting in 2009?” Every staff and committee member stood and made a commitment to preach an evangelistic meeting somewhere



Diana Gunter, Southern Union human resources coordinator, preaches on the seven seals of Revelation at the Alta Vista Church.

in the Southern Union during 2009.

Perhaps you are wondering what God wants you to do and whether you can win a soul for Christ. Shirley Camp, a registered nurse and attorney, encourages, “Just do it! You will never regret it. It will fire your spiritual life up, make you realize what wonders God can do for you when you are willing to rely on Him. Despite your imperfections God can still do wonders through you.”



Jorge Mayer (back row, center), mentor for the ShareHim San Salvador B Crusades, with staff members who worked: Merquita Williams (seated, left), Carol Hollie-Tsede, Jacqueline Ross, Diana Gunter (standing, left), William Smith, Dennis Ross, and Cheryl Hubbard.

El Salvador Outreach

In partnership with Share Him and The Quiet Hour, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences (FHCHS) sent a team of 10 students and staff to the capital city of El Salvador during their August break. FHCHS was part of a larger group who held evangelistic meetings in more than 30 churches in and around San Salvador.

Florida Hospital College was responsible for five churches. At each of these sites, students preached an entire evangelistic campaign and shared the CREATION Health curriculum from Florida Hospital, which is based on the book *CREATION Health Breakthrough* by Monica Reed, M.D. The book covers eight essentials that can revolutionize a person’s health physically, mentally, and spiritually.

The FHCHS team was made up of two chaplains, four nursing

students, two occupational therapy assistant students, and two alumni. Three sisters, Nelly, Irma, and Crystal Montoya, had parents who immigrated from El Salvador. These young women had the privilege of preaching in the church that was closest to family still living there.

Each College student gained practical public speaking experience in an international setting while sharing both the Gospel and the health message. And the results? These five

churches have baptized more than 60 people; total baptized for all 30 churches was well over 1,000. God is good!



Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences evangelism team gathered daily to review and edit the evening’s sermons: Darlene Minisee (left), Nelly Montoya, Vanessa Hollond, Dee Perera, Chaplain Reynold Acosta, Irma Montoya, Karen House, Marshall Moss, and Crystal Montoya.

A Summer of Blessings

BY REBECCA GRICE



More than 150 student literature evangelists gathered for a Youth Summit Retreat at Camp Alamisco in Dadeville, Alabama.

The excitement was contagious when more than 150 (of the approximately 200) student literature evangelists, from throughout the Southern Union Conference, gathered at Camp Alamisco from July 31 until August 3 for a Youth Summit Retreat. The annual retreat is a time for the young people to relax from a busy summer of witnessing through selling MagaBooks, rejoice for what God had done through them, and share their experiences with their coworkers.

Ten groups of MagaBook students worked in five different conferences, which included Carolina, Florida, Georgia-Cumberland, Kentucky-Tennessee, and Gulf States. The student workers were an international group, which represented 17 countries as well as students from across the USA. During this time, the students delivered \$750,637 of books, knocked on more than one million doors, and prayed with thousands of people.

But the essence of their summer's work was more than books sold and goals reached, it was the faith building encounters with people they met that most encouraged them.

Shelina Sifuentes, who worked with the Atlanta, Georgia, group, shares this story. "Big fat NOs is all I'd encountered, then with hope I rang the next door bell. A boy rushed to get his father. The father came to the door with a 'what are you doing at my door?' look. As I shared the books, he looked with interest at the message set. He called his wife to come see what good books I had. They had been studying the Bible to find answers to some of their questions. They excitedly purchased the message

set, plus an extra *Great Controversy*, *God's Answers*, and *Desire of Ages* to send to their family. I left the home with a check for \$180 in my pocket and a thank-you to my Heavenly Father for all the nos!"

Kent Millard, who oversaw the student program for the Lexington, Kentucky, area, met three women. He showed them the books and explained about Jesus' second coming and the need to be ready. One of the women turned, walked away and said, "You have ruined my day!" Later, Millard saw the same woman sitting on the porch of a nearby house. He had an extra *Ministry of Healing* in his bag and decided to give it to her. "Ma'am, this book tells of the love of Jesus, how to trust in Him, and find salvation. I would like to give it to you," Millard told her. She gladly took the book. The next day he went by a Burger King to get a quick meal. As he was paying for his food, he handed the woman at the window a small message booklet. "You were at my house yesterday," she said excitedly. Millard hadn't recognized her from the previous day. "Now you have two good books to read," he said as he thought, "Wow, God is sure going after that lady!"

One afternoon Daniel Rojas in the Miami, Florida, program sold six *Great Controversies* while working at a bank parking lot.

Elias Baquero, another student working with the Florida program, met a woman who had lost her sister-in-law. As Elias talked about God's love, the woman broke into tears. He continued to tell her about Jesus and prayed with her. She had no money, but Elias gave her a *God's Answers* and a *Happiness Digest (Steps to Christ)*. He left the home knowing he had made a difference in the woman's life.

God's presence was felt as the students shared many more incredible stories throughout the retreat weekend. Wilmar Hirle, General Conference publishing ministries associate director, was the speaker for the Sabbath worship service. Other speakers included Mel Eisele, Gulf States Conference president; Les McCoy, Florida Conference youth publishing associate; Gordon Retzer, Southern Union Conference president; Andrew Rachal, Southern Adventist University MagaBook Industry director; and Derrick Williamson, Georgia-Cumberland Conference youth publishing assistant.



The Three baptisms that took place on Sabbath were the highlight of the weekend. These were young people who, while witnessing for God, were brought closer to Him. Mel Eisele, Gulf States president, baptizes Josh James (left), Bobdan Pajonk (center), and Viviane Severe.

Southern Union Feature

By His Spirit We Evangelize

BY DENNIS ROSS JR.

Conferences and Churches Seek 10% Membership Increase in 2009: Year of Evangelism

The year 2009 has been designated as the “Year of Evangelism” by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The North American Division (NAD) has embraced this concept and has challenged the unions and conferences throughout the Division to baptize 100,000 new members.

Nothing is too hard for God! Ralph Ringer, Southern Union evangelism coordinator, says, “The Southern Union has as our prayer goal a net increase of 10 percent in membership during 2009. This would be about 25,000 baptisms.” We can reach this goal if every church, every pastor, and every member prays and works to increase their local church membership by just 10 percent. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can do even more! Each of the eight conferences in the Southern Union has also set similar prayer goals.

Carolina Conference

The Carolina Conference is endeavoring to have every church district hold at least two evangelistic events in 2009. In addition to this, every Conference departmental leader, the officers, and the members of the executive committee will hold an evangelistic series. The goal is to have an increase in baptisms that equals 10 percent of current membership. This basically amounts to doubling last year’s baptism totals — a God-sized goal. The Conference will also continue its emphasis on lay involvement in evangelism for 2009 through lay pastoral training, lay Bible worker training, and ShareHim Boot Camp programs.

Florida Conference

Florida Conference is striving to make each member a disciple, to make each church a discipleship center for evangelism and training, and to have each department in the Conference involved in evangelism in 2009. A city-wide evangelism effort is planned in Jacksonville for the spring, followed by regional evangelistic meetings in Miami in the fall. Additionally, special church planting projects are the goal for Miami, Ormond, Jacksonville, Port Char-

lotte, and each home church. Other events which will assist the evangelism goal are the SEEDS Conference in Florida, April 17-19, 2009, and a summer evangelistic series for women, youth, and children, notes Gerson P. Santos, Florida Conference evangelism director and church planting coordinator.

Georgia-Cumberland Conference

The Georgia-Cumberland Conference has a vision that every church will make evangelism a part of its culture. They hope to see evangelism become, not what the Church does now and then, but rather what is done every day of every month in the year. Already, scores of evangelistic meetings are planned for 2009. These meetings throughout the Conference territory will be led by evangelists, pastors, and laymen, and many more will be added to the schedule in the coming weeks. An experienced church planting team called “Good News Atlanta,” led by Bill Levin, is targeting the largest metropolitan area in the Conference. Georgia-Cumberland has also partnered with **South Atlantic Conference** to create an evangelistic process that has already begun, and that will build up to the 2010 General Conference Session and beyond. The two conferences are working together



Pathfinders and every other Church ministry can be involved in winning souls for Christ.

in community service and evangelistic outreach to the Atlanta area to reach almost five million people for Christ!

Gulf States Conference

Gulf States Conference wants “to experience what would happen if church members, educators, students, literature evangelists, pastors, conference staff, all worked together toward fulfilling our God-given mission,” as part of their mission statement. Their goals include for every pastor, together with his leadership team, to conduct at least two full-message evangelistic meetings in his district in the fall of 2009; and for each church to conduct at least one ShareHim evangelistic series of meetings with a church member as the speaker. The Conference is raising an additional \$200,000 for evangelism, and hopes to reach 10,000 in membership by the end of 2009, with 1,500 baptisms, says Don Shelton, Gulf States ministerial director.

Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

During its summer ministers’ meeting, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference officers and pastors came up with a faith-goal of the minimum number of people they wanted to ask God to reach in each district. That number came close to 1,200, about three times the number baptized each year. Pastors have been asked to incorporate *The Year of Pastoral/Lay Evangelism* in their Healthy Church Plans. This calls for pastors to set goals for the coming year and develop, with their lay leaders, detailed action plans. Each pastor is to schedule at least one evangelistic campaign in every one of his churches, reports John van Zyl, ministerial secretary. Early in 2009, the Conference president, secretary, and ministerial secretary will meet with each pastor and church board to review plans and give encouragement.

Southeastern Conference

The Southeastern Conference plan for 2009 is evangelism, evangelism, evangelism, and more evangelism ...

and baptize 5,000. A budget will be given to every pastor and departmental leader for some form of evangelism, tent meetings, cottage meetings, Revelation Seminars, or any other form of evangelism, says Milton Sterling, Southeastern ministerial secretary.

Southern Union Leadership

Leadership at the Southern Union and all the local conferences has agreed that every single staff member — both departmental leaders and administrative assistants, from the

president to the switchboard operator — will participate in this enormous soul-winning effort. Everyone will be encouraged to preach or participate in evangelism in some way.

The talk around the Southern Union is that 2009 is going to be the greatest year of evangelism that we have ever seen. Conferences are working together, pastors and church members are working together, teachers and students are working together, all for the same purpose — to see men and women, boys and girls, accept

Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

Are you a church member with no formal evangelism experience? You, too, can help “each one, reach one.” Ask your pastor what you can do, get involved in ShareHim, reach out to your friends and neighbors. If each member reaches out and brings one person to Jesus, the transformation of lives will go far beyond the simple goals of the upcoming year.

Dennis Ross is the ministerial director and evangelism coordinator for the Southern Union.

WHAT CAN I DO?

1. Ask God for the power to love and reach out to people for Jesus.
2. Have small group meetings (6-9) in your home for prayer and Bible study (neighbors, etc.).
3. Pray for the Southern Union goal of reaching 25,000 new people for Christ in 2009.
4. Pray for family members who have not accepted Christ and Bible truth.
5. Do random “acts of kindness” as you go through your day, for neighbors, people at work, as a genuine attempt to show them God’s love.
6. Invite friends and co-workers to church and evangelistic meetings.
7. Befriend former members of the Church, and pray earnestly for them.
8. Ask God specifically to give you “divine appointments” daily, in order to share His love.
9. Pray as never before for your pastor and the pastoral leadership of your church.
10. Ask your church to have a block party in the area where it is located, or a health fair to begin bonding with your church’s community.
11. Please contact the Southern Union Office for help with any of the above suggestions: 404-299-1832, x449 – Carol Hollie-Tsede or Dennis Ross Jr.

EVANGELISM PREPARATION

The Southern Union Evangelism Council — designed for evangelists, pastor/evangelists, lay evangelists, and administrators in evangelism — will be held December 1-4, 2008, at The Plaza Resort and Spa in Daytona Beach, Florida. We strive to accomplish three things: inspiration, training for more effective evangelism, and relaxation.

We are privileged to have such inspirational speakers as Mark Finley, vice president of the General Conference for evangelism; Angel Rodriguez, director of the Biblical Research Institute at the General Conference; Ron Clouzet, NAD director of evangelism; Gordon Retzer, president of the Southern Union; Alan Parker, evangelism professor at Southern Adventist University; and Bill Tucker from Quiet Hour.

Training on how to use Mark Finley’s “The Revelation of Hope” and ShareHim sermons and graphics will be provided. Other workshops will include being an effective evangelist, maximizing the cycle of evangelism, dealing with problem texts and offshoots, ways to reach your community, and the latest technology in evangelism. There will also be time to share what is working in the

different fields.

For reservations, call 1-800-874-7420 and mention Southern Union Evangelism Council to get the \$99/night rate. Please let us know you will be coming so we will have enough materials for everyone. Contact Ralph Ringer at 407-257-6847 or suevangelism@yahoo.com.

—BY RALPH RINGER



Mark Finley



Angel Rodriguez



Ron Clouzet



Gordon Retzer



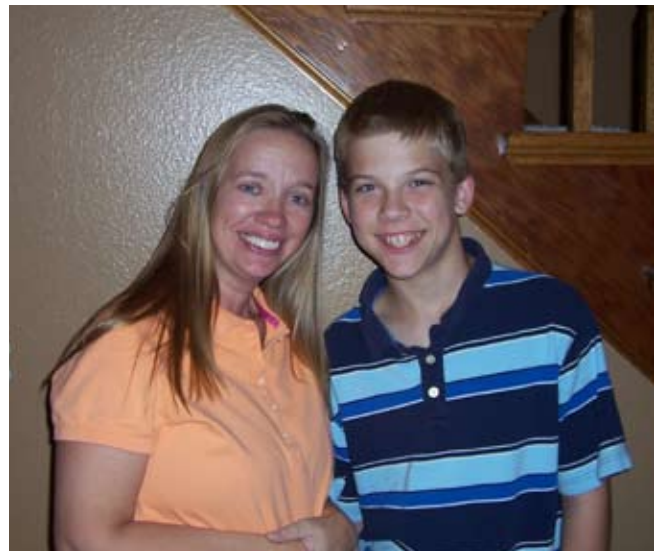
HEALING THROUGH PRAYER

BY ART BAKEWELL

As a chaplain at Florida Hospital DeLand, I have the privilege of witnessing God's healing powers nearly everyday. What I love about our hospitals is that the care is focused on the healing of the spirit as much as it is on the healing of the body. Prayer plays a big part in achieving this. The power of prayer is prevalent throughout our hospitals — from the pediatric unit to the operation room, the ICU to the emergency department. I am a strong believer in the power of prayer, and that miracles *do* happen.

