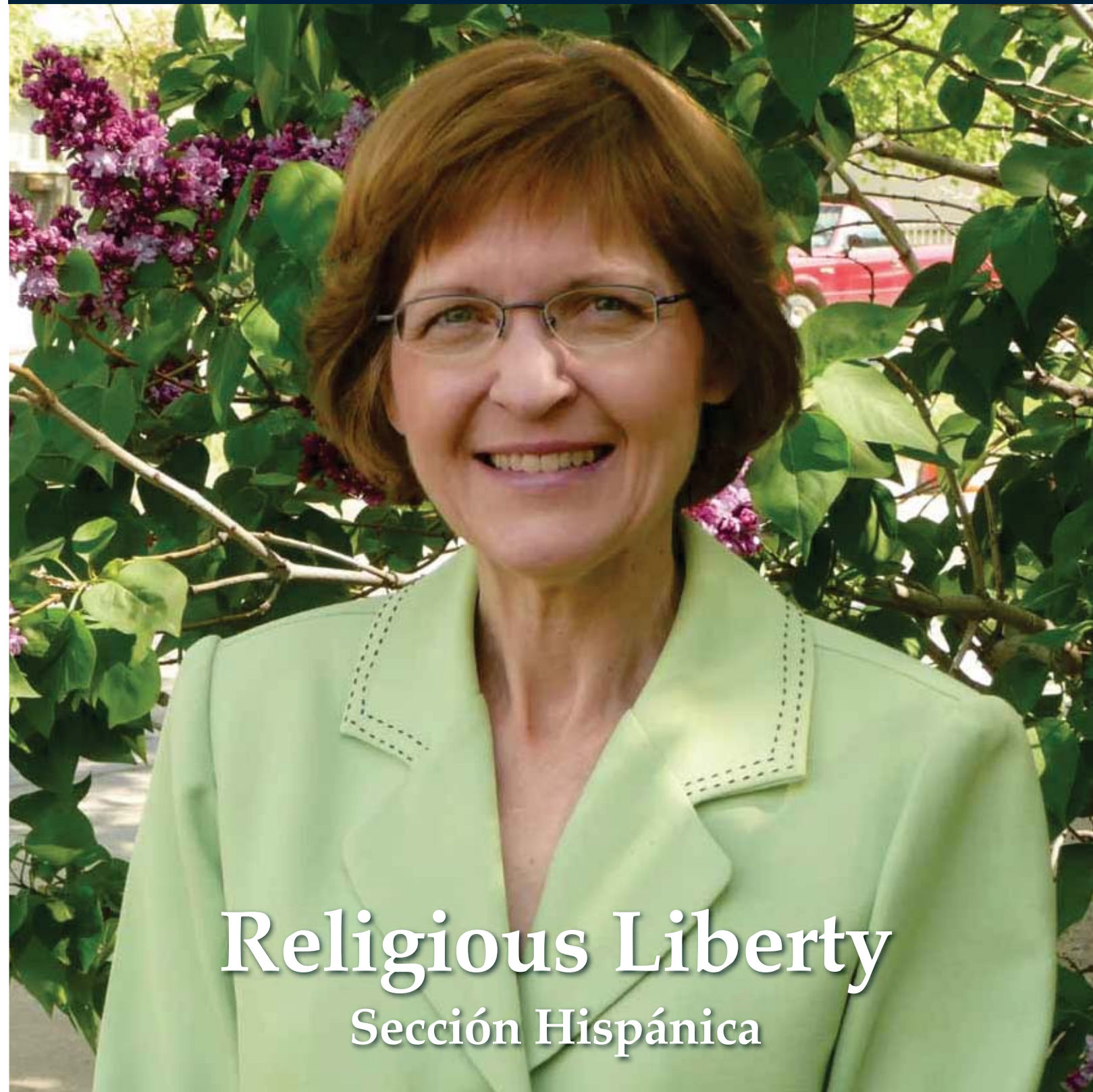


January 2010

# TSOUTHERN IDINGS



Religious Liberty  
Sección Hispánica

# Beyond Moving Bookcases

The task was simple enough and only required a little extra help from a couple of strong men. I decided to start with asking my neighbor if he could lend a hand. It seems natural to think about my neighbors, since from January 1, 2009, I have been praying specifically for them — Patrick and Arlene Joseph, their college senior son, Anthony, as well as their (now) college-age daughter, Monique. I pray for each one by name every morning. As you know, Cheryl and I felt impressed to reach out to our neighbors this past year, and we have enjoyed many Bible studies together.

When Carlton Byrd, D.Min., told me that the North American Division had asked him to preach for an uplinked evangelistic meeting from Berean Church in Atlanta, Georgia, the first thought I had was wondering if our neighbors would like to attend the opening meeting. Cheryl called Arlene, and she said they'd be glad to go with us. So on a Wednesday night in October, we all attended the meeting, and our neighbors told us they'd never heard such clear Bible-based preaching. The meetings lasted only five nights, and unfortunately our neighbors were out of town the rest of the week.

The next few weeks were hectic for both our families, yet every morning I continued to pray for the Josephs by name and ask God for opportunities He had in mind to keep our friendship and witness alive. Well, this time I needed help moving a few pieces of heavy furniture that Cheryl had selected from her Dad's home prior to his move. I called Patrick and left a message that I could use some help the next morning. He sent a text back that he'd be very glad to assist, and since Anthony was home for Thanksgiving, he'd come along as well.

As we were moving a bookcase, I mentioned to Patrick that I'd be owing him and Anthony the rest of my life for their kindness. Of course he said he was more than happy that I had asked them for the favor. Then he became serious. He thought for a moment, and then said there was something I could do. They had not known how to approach me on their idea, but since I had called and asked for help, he and Arlene had talked and agreed to ask me. "Anthony would like you to pray for him today. We decided on this late last night."

"That would be a privilege," I responded. We finished unloading the truck and I asked when they wanted to meet. "In one hour — it's important." So at 2 p.m., the family came over, including a nephew who was visiting from New York. We had a Bible study on God's promise to change the heart if we are willing. And, that God wants to give us the power to make good choices in our daily lives. I asked Anthony if that's what he wanted, and he agreed. We prayed together and felt the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The task was moving bookcases. God's mission was encouraging a neighbor, giving a young man perspective, and calling him to make a decision to allow God to lead his young life. Will you join me, as we begin a new year, to pray that God will help us see the mission opportunities in the middle of whatever tasks we're involved in?



**Gordon Retzer**  
*Southern Union  
President*

Volume 104, No. 1, January 2010  
The *Southern Tidings* is the Official  
Publication of the Southern Union  
Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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SOUTHERN TIDINGS Volume 104 Number 1, January 2010.  
Published monthly by the Southern Union. Free to all mem-  
bers. POSTMASTER: send changes of address to Southern  
Tidings, P.O. Box 849, Decatur, GA 30031



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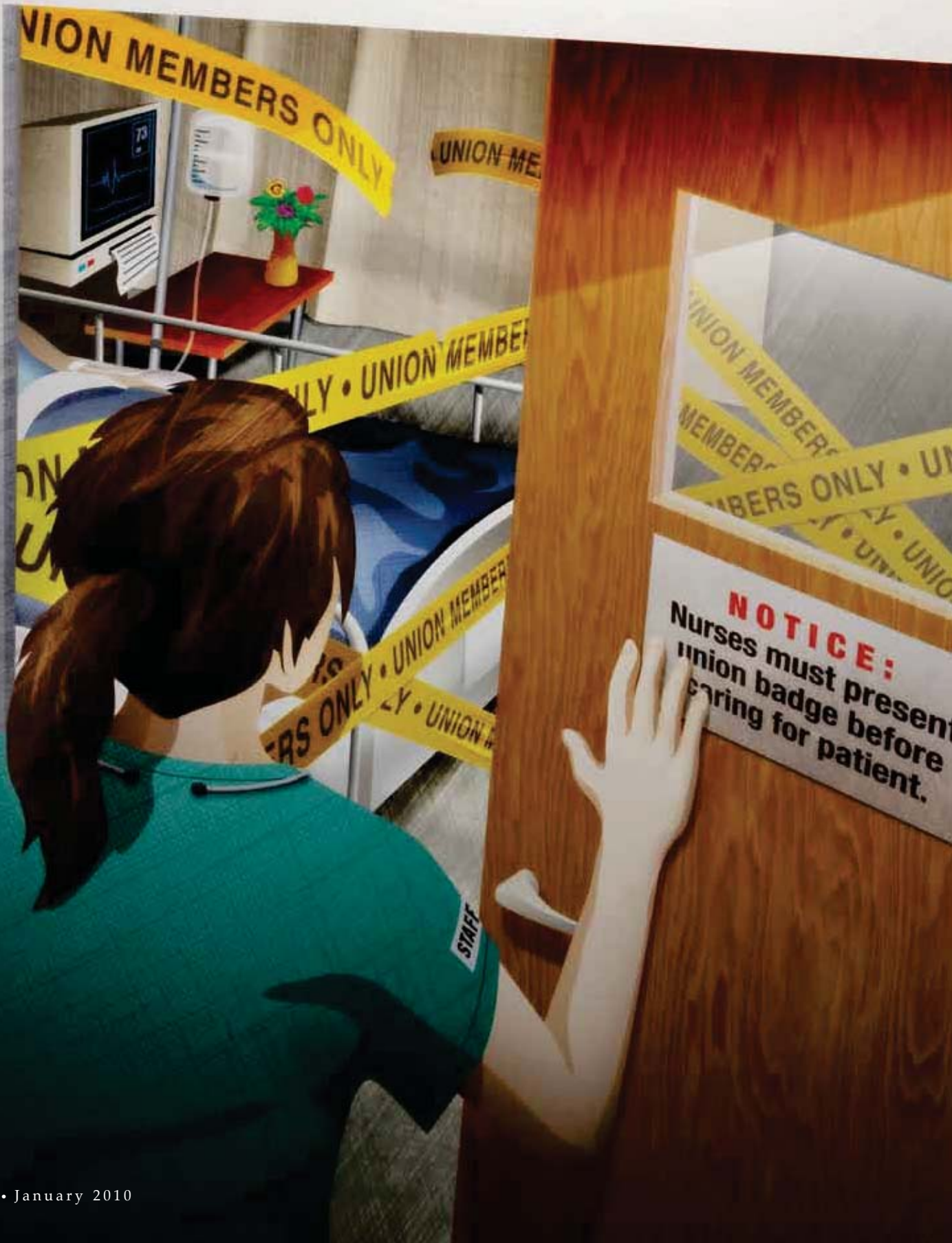
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Cover Caption: Sharlene Harwood, a Seventh-day Adventist pastor's wife, had to fight for her job because of labor union problems.

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# LABOR UNIONS AND THE FIGHT TO PRESERVE INDIVIDUALITY

BY AMIREH AL-HADDAD

In just a few weeks you will be seeing brochures cropping up in churches around the North American Division that look very similar to the image you see on the right. The brochures feature an incredible story about the wife of a Seventh-day Adventist pastor in Canada who not only had to fight for her job, but was grilled for three days in a grueling cross-examination of, not only her faith, but the Church's teachings and practice regarding labor unions. Sharlene Harwood moved with her husband to a new church district. In doing so, she also changed jobs. Sharlene is a registered nurse dedicated to caring for the sick. But in Manitoba, Canada, she was told that she could not care for the sick or be employed as a nurse unless she joined and financially supported the Manitoba Nurses Union. Being required to join a labor union was not something new for Sharlene. She had worked as a nurse in three other Canadian provinces and each time she requested an exemption, it was granted.