Zachery Holmes is a special boy — full of energy, a sparkling sense of humor, and a strong, rooted faith in Christ. Preparing to enter the seventh grade, Zachery was at his annual

check up with his mother, Lisa. Lisa remembered that his leg had been aching a few weeks prior and asked the doctor to make sure that everything was okay. As a precaution, x-rays were ordered for the next day. Doctors concluded from the results that the problem was not skeletal; however, a mass was detected. Stat orders for an MRI and sonogram



Lisa Holmes with her son Zachery

immediately followed. After a series of tests, the results were startling. Zachery had an aneurysm in his left leg.

An aneurysm is a bulging or “ballooning” in the wall of an artery. Without medical treatment or surgery, aneurysms can grow large enough to eventually burst, causing serious, often fatal, bleeding. Aneurysms are typically found in adult males or as a result of serious trauma. Doctors were bewildered as to how this young boy could have developed such a large aneurysm — measuring 3.5 inches long — without an accident or injury, and little to no pain. Further testing later revealed that the main artery had been punctured by the tip of his bone during a massive growth spurt.



Zachery enjoys fishing with his father, John Holmes.

It was imperative that Zachery be operated on as soon as possible for fear that the aneurysm would burst. Finding a local surgeon who was able to perform the surgery would be difficult. This condition is incredibly rare among children; only nine other cases have been documented worldwide similar to Zachery’s. Lisa was told to be on standby over the weekend while doctors searched

tirelessly for a vascular surgeon who could perform the surgery.

“We sat on pins and needles and did a lot of praying over the weekend” said Lisa.

When faced with the complications surrounding Zachery’s situation, Lisa and Zachery’s instinct was to pray. They realized that the tribulations they faced were too great to handle on their own. If Zachery was going to survive, it would be through Christ’s healing touch. Our local hospital, the Holmes’s family, friends, and Church community joined together in prayer.

On Monday morning, the aneurysm had nearly doubled in size and was protruding out of Zachery’s leg. Lisa’s sense of urgency was growing. Desperate for news, Lisa called her

Lisa that the recovery would be slow and painful. None of this mattered to Lisa, as long as Zachery lived.

At 10:30 Monday morning, only three days after the aneurysm was discovered, surgeons took a moment to pray with Zachery and his family before surgery.

“It was awesome,” Lisa says, recounting this moment when they all came together in prayer for her son. The events that followed illustrate that without a doubt, the Lord was in the operating room with Zachery and his surgeons.

The surgery was performed successfully in only half the time, and Zachery was in and out of ICU within two days. The predicted slow and painful recovery was virtually painless, and he “literally breezed through” physical therapy, says Lisa. Watching Zachery in the hospital, no one would ever guess that he had just beaten a near death experience. He was in high spirits, joking with the nurses for his autograph — surprised by the medical marvel he had become. He *walked* out of the hospital without an ounce of pain and without a single pain medication or antibiotic prescription.

“It’s literally a miracle; it’s a gift from God,” beams Lisa.

Stories such as this remind us that prayer holds the power to unlock God’s promises for us — promises to care for us in all situations and even perform miracles. In addition to the miraculous nature of Zachery’s recovery, I believe that another miracle took place. This young boy’s faith in God’s abilities, despite the tribulations he was facing, is a miracle in itself.

In today’s modern world, it is easy to get caught up in the whirlwind of uncertainty and anxiety that characterizes our lives. The true miracle is the ability to process life’s struggles within the context of God’s love, faithfully believing in the healing powers of Christ.

Art Bakewell is chaplain and director of pastoral care at Florida Hospital Deland.

pediatrician and was instructed to go to Florida Hospital Orlando. Amid the looming anxieties and worries, Lisa faithfully rushed her son to the hospital, praying for a miracle.

After further tests, doctors confirmed that they would be able to operate despite the rarity of Zachery’s situation. The size of the aneurysm actually provided a greater chance for success. However, they warned

Gordon Hospital Hosts Health Carnival for Local Spanish-speaking Community

Gordon Hospital, Calhoun, Ga., hosted a Spanish-speaking health carnival for their local community. More than 300 Spanish-speaking residents from Gordon County and surrounding areas attended, including Cecilia Mosqueda.

“My son used to be borderline diabetic, so we came to get his blood sugar checked,” she explained. “He’s okay – praise the Lord!”

The free services offered at the health carnival included blood pressure checks, diabetes testing, breast exams, strength testing, body mass index measurements, vision checks, nutrition, and healthy eating habits. Information was also provided on



Carlene Jamerson, president and CEO of Gordon Hospital, enjoys the day with an attendee.

dental health, exercise and wellness, obstetrics and prenatal care, colon cancer, prostate cancer, flu shots, tobacco education and smoking cessation, Gordon Home Care, and healthcare careers.

“This was the first time that we’ve hosted this carnival, and I feel it was very successful,” said Amy Jordon, chief nursing officer for Gordon Hospital. “A wealth of information was presented, thanks to the many wonderful volunteers on hand.”

Jordon said that more than 100 people volunteered their time to the carnival. Among the volunteers were student interpreters from Calhoun High School and Georgia-Cumberland Academy. Other volunteers included hospital employees and church members from Iglesia Adventista Hispana, Calhoun.

“We are very pleased to be able to offer this free



Face painting was a bit with children at the health carnival.

service to the Spanish-speaking population of our community,” said Carlene Jamerson, president and CEO of Gordon Hospital. “This carnival will become one of many opportunities that we will use to promote our mission of providing the highest quality physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual healthcare, while extending the healing love of Christ to all we serve.”

—BY KAREN SHAW

Pink Hair Supports Breast Cancer Awareness

Heads are turning as a bright new hair accessory is debuting in Orlando, Fla. Women are demon-

strating their support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month by wearing untraditional pink hair extensions.

For a minimum donation of \$10 throughout October, women will receive the unique hair accessory from Eden: The Spa for Image Discovery, a service of Florida Hospital Cancer Institute (FHCI). The month-long event will benefit cancer patients

and breast cancer research at FHCI. Cancer survivors, women with family and friends impacted by cancer, and others supporting the cause have already taken part.

Cancer survivor Kathy Wright said her pink hair is a way to communicate with others.

“I’m just happy to have this little pink strip in my hair that says to everybody, ‘Hey, I’ve had breast cancer. I’m a survivor, and so can you be,’” Wright said.

The strand is easily

placed along the scalp by Eden staff. Florida Hospital approved employees to wear the pink strands to work during October.

According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancer. More than 180,000 women will be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in the United States in 2008.



Kathy Wright (left), a cancer survivor, shows her support by receiving pink streaks.

Wallace O. Coe, 1923–2008

Wallace O. Coe, retired Church leader with an inspiring passion for evangelism, fell asleep in Jesus on September 17, 2008. Coe served the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 43 years as a pastor and administrator. In each place he served, the Church prospered under his leadership and his soul-winning emphasis led to record membership growth.

Wallace Coe was born May 31, 1923, and became a Seventh-day Adventist as a teenager. After marrying Hazel Warrell and graduating from Atlantic Union College, he pastored in the Georgia-Cumberland and Alabama-Mississippi conferences. Though initially spurned as “Yankees,” the Coes quickly won friends through their hard work and dedication to God’s work. In 1953, Coe became lay activities/Sabbath School director of the Ala-

bama/Mississippi Conference. He also served in this capacity at the Carolina Conference for seven years.

Coe’s evangelistic fervor drove his leadership as president of the Alabama-Mississippi and Florida conferences and the Northern Union. His administrations in these and later territories were marked by unusual growth in membership and other areas of activity.

Wallace Coe strongly supported Adventist health-care. He chaired the Loma Linda board while general vice president of the General Conference, from 1985 to 1989, and was instrumental in the installation of the proton beam accelera-



tor, a device for fighting cancer. After retiring to Florida, Coe served as vice president of spiritual ministries for Adventist Health System for eight years.

He is remembered

by his coworkers as an encourager and mentor; as an administrator who grew leaders; and as a man of vision, action, and godly leadership. His family remembers him for his stories and laughter, his love of music and debate, his thoughtful ways, and his early mornings with his Bible. Most of all, he is remembered as a man who loved God with all his heart and served Him with all his might.

Wallace Coe was 85

years old. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Hazel Warrell Coe; son Michael (Vicky) Coe, pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Life-Changing Christian Centers in Mt. Dora, Fla.; daughter Janet (Jerry) Page, prayer and women’s ministries coordinator for Central California Conference; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and sister Alberta Ciccarelli.

—BY SHENALYN PAGE



TRIBUTES

He was single-minded about growing God’s Church. He talked evangelism constantly. I have been the president of five conferences, and three of those have had a 10 percent membership growth each year. Wally helped me know that was possible. He is still influencing this Division as I promote the goal of a 10 percent growth in membership for each Conference.

Don Schneider, President, North American Division

He was always the enabler, the truly great leader. He always wanted to glorify his God and care for his family. Close behind all this was his passion for evangelism and Church growth. Every baptism was noted in that little book he always carried in his

inside coat pocket. He could not finish a conversation without whipping it out and asking, “How are the baptisms coming?”

Charles Bradford, Retired President, North American Division

A prince and a great man has fallen in Israel! We were all overwhelmed by this gentle giant who dwelt among us. We fumble to find appropriate words to express our feelings for one who meant so much to so many. Friend. Distinguished. Eloquent. World ambassador of hope for Jesus.

E. Lonnie Melasbenko, Vice President of Spiritual Services and Missions, Kettering Health Network

There is nothing more precious and no greater honor than to pay tribute to the memory of close friends and fellow workers who have gone to their rest. I wish to do this because three friends have recently died who worked closely with me in the Florida Conference and in the Southern Union Conference. They are Henson Whitehead [see June 2008 *Southern Tidings*], Harold Roll, and Wallace Coe. Elder Roll worked with me both in the Florida Conference office as secretary-treasurer and at the Southern Union as secretary, and

Harold F. Roll, 1921-2008

Harold Roll, former secretary of the Southern Union Conference, secretary-treasurer of Florida Conference, and vice president of Adventist Health System, passed away Wednesday, September 17, 2008, in Collegedale, Tennessee.

Harold Franklin Roll was born to Harold E. and Ancil Roll on October 20, 1921, in Little Rock Arkansas. He made his decision for Christ and was baptized by Fordyce Detamore following an evangelistic crusade. That same year he enrolled at Union College, graduating in 1944 with a theology degree. He married Hazel Irene Hagen, and they raised two children, Harold Eugene and Shelley Jo.

His first assignment in the denomination was part time pastor at Council Bluffs, Iowa, along with a part time position with Pa-

cific Press. He became Missouri Conference secretary/treasurer, a role he would fulfill in Kansas, Nebraska, Michigan, and then Florida Conference where he served from 1956 to 1969.

It was in Florida that he developed his special interest in healthcare. Having served on the Florida Hospital Board of Directors, he was recognized for his personal characteristics, business acumen, spiritual commitment, and his involvement in two decades of Florida Hospital's progress and achievement. He was instrumental in developing Florida Hospital's intern and family practice residency for physicians, and helped lay the ground-



work for the formation of the Adventist Health System (AHS).

Roll served as secretary of the Southern Union from 1969 until retirement in 1985. While there, he

became more and more involved in the physician and dentist recruiting efforts.

Following "retirement," he became vice president for Adventist Health System in Orlando. Even after finishing his duties at AHS, he continued part time as the Southern Union medical/dental director of recruitment.

Following the death of his wife Hazel, Roll married Lillian Hagen. He suffered a paralyzing stroke three years later, but his wife

cared for him for the next five years, enabling him to remain in his own home.

Harold Roll is survived by his wife Lillian; son Gene; daughter Shelley; three grandchildren; and sister Evelyn Rice. He was not only preceded in death by his first wife Hazel, but also his sister Marjorie Forrester. A memorial website paying tribute to Harold Roll will soon be viewable at www.hfroll.org.

—BY SHEILA ELWIN



TRIBUTES

Harold Roll was a kind and gracious boss who was a good mentor. He was also a good friend, and our families enjoyed many fun times together. He had a great laugh. Elder Roll was a man of integrity and vision. In addition to being the secretary of the Southern Union, recruiting doctors and dentists for the Union was also part of his duties, which was a tremendous blessing to the Southern Union.

*Barbara Pierce
Administrative Secretary, Southern Union Conference*

I had the pleasure of knowing Harold Roll for more than 30 years. We traveled together to Loma Linda University

and to other areas, working with students in the medical/dental recruitment efforts for the Florida Conference and for the Southern Union Conference. What a great asset it was to work and recruit with Harold. He had an innate way of working with students and also had a great relationship with them. He will surely be missed by myself and all who knew him. He was an extra special person.

*Robert Deery, D.D.S.
Associate Dental Secretary, Southern Union Conference
Dental Secretary, Florida Conference*

Elder Whitehead was with me in the Southern Union office as treasurer. Elder Coe followed me as president of the Florida Conference. In Psalm 116:15 we have the wonderful promise, "Precious in the site of the Lord is the death of his saints." I look forward to meeting again with Henson, Wally, and Harold.

Harold H. Schmidt, Retired President Southern Union Conference and Florida Conference

Arden Breaks Ground for New Community Center



Members of the Arden Church had a groundbreaking ceremony for its new Community Life Center on September 7.

Presently, the Arden Church has many ministries to reach their community for Christ. Some of these ministries include a nine-week summer day FLAG Camp (Fun Learning About God), an annual health fair, the Carpenter's Hands, Red Cross blood drives, and a drama club. Their hope is to use this new facility to expand their ministry and

demonstrate to the community that they are ready and available to meet their needs.

The estimated cost for the building is \$1.7 million. Their fund-raising motto has been "Building Together With God. Not Equal Giving, But Equal Sacrifice." This motto demonstrates their willingness to partner with God in using His funds for

His projects. And He has truly blessed! The building is set to be completed by next summer.

At present, the community outreach committee is surveying area civic leaders

to discover the needs of their community. By the time the Community Life Center opens, they plan to have multiple programs in place to meet community needs. The dream of the

Arden Church is that this church, which sits on a hill, will be a light to the community and that they in turn will find Arden a safe place to grow spiritually.

—BY OWEN SPENCER



Mortgage Burning at Rock Hill Church

Members, former members, and friends gathered at the Rock Hill Church on Sabbath, August 30, for its mortgage burning

celebration. In April, the last mortgage payment was sent to the Southern Union, a full seven years ahead of schedule, making the church

completely debt-free!

Ron Davis, former pastor, returned to Rock Hill to give a wonderful sermon on this special day. He reminded everyone of the adventure to work together to build the church. He also reminded the members that, even though there was not a lot of money and few people when the church started, God was faithful and provided for their every need. When the budget needed a financial boost, it would always appear from

somewhere. When a church position needed to be filled, the right person or people would come along. God wanted a church in Rock Hill, and He provided the resources.

Davis challenged the members to now direct their focus towards bringing individuals to Christ.

Rick Russell officiated the mortgage burning, along with Ron Davis, pastor; Roger Pohl, head elder; and David Johnson, elder.

—BY LARRY HAMM



Raleigh's Community Center Gets a Great Start

Immediately following the August ribbon cutting of the Raleigh Church Community Center, named the ARC, the public was invited in to get familiar with the facility and its church members.

The name for the new community center, the ARC, comes from the story of Noah. God used Noah's Ark to save His people from the flood. The Raleigh Church hopes He will use the ARC to save as many individuals as possible in the last days.

The acronym ARC stands for Adventist R_____ Center, with the "R" being interchangeable. Depending on the use at the time, it could be a Recreation Center, a Rejuvenation, Reconciliation, or Revelation Center.

The first event at the ARC was held August 14. THE ROCK - Reach Out Carolina Kickoff, was a three-day event featuring messages from Timothy Gillespie, pastor, from Loma Linda University; free concerts with music from Second Chance, Turning



Point, and Mali; and free food and drinks.

The program also included a car and motorcycle display during opening night, appealing to local enthusiasts. A total of 275 people attended this event, with about half being visitors from the surrounding community.

The following weekend, the ARC hosted H.O.P.E. University as they shared "Wonders of Biblical Archaeology." The presenters were Ron Clouzet, D.Min, Th.D., founder of H.O.P.E. University and a professor at

Andrews University Theological Seminary, and Michael G. Hasel, Ph.D., curator of the Lynn Wood Museum of Archaeology, director of the Institute of Archaeology and professor of archaeology and near eastern studies at Southern Adventist University.

Opening night featured "Amazing Discoveries in Lost Cities of the Dead." This event drew more



Tim Gillespie

early moving sermon, Clouzet made an appeal, and nearly half of those in attendance came forward to give their hearts to Jesus.

There were 15 students from Andrews assisting with the prophecy series.

Bob Cundiff, Raleigh Church pastor, shared, "In the seven weeks since our new facility opened, we have had about 400 [community members] visit our campus who have never been here before. It's great being able to pastor a church that understands that it exists to share the Gospel with its community."

—BY JEAN OVERSTREET



than 250 attendees during the three-day period, and about half were residents from the community.

A six-week, area-wide, Bible prophecy series, "Unsealing Revelation's Mysteries," began on September 5, at the ARC. The Raleigh Church, along with eight area churches (via video transmission), offered this free series to their community. The seminar attracted 250 area residents, including people from all denominations.

At the end of a particu-



Michael Hasel (left) and Ron Clouzet

Web Search Leads to African Mission Experience



Jennifer Bowie enjoyed getting to know the African children who attended each evening meeting. She found herself wishing she could adopt many of the children she met at her evangelistic site.

Jennifer Bowie picked up the phone and dialed the number for Outpost Centers International (OCI). She tapped her pen nervously while it rang. She had never heard of the organization, but she wanted to go on a mission trip to Africa this past summer. Her search had led her to the OCI web site.

A friendly voice answered, and, after

learning more about the organization and the trip, she signed up herself and Stephanie, her teenage daughter, for the trip.

A month later, they arrived in Zambia with little knowledge of the culture, a vague idea of what they would be doing, and no previous experience with Seventh-day Adventists.

Bowie found everyone to be very welcoming. When



PHOTOS: CHERYL TORRES

Bowie preached her first sermon, telling listeners about the Christ who came to save them.

she arrived at church the first Sabbath and was introduced with the mission group, the whole church called out, "Stay with us!"

For four weeks, she did stay with them, and she traveled to her evangelistic site every night to tell children's stories, lead health talks, and even preach on one of the topics.

Each night, she listened closely to the sermon. At

first, most of the ideas were familiar. Her nondenominational church taught the same things. On the seventh night, however, things started to change.

"I've been a Christian for more than 18 years," Bowie said. "I read my Bible, went to prayer meeting, tithed, and worshiped. But, I somehow never understood God's sincere and earnest commandment to keep the Sabbath holy! It was like a brick fell on me when I saw that in Scripture and met people who actually practiced it and were blessed!"

Now, back home near Daytona Beach, Fla., she is experiencing that blessing for herself. Bowie found the nearest church and loves worshiping with the congregation each Sabbath.

"It's not easy," she said. "Most of my family doesn't understand why I keep the Sabbath. But, I'm doing my best, and God is blessing."

—BY CHERYL TORRES

Avon Park Baptizes Fifth-generation Member

When Elise Watts was baptized at the Avon Park, Fla., Church on September 6, she became the fifth generation in the family to be baptized into the same church. She was the third generation to be baptized by Don Holland, pastor, and long-time friend of the family.

Elise made her decision for baptism after studying the Bible during the summer with her grandmother, Krystal Bishop, professor in the School of Education and Psychology at Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tenn.

Bishop's Sabbath sermon, delivered on the day of Elise's baptism, focused on the prayers of Jesus for each generation, from children to senior citizens.

The prayer and scripture reading, containing verses especially chosen for Elise, were given by her great-grandmother, Vernie Oft. Her presence at church was an answer to Elise's prayers that her great-grandmother would be well enough to attend her baptism.

—BY NAOMI ZALABAK



TOM AMOS

Elise Watts (center) with mother, Kari Griswold; grandmother, Krystal Bishop; great-grandmother, Vernie Oft; and great-great-grandmother, Kathlyn Myers (inset)

New Radio Program Ministers to Families

A new radio program, *Families by Design*, began broadcasting August 3 in central Florida, as well as throughout the world via the Internet. Listeners are reminded that God designed families and wants only the best for them.

The weekly broadcast is produced and co-hosted by Daniel Forbes, Ed.D., pastor of the University and South Orlando churches. He is a National Board Certified and Florida Licensed Mental Health Counselor with specialties in family life education and family mediation.

Co-host Oliver Edwards, Ph.D., is a University Church member, psychologist, and a professor at the University of Central Florida.

The program is formatted to help families face daily struggles. The co-hosts and expert guests offer solutions, resources, and spiritual guidance to listeners, enabling them to build strong homes in spite of challenges in today's society. The goal



Daniel Forbes, Ed.D., left, and Oliver Edwards, Ph.D. interview Sandra Doran, Ed.D., Florida Conference associate superintendent of education, about the benefits of Christian education.

to strengthen families and promote their well-being is intentional in all aspects of the program, from the sincerity heard in the voices of presenters to the prayer offered in behalf of the listening audience.

Another program benefit is the consistent opportunity it provides for Forbes and Edwards to introduce radio listeners to the Adventist Church and what it has to offer families. Several years ago, Forbes sought ways for the Church to impact the community in

a meaningful and unique manner for the Lord when the concept of helping families with an informative radio program was placed on his heart.

Subsequently, he spoke with Edwards, an elder at University Church, who readily agreed to help. Together, they began to search for a radio station that was affordable with an appropriate format to air their program.

They waited on the Lord and watched Him work, knowing that where

God guides, He provides. The door opened this past summer when an oldies radio station changed its format to one with a mission of ministering to families.

God's timing was perfect. Forbes approached the station manager, and the concept of *Families by Design* received an enthusiastic response. A generous offer was made to produce the program and air it each week. In addition, opportunity was given for the University Church and school to advertise programs free of charge.

Encouraged to move forward after receiving financial commitments from several sources, Forbes and Edwards recorded their first *Families by Design* interview. Airing every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. on WEUS 810 AM, the program can also be heard via the Internet at www.810weus.com. In addition, LifeTalk Radio will soon air the program on their network of 104 affiliate stations.

—BY DANIEL FORBES,
OLIVER EDWARDS

Local Businesses in Ocala Support Vacation Bible School

The Silver Springs Shores Church in Ocala, Fla., held Vacation Bible School (VBS) in July with 55 children, ages 3-12, enrolled. At each session, a different miracle from Jesus' life was presented.

Donations for the Vacation Bible School

program were received from Winn Dixie, Albertsons, Walmart, Publix, Brick City Restaurant, CVS Pharmacy, and a Mobil gas station.

Two VBS attendees, Kerinda and Kelly Delgado, are now attending church services.

This year's VBS was special because, when it appeared the church wouldn't be able to hold one for various reasons, several members stepped forward in faith. Even though the VBS planners had a late start, the miraculous ways of God

were multiplied in support of the program.

One of the greatest rewards in holding the summer program was seeing the excitement among children in the community who had looked forward to this annual event.

—BY NORMA HENRY

Hispanic Lay Evangelism Festival Revolutionizes Church

Seven hundred seventy-four lay evangelists met at the Atlanta Metropolitan Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church, September 26-28, with the theme "Revolution in the Church." Attendees came with the purpose of receiving training and motivation to share the Gospel through evangelism in their homes.

Speakers emphasized that participants should model their efforts after the primitive Church and the prophetic Church after 1844. In those models, church members understood that the work of spreading the Gospel was a task for all believers, and the main

purpose of the ministers was to train the members of the Church to share the good news.

The keynote speaker at the festival was Russell Burrill, retired director of the North American Division Evangelism Institute, who developed his messages based on the principle he enunciates in his book, *Revolution in the Church*. Humberto Rosales, the translator for the meetings, came from Puerto Rico.

Beside Burrill, there were nine other seminar presenters. The schedule allowed each participant to attend four of the nine seminars. The seminars



JORGE QUINTANA

Seven hundred seventy-four lay evangelists attended the Hispanic Lay Evangelism Festival held in Atlanta this September.



JORGE QUINTANA

Russell Burrill (left), keynote speaker at the festival, shared the message as Humberto Rosales (right) translated the meetings.

covered a variety of topics, addressing concerns from how to successfully conduct

children's evangelism to effective preaching.

Sandra Catherine Molina, known as "Taya" in the Bolivian music world, was the special guest musician. She is a young woman who has converted to Adventism. She currently works for the communication department at the Bolivian Union office. In addition to special music and a

concert, she also presented a seminar titled, "Communication in Evangelism."

Neftaly Ortiz, Georgia-Cumberland Conference ministerial director for Latin American ministries, made a call on Sabbath afternoon, and those present committed to allow God to use them as His instruments. Together with their pastors, these lay evangelists aim to baptize 1,000 people in 2009.

Ortiz thanks the Hispanic pastors for their outstanding work and says that the glory goes to God. The 774 lay ministers returned to their churches committed to a spiritual revolution.

—BY NEFTALY ORTIZ
(TRANSLATED BY NANCY ORTIZ)

Find more Georgia-Cumberland Conference news, resources, and information at www.gccsda.com.

Tennessee Retreat Focuses on Family Evangelism

While other parts of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference are dry and brown from drought, the Northeast Tennessee Church Retreat was held in the rain at the foot of lush, green mountains. This annual, area camp meeting was held at The Oaks retreat center in Greeneville, Tenn., the weekend of September 26-27.

Omar Miranda, a certified Christian counselor, was the main speaker for the weekend, themed “Evangelism Through the Family.” He covered topics such as marriage, raising children, the dangers the Internet poses to families, and mentoring.

The messages were well received by those in attendance. “I think his topics were good, and I think we need to take more of his

suggestions to heart,” said Bertha Kingsbury of Greeneville.

Carol Haney, also from Greeneville, felt this year’s theme was very relevant, “I work in a pediatric office, so the things he’s talking about are things that I have to deal with in the office with the way people behave with their children. I think it’s a good topic for the times in which we live.”

Haney enjoys the retreat every year, and this time extended an invitation to her sister-in-law, Lupina Haney, from Collegedale. “The scenery was fabulous and the conference area was wonderful,” shared Lupina Haney. “We decided this just might be an annual event for the Haney’s.”



Mitch and Vivian Hazekamp greet people at the door at the Northeast Tennessee Church Retreat near Greeneville, Tenn.