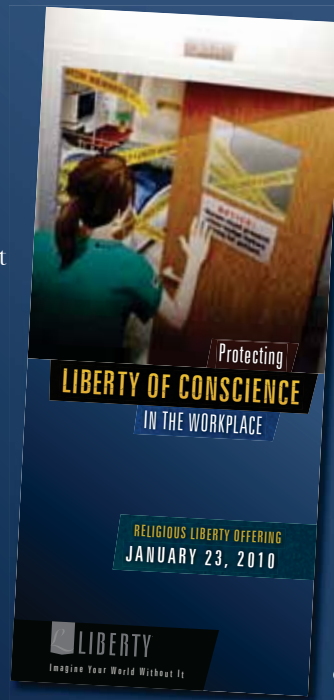
One of the caveats of the provincial labor relations act was that individuals who sought a religious exemption from the union must be a member of a religious group that has, as one of its articles of faith, members

refraining from joining and supporting labor unions. This should not have been a problem, since the church has clear and unmistakable counsel from Ellen G. White on labor union membership. The United States also has rules that allow for certain exemption for those members with a conscientious objection. These rules vary from state to state.

All but one state (Kentucky) in the Southern Union are considered "right to work" states. We are fortunate in this area. With some exceptions in the transportation industry, employees have the right to decide for themselves if they wish

to be a union member. During the last 17 years we have only had one mandatory labor union case, and it was resolved with very little effort.

An article in the October 24, 2009, *World* reported \$450 million was spent in the 2008 election by labor unions seeking to gain bigger power for the unions. An online article by RealClearPolitics stated, "The president of the Service Employees International Union boasted that 60.7 million were from that one union." The pay-off has been as big as the money spent. The new administration issued an executive



order to encourage federal agencies to award bids over \$25 million dollars to go only to construction companies with unionized contractors. This is a strange policy to initiate in a time of economic hardship, with unemployment rates at their highest since the great depression. Politics aside, speaking purely from a Seventh-day Adventist viewpoint, cannot ignore the counsel of Ellen G. White when she wrote, “. . . how can men obey . . . and form combinations that rob the poorer classes of the advantages which justly belong to them, pre-

horns like a lamb, but speaks like a dragon. This beast is about enslaving mankind, forcing men and women to give it homage, in order that they might buy and sell. It is that prophecy that mandates that we as Christians must heed the warnings given.

To quote a popular 1960's folk singer, “For the times they are a-changin’.” You cannot deny the change in attitude that has come upon us. Membership in labor unions for the last 20 years has been on the decline. However, in 2008, a reversal took place, and membership in labor unions

in the United States grew by more than 400,000 employees.

In March 2009, the Employee Free Choice Act was introduced in both the house and the senate. The bill would effectively do away with the secret ballot vote on unionizing a workplace.

While the bill never made it out of committee, at last count it had 227 co-sponsors in the house. Expectation that this bill will come back in another congressional session is almost guaranteed.

The Supreme Court has also been making strides toward empowering labor unions. In April of 2009, it ruled that claims that arose in a collective bargaining agreement which had clearly and unmistakably required the labor union member to arbitrate a discrimination claim were enforceable. In other words, the court decided that if your labor union had agreed to it, your rights to litigate your discrimination claims in federal court were waived. It is quite a change in mindset, when just 30 years ago the opinion had been that labor union arbitrations primarily deal with the law of the shop, and not the law of the land. Fortunately, Justices Stevens and Souter were among the dissenting vote in that case. Justice Stevens pointed out that arbitration is not a substitute for what bona fide judges do in a courtroom.

There is still hope for those who oppose labor unions. With the dedicated assistance of the religious liberty department, Sharlene was finally able to

get the exemption. Resolution for her came on the eve of the trial. Sharlene took to heart the following counsel: “In this work we are to preserve our individuality. We are not to unite with secret societies or with trade unions. We are to stand free in God, looking constantly to Christ for instruction.”

*E.G. White, Letter 157, 1902. Testimonies, Vol. 7, page 84.*

The Southern Union's Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty is about helping you to stand free too. The department assists Church members in issues involving liberty of conscience against an evil that is great, but not greater than God. *Liberty* magazine also stands for these principles. It is the outreach tool to more than 150 thousand men and women who have the power to affect policy change. Please remember the work the religious liberty department is doing as we go forth to “preserve our individuality.” ♣

*Amireh Al-Haddad is the director of public affairs and religious liberty for the Southern Union Conference.*

## FOR THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'. YOU CANNOT DENY THE CHANGE IN ATTITUDE THAT HAS COME UPON US.

venting them from buying or selling, except under certain condition! . . . The forming of these unions is one of Satan's last efforts” *E.G. White, Letter 26, 1903. Portions in Selected Messages, Vol. 2, pages 142, 143.*

Understandably the argument for labor unions has both pros and cons, especially in a world of corporate greed. In that same article in *World* magazine, Rian Wathen, a former state labor union official, sums it up nicely by stating, “There's no such thing as good unions, just bad management.” There are many who argue that labor unions are not what they were in 1903, when Mrs. White wrote those words of caution. In truth, membership in a labor union is not a test of faith for membership in the Church. That option is thankfully given to each church member to decide on their own. However, we encourage each church member to read and understand the Spirit of Prophecy counsels concerning labor unions. “And the trades unions will be one of the agencies that will bring upon this earth a time of trouble such as has not been since the world began” *E.G. White, Letter 200, 1903. Selected Messages, Vol. 2, page 142.*

In Revelation, John describes beholding another beast; this one has

### PROBLEMS WITH LABOR UNIONS:

- Mandatory enrollment conflicts with religious convictions.
- They engage in political actions that may be contrary to the conscience of the member.
- They can negotiate a waiver of your right to legal recourse in workplace discrimination issues.
- Seniority agreements can negate your ability to receive a shift with Sabbath off.
- Loyalty is demanded to the union first and foremost.

### RELIGIOUS LIBERTY HELPS IN THESE WAYS:

- Sabbath accommodation issues in the workplace
- labor union issues in the workplace
- Sabbath testing issues
- conscientious objection to bearing of arms / limited immigration issues
- child custody issues
- education issues
- other issues involving liberty of conscience

# THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES SPARK STUDENT REVIVAL

Isaac Olatunji Jr., Ph.D., Department of Religion and Theology faculty member at Oakwood University and affectionately known as “Dr. O,” is the facilitator and speaker for the “Oakwood University Campus Revival for the Second Coming of Christ,” a student outreach ministry that began with a simple desire to learn more about the Three Angels’ Messages. Olatunji leads out in this ministry by holding weekly Bible studies with the students at Oakwood to foster confidence in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Friend, and to reinforce the tenets of the Adventist faith. The focus is on encouraging a balanced, Christ-centered revival and reformation



among the students.

This student outreach ministry began when Olatunji was approached by a religion and theology student who desired to know more about the message of the Three Angels’ Messages of Revelation 14. Olatunji agreed to study with the student, and encouraged others who desired to learn more about the Three Angels’ Messages to join them. The opening Bible study began in the Eva B. Dykes Library with 14 students desiring to understand the Three Angels’ Messages and seeking to know Christ better. Because of the success of the first study, the meetings were transferred to one of the classrooms at the religion and theology department at the Moseley Complex. There, the study group grew to more than 50 students as Olatunji discussed the issues relating to end-time events, the Three Angels’ Messages, and Righteousness by Faith.

After tremendous success in studying with the students within the first month of the ministry’s inception, a more organized effort was launched to reach a greater number. Advertisements by email, Facebook, and word-of-mouth increased the campus Bible study every week until it had to be transferred to the Moseley Complex Chapel, where the meetings reached an enrollment high of more than 300 students. As a result, more

than 40 students made decisions for baptism and for personal Bible studies. Currently, the campus revival meetings are at a steady level, with nearly 200 students attending weekly to hear practical and biblical truths that not only explain the tenets of the Adventist faith, but encourage students to make responsible choices in their spiritual lives.

In relating this experience Olatunji commented, “The Lord alone is to be praised and glorified. It is truly an invigorating experience to teach this precious truth to those in need of the saving truths of the Bible, and I am honored to be God’s helping hand in this matter.” Along with the campus Bible study, Olatunji teaches religion and academic success courses, along with offering counseling, motivation, and personal Bible studies to students, touching on a variety of personal and spiritual issues. This student outreach ministry operates throughout the entire academic year, and will continue to do so as long as there are students who desire to know Jesus more deeply. Please keep this campus ministry in prayer as it seeks to be a blessing to the students who are making decisions for eternity. ✨

*Submitted by Michele Solomon, in collaboration with Isaac Olatunji, Jr., assistant professor in the Department of Religion and Theology at Oakwood University.*

# GODencounters — 24/7

By Jacquie Pinder

In 2002, in the choir room of a church in Florida, two dozen people started a ministry called GODencounters. It is a movement making its way across the nation, designed to restore a desire to know God, share God, and learn how to live passionately for Him. Conferences, churches, and colleges from Massachusetts to Washington State, to Australia and Jamaica, support and believe in this cause to help young adults reconnect with their Heavenly Father.

With an increasing loss of inter-

est among young adults in developing their spiritual walk with God, it seems a grand canyon-sized hole has carved itself into many of our churches, widening the gap between the elementary and senior citizen age groups. These young people have grown up attending Sabbath School,



*Chana Losolla, Carolina Conference young adult ministries assistant, with GODencounters speaker Matthew Gamble*





*Many gathered at an outdoor amphitheatre for testimonies, foot washing, and communion at the end of the journey.*



*Prince Lewis, pastor from the South Atlantic Conference, conducts a seminar on Sabbath morning.*

evening. An exercise called “The Path” provided a journey of reflection and personal growth, and ended with communion at the cross. While walking to each station along the path, even the cool night air lingered in reverence. Every moment was private and sacred, and although talking was not allowed, you could sense the assurance in knowing you were not on the journey alone. The Path helped each person to define themselves by first forgiving themselves, then forgiving and praying for others.

Several of those who attended decided they did not want to wait until next year to do another GODencounters retreat. Plans are underway to meet once a month or bi-monthly at a host church between the two conferences to worship God together, and keep the fire going. It is only through active pursuit that our intimacy with God grows deeper.

This weekend was a constant reminder of God’s love and compassion for even a mistake-making, problem-solving, trying-to-understand-my-purpose, young adult like me! I can worship a God who is not confined by religion or doctrine, and find comfort in knowing my fears and desires are in the Hands of His infinite power and wisdom. Is it possible to live your life to the fullest and still have a fulfilling Christian life? You can be sure of it. ✨

*Jacquie Pinder is Carolina Conference editorial assistant.*

hosted a joint GODencounters retreat. It was beautiful to witness how sharing hopes, dreams, problems, and frustrations transcended cultural differences to create lasting bonds. More than 90 young adults spent the weekend rediscovering themselves and their relationship with God. There were incredible testimonies of God’s blessings, and hours spent in praise and worship through song.