BRIAN YOUNG

general vice-president, explains why he is cultivating more localized gatherings, saying, “We have camp meetings in the distant areas of our Conference so that all of our constituents have an opportunity for fellowship and to meet together with Conference staff in an environment for spiritual growth. So, we have expanded from Collegedale into four different areas where we can be more con-

nected as a Conference. Both the MP3 audio and streaming video from the weekend can be found on the Conference web page, under the “Communication” menu.

—BY BRIAN YOUNG

Edwards’ School Creates Treasure

Camp Treasure is the beginning of a new outdoor education program at the Josephine Edwards Christian School in Ellijay, Ga. Del Leeds, principal and 5-8 teacher, says they are excited to offer outdoor

education for students in grades K-10. “We want small schools (25 or less) to come for a day or two,” he says.

Camp Treasure consists of seven camping sites, a 100-seat amphitheater, Sanctuary Island, five miles

of trails, and 36 acres of fun — all located directly behind the Ellijay school facility.

Roy Thompson, Ellijay church member, says, “It is amazing to stand back and watch God work. Ellen White talks over and over about using nature to teach. It works on adults, and it really works on kids. If we had set out to do outdoor education, we couldn’t have done this, but God made it work. God gave us this property.”

All Camp Treasure projects began in October 2007 and were able to really take off when the school received a gift from the late

Richard McKinney. This 14-student school has the students doing 80 percent of the work while four adults do the heavy labor.

Jasmine, fifth grade, says, “It is really cool that we all get to sit outside and go down there, and it is just really fun for me. It is a very good education program and a whole lot more fun than sitting in a classroom.”

Future plans include a creation walk, a slide near Billy Goat Mountain, a “green” bathroom near the camp sites, a boat house, a playground, and a low ropes course.

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER



REBECCA BROOKS

Del Leeds discusses the Camp Treasure projects with students in grades 5-8.

Desmond T. Doss Memorial Highway



A portion of State Highway Nine, which runs in front of Piedmont Church, has been named in honor of Desmond T. Doss.

Family and friends of World War II hero and Medal of Honor recipient Desmond T. Doss Sr. gathered Sabbath, August 30, to celebrate a portion of Highway 9 named “Desmond T. Doss Memorial Highway” in his honor. Doss was living in the Piedmont area and attending the Piedmont, Ala., Church at the time of his death in March of 2006.

On May 5, 1945, while under heavy Japanese fire, he lowered his injured comrades over a 400-foot cliff to safety. President Harry S. Truman awarded Doss the Medal of Honor, telling Doss, “This is a greater honor than being President of the United States.” Doss was the first non-combatant to ever receive the Medal of Honor.

Doss was a medic in WWII who refused to carry a weapon because of his religious beliefs. It was in Okinawa where he bravely saved the lives of more than 75 fellow soldiers.

During the church service, State of Alabama Representative Richard Lindsey, and Cherokee County Commissioner Lori Owens presented the Resolution, signed by Governor Bob Riley, to Doss’ wife, Francis.

Rick Blythe, pastor of Piedmont Church, opened the service by saying, “His legacy continues. He continues to be a witness.” Blythe also honored the many veterans who were present at the service by having them stand. Among them was Clifford Eads, WWII prisoner of war. Blythe himself is a Navy veteran.

Owens stated that when she met Blythe in March of 2007, he asked her about the possibility of naming a portion of Highway 9 in recognition of Doss. Commissioner Owens was deeply moved by Doss’ heroic actions and asked for the help of her cousin, Representative Lindsey, to put this into effect.

When making the presentation of the resolution, Representative Lindsey said, “I have missed something in life by not knowing Doss personally. It is an honor to serve our country, and an even greater one when able to perform honorable deeds such as Doss did.”

Later in the service when Sid Argo, an Army and Air Force veteran and member of the Piedmont congregation, gave the prayer, he gave thanks to God for leading him to the church. He had seen an article about Doss five years ago in the Anniston Star Newspaper and has attended the church ever since.

Don Shelton, Conference ministerial director, was the guest speaker for the worship hour. He challenged the congregation to live the Word in their own lives, as Doss did in his.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Pastors Prepare for 2009 Year of Evangelism

Approximately half of the Conference pastors voluntarily met at Camp Alamisco to prepare themselves for the upcoming year of pastoral and lay evangelism.

Alan Parker, associate professor from the School of Religion at Southern Adventist University, and Ralph Ringer, Southern Union Conference evangelism coordinator, were the key

presenters for this seminar.

The pastors also received hands-on training to manage the new presentation synchronizer which can be utilized with both Share-Him meetings (designed especially to involve the laity) and the newer Revelation of Hope series.

The Revelation of Hope series was designed by Mark Finley for use by

pastors during 2009 — the North American Division Year of Pastoral Evangelism. The focus of the Church’s mission is to add 100,000 new baptized members to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.

The faith goal of the Gulf States Conference is 1,500 new baptisms.

—BY LESLIE LOUIS



Ralph Ringer (pictured) and Alan Parker were the presenters.

Youth Prepare for ShareHim



Rachel Velez is one of the young adults who is preparing for an upcoming ShareHim series.

The Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Church has initiated a youth and children's Sabbath once per quarter. On August 23, 2008, Rachel Velez, 20, young adult gave

the Sabbath morning worship service. Using the Truth for Youth Children's Power Point evangelism program, Velez preached, using graphics, to about 120 people.

The sermon on the prophecy of Daniel 2 and the great image was a hit among parents and children. The children were invited to come forward with their parents and sit at the front of the church. Velez preached with eloquence and excitement, and the children were captivated.

During the sermon, everyone at church memorized the theme text. The children caught on very

quickly and were excited at how easy the verses were memorized. At the end of the sermon, a craft sheet of Daniel's image, was given to each of the children to take home and assemble.

Later, as Velez was greeting the members, one member commented to her that she did a great job. Velez responded, "If I can do it, then I know YOU can do it, too!"

The congregational support of the youth preachers is phenomenal. They get a rousing applause when they are done. Their support encourages the youth to continue sharing their faith in Jesus wherever they go.

The youth speakers are preparing now for an upcoming ShareHim series.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Crisis Intervention



Steve Willsey, D.Min.

In September, 25 pastors and members met at Camp Alamisco to receive training by Steven Willsey, D.Min., the national crisis response coordinator for the North American Division.

The seminar included a syllabus packed with valuable resources. Participants actively role-played the intervention process in a variety of crisis situations. Topics covered included the development of listening skills and crisis communication techniques. Dealing with mental health interventions and mechanisms of action in crisis intervention were also part of the 13-hour training certification. The goal in all facets of disaster relief work is to exemplify the compassion of Jesus.

Ray Elsberry, Conference director for disaster response, made the arrangements for this valuable training seminar. Plans are underway to invite Willsey to meet with all Conference pastors at a future date for similar training.

—BY LESLIE LOUIS

60th Wedding Anniversary Celebrated



Mildred and Merle Landis celebrated 60 years of marriage on September 2, 2008. A reception was given in their honor on September 7, by their daughters, Sherrie

a teacher and dean of men at Highland Academy in Portland, Tenn., for whom the boys' dorm, Landis Hall, is named.

Landis and Merlene Pitt. Landis began his denominational employment, which lasted more than 41 years, as a teacher at Oak Park Academy in Nevada, Iowa.

During their ministry, he served as a pastor-evangelist in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, and a departmental director in various departments in the Wyoming and the Iowa-Missouri conferences. During his career he built five churches and remodeled several others.

He served as a pastor in the Gulf States Conference at the Huntsville, Ala., Central Church for 14 years, and retired in 1995. While in Huntsville, he also served as a Chaplain in the Civil Air Patrol for nine years, retiring as a major.

—BY MERLENE PITTS

Robert Sutherland Remembered

Bob Sutherland was born in Madison, Tenn., May 6, 1926, at Madison Sanitarium. He was the grandson of E. A. Sutherland, co-founder of Madison College. Bob attended Madison Academy, then later served in the U.S. Air Force.

Bob loved Madison College and was active in the alumni association. He diligently sent out the alumni newsletter, compiling the extensive mailing list and doing the writing and the entire layout even after retirement. He taught himself to use the computer and kept up to date with technology to keep abreast of events in the world as well as for productivity.

As a health professional, Bob was highly respected. He was a surgical regis-

tered nurse and worked at Memorial Hospital in Nashville. The greatest rewards to him were the personal



Bob Sutherland stands by a portrait of his grandfather, E. A. Sutherland, in the Madison College Alumni Office.

testimonies he received from colleagues and family members about his spiritual influence in their lives. For many years he delivered fruit orders to employees of Memorial Hospital in

Nashville as a fund raiser for Greater Nashville Junior Academy. To this day, he is remembered by many as the “fruit man” at the hospital.

Bob loved life, his family, people, and he loved the Lord. His interests were varied. He had a state-of-the-art dairy he operated next door to his home, to make sure his children had the opportunity for Christian education. He had a large library in his home and read extensively. He enjoyed searching the Internet.

Bob was a member of the Boulevard Church in

Madison, Tenn., and served in numerous capacities. He loved music and was active in the church choir. He served on the administrative boards of a number of self-supporting institutions, and actively supported ASI.

He passed away Monday, August 25, 2007, at his home in Goodlettsville, Tenn., surrounded by members of his family, including Stella, his wife of 63 years, whom he met at Madison College. Other survivors include brothers and sisters Shaen, Duke, Donna Shell, Angie Fucia, and Danny; daughter Claudia; son Michael; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the Boulevard Church with burial at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Goodlettsville.

Highland Students Serve Portland Community

To discover the joy of service firsthand, formal classes were cancelled September 5, at Highland Academy so students and staff could help with projects around the community. Student volunteers carried boxes and sorted clothes at a community service center, dug flower beds for an assisted living center, straightened books and put up new bulletin boards for the local public library, baked cup-



Highland students Joshua Ley, Holly Keener, Chris Evia, and Manuel Corcino sort boxes and clothing at a community service center in Portland, Tenn.

cakes for teachers, handed out flyers, picked up trash, and cleared trails. No one

seemed to mind the inclement weather.

“I was impressed with the students’ attitudes about service. Even though it rained, they didn’t let the weather dampen their spirits. They were eager to get involved in the community,”

explains Jifer Proctor, who organized the event.

Highland Academy

believes that “The Lord has appointed the youth to be His helping hand.” *Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 64. The community service day helped students understand that they are, as Highland’s theme for the year says, the “Hands of the Almighty.”

“I love doing community service because of the satisfaction you feel when you help someone. The world is pretty dark right now, and it’s good to see a smile from someone you help,” says Joshua Gaskill, a junior at Highland Academy.

—BY KAREN SCHIMP

Oasis Members Put Training to Use

After a tornado ripped through the Lafayette, Tenn., area early this year, members of the Oasis Life Development Center determined to be prepared if a disaster ever happened again. In early June, nearly 25 Oasis members became Red Cross volunteers, certified to help in an emergency. Oasis is a Seventh-day Adventist company organized earlier this year in Portland, Tenn.

Just three months later, the call came that help was desperately needed to operate local Red Cross shelters for evacuees from New

Orleans escaping Hurricane Gustav. Several members from the Oasis Life Development Center volunteered



Michele Ley (left), Michael Smith, Leslie Smith, and Donna Edmondson, members of the Red Cross and the Oasis Life Development Center, serve supper to the New Orleans evacuees at a Red Cross shelter in Lebanon, Tenn.

to help in a Red Cross shelter outside of Nashville that was offering shelter to 131 evacuees. These fami-

lies had left their homes behind, bringing very little with them. Many of them had lost their homes and

personal belongings when Hurricane Katrina hit their city three years ago, so the first couple of days were filled with anxiety as to what might happen this time.

“Our work in the shelter primarily consisted of serving meals, maintaining a clean environment, and providing basic needed items such as toiletries and clean clothes. More importantly, volunteers listened to concerns for their families and

homes,” shares Michele Ley, Red Cross volunteer and a member of Oasis.

The evacuees were very appreciative to all who volunteered and willingly gave their time to help someone they did not know but was in need. They were more than willing to pitch in and help in any way they could at the shelter to keep things running smoothly.

If you ask the Oasis volunteers, they believe they received the greater blessing, knowing that Jesus said, “Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me” Matthew 25:40.

—BY KAREN SCHIMP

Member Recognized for Research

Don Morgan, Ph.D., recently received a Distinguished Research Award from Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU). Since coming to MTSU in 2004, he has focused his attention on helping children with cerebral palsy become more mobile and physically fit. His research in this area has been funded by the National Institutes of Health (\$310,000) and he has received a fair amount of media coverage for this



Don Morgan

project.

In addition, he just received \$335,000 from the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention to create a Center for Physical Activity and Health in Youth. The overall emphasis of this center will be to support efforts to promote physical activity among Tennessee youth.

Morgan also has a health ministry that highlights the physical and spiritual dimensions of maintaining an active lifestyle. During the past two



Morgan with patient

years, he has spoken at camp meetings, pastors’ retreats, and family camps in Washington and Michigan, and he is scheduled to speak at the Arizona camp

meeting next year. He has tried not only to conduct research and teach students about exercise and health at MTSU, but he has also tried to convey the importance of regular physical activity to Church and non-Church members alike.

Morgan is a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, Tenn., and is professor in the Department of Health and Human Performance, and director of the Center for Physical Activity and Health in Youth at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU). He has a Ph.D. degree in exercise science.

Academy Youth Lands Internship with City of Birmingham

Alexander “Cody” Miller, son of Alfred Miller II, South Central evangelist, and Anya Miller, interned as a teen comic strip artist this past summer in Birmingham, Ala. His parents and the school system are proud of what the Lord is doing in Cody’s life.