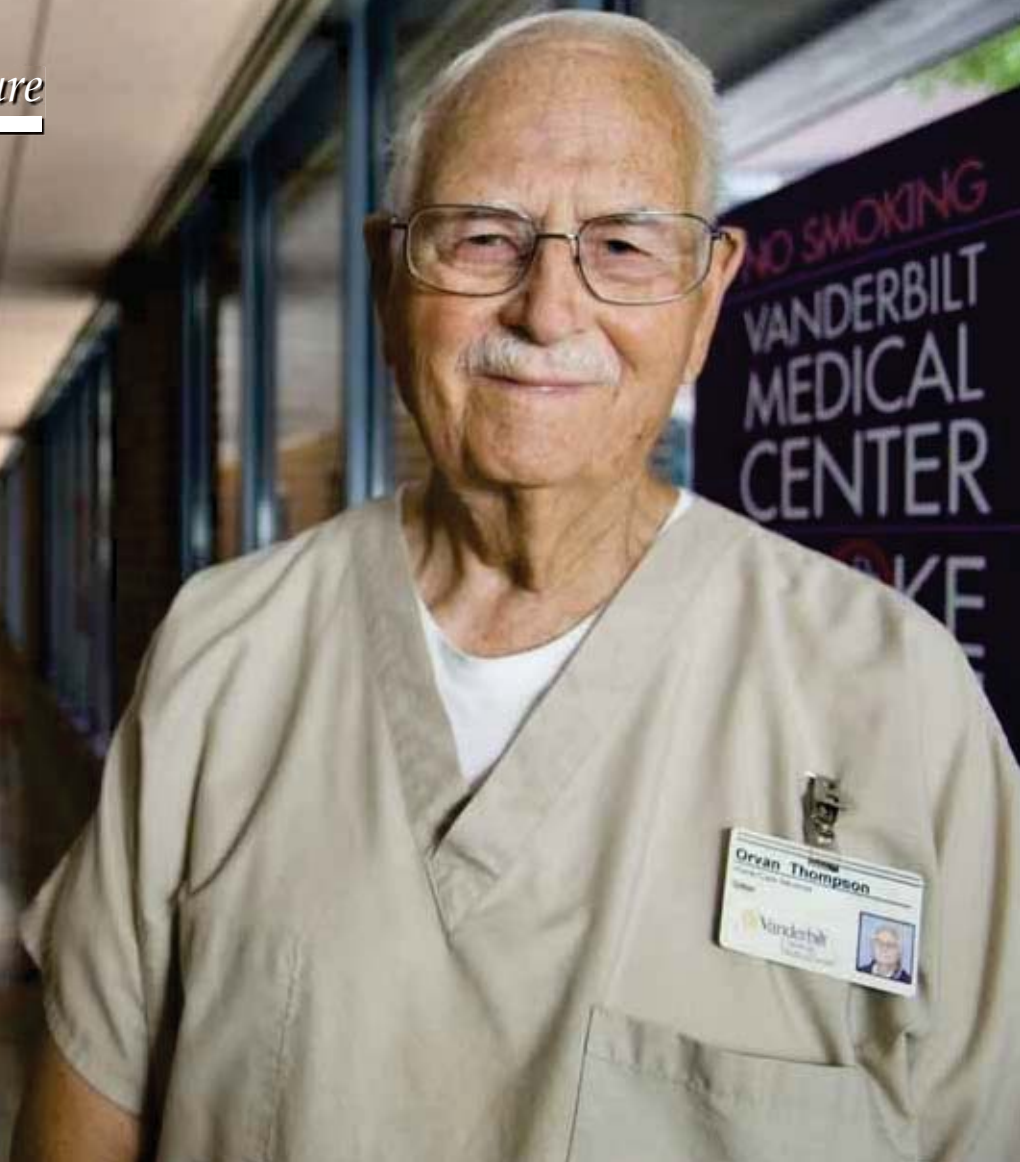
One of the most powerful GODencounters moments took place Saturday

marching in Pathfinders, and traveling to youth federations, only to fall haphazardly into this huge hole when making the transition into becoming adult Christians. Because of this burden, GODencounters formed to help young adults seek an everyday, every moment, living experience with GOD. So, what would a 24/7 encounter with God be like?

This past September, in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Black Mountain, North Carolina, the Carolina and South Atlantic conferences



*Guest speaker Lisa Hope (right) participates with a young adult.*



## Vanderbilt's Oldest Working Nurse

*Orvan Thompson was recently recognized in an article written by Leslie Hast, which appeared in Vanderbilt University Medical Center's House Organ. Thompson, and his wife, Evelyn, are members of Boulevard Church in Madison, Tennessee. Because of space limitations, only portions of the original article appear here. Used with permission. – Marvin Lowman*

A Canadian farm boy, born the month World War I ended in 1918, is Vanderbilt's oldest working nurse. In his 90 years, Orvan Thompson, LPN, has had quite a life. Thompson, who trained as a

nurse in the 1940's, and still works as a sitter for Vanderbilt Home Care Services, has nearly a full head of silvery hair and a mustache to match. His glasses are thin, and his gait is sure and steady.

He lives with his wife of 66 years, Evelyn, who is also a nurse, at the Madison home they bought in 1950, and where they raised their four children. Thompson works on-call on a 3 to 11 p.m. shift. He

is usually called in twice a week, but once worked a 21-day stretch. Though Thompson has worked in hospitals, he's now content to leave inpatient duties to the younger nurses.

If he hadn't stumbled upon a copy of *Reader's Digest* in 1938, Thompson might still be in Canada working on the family farm. Thompson's parents, Thomas and Mary, were trying to make a living on the dry plains of Nebraska when they heard about the fertile lands in Alberta, Canada. They moved there in 1916, and Orvan was born two years later. Although Thompson's father wanted him to work on the farm rather than get an education, he was able to finish high school. The example of his older brother, and the urging of his brother-in-law, inspired him to leave the farm and try to make his own career.

He had been working for a lumber company out in the Canadian bush for one winter when he made the discovery that changed everything — a box filled with magazines and books. One was a 1938 edition of *Reader's Digest* with a feature on Madison College, a school just north of Nashville that prepared students for careers in agriculture, industry, teaching, and health care.

Thompson was one of five males in his class of 30. He said the nursing profession was beginning to attract more men, and he wanted to get into something where he could make a living.

After two years away at college, Thompson's mother wrote him and asked him to come home for a visit, and what ensued is one of his

greatest adventures. She told him that if he came home and helped put up the hay, his father would pay his way back to Madison. So Thompson and his roommate, who

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*If he hadn't stumbled upon a copy of Reader's Digest in 1938, Thompson might still be in Canada working on the family farm.*

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was from Wenatchee, Washington, inquired around and found a Kentucky car dealer that needed help driving cars out west. The pair then hitchhiked to Wenatchee, and Thompson continued on to Canada, across the Rocky Mountains, to his home in Alberta. He helped put up the hay, but his father refused to pay his way back to Tennessee.

Thompson met his future wife, Evelyn, in college. She was also training to be a nurse. He was eventually drafted into the 75th infantry division after a year of pre-nursing courses and two years of nursing training, and served as a

medic. Evelyn followed Thompson to the different army stations. After the war, they returned to Madison and started a family.

Thompson came to work at Vanderbilt Medical Center in 1991. Evelyn had worked as a technician at Nashville Memorial Hospital for almost 20 years, and when she retired, she also became a sitter at VUMC. Thompson's assistant nurse manager, Lolita Kelso, R.N., said patients and families often request him as a sitter when they return to the hospital. But he also likes getting the call telling him that he is needed at the

hospital. "I've felt good about being able to help because if somebody needs it, I've been able to give it."

Thompson may retire at the end of the year, and he and Evelyn sometimes talk of moving to a retirement facility, but for now, they are reluctant to leave their home and garden. He enjoys tending his crops and spending time with his four children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. ♣



# Healed Through Forgiveness

BY NATALIA LOPEZ-THISMON



Months after a boy in school murdered Maria Gough's 14-year-old son, Jaime, she lay on the floor, defeated. Hate for the boy responsible for her son's death, as well as depression, had finally conquered her life, and her body was no longer able to stand the pain.

Maria began to pray as tears streamed down her face. "Lord, I know You were powerful enough to keep my son here with me," she prayed. "Why didn't You?"

Even as she questioned God's motives, Maria knew that she needed to move on with her life. Her daughter and husband still needed her, so she asked God for a sign. "I can't deal with it anymore," she pleaded. "Lord, I need a sign from you to live, to survive. I promise that if you give me a sign, I will understand."

Grief-stricken and unable to lift her body off the living room floor, Maria finally drifted into a deep sleep. In a dream, Maria saw Jesus and questioned Him about Jaime's murder. Jesus urged her to trust Him.

Not knowing how many hours she had slept, Maria woke up with renewed strength. The hate she harbored for her son's murderer, however, continued to fester in her heart.

She began meeting with other people who were also grieving the loss of loved ones and struggling with forgiveness. She even started taking her daughter along. Her husband, George, though supportive, felt that support groups could not help

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## *Grief-stricken over her son's murder, Maria drifted into a deep sleep on the living room floor.*

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him. He kept thinking, "How could someone going through what I'm going through help me?"

After about a year of meeting with people at a local restaurant, a friend and member of the informal group suggested to Maria that she start her own grief support group.

At first, Maria objected because she felt she could not support others until she was able to support herself. With continued urging, Maria signed up for training at a local hospital to become a certified grief support group leader.

After Maria became certified, she asked Luis Badillo, Miami Temple's pastor, for permission to hold the grief support group meetings in the church. George accompanied Maria to her first few meetings. To his surprise, he found the meetings helpful in coping with his grief. That's when George also decided to get certified.

As the months passed, Maria's emotional load seemed to lighten as her mind drifted away from thoughts of hate, and moved toward forgiveness and helping others in pain.

Today, the couple facilitates two meetings, one in Spanish and one in English. Twice a month, people

from the community come with a variety of grief issues including death, divorce, and depression. "I learned that the groups are an opportunity to reach people," says George. "In this setting, we can share how God has brought us through."

George and Maria say the purpose of each group is to uplift and encourage. They realize that people need each other in times of pain and suffering. "So many are confused and are hurting who don't know how to forgive," says George.

Maria admits her struggle with hate and forgiveness was extremely serious. Thanks to God and to support groups, she is free of that burden. She is now able to support others going through tough situations.

"A lot of people are hurting and struggling with forgiveness," says Maria. "Jesus tells us to go to people and forgive them. We want to send a message that says, with God's help, we can overcome."

George and Maria agree that the Adventist Church needs more facilitators for those grieving. "This ministry is about relating to someone who has been through the same thing we have been through," says Maria.

George and Maria are certain the only way people can triumph over mental and emotional trauma is by dedicating their lives to God's work. "We have gone through the process of healing by sharing and serving God," adds George. "If I can do it, others can do it, too." ❖

## “Just Claim It!” — Second NAD World Youth Prayer Conference



**JUST  
CLAIM  
IT 2**  
SALVATION & SERVICE

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America will host its second World Youth Prayer Conference on April 7-11, 2010, in Columbus, Ohio. It is themed “Just Claim It: Experience the Power of Prayer – Claiming Communities for Christ.” Youth from all over the world will participate in this power-packed experience to claim the power of God in their lives.

Crime, violence, drugs, and sexual immorality have plagued all homes, communities, schools, and even churches. “The purpose of this Prayer Congress is two-fold. First, it will draw serious attention to the

challenges of senior youth by reintroducing them to a love relationship with Christ. Second, it will empower them to reclaim their cities through service to others while bringing a message of hope,” said James Black Sr., director of youth ministries for the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America.

This new and unique spiritual experience will draw more than 15,000 attendees to begin a five-day prayer journey to “Just Claim It” in the name of Jesus. In addition to the 120 hours of organized prayer, organizers have coordinated 15 workshop tracks (180 workshops), a special community mis-

sion project called “Just Make-Over,” speaking opportunities for teens called “Youth Preach-Out,” drama presentations focusing on biblical prayer encounters, biblical floats parade, a music festival with a special feature of the 300 voices JCI Mass Choir accompanied by a 250 piece orchestra, and recreation (translations provided for international attendees).

To ensure the JCI impact in every community, special invitations have been sent to the President of the United States, his cabinet, members of Congress, the Senate, governors, state legislatures, mayors, city councils,

community activists, and world leaders of every nation. “We want leaders to come and have our youth lay hands on them and pray for their leadership,” said Black. “Also, delegates are encouraged to bring non-Adventist relatives and friends to JCI — this voids the ‘it’s just for us’ mentality. It’s time our youth know that their prayers can literally impact the entire world,” he said.

For details on the conference, registration, or schedule, or to be a volunteer, please visit [www.jci2.org](http://www.jci2.org), or email [info@jci2.org](mailto:info@jci2.org), or call 301-680-6420.

## Gordon Hospital EMS Holds Toy Drive

Gordon Hospital's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department, Calhoun, Ga., helped make a lot of children smile this Christmas thanks to the annual toy drive.

For the past 12 years, Gordon Hospital's EMS staff has collected toys for underprivileged children in Gordon County through "Help Make a Kid Smile."

"It is an honor to be able to continue this program that has helped



*Woody Davis (left) hands toys to Doug Hite to load into an ambulance for transport to the Voluntary Action Center.*

so many families in Calhoun and Gordon County," said Courtney Taylor, director of Gordon Hospital EMS.

All toys collected through the annual drive were given to the Voluntary Action Center (VAC) to distribute to qualifying families.

"The Voluntary Action Center does an amazing job helping local families during difficult times," said Vickie Spence, executive director of the United Way of

Gordon county.

Every toy donated through the EMS toy drive remains in Gordon County, and is given to the many needy children who otherwise would not be smiling on Christmas morning.

"We are so thankful for everyone who donated to our 'Help Make a Kid Smile' toy drive," Taylor said. "Because of their generosity, a lot more kids were smiling on Christmas morning."

—BY KAREN SHAW

## Florida Hospital Neurosurgeon, Team Win Award for Groundbreaking Research

Melvin Field, M.D., neurosurgeon and surgical director of Florida Hospital Cancer Institute Brain and Spine Tumor Program, Orlando, Fla., presented the results of his team's recent research studying stem cells in malignant brain tumors at the Congress of Neurological Surgeons' annual meeting in New Orleans, La. The research won the Congress of Neurological Surgeons' Brain-LAB Neurosurgery Award, an accolade presented to a neurosurgeon practicing in a non-academic setting with the best research related to central nervous system tumors.

Receiving this honor was especially notable this year because there were a record number of abstract submissions to the Con-

gress for Neurological Surgeons. The research was also awarded one of the "Top Ten" abstracts of the meeting.

This study, performed in Orlando, identifies a specific gene marker present in brain tumor stem cells that is not present in normal non-tumor stem cells in the brain. Tumor stem cells are thought to play a critical role in making malignant brain tumors resistant to current treatments, including chemotherapy and radiation therapies.

The discovery of this marker provides hope to doctors and researchers that future treatments to



*Pioneering research at Florida Hospital could enable physicians to treat brain tumor patients more effectively.*

block or target this gene may significantly improve survival in patients with the most aggressive form of brain cancer called glioblastoma multiforme.

This study was a collaborative effort between Florida Hospital and University of Central Florida (UCF). An entire team was

involved in the research, including Sergey Bushnev, M.D., Nicholas Avgeropoulos, M.D., Angel Alvarez, M.D., and Kiminobu Sugaya, M.D. The team's finding is the first of its kind, and is groundbreaking in the field of stem cell research because it could enable physicians to treat brain tumor patients more effectively, potentially resulting in better outcomes for this uniformly fatal tumor.

"This award is an incredible honor, and I feel fortunate to be able to work with such a talented group of physicians and researchers, as it is through their hard work and collaboration that such cutting-edge work and discovery can take place here in Orlando," said Field.

# [prostate cancer]

1 in 6 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during their lifetime.



Maybe it's his dad, brother,  
friend—or even him one day.

A few positive steps can help you reach  
your optimal health. Start your journey by  
exploring [www.CreationHealth.com](http://www.CreationHealth.com).



## Concord Church Shares Books at County Fair



Every year the Concord Church members look forward to setting up their evangelism booth at the Cabarrus County Fair. For two weeks in early fall, this booth is used to share information about the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its beliefs. Usually the booths for games, food, and other attractions get the attention of visitors, but this year members of Concord witnessed the Holy Spirit move upon the hearts of the community like never

before. They exhibited a strong desire to know more about God.

More than 3,000 books were distributed, in addition to pamphlets and tracts. On

opening weekend, more than 1,700 books were shared — 1,000 of them on the first Sabbath. The books included *The Great Controversy*, *Desire of Ages*, *Christ Object Lessons*, *Ministry of Healing*, *Bible Readings for the Home*, *The Ten Commandments Twice Removed*, and *Take Charge of your Health*. Books were also available in Spanish.

The common question asked by visitors was, “It’s free? What’s the catch?” After paying to enter the fair and spending money

at other booths, they found it hard to believe they could get something absolutely free. Even the other vendors were surprised by the amount of traffic the “church booth” received. Fearing the books would run out early, one of the vendors took a set of books for herself before the fair opened for the day. One man came running to the booth wanting more



books after he’d found three books left sitting on top of a trash can. Another woman said that she was being convicted about the Sabbath and wanted to attend a church service.

Many people who vis-

ited the booth recognized *The Great Controversy*. This was a result of the recent project at Concord. Members had mailed more than 32,000 *The Great Controversy* books to the residents of Cabarrus County, and had gone door-to-door distributing 8,000 more. Visitors at the booth commented on how much they enjoyed reading it, and sharing with friends that it was a wonderful book to own.

God is moving upon the hearts of individuals in Cabarrus County. The book *Evangelism* says, “More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications” (p. 693).

—BY LOUISE VENABLES

## Past President and Wife Celebrate 50th Anniversary



RON QUICK

Ken and Sonja Coonley were married March 29, 1959, in Lakeland, Fla., at the home of Sonja’s aunt. Two years later their daughter, Terri (now married to Edgardo Bermudez), was born, and five years later, their son, Ron (now married to Laura Constantine). They have five grandsons: Andy, Josh, Seth, Robbie, and Jacob, ranging from 5 to 25 years of age. Their grandson, Andy, and his wife, Chrystal, will make them great-grandparents in April this year.

The Coonleys celebrat-

ed their anniversary with their children and grandchildren for a week in Hilton Head, S.C.

Ken worked in orthotics and prosthetics before he and Sonja entered the ministry in 1974. Ken served the Church as pastor in the Florida Conference and in the Carolina Conference as executive secretary and president for 17 years. They retired in 2004, and now live in Horse Shoe, N.C. Their love for the Lord has grown through the years, and they feel abundantly blessed.



## New Company Established in Rockingham

It wasn't too long ago that members of the Rockingham Spanish Church came together to plant

a new church. But, not another Spanish-speaking congregation — they saw a need to reestablish an

English-speaking Adventist presence in their community. The members found a place to meet, began giv-

ing Bible studies, and this past October they signed the charter to establish the new official company.

Gary Moyer (right), Carolina Conference executive secretary, was the guest speaker for this special event. He is pictured here with Julio Flores, pastor, and Milton Aguilar. Milton's son, Jacob, is seen signing his name on the charter document. He is joined by his friend, Noah Franco.

It's really inspiring to see the fruits of their labor. When they saw a need, with God's grace they filled it.

—BY BECKY CARPENTER



RON QUICK

## Ancient Connection to Sanctuary Shown

Recently when an evangelistic series was held in Pembroke, N.C., Fred Rogers, Southern Union Native American ministries director, and Lumberton Church member Scottie Deal donned their Native American attire to illustrate the point that the Sanctuary service and the Lumbee Indians have an ancient connection.

Evangelist Darwin Whitman, with Sanctuary Classes International, is pictured with the two Native Americans. Whitman explains the fact that the Lumbees are historically connected with the Children of Israel. They refer to themselves as the "Red Hebrews." They, too, had the Sanctuary and its services

as part of their daily lives. Their version of the Ark of the Covenant was called, "The Red Hebrew Holy Ark of the Purifier, Imitated."

As time went on, however, they were discouraged by Catholic missionaries from holding those views, so they soon lost their meaning. History records that the elderly women began to store other articles in the Ark, and of such unusual description that one historian, James Adair, is quoted as saying, "Even Adam would have had a difficult time naming all the articles they put in the Ark."



RON QUICK

When the two Native Americans pulled some very unusual things from the Ark, Whitman made the point that even today man places many things of his own on top of what God

designed for His good.

Whitman is the founder and teacher for Sanctuary Classes International.

—BY RON QUICK

## Drama Group Performs on National Day of Prayer

Damascus Road, a drama group from Port Charlotte, Fla., Church performed for the National Day of Prayer service at the YMCA Dotzler Outdoor Center in Charlotte Harbor.

"We hope the presentations had a dramatic effect in the lives of the beholders," says group leader Joe Pinter, "much like Paul experienced on the road to Damascus."

*The Human Video* presentation was based on Dennis Jernigan's version of the song, "If I Could Just Sit With You Awhile," and demonstrated how Jesus longs to hold us in His arms, comfort us, and keep



*Damascus Road presented a drama demonstrating how Jesus longs to keep His children from Satan's attacks.*

Satan's attacks away when we are hurting.

In this presentation, Rob Shinn played Jesus;

Skyler Pyle, the woman who prays; and Leah Smith and Carolita Claus played the parts of evil spirits.

Other members of the drama team are Alexa Ball, Dante Gomez, Jay Baxter, and Nikki Bloomfield.

The effectiveness of the drama was reiterated by words of appreciation from audience members, including Dara Erdmann, Habitat for Humanity representative and sponsor of the celebration, who complimented the youth and called the performance a moving drama. Rod Berger, area YMCA leader and program host, thanked the youth for giving such a beautiful performance and expressed how much he was blessed by it.

—BY JOE PINTER

## Avon Park Church Children Take Monthly Mission Trips

With 39 second-through fourth-grade students in the Avon Park, Fla., Church Primary Sabbath School division, leaders Melinda Goodman and Patty Palsgrove faced a dilemma: "What can we do to keep the interest and excitement alive?"

Plans for the Sabbath School program included exciting lesson study time, an interesting mission story, a nature story or special feature, and a lively song service; yet, they wanted something extra special. Teaching about God was a priority, and secondly they wanted the children to experience ways to share God.



*Children from Avon Park, Fla., Church's Primary Sabbath School division bring joy to others through mission trips.*

After prayerful consideration, Melinda and Patty made plans to take the children on a mission trip every fourth Sabbath. On these special Sabbaths, volunteers serve breakfast to the children.

When visiting homebound members, the children sing, read scripture, and offer prayer. They of-

ten receive notes thanking them for their ministry.

The students have also visited a nursing home where they used their newly-learned sign language skills taught by Joy Rogers. On one bus trip, they visited the church mission group in the small town of Frostproof where they present-

ed Sabbath School with the children there.

During a trip to a government-assisted housing complex, the students handed out vegetarian hot dogs to hungry people there while humming along as Cliff Johnson played the guitar and keyboard. They also gave away toys provided by Georgia Jones, community services director.

"These mission trips are a good way of teaching outreach, compassion, leadership, and service for the young people," says Rhoda Burrill, Florida Conference children's ministries director.

—BY NAOMI ZALABAK

## 3AngelsTube Provides Alternative to YouTube

The online ministry 3AngelsTube.com is a new website with a mission to share the Gospel. “I feel it is a better alternative to YouTube,” says Pompano Beach, Fla., Church member, Delroy Brown, founder and creator.

After sensing a need to use the Internet to spread true light on the Bible, Brown prayed that God would lead the way. Webmasters of established Adventist media ministries encouraged him to pursue his dream and start 3AngelsTube.com.

“I believe the second advent of our Lord Jesus Christ is at hand,” says Brown. “Keeping this in mind, 3AngelsTube.com brings programming to the Adventist and nonAdventist community that edifies

them, can make believers of them, and equips them for ministry.”

Viewers appreciate that 3AngelsTube.com is a site from which they can see free information spanning subjects from the health message and food preparation to sermons and seminars by Adventist preachers. “The Gospel is needed in a format that mirrors YouTube,” wrote one appreciative visitor who testified that 3AngelsTube.com “strengthens me.”