He attends Ephesus Adventist Academy in Birmingham, and was offered this internship with the city through his principal, Mason West. This occurred during the second semester of his junior year. He worked as an intern in the Mayor’s Office – Division of Youth Services (DYS), answering phones and doing paperwork. On the last day of his internship, Cody asked the DHS executive director, Cedric Sparks Sr., if he knew anyone who could publish his drawings. Cody enjoys doing cartoon art — an ability inspired and cultivated by his mom. Sparks was impressed by Cody’s artistic ability and offered him a job at DHS the following summer. His job was to develop four comic strips targeted toward city youth.

As a result, Cody diligently worked to develop these comic strips. He named the series, ‘The Youth Defender.’ Cody explained, “The comic strip series is about a 16-year-old named A.J. who interns at the Division of Youth Services.” DHS featured

Cody’s work in an article of its Spring/Summer *Youth First* newsletter. The article is titled, “For Youth by Youth [FYBY], Youth Defender Comic Series” and is reprinted here by permission of the City of Birmingham’s Division of Youth Services:

“Teen artist, Alexander ‘Cody’ Miller is DHS’ first FYBY intern. Cody’s vision was to create a publication that would be a fun read for youth, while encouraging them to tap into their unique abilities to serve the City of Birmingham. His Youth Defender Comic Series features a young man named A. J. who, through an unusual turn of events while interning at DHS, discovers he has a super hero alter ego. A. J. also receives advice from a super hero from the past, who turns out to be Mayor Larry Langford. Through four special editions, the Youth Defender will use his powers to uphold good, while battling forces that hinder growth for him and his peers.” —by Beverly Meadows, *DYS Public Information Office, City of Birmingham’s*



DYS launches Youth Defender comic series, created by teen artist Alexander “Cody” Miller, hired through the DHS FYBY Initiative.

with his older brother, Alfred Miller III.

Cody, now a high school senior, and member of the newly opened East Birmingham Church, plans to study graphic design. He wants to have his own comic book company. He plans to draw Christian strips that encourage youth and others as well. Cody’s father stated, “I am very proud of my son’s accomplishment. The Lord has opened

many doors for him because he has been faithful and determined to use his gift to honor Him and do something positive for the community.”

The City of Birmingham, Mayor Larry Langford’s Office, Division of Youth Services (DYS) created the “For Youth - By Youth (FYBY) Initiative” to give local youth a chance to turn their innovative dreams into tangible realities. All four of Cody’s comic strips are available at all the public libraries in Birmingham in Jefferson County, and online at www.youthfirst.com.

—BY DEBORAH TRUITT

Division of Youth Services, Birmingham, Alabama.

Cody is grateful to his parents for all their encouragement. He is especially grateful to his mother, Anya. When he was a young child, his mother would draw pictures of people, and Cody successfully imitated her drawings. He started drawing at age seven. In tribute to her, Cody has drawn a poster that reads, “World’s Greatest Mom.” This poster is found in all four comic strips he has developed. This is his way of thanking his mother for always believing in him. Drawing is a passion he also shares in common

Duke University Honors Franklin County Seventh Grader

Recently, Ken Ephraim Gammada and some of the most academically talented seventh graders in the United States were recognized for their exceptional scores on the ACT or SAT sponsored by the Duke University Talent Identification Program (Duke TIP), according to Duke University news released in April 2008.

Ken, a Franklin County resident since 1995, was honored in May at the State Recognition Ceremony, held on the campus of Vanderbilt University, for his accomplishments in the ACT taken in February of this year. He earned scores

equal to or better than half the college-bound seniors who took the test.

“The TIP Recognition Ceremonies are inspiring events,” said Martha Putallaz, Ph.D., executive director of Duke TIP and professor of psychology at Duke University. “It is rare that so many gifted students can come together to be honored for their achievements and encouraged by their intellectual peers. The honorees have proven, at this young age, their capacity for great things. We hope they consider their achievement to be an invitation to pursue an ambitious path in life.”

Ken is the first child of Ephraim and Elizabeth Gammada of Decherd, Tenn. He was educated at home by his mother through sixth grade. He belongs to the Seventh-day Adventist Church and renders his talent by playing the piano every Sabbath during church services. He visits and provides music to the senior citizens at the Golden Living

Center-Mountain View every fourth Sabbath. He is a rising eighth grader at Webb School and hopes to play the violin and piano in the school’s string orchestra, and will join the middle school basketball team. His other siblings are Leilani and Lattani, who are both home-schooled.

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—BY ANTOINE MAYCOCK



Ken Ephraim Gammada is a member of First Church in Decherd, Tenn.

JJYC Celebrates First Anniversary

Jammin’ for Jesus Youth Choir (JJYC) of New Life Church in Louisville, Ky., celebrated its one-year anniversary on Sabbath, September 6, with the theme, “It’s Time to Bless His Name.” The exciting celebration began with a delicious breakfast and Sabbath School, followed by morning worship service led by the choir. After a filling Mexican-themed lunch, choir members enjoyed an educational music workshop conducted by Corey Gaines, pastor of Canaan Christian Church. The day’s events culminated with a dynamic concert featuring JJYC and special guest Designed by

God, New Life’s women’s ensemble.

JJYC debuted at New Life on Sabbath, September 8, 2007. The choir, led by Mellanie Hunter, founding director, originated as a mass choir of school-aged youth. A few months after the group’s inception, JJYC was subdivided into a younger children’s choir and an older youth choir, allowing for greater musical diversity and expression.

The ultimate focus of JJYC’s ministry is to spread God’s end-time message in the language of music, which transcends cultural, age, religious, and social factors. Their energetic,



Pictured are choir members Celene Izean (left), Amanda Valentine, Jasmine Warnell, Paul Turner, Mellanie Hunter, Marquese Carter, Darnetta Izean, Mia Hunter, Amanda Franklin, and Carmene Izean.

spirit-filled musical delivery is a regular fixture at New Life, although the choir’s ministry has extended outside the church’s walls to local community events, nursing homes, and other church-

es. The choir’s extensive repertoire includes traditional gospel, praise and worship, contemporary gospel, Negro spirituals, contemporary Christian, and a capella music.

—BY MELLANIE HUNTER

Morning Star Serves Family During Difficult Ordeal

The young life of Veronica “Vovo” April Ford ended in a hit-and-run accident which occurred outside her home in Sunrise, Fla., on Friday, April 4, 2008.

A member of the Sunrise Police Department called Winston Taylor, pastor of the Morning Star Church in Sunrise, and told him about the tragic accident.

The news touched the heart of the community and prompted the church to reach out to the bereaved family.

Taylor, Darnett Blackwood, first elder; and Anakaye Fagan, communications director; visited the family’s home the following Wednesday, bearing a gift and words of comfort for the grieving hearts, but found no one home.

They returned later that day and met several family members. At that very hour, Benita Desir, Vovo’s mother, was sitting at the funeral home attempting to arrange the funeral service for her young daughter, to be held on Saturday, April 12, 2008.

Realizing that a pastor was in their home, family members called Desir who asked Taylor if he would be willing to officiate at the funeral service.

It is not traditional for such services to be held on the Sabbath in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Taylor turned to Willie Taylor,

former president of the Southeastern Conference, during the time of ordeal for advice. He shared with Taylor, “The Church has failed if it fails to reach out to and evangelize the community.”



Winston Taylor's acts of kindness during a family tragedy brought relief.

At the funeral home the reality of the situation came into focus as photographs of Vovo were passed around. Grief was stamped on the faces of all present. However, the program was finalized and the venue was set for the Morning Star Church.

It was, as was expected, an extremely sad affair in which family members were unable to carry out their roles in the service due to overwhelming emotions.

Taylor, however, urged the family and all those

gathered to celebrate her life even as they missed her, to be open to healing even as they cherished memories, to let go of anger and revenge and instead entertain the idea that even as her life had purpose, so did her death.

He suggested that this little life, in its ending, could draw many closer to the God of Heaven.

The media, having followed the story since its beginning, was there at the final goodbye, and the event was covered by several media houses, including Channel 7 and Channel 10 and *The Miami Herald* and *The Sun-Sentine* newspapers.

The church is grateful for having been given the opportunity to aid in alleviating the family’s stress at

such a time. They are grateful for the members who willingly attended, worked as ushers, and participated in the program.

On the following Monday, Taylor and a member of the church visited the family home carrying a package containing a commemorative Bible; copies of *Steps to Christ*, *Bible Answers*, and *Keys to Happiness*; and an invitation to the upcoming evangelistic meetings at the church, hoping to lift the spirits of the family members.

They instead found their own spirits lifted and their minds again pointed to the awesomeness of God as the mother, now having to face the loss of her only child, stated firmly and without hesitation that she would be in church.

“We were all filled with amazement as not only Benita, but her cousin, Judith, celebrated the very next Sabbath with us,” stated a member of the Morning Star Church.

Weeks later people are still speaking about the kind deed done by the Morning Star Church.

“Out of something sad, our church family has made friends with the community,” said Taylor. He also added, “We were happy to be the hands of Jesus comforting the community in its time of grieving.”

—BY ANAKAYE FAGAN

Conference Committee Reassigns Pastors

It is a policy of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to periodically move its pastors.

“No two pastors lead in the same way. Each has been gifted by God

with different talents. By moving pastors the church has the opportunity to benefit from the various skills sets of each pastor. Thus, over time the church develops into a well-

rounded institution,” states Milton Sterling, Conference ministerial director.

He added, “Pastors also benefit from the moves by learning how to lead in different environments. “

The Southeastern Conference Executive Committee recently voted to reassign pastors. Listed below are the recent moves.
—BY ROBERT HENLEY

Church	Pastor	Church	Pastor
Ephesus - West Palm Beach	Claude Matthews	Rays of Light - Ft. Lauderdale	Winston Taylor
Ephesus - Jacksonville Breath of Life - Jacksonville	Sherwin Callwood	Maranatha - Tallahassee Mt. Olive - Quincy	Willie L. Taylor
New Hope - Ft. Lauderdale Pines - Pembroke Pines	Jonathan McCottry	Mt. Sinai - Sarasota Mt. Gilead - Bradenton	Everis Clarke
Lebanon - Miami Alpha Agape - Miami	Leonard Newton	Progress Village - Tampa Westside - Tampa	Dolphy Cross
North Orlando	Tony Taylor	Emmanuel Spanish - Tampa	Alejandro Morgado
Mars Hill - Sanford	Carl Ware	Pilgrim Spanish - Hialeah	Raul Cruz
Northside - Miami	T. A. McNealy	Boca Raton - Spanish	Josue Parker
Mt. Olivet - Ft. Lauderdale	Brent Walden	Sheeler Oaks - Apopka	Juan Gonzalez
Patmos Chapel - Winter Park	Samuel Dade	Frostproof - Spanish	Pablo Soler
Tabernacle - Miami	Olinto Groce	Genesis - Spanish	Daniel Olacirregui
Mt. Sinai - Orlando	Herman Davis		

Gregory Mack Tapped as Executive Secretary

On September 28, Patrick Vincent resigned as the executive secretary of the Southeastern Conference, a post he was appointed to during the ninth Conference Constituency, held on April 24, 2008.

During his brief tenure as executive secretary, Vincent established himself as an integral part of the Conference’s administrative body.

“My decision to step down was a difficult one,” stated Vincent, who holds a doctorate in preaching and worship from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. He added that his passion

for evangelism and pastoral ministry was just too great. It was that passion that led him to make the decision to return to the pulpit.

Vincent will continue to serve the Conference as the chairman of the Conference



Gregory Mack

building committee, and as a member of the evangelism committee. Vincent will return to pastor the Mt. Calvary Church in Tampa, Fla.

After accepting Vincent’s resignation, the Conference’s executive committee appointed Gregory Mack to replace Vincent.

Mack is a native of Miami, Fla. He holds a bachelor of arts in theology from Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., and master of divinity from Andrews University Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich. Mack has ministered in several areas in Southeastern.

Mack is married to the former Jean Johnson and they have two sons, Clint and Darren.

He has been a pastor for more than 24 years, and leaves his recent assignment from Ephesus West Palm Beach, which he has pastored for more than eight years, to become the seventh executive secretary of Southeastern Conference.

When asked about the appointment, Mack said, “I am deeply humbled to serve God and the constituents of the Southeastern Conference in this capacity.”

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

Social Work Students Learn Strategies for Effective Intervention



Social work students Phaedra (left), Stephrene (second from left), and Nathan (right) display their placard with their new social work friends, Amber (center) and Brittany (second from right), from the University of Chattanooga at the Social Justice March.

On Friday, October 3, 2008, the Oakwood University Social Work Department co-hosted the third annual Social Justice Retreat with the University of Chattanooga in Tennessee. The event provided social work students and professional social workers with an opportunity to learn more

about contemporary social and economic injustices, as well as human rights violations taking place locally, nationally, and in the international arena. The event included global presentations, peer interviews, testimonies, a historical human rights presentation, a disparity walk, a campus march on poverty, action



Oakwood and Southern social work students joined in prayer groups at the Friday evening outdoor worship service on the campus of Southern Adventist University.

groups, and strategic planning. More than 250 social work students and faculty attended from six social work programs in Alabama and Tennessee.

Following the conclusion of the retreat, 31 students and faculty traveled to Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., where they spent Friday through Sabbath evening with social work students and faculty from Southern. The event, sponsored by the Southern Union Conference, was the outcome of last year's Diversity Education Exchange Program (DEEP) co-authored by Delbert Baker, president of Oakwood University, and Gordon Bietz, president of Southern Adventist University. The weekend activity focused on some of the challenges within the



Students take the opportunity to share their perspectives on the challenges within the Adventist Church. Lorraine Frye (center) from Oakwood's Social Work Department listens intently.

Adventist Church from the perspective of college students. It also emphasized the importance of developing methods of effectively utilizing Christian social workers as a part of the Church ministries team.

—BY GEORGE ASHLEY, PH.D.



Students were matched with another student from the other institution for the weekend. Desiree (left), from Oakwood University, partnered with Brittany, from Southern Adventist University.