In addition to a web presence in the United States, the site has an international following with visitors from Canada, England, Africa, India, and Australia. Recently, a request was made for the site to go multilingual.

—BY JAMES BEVEL



3AngelsTube.com is a video library of spiritually uplifting content presented on a YouTube-style website.

## Members Consecrate New North Lake Church



The North Lake congregation built its new church facility on five acres of land near Umatilla, Fla.

CHESTER GRAHAM

North Lake, Fla., Church (located in the north part of Lake County) was consecrated March 21, 2009. Originally an outreach of its parent church in Leesburg, this new congregation of 17 members rented quarters in Tavares, Fla., and began meeting in July 2000.

Today, 94 members worship in their new 10,151-square-foot church home on five acres of land provided by the Lord through the generosity of members Obed and Coretta Graham.

During the dedication ceremony, Shawn Lathrom, pastor; Dotty Pommer, head elder; Obed Graham, building committee sponsor; and Allan Miller, building superintendent, received special thanks for their leadership.

The congregation seeks to meet the needs of the community by offering services to improve health. More than 25 guests from other area churches and the community attended North Lake Church’s first health fair.

—BY GLADYS NEIGEL

## Week of Prayer Tells of Five Senses



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LYNNETTE HOLLENBECK

During Knoxville Adventist School's Week of Prayer, Rick Greve (right), Conference northern region ministerial director, spoke about one of the five senses each day, focusing on how people are "fearfully and wonderfully" made.

In the first week of November, Rick Greve, ministerial director for the northern region, held a Week of Prayer for Knoxville Adventist School. He spoke about how we are "fearfully and wonderfully" (exquisitely, marvelously, splendiferously) made, with Psalm 139:14 as the theme text. Each day, Greve spoke about one of the five senses. As the week progressed, students discovered the perfect theme song — "Open Our Eyes, Lord."

Day one was about sight. Greve recalled Jesus healing the blind man in John 9. He also reminded the students to be careful not to be spiritually blind like the Pharisees, and to always try to "Keep a Level Eye," as the Pathfinder Law states.

Tuesday was about touch. Greve used the story of Matthew 8, where Jesus touched a man with leprosy to heal him. He also spoke about appropriate touches.

He had some volunteers close their eyes, then try to guess what things were by how they felt — sandpaper, duct tape, a Tennessee license plate, and a fuzzy animal.

The sense of smell was the topic for Wednesday. Greve used the death of Lazarus in John 11 as the text, as well as Psalm 141:2, about how prayers rise up like incense to God. Students got to experience the smell (and later, taste) of popcorn.

On day four, students discussed the four different categories of taste — sweet, salty, sour, and bitter, along with how they can all be related to what we think about people. Psalm 119:103 relates how God's Word is sweet, and Hebrews 2:9 tells how Jesus had to "taste" death. Finally, students learned that Psalm

34:8 tells us to "taste and see that the Lord is good."

Friday was the final sense — our sense of hearing. Greve reviewed the story in Mark 7, where Jesus heals a deaf and mute man. Students listened to different sounds from a machine that has soothing sounds, and guessed what each sound was. He talked about how the deaf will hear, the blind see, the lame leap, and the mute shout for joy in Heaven (Isaiah 35:5, 6). He also showed us how "faith comes from hearing" in Romans 10:17.

The whole week's emphasis was summed up with Philippians 4:8 — "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, think on these things."

—BY LYNNETTE HOLLENBECK

**CORRECTION:** Paul and Shirley Jensen, mentioned in the November Tidings, had three children, Mark, Chris, and Julie.

## Anniversary Milestones



Winford and Virginia Tate

Winford and Virginia Tate celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on December 26, 2009. They were married at the Glendale Church in California in 1949. They live in Ringgold, Ga., and have three children and two grandchildren, ages 4 and 6.

Winford Tate is retired from 27 years of anesthesia, and Virginia is a retired nurse. They are members of the Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, Tenn.



Walter and Dorothy Peters

Walter and Dorothy Peters celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary with members of the McDonald Road Church in Tennessee. They were married November 18, 1934, at the Vellejo Church in California.

Walter worked more than 30 years in civil service in the U.S. Navy. The Peters have three children, nine grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

## LIFEgroups Gather in Marietta on Fridays

Every Friday night, nearly one dozen young adults arrive at the home of Marius Asaftei, associate pastor of the Marietta, Ga., Church, for LIFEgroup. This weekly gathering began a year and a half ago, with a vision to share Jesus in a tangible way with post modern young adults in the Marietta area. For this group, Friday night has become a favorite time for fellowship, community, and deep Bible study.

LIFEgroup is about relationships with each other and God, but it's more than just a fun place to be on Friday nights. It's also a place to dig deep into ancient scripture, and explore how to apply scripture's principles in today's daily life. It's about deepening a personal relationship with God, and learning to hear His voice in the Bible. It is also a place to find support from others, whether your week was great or full of struggles.

LIFEgroup begins with a healthy supper, and time for everyone to share their week, or get acquainted



Members of the Marietta LIFEgroup fellowship, talk, and eat together before deep Bible study begins. Valerie Dahlberg (clockwise from front), Sarah Asaftei, Adam Dahlberg, Jessica Chereena, Michela Louis, and Wes Davila.

with new visitors. After supper, the group settles in for deep Bible study and challenging discussion. Since LIFEgroup began, the group has studied through several books of the Bible, and is now digging through the book of Romans. Each study time teaches how to dissect the passage, understand the context, and find personal application. That way each member learns to feel more confident in studying the Bible for themselves, and discovering what God has to say to them individually.

For several, LIFEgroup has become their strongest

connection to the Seventh-day Adventist Church — encouraging them to re-evaluate their relationship with God, and return to more regular church attendance. For others, like Sierra and Sahara Roberts, LIFEgroup has initiated a spiritual journey leading to the decision of baptism.

And LIFEgroup is not only for young Adventist people. Valerie Dahlberg, a former Southern Baptist, has recently completed her baptismal studies and is waiting to be baptized. "LIFEgroup has been such a blessing to me," she says. "It's an

introduced their friend, Ryan Hutchinson, to LIFEgroup as well. Now Ryan, a student at Kennesaw State University, is a regular member of the group.

"It's always more beneficial for me to study the Word when I have the input and views of other people around me," Ryan says. "LIFEgroup helps me break down the scripture more efficiently, and I get to look at simple passages that before were just words on a page, and then we start to break them down and transform them into the message that was really intended." Ryan recently began attending church on Sabbath as well.

LIFEgroup is a place where young adults find spiritual depth and a personal challenge for growth. But it is also a safe place for them to bring friends of any denominational background. Three baptisms from LIFEgroup in the last year confirm that this approach is meeting a relevant need in Marietta.

—BY MARIUS ASAFTEI



Valerie Dahlberg, Jessica Chereena, and Michela Louis pray together during LIFEgroup.

opportunity to come together with like-minded people who want a stronger and deeper relationship with God. I wouldn't want to be anywhere else!"

Valerie and her husband, Adam, are both chiropractic students at LIFE University. They

### Young Adult - Life Group Experience

**WHO:** Young Adults wanting connection with God and other Young Adults

**WHAT:** Experiencing and learning to lead Life Groups

**WHEN:** February 5-7, 2010

**WHERE:** Cohutta Springs Young Camp

**Call:** Alyse at 800-567-1844

## Gulf Coast Hispanics Hold Festival of Small Groups



*These small group leaders and members presented their group name, ideals, anthem, flag, and missionary goal.*

Two hundred Gulf Coast Hispanic district leaders and members, representing 15 small groups, gathered in the Panama City, Fla., Hispanic Church on October 3, 2009, for the first Festival of Small Groups. One by one, with

contagious enthusiasm, the teams presented their group name, ideals, anthem, flag, and missionary goal.

The attendees enjoyed the camaraderie of fellow believers, and were inspired by the messages of Johnny Castro, district pastor; Nilton

Garcia, Conference Hispanic ministries coordinator; and Heberzain Matines, president of the Hispanic Youth Federation. The event concluded with a concert of young talent from the district. Castro reported that at the end of September, be-

cause of the work of these small groups, 35 individuals were baptized. All groups, their leaders, and the elders are praying and working to prepare at least 25 more individuals for baptism.

—BY MARILENE CASTRO

## Bonifay Church Celebrates Visitors' Day



*More than 75 people filled the small church on Visitors' Day.*

When the Bonifay, Fla., Church planned a Visitors' Day for October 10, 2009, they prayed for God to "pack the house." Besides praying, the church family went into action. Each member committed

to personally inviting at least three people. Special invitations were handwritten and sent to family members, friends, and neighbors. The members spruced up the church.

Their prayer was an-

swered when more than 75 people filled the small church — not a single seat was empty. Colorful gift bags filled with various magazines, a *Bible Readings for the Home*,

a bottle of water, herbal teas, and a cookie tin, were given to visitors. The children also received special gifts, including a plush bear to cuddle during the service. To commemorate

Pastor Appreciation Day, a special honor was given to Jeff Westburg, pastor, and his wife, Karen.

Following the worship service, everyone was invited to a meal of haystacks and homemade cookies.

Social director Jane Justice explains, "We all get in a rut about inviting people to church. Having a special Visitors' Day provided an incentive to make the day successful. We made new friends and got to know some old ones better."

—BY JANE JUSTICE

## Victory Sabbath is Day of Praise, Thanksgiving



Attendees throughout the Conference attended the meeting.

More than 400 members throughout the Gulf States Conference gathered in Birmingham, Ala., on November 12, 2009, for Victory Sabbath — a time of thanksgiving and praise for the way God has led in the growth of the Conference. The 10,000th member had been added earlier in the year — a milestone the members had worked toward for many years.

The work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized in the states of Alabama and Mississippi in 1901. At a later date, 10 counties in Florida, west of the Apalachicola River, were added. Membership growth in the early years was not great among the white population. Houses

of worship and other facilities were very modest. In 1945 when the South Central Conference was organized, the African American members separated from the Alabama-Mississippi Conference. This left the Alabama-Mississippi Conference with a little more than 2,000 members.

Through the years the Conference continued to grow. In spite of difficulties, milestones were reached, and the members were encouraged as they united in mission to reach the lost in their territory.

In 2001, the Conference reported a membership of 8,016. That year, for the 29th Conference Session, delegates voted a goal of 10,000 members by

2006. Soul-winning, with the laity and pastors working together, became a priority. When the delegates met again in 2006, the membership was more than 9,000. Three years later, March 2009, the 10,000th member was baptized.

The program on Victory Sabbath began with recently baptized members sharing heartwarming stories of how God led them to the truth. Judy Kendrick, a member of the Birmingham, Ala., Roebuck Church, served as the Sabbath School superintendent. Roger Burke, a member of the Meridian,

Miss., Community Church, interviewed the new members.

Gordon Retzer, president of the Southern Union Conference, spoke for the worship service. Special music during the morning service was performed by Will Labrenz, pastor of the Blue Angel and Milton churches in Florida; Ann Marie Bates, a member of the Dothan, Ala., Church; Dave and Marlene Colburn from Bass Memorial Academy; and Heather O'Neal, a member of the Roebuck Church.

Lunch was provided for the attendees. The day concluded with a musical concert by Bass Memorial Academy students.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

### New to the Conference

Deborah Hutchinson has joined the treasury staff at Gulf States. Hutchinson comes to Montgomery after serving as interim treasurer at Bass Memorial



Academy. Since beginning her accounting career in 1982, she has practiced public accounting, and for a number of years was an accounting instructor at Alabama Southern Community College in Gilbertown, Ala., and at the University of West Alabama in Livingston, Ala. She currently serves as a member of the

finance committee at Bass, and the Dean's Advisory Committee for the College of Business at the University of West Alabama. She is married to Rick Hutchinson, an attorney in Butler, Ala. They have three children and five grandchildren. Rick and Deborah have spent many hours serving as volunteer first responders on disaster sites for Gulf States Conference. They are both very active members of the Community Church in Meridian, Miss.