Southern Sees Continued Growth

For the ninth consecutive year, Southern Adventist University's enrollment numbers broke records at fall registration. Southern opened its doors to 2,777 students for the 2008-2009 academic year — 137 students more than fall 2007. This marks Southern's 13th successive year of continuous growth.

Southern's uninterrupted growth can also be seen

in the expanding campus facilities, including the new Hulsey Wellness Center and Florida Hospital Hall, the new nursing building.

This year, undergraduate enrollment is up by 97 and graduate enrollment is up by 40 students. In addition to total headcount, the number of full-time equivalents is up 69 overall.



Southern has seen a steady increase of student enrollment during the past 13 years.

“Enrollment has increased over the past de-

cade by more than 1,000 students, allowing the University to expand its curriculum, its facilities, and its faculty and staff,” says Vinita Sauder, vice president for marketing and enrollment services. “Students are choosing Southern because of our high-quality living-learning environment.”

—BY NATALIA LOPEZ-THISMON

Computer Program Receives ABET Accreditation



School of Computing Dean Richard Halterman demonstrates how a milling machine is used to fabricate custom circuit boards.

Southern Adventist University's bachelor's degree program in computer science recently became the first and only computer science program within the Adventist higher education system to be accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc., the recognized accreditor of college and university programs in applied science, computing, engineering, and technology. The internationally recognized accreditation demonstrates that

Southern's computing program meets quality standards formulated by the computing profession in conjunction with a number of technical societies.

Accreditation was a voluntary, peer-review process during which the computing program underwent comprehensive, periodic evaluations conducted by teams of volunteer professionals working in industry, government, academia, and private practice in the field of computing. These evalua-

tions focused on, among other things, the program's curricula, faculty, facilities, and institutional support.

“The message this accreditation sends to current students, potential students, parents, employers, and postgraduate institutions is clear,” says Richard Halterman, dean of Southern's School of Computing. “Southern Adventist University is committed to providing a quality academic experience and life preparation for its students.”

—BY LORI FUTCHER

Academy Students ASSIST the Elderly

With the support of an anonymous donor, Southern Adventist University's Social Work and Family Studies Department began the ASSIST (Academy Student Serve Initiative Stipend/Tuition) program, which connects academy students with older adults who need help in their homes, nursing home, or

assisted living centers.

Students help residents with household chores or other day-to-day activities while receiving monetary aid from ASSIST. The focus is not only on the work aspect, though. Students and residents also build strong relationships that encourage each other through their daily lives.

“Every morning some of our residents are waiting at the door anticipating the students' arrival,” says Cindy Talley, administrator of Calhoun Health Care Center. “Upon entering our building, the students greet the residents with hugs and smiles. This slight action is very valuable to nursing home residents.”

ASSIST operates entirely on donated funds — 80 percent by an anonymous donor and 20 percent that schools raise through community fundraisers. If you would like to make a donation to ASSIST, call 1.800.SOUTHERN.

—BY SUZANNE OCSAI



YOUTH RAISE FUNDS FOR ALBANIAN GYPSY CHILDREN

BY GERI BOWER

The Umatilla Youth Orchestra performed a dinner concert which raised \$4,000 to benefit gypsy children in Albania. Pictured are: Samantha Chang (left), Heather Markbam, Nathalie Jimenez, Nathaniel Schwersinske, and Quinlan Leach.

Seventeen-year-old Megan Mays began to share with her friend, Samantha Chang, the burden on her heart for the Roma children of Albania.

While home on furlough in Umatilla, Fla., with her Frontier Mission parents, Sean and Brenda Mays, and Moriah, her sister, Megan painted a word picture to her friend of the desperate



SEAN MAYS

Megan Mays (above and right, top) and her sister, Moriah, feel that God has placed the Roma children of Albania on their hearts.

transportation need for 35 children who walk more than a mile to school even in cold and rainy weather.

The Roma people are gypsies and have become outcasts in their society. Living conditions are poor, and there is very little food available. Megan and her sister, Moriah, previously raised money to start a school for the children.



Megan and Samantha began to plan and implement their ideas for a dinner concert to raise funds for school transportation for the children. The Chang family graciously opened their home for the event, and the director of the Umatilla Youth Orchestra, Ray Ducay, was contacted to provide the concert. This church-based group is made up of eight

young people whose parents helped prepare the Asian meal served during the first half of the concert.

What began as an idea between two friends materialized into an enjoyable evening of good food, fellowship, and music for 70 church members. Megan's presentation about the Roma children and their needs raised \$4,000 for this worthwhile project.

A Woman of Courage

BY GAIL MCKENZIE



The phone call from Michigan came one day in late April. Sherry told me her sister, Beverly, was coming to Nashville to the Magdalene House – a place for women in drug addiction and prostitution. She needed someone to pick her sister up and take her to church.

I readily agreed to make the proper arrangements with Magdalene House. Because of various circumstances, including a death in the family, Beverly was not able to come to church until the first weekend of camp meeting.



Gail McKenzie is a member of the Madison Campus Church and also serves as the women's ministries coordinator for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

I knew immediately when we met that we would become great friends. She was a bubbly, friendly woman, who was very open about her circumstances and sincere in her quest for a new life. As we drove to camp meeting that day, she shared her story with me.

Beverly was not a Seventh-day Adventist, but had been exposed to the Church through her sister. She grew up with an alcoholic father with no Christian background of any significance. Beverly became addicted to drugs at the age of 15 and had been in drug addiction for more than 30 years. She also had experienced physical abuse to the point of almost dying. She had one son and, though her life had been hard, she managed to raise her son to live a different lifestyle than the one she had chosen for herself.

That first Sabbath at camp meeting we attended the young adult meeting, and, when a call came to “give your heart to Jesus,” Beverly looked at me and asked if I would go down with her. With tears in her eyes she went forward. What an amazing day that was!

Later when I dropped her off at the Magdalene House, Beverly stuck her head back in the car and said, “I love you, Gail.” That was the beginning of a special friendship that has changed my life and hers. She was very receptive to the Holy Spirit’s call and asked to return the next week.

The following weekend of camp meeting she once again went forward in the main auditorium when the pastor made a call. God was obviously working miracles in this woman’s life, which was demonstrated by her eagerness to learn and to do what was right. Beverly sincerely wanted something different for her life and, praise God, He had led her here to this place.

I gave her a set of *Bible Story* books to read which she promptly and eagerly read one by one. She was so excited when the pastor would

refer to a subject she had just read, because now she knew the story, too! Since that time, Beverly has helped with Kentucky-Tennessee women’s retreats and many other activities. Beverly loves to be involved and volunteers whenever she is able to be a part of a ministry. She immediately joined a new believers class at Madison Campus Church. And, because the church family embraced Beverly with love, she found many friendships and subsequently was baptized last January.



Beverly

Today Beverly is graduated from the Magdalene House (an 18-month to two-year program), works for their industry, paid debts she had accrued, saved enough money to go back to school, and is enrolled in a nursing school in Nashville.

Beverly not only is a very special friend, she is a woman who has courageously left behind a life of destruction and has chosen to be a disciple of Jesus. I know she loves Him, and she knows He loves her. What a woman, and what courage!

As this world comes to an end, there are many, many, more women just like Beverly. Though their circumstances may be different and not as severe, they need someone to care. That’s why women’s ministries exists, and that is why we believe in “Helping Women to Know and Show Jesus!”



KEEPING THE FAITH IN THE SERVICE

RECOGNIZING OUR TROOPS AND VETERANS

BY LES RILEA AND NANCY HOWELL-HOWARD

We all know someone or a family member of someone serving in a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. Whether or not we agree with the purpose of the war or “conflict” in which they are serving, we know them. We love and miss them. And, they must know that we support them.

But, there will always be those who ask — should we be there? In this world in which we live, freedom is not free. Even in Bible times, freedom was always a battle worth fighting. According to Gary Council, director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries for the World Church, “The Seventh-day Adventist Church and its members have faced issues relating to war and military service since its official organization during the Civil War between the states. Our pioneer leaders wisely chose a position that encouraged good citizenship and cooperation with just governments in so far as conscience would permit. Early Adventists served in the Federal armies to preserve the Union and abolish slavery, and thousands of Adventists have honorably served

in all the nation’s wars since then.”

Don Schneider, president of the North American Division, explains that the Church established a balanced position regarding military service, recognizing “the Christian’s responsibilities as a citizen of two kingdoms, heavenly and earthly. It advocates ‘conscientious cooperation’ by rendering to Caesar (Matthew 22:15-22, Romans 13:1-6, and I Timothy 2:1-4) within the priority of obeying God (Acts 5:29).

Schneider continues by stating, “the experiences of thousands of Adventists who have honorably served and are honorably serving in the militaries of their countries show that noncombatant roles best fulfill this duality.” The Church position advises members not to voluntarily enlist, because of the ever-present potential for faith conflicts with military requirements: conflicts such as Sabbath observance, lifestyle, training to take life, and diet. However, the freewill of individuals to decide ethical and moral matters for themselves is respected as they prayerfully seek God’s will for their lives.



Colonel Gary R. Council, retired U.S. Army chaplain, is the Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries director/endorser for the General Conference.



Chaplain Hall conducts Easter service for soldiers or other faiths in Iraq.

Officially, the Church advocates that those who serve do so as “conscientious co-operators” (noncombatants), with the purpose of saving life rather than wantonly using force to take life, but no judgment is passed on those who serve as combatants or choose not to serve at all. These are matters of individual conscience, and not a test of fellowship. In fact, the only noncombatant to ever be awarded the nation’s highest award, the Congressional Medal of Honor, was a Seventh-day Adventist, Corporal Desmond T. Doss, U.S. Army medic, for valor during the battle for Okinawa in 1945.

Pastoral care is one of the primary purposes of the North American Division’s Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM). ACM is composed of trained chaplains from diverse backgrounds who are committed to help people in

the settings where they minister prepare for the coming of Christ. Through the ministry of these chaplains, ACM recognizes and responds to the needs of persons within their unique institutional/organizational settings, including military, education, healthcare, corrections, and others. Best estimates show that around 7,500 church members currently serve in the U.S. Armed Forces, while hundreds more serve in the militaries of other nations.

Chaplain (CPT) James Hall is a Seventh-day Adventist who recently served in Iraq. He was reminded constantly how vastly different life is compared to being at a church back home. He shares that “Chaplaincy in the Army is dirty, dusty, and raw. There are no frills and thrills, as most of the world,



Sergeant First Class Becky Louden (front, left) and fellow Adventist soldiers enjoy worship and fellowship in Baghdad.

or the ‘regular’ ministry, would see it. The frills are getting a good shower, and the thrills are usually seeing that one soldier come out of his or her shell long enough to reveal a spirit that is seeking greater things than himself — seeking God.” Often a late night knock at the door will reveal a frightened soldier seeking counsel from

“Chappy” to deal with tragedy back home. One of the greatest rewards is seeing a private show his commitment to Christ through baptism.

How we can show that we care?

Adventists in the military need our support — whether lonely soldiers missing their family members or seeking Christ, or the chaplains who minister to them. Joan Gebhard, a member of the Rolling Hills Church, recognized the need for such support after learning from a family friend who was serving as a chaplain in Iraq how much care packages were needed for the soldiers there. She worked with other church and community members to put together care packages with donations of prepaid calling cards, snacks, candy and gum, toiletries, puzzles, and harmonicas.

A number of resources are available for military personnel and their family members back home. For example, *Our Military Program* keeps parents and children connected while separated during long deployments through the medium of reading aloud on videotape (see Resources sidebar for website and additional resources).

Churches are encouraged to present a Servicemember Kit in a dedication service for individuals prior to their reporting for active military duty (see NSO sidebar).

A word of encouragement for our beloved soldiers

Not everyone is called to serve their nation in the military; not all are able, but we want to recognize our Adventist members who willingly



Betty Sweeney (left) and Emily Gebhard prepare care packages from the Rolling Hills Church in California for troops in Iraq.

answered the call. Public service often demands personal sacrifice. And, we want to thank you for your sacrificial service to this great country and your Church. We are proud of you for what you did, whether or not you were a Seventh-day Adventist during your days in uniform. Be encouraged that we have not forgotten you – and especially, that God has not forgotten you. You are loved and appreciated — by your family back home who miss you greatly, and also by your Adventist brothers and sisters who recognize both your obedience and your sacrifice. No matter what you endure, always remember that God’s grace is sufficient for all of you.

“Wherefore take on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” Ephesians 6:13 KJV.

Les Rilea is field representative for Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries.

Nancy Howell-Howard, freelance writer

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES

WEBSITES:

www.militaryonesource.com • <http://cinchouse.com/home.asp> • <http://weservetoo.com> • *Our Military Program*: <http://www.read2kids.org/united.htm>.

TurboTAP is an easy-to-use, interactive web portal that provides life-long support to separated military-service members (Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve) and their families. It is a single source starting point for accessing key resources available for service members transitioning out of the military at any point in their military career. www.TurboTap.org.

BOOKS:

Returning Home, by Robert M. Hicks
While They’re at War, by Kristin Henderson
Romancing the Home, by Ed Young
A Lasting Promise, by Milt Bryan, Savanna McCain, Scott Stanley, and Daniel Trathen

The Marriage You’ve Always Wanted, by Gary Chapman
The Heart of Commitment, by Scott Stanley
Love Life for Every Married Couple, by Ed Wheat and Gloria Okes Perkins

NATIONAL SERVICE ORGANIZATION (NSO) GIVES SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

The National Service Organization (NSO), a chapter of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM), provides information and guidance to young people who are anticipating military service, as well as spiritual support to Adventist military personnel.

ACM field representatives regularly visit Adventist senior academies, camp meetings, youth rallies, workers' meetings, and other special events where opportunities are given to explain issues in military service regarding Sabbath observance, the bearing of arms, and other concerns of conscience. The military cannot guarantee that all religious needs will be met all of the time, because military necessity takes precedence over everything else.