Members of the Bass Memorial Academy Band and choir held a musical concert.

## Churches Work to Make Nashville “Blue Zone”

Ministers, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference staff, and church members from across Nashville gathered on November 21, 2009, at Nashville First Church to

discuss the opportunity in sharing the Adventist health message. The *Live Long, Live Well* campaign, created by the International Council for Corporate Health (ICCH), assists the local healthcare

stakeholders in transforming Nashville in becoming a “Blue Zone.”

This brainstorming session was the result of a meeting held in Nashville on November 2 — sponsored by the Nashville Healthcare Council, the Nashville Chamber of Commerce, the Center for Health

Transformation, Mayor Karl Dean, Governor Phil Brede- sen, and former U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich — to improve the health of Tennesseans. Dan Buettner,

author of *The Blue Zones: Lessons for Living Longer from the People Who’ve Lived the Longest*, named Loma Linda, Calif., with its high concentration of Adventists, as one of only five

Blue Zones in the world with the largest centenarian population, and the only Blue Zone in North America.

After the November 2 meeting, ICCH began preparing the local churches to help the community. The goal of the November 21 meeting was to create a collaborative effort among

the Adventist churches to launch the *Live Long, Live Well* campaign. Marvin Lowman, Conference executive secretary, attended and said, “I believe this is a grand opportunity for cooperation among our Nashville metro churches. We are much stronger together than each church trying to do things separately and in a vacuum. Some churches already have teams trained in various areas of health-care ministry. Sharing these teams among the churches will make for a stronger program in the end.”

“The purpose of the campaign is to bring the concept of longevity and healthful living to Nashville. We want to help people feel better, share the Adventist health message, which is powerful enough to prevent, halt, and help reverse 70 to 80 percent of the western lifestyle diseases today,” states Juliet Santos, NP, president of ICCH.



Juliet Santos, NP, is president of ICCH.



Thomas Hardy, M.D., gave a presentation on the state of health and healthcare in the U.S.

The campaign includes the Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP), other lifestyle intervention programs, and spiritual support as requested by the community based on the needs of the people.

Matthew 9:37 says, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.” With the great work ahead for ICCH, volunteers are needed in healthcare, business administration, marketing and advertising, health education, food and nutrition, and more. “It’s time for Adventists in Nashville and those around the country to share what we’ve known since the 1860’s. Our unique lifestyle and health principles, if observed in its proper perspective and context, have the ability to turn diseases around, lower health care costs for individuals, and reduce the burden on the health care system,” remarks Mel Santos, pastor of the Nashville First Church.

To learn more about ICCH, visit [www.icch.us](http://www.icch.us).

—BY JESSICA BRITO

## Madison Members Remember



Dan Johnson will be remembered as a dedicated, hardworking elder of the Madison Campus Church. Some of the things he will be remembered for include planning revival meetings for the church, special times when the elders would get together for planning sessions, making props for Christmas programs, chairing church board meetings, heading up special projects and mission trips, teaching a Sabbath School class, taking time to serve on committees for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, and helping with building projects at Indian Creek Camp.

In 1994, the church voted to send money to Malaysia to build a church. Dan encouraged the church members to raise the \$10,000 needed. When the church was finished, Dan took a group to Malaysia to help dedicate the new church.

He was laid to rest on October 12, 2009, awaiting the resurrection when Jesus comes to take His people home.

—BY GERALD AND NAOMI FILLMAN



## Highland Church Celebrates 100 Years

The Highland Church celebrated its 100th anniversary August 28-29, 2009, with a special Friday night and Sabbath service, and historical pictures mounted on the walls.

Kenneth Wilber, Portland mayor, thanked Highland members for their part in the community during the past century; and Mike McDonald, state representative, presented the congregation with a Certificate of Recognition for 100 years of service and dedication. Former pastors attending were Fred Fuller, Don Kenyon, John Estrada, and Everett Cumbo. John Watkins and David Hartman have served as pastors in recent years.

The record shows that Highland Church was organized on August 7, 1909. Russell Crutcher supervised building a chapel as an addition to the school dedicated on March 31, 1940. Church membership stood



David Hartman (left), pastor, with Don West, son of the co-founder of Fountain Head School.

at 150 in 1954, but since then has grown into the second largest congregation in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

As the greater Nashville area grew in the 1970's, the enhanced economy and positive school situation attracted many Adventist families. The church members started planning for a new building in 1977, and moved into its present quarters on March 1, 1980, with the membership topping 400. It now stands at 750.

The founder of the Highland Adventist com-

munity, Braden Mulford, moved to Madison, Tenn., as a charter student of a new school (later to become Madison College) there in 1904. He followed the example of E. A. Sutherland and Percy T. Magan in reproducing the Battle Creek model of Adventist education with a school, sanitarium, and a farm. He went out on his own by buying a farm near Fountain Head, Tenn., in 1907. He married Pearl West in 1908 and they immediately started a self-supporting school in their living room.

They had a building ready for occupancy as a school the next year, and started a sanitarium in 1916. The Mulfords operated Fountain Head Industrial School and Fountain Head Sanitarium as a unit of Madison College until turning it over to the Martin and Dysinger families in 1937.

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference took over operation in 1945, and renamed the school Highland Academy. The church and sanitarium also eventually assumed that name.

—BY ALBERT DITTES

## Nashville First Celebrates International Flavor

The Nashville First Church is situated in the heart of metropolitan Nashville, and a “stone’s throw” from Vanderbilt and a number of other colleges and universities.

As a result, the congregational makeup of the church reflects a great diversity of ethnic



The Ghanian choir offered the special music during the international worship.

cultures and language groups.

On Sabbath, November 21,

2009, the members celebrated their diversity in a number of ways. The worship service began with a parade of flags, where more than 25 countries were represented from the congregation.

The scripture reading and

prayers were given in five languages. The special music was presented by a chorus made up of individuals from Ghana. The fellowship dinner following the services featured native dishes from all the countries. Native dress was the order of the day for those attending who had come from other countries. Melvin Santos, pastor of Nashville First, and his wife, Juliet, are from the Philippines.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## Atlanta Berean Members Sponsor Thanksgiving Dinner

In a time when so many individuals are experiencing difficult times, the Berean Church in Atlanta, Ga., felt it was necessary to respond to the needs of the community.

Preparations were made, and in spite of persistent rain, on Sunday, November 22, 2009, hundreds of volunteers gathered at Berean Christian Junior Academy and Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy for

a community-wide Thanksgiving dinner. The event was planned by the personal ministries and community service departments, but volunteers from all church departments, along with parents and students from the school, responded overwhelmingly.

A traditional Thanksgiving meal was prepared with all the fixings. However, this community-wide effort was more than just

an opportunity for a warm, delicious meal. Berean's clerical staff was on hand to be the first point of welcome for the more than 1,000 community guests. A welcome was provided by associate pastor Linwood Stone, which was followed by a heartfelt rendition of the National Anthem, sung by Sheneé Holloway.

Guests were able to receive employment related advice, provided by Jobs

for Life. Free clothing was provided by the community services department. Health and dental screenings were coordinated by Berean's health department, and hair cuts were provided by local area barbers.

Plans for next year are currently in the works in hopes that this effort will continue to grow each year.

—BY CYNTHIA NELSON



More than 1,000 visitors were fed at the event.



Articles of clothing were distributed to the attendees.



Free haircuts were provided for the attendees.

PHOTO CREDITS OLIE CLEMONS

## CAA Students Conduct Week of Prayer

Carolina Adventist Academy (CAA) held a Fall Week of Prayer that was conducted completely by students.

Michael Taylor, student body president, gave the first sermon of the week. Other student body officers who were featured as speakers were Teona Barnett, Tatiana Davidson, and Paige Davis; and Kiana Berry, student body chaplain and Week of Prayer coordinator, concluded the week with the final sermon and altar call. "Wasn't that

great!" one teacher remarked, after seeing many students go up to the front for rededication and reconsecration.

During the Week of Prayer, Henry Hawthorn, CEO of Columbus Regional Hospital and Healthcare System, came and presented to the school a large heavy-duty first aid kit. He

was very impressed with the students, their ser-

mons, and the songs. "This reminded me of when my children were in Christian school," he remarked. Stephan Davis, Praise Tabernacle Church pastor, and Richard G. Berry, M.D., presented Hawthorn with a gift pack of books which included the *Fundamental Beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists*, *The Great Controversy*, and *Steps to Christ*.



Richard G. Berry, M.D. (left); Karen Taylor, CAA principal; Michael Taylor, student body president; Henry Hawthorn, CEO for Columbus Regional Hospital and Healthcare System; and Stephan Davis, pastor

KIANA BERRY

## Unique Seminar Reaches Community

The Sabbath baptism in a donated portable Wal-Mart pool culminated a most unique and successful Daniel and Revelation Seminar held in Whiteville, N.C., at the Praise Tabernacle/Carolina Adventist Academy complex.

The three-week series utilized most of the church ministries, including personal ministries, community services, audio-visual team, health ministries, hospitality, music department, Guardian Angel Preschool (GAP) daycare staff, prayer team, Pathfinders, and Carolina Adventist Academy (CAA) staff.

There were booths to



*Vania Daniels (center) was one of six individuals baptized by Stephan Davis (left), pastor, and local elder Leon Verrett.*

acquaint the community with Pathfinders, and CAA, manned by Jessie Davidson and Karen Taylor, principal. Food baskets were given nightly with donations from a local grocery store chain. The baskets were so heavy that a dolly was used to carry them to waiting cars. Clothes and shoes were also available nightly for individuals in need. Stephanie Harvey, community services director, and her staff received many smiles from those who benefited from the free items.

Health screenings were done once a week for hypertension and diabetes, as well as health counseling by Charlotte Verrett, M.D., and David White, M.D. Health-related pamphlets were distributed nightly, and six free blood pressure machines were given away.

The hospitality department, headed by Sheila Mills, provided nutritious vegetarian snacks after each meeting, which gave the more than 50 community attendees the opportunity to socialize and get acquainted with the host church members. Each person who

attended the seminar received a Bible with Daniel and Revelation lessons. Patricia Davis, wife of the pastor, Stephan Davis, served as the Bible instructor during the meetings.

Newly baptized members also helped to welcome visitors to the seminar. Audio-visual team members manned two full screens that graphically showed the written material. The transportation team picked up guests nightly with the church van.

The music department, led by Portia Davidson, provided rich and spiritual songs during the whole series, and the praise team brought life to the theme song, "I Love Him Too Much to Fail Him Now." Childcare was provided by Praise Tabernacle's lead daycare teacher, Verona Strayhorn. She was assisted by energetic teens Kayla Berry, Zanetta Egbunike, and Paige Davis. Parents didn't have to worry about their children, which enhanced their nightly



*The attendees had an opportunity to sample a variety of healthy snacks each night.*

experience during the seminar. Personal ministries was involved and used a lay person, Richard Berry, M.D., as the main speaker, and local elder, Leon Verrett, as the reader. Praise Tabernacle's pastor, Stephan Davis, supported the effort with his nightly presence, participated as the quiz master, and distributed free gifts.

The series brought multiple nationalities to hear the message in this rural southern town. Six individuals were baptized, and because of continued interest, post-prophecy meetings are being held on Wednesday and Friday evenings and Sabbath mornings for the more than 10 individuals who have continued to study these truths.

—BY CHARLOTTE VERRETT, M.D.