Churches are encouraged to present a Servicemember Kit in a dedica-

tion service for individuals prior to their reporting for active military duty and to keep in touch with them while they are away. These kits are subsidized by the biennial ACM offering and can be secured from the local conference NSO director.

Go to www.adventistchaplains.org and click on the Adventists in the Military link for more information on some of the following issues:

- General information about the military
- Selective Service System information
- Religious convictions of Adventists in the military
- Conscientious objection and noncombatancy
- The Reserves
- Immigrants' alternate oath for U.S. Citizenship

There is also a link to put the name of an active duty servicemember on a list to receive free Adventist literature.

Contact information for assistance from NSO:

*General Conference ACM/NSO office
12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904
301-680-6780
Email: acm@gc.adventist.org*

*Les Rilea
ACM/NSO Area Representative
1257 Nazareth Road
Lexington, SC 29073
803-743-7563
Email: lcrilea@sc.rr.com*

FALLEN HEROES

"Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute [is due]; ... honor to whom honor" Romans 13:7. We would like to recognize a few of the fallen heroes among the Adventist men and women serving in the U.S. Military:

First Officer Leroy W. Homer Jr., died September 11, 2001, in Shanksville, PA, on United Flight 93.

PFC Diego Fernando Rincon, 19, of Conyers, GA, died March 29, 2003.

SGT William S. Kinzer Jr., 27, of Hendersonville, NC, died January 26, 2005, in Ad Duluiyah, Iraq.

SSG Stacey Mastrapa, 35, of Apopka, FL, died June 16, 2004, in Balad, Iraq.

SPC Jonathan D. Cadavero, 24, of Takoma Park, MD, died February 27, 2007, in Baghdad, Iraq.

PFC Joey T. Sams II, 22, of Spartanburg, SC, died March 21, 2007, at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

SSG David Mejias, 26, of San Juan, Puerto Rico, died April 1, 2007, in Baghdad, Iraq.

PFC Travis F. Haslip, 20, of Ooltewah, TN, died May 19, 2007, in Baghdad, Iraq.



*First Officer
Leroy W. Homer Jr.*



*PFC Diego
Fernando Rincon*



*SGT William S.
Kinzer Jr.*



*SSG Stacey
Mastrapa*



*SPC Jonathan D.
Cadavero*



*PFC Joey T.
Sams II*



SSG David Mejias



*PFC Travis F.
Haslip*

Health Summit Orlando

January 30 - February 7, 2009



prayer.
faith.
wholeness.

Festival of Health

Sheraton Orlando North Hotel • Maitland, Florida

Sponsored by North American Division & Inter-American Division Health Ministries
• General Conference Health Ministries • Florida Hospital

★ schedule

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30

4:00-7:00pm Registration
7:00-9:00pm Track I Seminars

SABBATH, JANUARY 31

8:30-11:30am Track I Seminars
11:30am-12:30pm **Worship Speaker**
Samuel DeShay
12:30-1:30pm Lunch (provided)
1:30-5:00pm Track I Seminars

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

8:30am-12:30pm Track I Seminars
12:30-1:30pm Lunch (provided)
1:30-4:00pm Track I Seminars
4:00-7:00pm Registration
Dinner (on your own)
6:00-6:30pm Oxygen Cocktail
7:00-8:30pm Festival of Health
Derek Morris, Neil Nedley

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

7:00-8:00am Registration
8:00-8:15am Oxygen Cocktail
8:15-9:15am Devotional
DeWitt Williams
9:30am-12:30pm Track 2 Seminars
12:30-1:45pm Lunch (provided)
Regeneration - lunch'n learn
2:00-5:00pm Track 3 Seminars
5:00-7:00pm Dinner (on your own)
7:00-8:30pm Festival of Health
Derek Morris, Don Hall

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:00-8:15am Oxygen Cocktail
8:15-9:15am Devotional
Kathleen H. Liwidjaja-Kuntaraf
9:30am-12:30pm Track 2 Seminars
12:30-1:45pm Lunch (provided)
Healing Arts by *Candace Huber*
- lunch'n learn
2:00-5:00pm Track 3 Seminars
5:00-7:00pm Dinner (on your own)
7:00-8:30pm Festival of Health
Derek Morris, Des Cummings

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8:00-8:15am Oxygen Cocktail
8:15-9:15am Devotional
Elie Honoré
9:30am-12:30pm Track 2 Seminars
12:30-1:45pm Lunch (provided)
Smart Strategies for Personal
Financial Success by
Gordon Botting - lunch'n learn
2:00-5:00pm Track 3 Seminars
5:00-7:00pm Dinner (on your own)
7:00-8:30pm Festival of Health
Derek Morris, George Guthrie

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5

8:00-8:15am Oxygen Cocktail
8:15-9:15am Devotional
Lenore Hodges
9:30am-12:30pm Track 2 Seminars
12:30-1:45pm Lunch (provided)
Instep for Life by *Reg Burgess*
- lunch'n learn
2:00-5:00pm Track 3 Seminars
5:00-7:00pm Dinner (on your own)
7:00-8:30pm Festival of Health
Derek Morris, Loretta Bacchiocchi

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:00-8:15am Oxygen Cocktail
8:15-9:15am Devotional
Gordon Botting
9:30am-12:30pm Track 2 Seminars
12:30-1:45pm Lunch (provided)
Vitamin D Update by
Lenore Hodges - lunch'n learn
2:00-5:00pm Track 3 Seminars
5:00-7:00pm Dinner (on your own)
7:00-8:30pm Festival of Health
Derek Morris, Dick Tibbits

SABBATH, FEBRUARY 7

9:30-10:45am Sabbath School
Pastor Cho
11:00am-12:15pm **Worship Speaker**
José Rojas
Adventist Brass Musical Feature
Lunch (provided at Florida Hospital)
2:00-3:00pm Plenary Program
DeWitt Williams, Reg Burgess
Restoration Musical Concert
3:00pm Debriefing Session

“who should attend?
community service directors,
health care professionals,
health ministries directors,
pastors, personal ministry
directors, youth leaders and
you!”



TRACK ONE (weekend only)

TITLE	PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
Black Family Health	DeWitt Williams, MPH, EdD, CHES; Carol Easley Allen, PhD; Wayne L. Greaves, MD; Byron Conner, MD; Louvenia Anderson, MA	This course will address risk factors, prevention and treatment of hypertension, stroke, coronary artery disease, type 2 diabetes mellitus and other serious health problems and will offer Christ-centered perspectives on human sexuality. Principles of exercise and strategies for weight control will be shared. The student will leave knowing how to deal with African American health disparities and how to provide culturally competent health care.
Cancer Prevention Seminar	Hildemar Dos Santos, MD, DrPH, CHES	This Cancer Prevention Seminar will cover general cancer prevention, most common cancers for US residents, and specific cancer prevention in different sites.
Coaching Lifestyle Change	Lilly Tryon, MSN, RN, FCN, cWC	This workshop introduces a Biblically-based, innovative lifestyle coaching approach that can transform your own health behavior change efforts and revolutionize your health ministry programs by helping participants experience lasting lifestyle change.
Depression Recovery – Training the Trainer (English)	Neil Nedley, MD; Paula Reiter	The seminar is designed to train people interested in becoming directors and facilitators who want to plan and hold a successful depression recovery program. After the training, attendees will receive the tools necessary to run a complete Nedley Depression Recovery Program.
El Estrés más allá de poder controlarlo - Stress Beyond Coping (Spanish)	Elie S. Honoré, MD, MPH, MHA	El estrés es un problema universal que cada uno consigue. Puede destruir individuos, familias, iglesias y comunidades. Pero ahora usted puede intervenir con éxito. Este programa de seis sesiones puede darle la capacidad de hacer eso, y prepararle para asistir a otras personas para que puedan establecer para ellos mismos una vida mejor.
15 Days to Lower Blood Pressure Naturally	Samuel L. DeShay, MD, MPH, DMin	The 15-Step Program will provide effective strategies to lower your blood pressure with significant results.
Forgive to Live: How Forgiveness Can Save Your Life	Dick Tibbits, DMin	The workshop will review the basic physiological mechanisms which link anger with high blood pressure and the principles of forgiveness from a behavioral, cognitive, affective and spiritual dimension.
Recupérese de la depresión - Depression Recovery (Spanish)	Salim Serrano, MPH, RRT, DrPH Student	The seminar is designed to train people interested in helping others through a successful depression recovery program. After the training, attendees will have the knowledge and tools necessary to hold the Nedley Depression Recovery Program in their community.
Regeneration: Dealing With Family Dysfunctions	Betty Campbell, RN; Hal Gates, JD	The seminar helps reveal the importance of breaking out of denominational denial and coming out of the 'congregational closet of family dysfunctions;' and the relevance of creating a Christ-Centered 12-Step recovery ministry in your church.
Tools for Effective Health Evangelism	Charles Cleveland, MDiv, MPH	This workshop will teach you how to use the health expo as a natural bridge to spiritual meetings and organize an expo in your community. Practice using the various screening equipment that makes an expo so appealing to the public and become familiar with the Abundant Living health talk series. Hands-on experience in conducting an actual Health Expo for the community will also be given.

**Note: CEUs are available for some of the seminars*



TRACK TWO (Monday-Friday AM)

TITLE	PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
C.H.A.R.T.E.R.S.: Every Church a Community Health Center (English)	Fred Harding, DHSc, RD, DrPH; Elie S Honoré, MD, MPH, MHA; Stoy Proctor, MPH, MDiv, MA; Kathleen H. Liwidjaja-Kuntaraf, MD, MPH	The workshop will give both theory and practice in the running of a church-based health program. It also explains the technique on how to bridge the church-based health program leading them to the loving Savior.
Divorce Recovery/Grief Recovery	David H. White, DMin	This course will prepare you to facilitate both a Divorce Recovery and Grief Recovery group. You'll learn how to create an environment to foster hope and healing; cope with anger; handle the spiritual problems of a divorce; and build healthy relationships as well as how to put hope back into your life and deal with the pain of loneliness, and more.
Fitness for Life™ [Lifestyle with a focus on fitness]/ Instep	Don Hall, DrPH, CHES	Fitness for Life™, an effective community health outreach ministry, 10-week modular format combines physical activity with nutrition and behavior modification. The program is practical and easily financially self-sustaining, providing opportunity to interact with people and invite them to "Follow Me." Learn also about the new Instep for Life Walking program. 15 hours of CEUs are available.
Health Ministry Teams	Candace Huber, MPH, BSN, RN, FCN	The Health Ministry Team course prepares your congregation's members and/or health ministry team to understand community health issues, principles of health, and health behavior change; identify community resources for use in the congregation; implement successful congregational health surveys; and plan and implement successful health awareness.
How to Write a Grant Proposal: a Step-by-Step Approach	Steve J. Veres, MDiv	This seminar will provide tips for how to find funding sources for your programs; write an effective proposal; and identify what health and community services programming is needed and frequently funded in your community, to name a few.
Hydrotherapy and Massage Seminar (English)	Roby Angelina Sherman, MD	The workshop will consist of practical talks presenting scientific theory and will include demonstration of many treatments in hydrotherapy, use of charcoal and other natural remedies for home use.
¡Sí! Salud Integral - WIN! Wellness (Spanish)	John B. Youngberg, EdD; Millie Youngberg, EdD; Wes Youngberg, DrPH, MPH, CNS	¡SÍ! SALUD INTEGRAL presenta un Nuevo program de bienestar integrando la salud de cuerpo, mente/espíritu y relaciones familiares para el enriquecimiento personal y como ministerio tanto para los miembros de la iglesia como para el evangelismo. Los 21 factores unen el sanamiento biológico, emocional y espiritual basado en investigaciones científicas recientes.
Stress: Beyond Coping	Skip MacCarty, DMin	Based on MacCarty's book, <i>Stress: Beyond Coping</i> , this workshop is the official Stress Management educational seminar of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, providing biblical principles for managing stress.
The Wellspring Diabetes Program – Making a Difference	George E Guthrie, MD, MPH, CDE, CNS	We will be learning about the lifestyle treatment of diabetes and a program designed to help you help others (or yourself) take responsibility for their disease.
Vegetarian Food Instructors (Morning Session)	Stoy Proctor, MDiv, MPH, MA; Fred Harding, DHSc, RD, DrPH; Lenore Hodges, PhD, LD, RD; Julio E. Barillas	For the first time in the history of Health Summit Orlando, participants will have hands-on menu planning, food preparation, serving and dining on their own gourmet dishes. Register early because space is limited. Top chefs will assist the fortunate few.
Women's Health – Creating a Stronger and Healthier You	Wendy S. Perrott, MD, FACOG	This course will discuss the wholistic elements of living the abundant life throughout all phases of the female experience – adolescence, the reproductive phase, the menopausal journey and post menopausal years. You'll learn how to make healthier choices; balance your emotions; improve and strengthen your relationships; radiate a God-given confidence; and become an influence for Christ-centered abundance.