## Four Baptized in Smithfield

In conjunction with the Year of Evangelism, the Smithfield Church in Smithfield, N.C., added four new members to their church membership. Michael Hickman, who serves as the pastor, along with local elder Lawrence Davis, baptized

David and Charlotte Baker and Christian and Evelyn Hatley.

The Bakers



*Michael Hickman (right), pastor, and Lawrence Davis, local elder, baptize Christian and Evelyn Hatley.*

recently moved to Smithfield from Maryland, where David was a building contrac-

tor. Davis met the Hatleys at a Christian meeting place in Smithfield for spiritual fellowship, Bible study, Christian music, and poetry.

—BY JAMES COLEMAN

### Ephesus Members Bless Clarksville Community



People were in line as early as 3:00 a.m., and more than 400 community people were served each day.

Ephesus Church in Clarksville, Tenn., where Randolph Stafford, D.Min., serves as pastor, remembers September 11 and October 23, 2009. These two

days can be described as follows: from tragedy to triumph and from rain to sunshine. The community service and other departments in the church had the oppor-

tunity to volunteer with the First Christian Church in Clarksville. On these two days, the members fed more than 400 community people each day. Everyone

was friendly and helpful. Many had a wonderful time serving the community. There were smiles, laughter, encouragement, and witnessing. Different food items provided by the Second Harvest Food Bank in Nashville, Tenn., were distributed. The food was distributed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. People were in line as early as

3:00 a.m. to receive food. As the last items were distributed, the people responded positively, and were appreciative, but the members were the ones who had been truly blessed.

—BY NAOMI BROWN



Food items were provided by the Second Harvest Food Bank in Nashville, Tenn.

## Southeastern News

### Pathfinders, Adventurers, Community Services Partner to Serve Local Community

The Thonotosassa Church is living up to its motto, “The Little Church with the Big Heart.” This past October, Thonotosassa’s Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs showed their love for Jesus and for those who are in need when they recently conducted a canned goods collection project on the last two Sabbaths of October.

On Sabbath, October 24, the two clubs hung

plastic-handled grocery bags with flyers that included a request to fill the bag with canned goods to help the members feed the hungry in the community. Then, on Sabbath, October 31, the two clubs collected the plastic bags, which were filled with canned goods.

After this initial work by the Pathfinders and Adventurers, Thonotosassa community service department took the collected

canned goods, added other non-perishable food items, as well as a \$10 gift certificate in each basket for the purchase of a turkey, and assembled 145 Thanksgiving baskets for the less fortunate. “This wonderful ministry was an opportunity to witness and to share,” shared a member of Thonotosassa.

As a result of collective efforts for this small church, enhanced by contributions from the

local school system and other community organizations, 145 families enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving meal.

Additionally, in an effort to show love and gratitude for their tireless efforts, Thonotosassa provided five of its senior citizen members with a basket of fruits, vegetables, and a gift certificate.

—BY PAMELA GATES

## University Mourns Student's Death

Kirsten Wolcott, a liberal arts education major, was a student missionary serving in Yap, Micronesia. While on a morning jog she went missing and was later found murdered.

A diligent student, Kirsten graduated from academy with high honors and was on Southern Adventist University's distinguished dean's list. She was also known for her love of music and running.

"There is no season for the death of one who has their life ahead of them," said Gordon Bietz, University president, before leaving for Micronesia to meet with other student missionaries. "Sorrow, suffering, sickness, and death have no place in God's plan. They are the reason for the plan."

Counselors, pastors, deans, and student leaders



*Kirsten Wolcott died serving God in Yap.*

were available to comfort grieving students and pray with them. More than 250 messages have been posted on Kirsten's memorial page ([www.southern.edu/kirsten](http://www.southern.edu/kirsten)). The site has been a place where individuals can unite to express their deep-felt sorrow along with the abiding hope that one day soon we will again see Kirsten.

—BY SUZANNE OCSAI

## Students Create Website for Teachers' Benefit

Education majors from Southern Adventist University combined their teaching skills and passion to develop Teacher Post It, a website that allows teachers to further their lesson plans.

The website was developed as part of a challenge by College

EdVenture. EdVenture, a new initiative designed by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF), encourages students from Adventist universities to develop ideas and make changes for the benefit of Adventist education through projects.

Amanda Tortal, now

graduated, was chosen by the AAF to lead out in the project. She and her team discovered that teachers wanted more resources for their lesson plans.

"We decided to create a website that would be a resource for teachers," says Tortal. "The idea is that any teacher can post their ideas

on the website."

The group is gathering more curricula and lesson plans to be posted on the website to supply more information for teachers.

To add your own ideas, visit [www.teacherpostit.org](http://www.teacherpostit.org).

—BY CRISTINA HERNANDEZ-PERSIA

## Student Demonstrates Power of Never Giving Up

Brett Mehlenbacher suffered a terrible accident while on his motorcycle as a freshman at Southern. He hit his head on a fallen tree, and a branch went straight through his helmet and skull. He was in a coma for about six weeks.

Having survived a massive brain injury, Mehlenbacher was lucky to be



*Brett Mehlenbacher feels confident that God has big plans for his future.*

alive. However, he faced many obstacles.

Mehlenbacher came back to Southern one year after the accident, needing

special accommodations he hadn't needed before. Because he lost some of his fine motor skills, writing had become difficult. He would need scribes and note takers for different classes. Because of his short-term memory loss, he would need test proctoring. Southern's Disability Support Services provided him with the accommodations he needed in order to function like other students.

Mehlenbacher says that professors have been very willing to help and accom-

modate him. They offer encouragement and spiritual support, which help him not give up.

Mehlenbacher has come a long way since the accident, and plans to graduate in May 2011.

"When I think about all that God has done for me, I am willing to do anything for Him, because then we'd still be far from even," says Mehlenbacher. "Whatever He wants me to do with the life He has given me is what I am going to do."

—BY BRITTANY RUSSELL

## ¿Qué puedo hacer para Jesús?

José Castillo se desempeña como entrenador del equipo de fútbol "Independiente", y vio esto como una oportunidad para llevar a otros el mensaje de salvación. En una de las prácticas preguntó a los integrantes si les gustaría estudiar la Biblia. Ante la respuesta afirmativa de todos ellos se contactó con Herma Serpa, quien formó



una clase bíblica a la que asistieron también otros interesados. Más de 12 personas fueron bautizadas en la iglesia de Charlotte, como resultado de la obra del Espíritu Santo en el corazón de José Castillo y su deseo de compartir el amor de Dios con quienes lo rodean.

—CARLOS MOLINA,  
ASTOR DEL DISTRITO DE  
CHARLOTTE, NC



## Primer Bautismo en un Retiro Femenino



Gladys Romero tomó su decisión de seguir a Cristo y la hizo pública en el retiro femenino de la asociación, llevado a cabo en septiembre. La ceremonia, realizada por el pastor Vallejos, completó el marco espiritual del evento titulado "Intimidad

con Jesús." Benny Rodríguez, directora del Ministerio de la Mujer de la unión Venezolana, presentó los temas centrales que

fueron de gran inspiración para las 200 asistentes. Se ofrecieron también diferentes seminarios a cargo del pastor Isaac Vallejo, su esposa Beatriz, y Esperanza Flores.  
—MARY ROMERO, SECRETARIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Actividades en la Iglesia de Spartanburg, SC

### Maratón Bíblico 2009

En su viaje misionero a México, Alfonso Chavez escuchó acerca de una maratón bíblica que se había llevado en las iglesias locales y muy entusiasmado presentó la idea en la iglesia de Spartanburg, SC. La misma no generó la reacción esperada por él. Los hermanos no llegaban a ver el beneficio de la actividad. No obstante, 93 personas se reunieron en horarios rotativos para leer la Palabra de Dios sin interrupción,

de principio a fin.

A medida que pasaban las horas comenzó a formarse un espíritu de unión en la iglesia, que fue de gran bendición. Los hermanos se comunicaban por medio de mensajes de texto, llamadas, etc., para averiguar acerca del progreso de la lectura. Se

culminó luego de 84 horas y 55 minutos, y todos los presentes se arrodillaron para orar a Dios en agradecimiento y alabanza por esta experiencia.

Al compartir testimonios el sábado por la tarde, una hermana comentaba que normalmente ella llega a su casa cansada, sin fuerzas

luego de su jornada laboral, pero que los días en que participó de la maratón, se sentía llena de energía. "Realmente Dios da fuerza al cansado," decía al compartir su testimonio. Otros comentaban que habían sentido la presencia de los ángeles y del Espíritu de Dios en su medio.





## Escuela Bíblica de Verano 2009

Cincuenta y dos niños asistieron a la escuela de verano a cargo de Gloria Mercado, que contó con 15 maestros y una activa participación de los miembros de la iglesia.

Diez de los niños asistentes no pertenecen a familias de la iglesia, y se espera que el testimonio recibido sea como una semilla que

crezca a su tiempo para vida eterna.

## Retiro Matrimonial

Treinta parejas se dieron cita en el retiro para matrimonios “El Arte de Mantener un Matrimonio Feliz”, presentado por el

pastor Edison B. González.

Los asistentes tuvieron la oportunidad de evaluar su relación, identificar áreas de conflicto, encontrar soluciones y reafirmar el plan de Dios para sus vidas.

El retiro concluyó con una cena en la que cada esposo escribió una carta a su esposa, y todas

fueron leídas públicamente. Fue una experiencia emotiva. Cada hogar se vio enriquecido, y como consecuencia, también la iglesia.

—SHEILA MONTENAT,  
DIRECTORA DE  
COMUNICACIONES DE LA  
IGLESIA DE SPARTANBURG, SC



## Campaña en Mt. Olive y Dudley

Con una asistentes de 1,400 personas se llevó a cabo en las iglesias de Mt. Olive y Dudley, NC, la campaña evangélica a cargo del pastor Alejandro Bullón “Jesús es la Esperanza.”

Decenas de personas respondieron al llamado

de conocer más a Jesús y entregarle sus vidas. Cinco personas fueron bautizadas.

La hermandad continuará su trabajo misionero por medio de los grupos pequeños, utilizando el estudio “Las Parábolas de Jesús”, preparado por

el pastor Sandoval.

Este curso profundiza 34 Parábolas, y viene acompañado de un libro de canciones y un CD con las música respectiva.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



## Florida Noticias

### Gran Bendición en Deltona Beach



Luego de arduo trabajo y oración, la iglesia de Deltona Beach terminó la construcción de su propio templo.

El edificio es de 14,000 pies, con una capacidad para sentar a 400 personas en el santuario. Se construyeron cinco aulas

para las escuelas sabáticas infantiles, un salón para actividades sociales que puede albergar 200 personas, una amplia cocina, y oficinas.

Actualmente se trabaja en la construcción de canchas de basket, volley y fútbol.

Los miembros colaboraron donando su

tiempo y trabajo para que este proyecto se concrete, y Dios bendijó ricamente los esfuerzos.

—OLIVER MASTRAPA,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



## Festival de Grupos Pequeños

El distrito del golfo, comprendido por la iglesia de Foley, las compañías de Panama City, Fort Walton Beach, Blue Angel Parkway, y el grupo University Parkway, organizó el primer festival de grupos pequeños.

Docientos miembros colaboran en 15 grupos. Con el propósito de motivar a mas personas, los líderes e integrantes de estos grupos se reunieron en la

iglesia hispana de Panama City, Se intercambiaron testimonios y hubo un fuerte espíritu de camaradería. Los mensajes fueron presentados por Jhonny Castro, pastor del distrito del golfo, Nilton Garcia, coordinador de departamento hispano, y Heberzain Martines, presidente de la Federación de Jóvenes.

El pastor Castro informó que a través del trabajo de

los grupos pequeños, 35 almas llegaron a los pies de Jesús hasta septiembre de este año de evangelismo laico-pastoral. También dijo que “todos los grupos, sus líderes y ancianos están orando y trabajando por alcanzar por medio de estas células, 25 almas más

hasta diciembre.”