TRACK THREE (Monday-Friday PM)

TITLE	PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
BREATHE FREE™ Smoking Cessation	DeWitt Williams, EdD, MPH, CHES; Stoy Proctor, MDiv, MPH, MA; Elie Honoré, MD, MPH, MHA	The revised Breathe Free™ The Plan to Stop Smoking prepares the student to organize and conduct a stop smoking clinic for interested participants in your church or community.
C.H.A.R.T.E.R.S.: Every Church a Community Health Center (Spanish)	Fred Harding, DHSc, RD, DrPH; Elie S Honoré, MD, MPH, MHA; Kathleen H. Liwidjaja-Kuntaraf, MD, MPH	The workshop will give both theory and practice in the running of a church-based health program. It also explains the technique on how to bridge the church-based health program leading them to the loving Savior.
C.R.E.A.T.I.O.N. Health	George E. Guthrie MD, MPH, CDE, CNS	Teach your congregation and community to live happier, healthier and stress-free with CREATION Health video seminars, tools and resources. This exciting new program encompasses eight timeless secrets revealed in the Genesis creation story.
Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP)	Harold Burden, MDiv, MPH; Dena Guthrie, MS, RN, ANP	This workshop will train individuals to conduct CHIP in their local churches and communities. Created by Dr. Hans Diehl, the CHIP 30-day program features 16 video lectures and addresses the major western diseases including Diabetes, Cancer, Atherosclerosis, Hypertension, and Obesity.
Eight Weeks to Wellness™	Gerard D. McLane, DrPH, CHES, Intrinsic Coach	This workshop introduces a new Annual Health Ministry Model and Club Well™ from LifeLong Health®, a division of Wellsource, Inc., and features a health emphasis weekend with assessments, follow-up seminar, year-long online follow-up, weekly and monthly seminars, and a community health fair. 15 hours of CEUs are available.
How to Develop Your Leadership and Volunteer Team	Steve J. Veres, MDiv	You will learn how to develop your team leadership through leadership principles, individual leadership assessment, and leadership buy-in methods as part of this course. You will also discover the types, strengths and weaknesses of volunteers, and volunteer dynamics, pitfalls and how to keep volunteers long-term.
Hydrotherapy and Massage Seminar (Spanish)	Roby Angelina Sherman, MD	The workshop will consist of practical talks presenting scientific theory and demonstrations of many treatments in hydrotherapy, use of charcoal and other natural remedies for home use.
Living Free: Finding Freedom from Habits that Hurt	Vicki Griffin, MPA, MACN; Evelyn Kissinger, MS, RD, IBCLC	Habits, whether good or bad, have a powerful shaping effect on the brain, including its chemistry, structure, and function. Living Free, the newest outreach ministry seminar from Lifestyle Matters, helps participants understand how the addicted and learning brain work - and how to tap into powerful spiritual and lifestyle tools that will help participants build a better brain and a better life.
Seven Steps to Financial Health	Gordon Botting, DrPH, CHES	This practical workshop is designed to teach the participant the Biblical principles of finances and everyday common sense money management.
Vegetarian Food Instructors (Afternoon Session)	Stoy Proctor, MDiv, MPH, MA; Fred Harding, DHSc, RD, DrPH; Lenore Hodges, PhD, LD, RD; Julio E. Barillas	For the first time in the history of Health Summit Orlando, participants will have hands-on menu planning, food preparation, serving and dining on their own gourmet dishes. Register early because space is limited. Top chefs will assist the fortunate few.
WIN! Wellness Evangelism Leadership (English)	John B. Youngberg, EdD; Millie Youngberg, EdD; Wes Youngberg, DrPH, MPH, CNS	WIN! Wellness Evangelism Leadership presents an integrated package of physical, spiritual and relational wellness for balanced living. WIN! contains the components necessary for large scale public evangelism or for small groups and seminars. It is a no-excuse wellness ministry, easy-to-use and interesting. WIN! gives a gentle approach to key Bible doctrines in a Christ-centered approach combined with current scientific research.



FESTIVAL OF HEALTH EVENING SPEAKERS

Forest Lake Adventist Church • 515 Harley Lester Lane • Apopka, Florida 32703

Sunday-Friday	Derek Morris , Senior Pastor Forest Lake Adventist Church
Sunday	Neil Nedley , MD
Monday	Don Hall , DrPh, CHES
Tuesday	Des Cummings, Jr. , PhD
Wednesday	George Guthrie , MD, MPH, CDE, CNS
Thursday	Loretta Bacchiocchi , MSN, MPH
Friday	Dick Tibbits , DMin



George E. Guthrie, MD, MPH, CDE, CNS, Assistant Director, Florida Hospital, Family Medicine Residency



Dick Tibbits, DMin
Chief People Officer, SVP
Florida Hospital



Don Hall, DrPH, CHES
Founder and Chairman of the Board, Wellsources®, Inc.



Neil Nedley, MD
Physician in Internal Medicine,
Author



Des Cummings, Jr., PhD
Executive Vice President of Business Development for Florida Hospital



Derek Morris
Senior Pastor, Forest Lake Adventist Church



Loretta Bacchiocchi, MSN, MPH, Associate Professor, Department of Nursing, Florida Hospital, College of Health Sciences

“health ministries enhance the ministry of the local church to effectively answer real issues. how can we recognize depression and effectively gain mental and emotional health? how do we bring regular exercise into our lifestyle? how can we gain knowledge of our bodies to preserve health and diminish disease?”



speakers & presenters



Carol Easley Allen, PhD
Chair & Professor, Department of Nursing, Oakwood University
Presenter



Louvenia Anderson, MA
President & Founder, Totally You; Certified Personal Trainer
Presenter



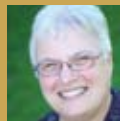
Julio E. Barillas
Executive Chef & Health Instructor
Presenter



Gordon Botting, DrPH, CHES
Director of Stewardship Ministries Pacific Union Conference
Speaker & Presenter



Harold Burden, MPH, MDiv
Chairperson, Executive Committee, Adventist CHIP Association
Presenter



Betty Campbell, RN
Associate Director, Adventist Regeneration Ministries
Presenter



Charles Cleveland, MDiv, MPH
President, Health Education Resources
Presenter



Byron Conner, MD
Internist, Kaiser Permanente; Leader, Search Your Heart Program
Presenter



Samuel L. DeShay, MD, MPH, DMin
President, Plus 15, Inc.
Worship Speaker & Presenter



Hal Gates, JD, Pastor, Regeneration Ministries
Presenter



Wayne L. Greaves, MD
Senior Director in the Infectious Diseases Section, Schering Plough Research Institute
Presenter



Vicki Griffin, MPA, MACN
Director, Lifestyle Matters, Inc.
Presenter



Dena Guthrie, RN, MS, ANP
Secretary, Treasurer, Program Development, Adventist CHIP Association
Presenter



George E. Guthrie MD, MPH, CDE, CNS, Assistant Director, Florida Hospital, Family Medicine Residency
Speaker & Presenter



Don Hall, DrPH, CHES
Founder and Chairman of the Board, Wellsources®, Inc.
Speaker & Presenter



Fred Harding, DHSc, RD, DrPH
It Is Written
Presenter



Lenore Hodges, PhD, LD, RD
Dietitian, Speaker, Writer, Counselor
Speaker & Presenter



Elie S. Honoré, MD, MPH, MHA, Health Ministry Director, Inter-American Division
Speaker & Presenter



Candace Huber, MPH, BSN, RN, FCN, Director, Florida Hospital, Center for Community Health Ministry
Presenter



Evelyn Kissinger, MS, RD, IBCLC, Director of Corporate Wellness Program, Lifestyle Matters, Inc.
Presenter



Kathleen H. Liwidjaja-Kuntaraf, MD, MPH, Associate Director, General Conference Health Ministries
Speaker & Presenter



Skip MacCarty, DMin, Fellow of the American Institute of Stress
Presenter



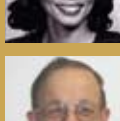
Gerard D. McLane, DrPH, CHES, Intrinsic Coach, Vice-President, QA & Development, Wellsources, Inc.
Presenter



Neil Nedley, MD
Physician in Internal Medicine, Author
Speaker & Presenter



Wendy S. Perrott, MD, FACOG, Obstetrician/Gynecologist
Presenter



Stoy Proctor, MDiv, MPH, MA
Associate Director of Health Ministries, General Conference
Presenter



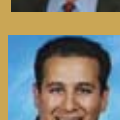
Paula Reiter
Director, Nedley Depression Recovery Program
Presenter



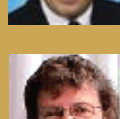
José Rojas, MDiv, DD
Director, Volunteer Ministries Network, North American Division
Worship Speaker



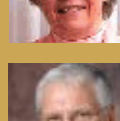
Hildemar Dos Santos, MD, DrPH, CHES, Assistant Professor, Loma Linda University School of Public Health
Presenter



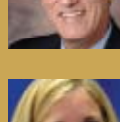
Salim Serrano, MPH, RRT, DrPH Student, Loma Linda University School of Public Health
Presenter



Roby Angelina Sherman, MD
Associate Medical Director, Wildwood Lifestyle Center & Hospital
Presenter



Dick Tibbits, DMin
Chief People Officer, SVP Florida Hospital
Speaker & Presenter



Lilly Tryon, MSN, RN, FCN, cWC
Director of Health Ministries, Pennsylvania Conference Wellness Coach, Adventist WholeHealth Network
Presenter



Steve J. Veres, MDiv, Executive Director, Metropolitan Health Services
Presenter



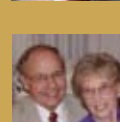
David White, DMin
Pastor, Hospital Chaplain
Presenter



DeWitt Williams, EdD, MPH, CHES, Director, North American Division Health Ministries
Speaker & Presenter



John B. Youngberg, EdD & Millie Youngberg, EdD, Professors Emeriti of Andrews University
Presenter



Wes Youngberg, DrPH, MPH, CNS, Clinical Preventionist & Nutrition Specialist
Presenter



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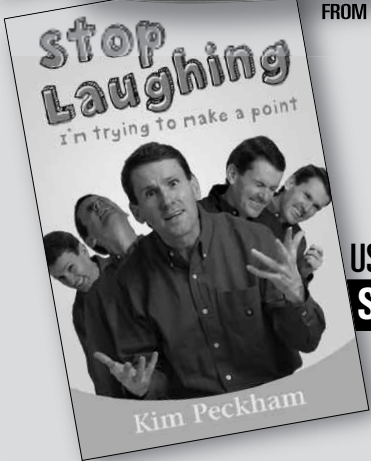
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Events Calendar

Carolina

Community Services Workshop – Nov. 14-17.
Pathfinder Council – Jan. 9-11. NPR.
Women's Ministries Mini-Retreat – Jan. 30-Feb. 2. Myrtle Beach, SC. Details: 704-596-3200.

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, 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
Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule
 Dec. 6. Maranatha in Miami.
 Dec. 7. Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderdale, Pompano Beach, Jupiter.
Planned Giving Clinics and Seminar – Dec. 13. Miami Springs Church.

Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online – www.gccsda.com
Kids in Discipleship Training –

Nov. 2-5. Collegedale, TN.
Thanksgiving Break – Nov. 25-30.
Pathfinder Teen Leadership Training Reward Event – Dec. 5.
New Members' Retreat – Dec. 5-7. Cohutta Springs.

Gulf States

Complete Calendar online – <http://www.gccsda.org>
Women's Ministries Autumn Renewal Retreat – Nov. 2-4. Camp Alamisco.
Youth Rally – Nov. 2-4. Bass Memorial Academy.
Pathfinder Leaders' Honor's Weekend – Nov. 8, 9. Camp Alamisco.
Minister's Meeting – Nov. 26-29. Camp Alamisco.
Elders' and Deacons' Retreat – Dec. 5-7. Camp Alamisco.
Hispanic Youth Leadership Convention – Dec. 12-14. Camp Alamisco.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board
 Dec. 9.
 Jan. 13.
 March 17.
 May 12.
 July 21.
Conference Executive Committee
 Dec. 9.
 Jan. 13.
 March 17.
 May 12.
 July 21.

Southern Adventist University

PreviewSouthern – Nov. 13,14.
Symphony Orchestra/Organ Concert – Nov. 16.
Thanksgiving Break – Nov. 26-30.

Announcements

Evangelism Council – Dec. 7-10. Presented by Alejandro Bullon from the South American Division at Oakwood University, and sponsored by the South Atlantic Conference.
AHS Sunbelt Retired CEO Reunion – Jan. 23, 24. Avon Park, FL. Details: Bill Sager, 863-452-2593, email: wcsager@tnni.net or Tom Amos, 863-452-1979, email: dtamos@gmail.com or Jim Culpepper, 615-654-3311.

Union College Homecoming – April 2-5. Alumni, friends, and former faculty are invited. Honor

classes: 1939, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1984, 1989, and 1999. Details: Contact the alumni office at 402-486-2503, 3800 South 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@ucollege.edu.

La Sierra Academy '09 Alumni Weekend – April 24-Golf Tournament, April 25-Alumni Sabbath. Honor classes: '49, '59, '69, '79, '89, '99, '04. Keynote speaker: Lewis Walton. Come celebrate friends and memories on LSA Campus. Details: 951-351-1445 x 244 or Isaalumni@lsak12.com to update personal information, find missing class members, and share news and class reunion gatherings. Large selection of yearbooks will be available to purchase.

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	Nov. 7	Nov. 14	Nov. 21	Nov. 28	Dec. 5	Dec. 12
Atlanta, GA	5:41	5:36	5:32	5:30	5:29	5:30
Charleston, SC	5:24	5:20	5:18	5:14	5:13	5:14
Charlotte, NC	5:24	5:18	5:14	5:12	5:11	5:12
Collegedale, TN	5:41	5:36	5:32	5:29	5:28	5:29
Huntsville, AL	4:48	4:42	4:38	4:36	4:35	4:36
Jackson, MS	5:06	5:01	4:58	4:56	4:55	4:56
Louisville, KY	5:38	5:32	5:27	5:24	5:23	5:23
Memphis, TN	5:01	4:55	4:51	4:49	4:48	4:49
Miami, FL	5:36	5:33	5:30	5:29	5:30	5:31
Montgomery, AL	4:50	4:46	4:42	4:40	4:40	4:41
Nashville, TN	4:46	4:40	4:36	4:33	4:32	4:33
Orlando, FL	5:37	5:33	5:30	5:29	5:29	5:30
Wilmington, NC	5:14	5:09	5:05	5:03	5:02	5:03

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