—MARILENE CASTRO,  
CORRESPONSAL DEL  
DISTRITO DEL GOLFO



## Campamento Familiar: Lanzamiento de “los 1,000 de Oro”

Un hermoso grupo de aproximadamente 500 personas se congregó en Campo Alamisco para participar del campamento familiar del 2009.

El mensaje de compromiso, motivación y capacitación de nuestro invitado especial el pastor Gerson Santos, fue de inspiración para los hermanos.



El orador del culto del sábado fue el pastor Mel Eisele, quien transmitió ánimo al dar testimonio del crecimiento que está llevándose a cabo en

China, donde alrededor de 30,000 personas se unen al cristianismo a diario. Un punto interesante de este informe, fue que ante la

imposibilidad de reunirse en templos, estas personas se congregan en hogares de familia.

Los jóvenes participaron del lanzamiento del desafío evangélico “Los 1,000 de Oro”. Cada distrito tiene un blanco de bautismos. Mil hermanos pondrán sus huellas en una pancarta, como símbolo de un pacto que los compromete a dar estudios bíblicos a una persona antes del 2010. Este plan culminará el 12 de diciembre, en Montgomery, AL, donde se entregarán

certificados a quienes hayan recibido estos estudios, y se hará un llamado a seguir a Jesús. Se está orando para que en esta ocasión Dios sea honrado con centenas de bautismos.

Se explicó también el plan “Overtime4Jesus”, se disfrutó de deliciosas comidas y de una ceremonia de bodas que concluyó con un banquete.

Dios bendijo este evento en sobremanera.

—NEWTON GARCÍA,  
COORDINADOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Kentucky-Tennessee Noticias

### Retiro Juvenil

Bajo el lema “Soy Joven y mi Canto es Jesús” se llevó a cabo el décimo retiro juvenil de la asociación. El orador fue el pastor Fernando Manrique, y los asistentes fueron

altamente bendecidos por los mensajes y la camaradería.

— ARMANDO DE LEÓN,  
COORDINADOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO





## Bautismo en Greenwood Carolina del Sur



Dos jóvenes fueron bautizados por el pastor Roger, director del programa étnico indígena de la Unión del Sur al finalizar la semana de

evangelismo a cargo del pastor Mauricio Velásquez. Esta campaña fue organizada para el distrito pastoreado por José Reyes que comprende las iglesias

de Columbis, Saluda, Greenwood y Ebenezer.  
—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,  
COORDINADOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Bautismo en Smithfield

El 31 de octubre se llevó a cabo un bautismo en la iglesia de Smithfield, NC. Los conquistadores hicieron un barrera de honor para acompañar a

la joven miembro del club, que entregó su corazón a Jesús e hizo su decisión pública en esta ceremonia. El pastor Poloche fue encargado de la misma,

y el coro de la iglesia amenizó la actividad con un canto de alabanza.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,  
COORDINADOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



## Campestre



Con el mar como escenario, se celebró el campestre hispano anual en Panama City. Mas de 300 personas asistieron al evento y se regocijaron con 10 bautismos llevados a cabo en la playa.

El orador principal fue el pastor Aner Ramirez. y la joven Lani presentó un miniconcierto. El pastor Uribe y su esposa Lady tuvieron a cargo las actividades de los jóvenes, y el sábado de tarde el pastor Quintiana dirigió un concurso bíblico.

Varios invitados presentaron su decisión de bautismo y de estudiar la Biblia.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,  
COORDINADOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Boda y Bautismo

Yisel decidió bautizarse luego de una campaña evangélica anterior a la caravana conducida por el pastor Bullón. Antes de dar el paso, le dijo a Elier, con quien compartía su vida desde hace algún tiempo, que para tener todo en regla ante Dios,

deseaba casarse. El accedió a su pedido.

El pastor Roger Álvarez llevó a cabo la ceremonia. Durante la misma, cuando dirigiéndose a la pareja dijo: "Hoy ustedes sellan su pacto como matrimonio, mañana Yisel sellará su

compromiso con el Esposo, Cristo Jesús", Elier interrumpió y expresó su deseo de hacer lo propio, y unirse a la iglesia de Cristo junto a su esposa también. La congregación irrumpió en un profundo y emotivo ¡Amén! El día siguiente fue de felicidad

espiritual para todos.

—ESMERALDA GUZMÁN,  
SECRETARIA DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



## Bautismo en Winter Garden

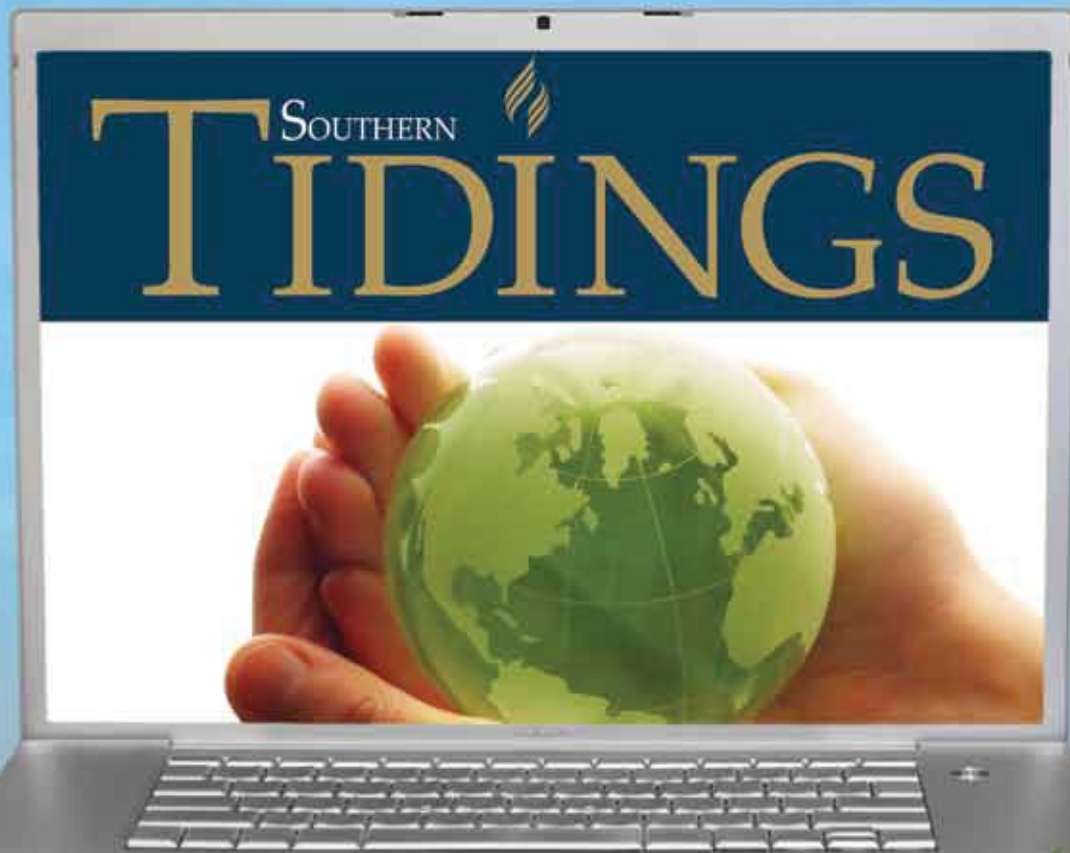
Un grupo de personas que estaban estudiando la Biblia por medio de los CDs preparados por el pastor

Bullón, decidió bautizarse durante la caravana que él condujo. La iglesia se encuentra feliz con sus

nuevos compañeros de fila.  
—ESMERALDA GUZMÁN,  
SECRETARIA DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO

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## Announcements

**Adventist Attorneys and Law Students:** Membership in the Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys is open to all Seventh-day Adventist Attorneys and Law Students. For membership enrollment and additional information, please contact: Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys, PO Box 849, Decatur GA 30031-0849.

**Invitation to Teach in Thailand:** Missionary teachers needed to serve God in the wonderful country of Thailand. Details: kpergerson@yahoo.com.

**Uchee Pines New Lifestyle Center Dedication/40th Anniversary** – Jan. 21-24. Seale, AL. To RSVP please contact Tari Jenkins at 334-855-4781. Details: ucheepines.org.

**Third Annual Adventist Health System CEO Reunion** – Jan. 29, 30. Avon Park, FL. Details, contact: Bill Sager, 863-452-2593, email: wcsager@tnni.net; or Tom Amos, 863-452-1979, email: dtamos@gmail.com; or Jim Culpepper, 615-415-1925.

**Union College Homecoming** – April 1-4. Honor classes are 1940, '50, '55, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90, and 2000. Details: Contact the Alumni Office at 402-486-2503 or alumni@ucollege.edu.

**Broadview Academy Alumni Weekend** – April 30 and May 1. North Aurora Church. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Honor classes: 1950, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90 and 2000. Details: www.broadviewacademy.org.

# Are You Too Young for a Will?

Newly married? Added a child to your family? You need a will.

Own a car or house? Have a savings account, investments, or other personal property? You need a will.

An up-to-date will or estate plan will help ensure your earthly possessions are distributed to those you love if your life is unexpectedly cut short.

Trust services representatives from your local conference and Adventist Universities are ready to answer your questions and assist you in preparing your will or estate plan to ensure your loved ones come first.

Carolina: Ken Ford, 704-596-3200

Florida: Jose LeGrand, 407-644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland: Mitch Hazekamp, 706-629-7951

Gulf States: Tui Pitman, 334-272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee: Lin Powell, 615-859-1391

Oakwood University: Fred Pullins, 256-726-8278

South Atlantic: Lawrence Hamilton, 404-792-0535

South Central: Michael Harpe, 615-226-6500

Southeastern: David Long, 352-735-3142

Southern Adventist University: Carolyn Liers, 423-236-2818

# Obituaries

**ALRIDGE, Colin A.**, 72, born Aug. 22, 1936 in St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, West Indies, died July 18, 2009 in Ocala, FL. He was a member of the Silver Springs Shores Church in Ocala, for nine years. He is survived by his wife, Miriam; five sons: Peter and David of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, and Colin, Jr., Andre, and Elvis of Queens, NY; three daughters: Margaret of Ft. Lauderdale, Colinda of Queens, NY, and Charm of Jamaica, W.I.; his mother, Estelle Morgan of Queens, NY; one brother, Lloyd of Ft. Lauderdale; four sisters: Rose and Ruth of Queens, Jean of Bronx, NY, and Audrey of Ft. Lauderdale; and five grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Silver Springs Shores Church by Pastor Reynold Maxwell. Interment was at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Ocala.

**ASHBURN, Zelma**, 89, born June 28, 1920, died June 19, 2009. She is survived by two sons: Gale Thacker and Bill Thacker; one daughter, Diane Thacker Hopkins; three stepsons; five half-sisters; and two half-brothers. She was a member of the Bristol, TN, Church.

**BERGHERM, William H.**, 85, born Sept. 11, 1923 in Flint, MI, died March 14, 2009 in Candler, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church. Soon after he was born, his parents served for many years as missionaries in the Philippines. Bergherm served in the U.S. Army and worked for the Church for 40 years. His denominational duties included working as an Adventist Book Center manager in the New York, Northern New England, Greater New York, and Illinois conferences; and overseeing the distribution of *Listen* magazine in the Northern New England, Pennsylvania and Southern New England conferences for the Review & Herald Publishing Department. After retirement in 1986, Bergherm actively participated in more than 26 Maranatha mission trips. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Rachel; one son, Steve Bergherm; one daughter, Donna Boehmer; one brother, Bruce Bergherm; one sister, Betty Miller; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**BLOSSER, Marylou M.**, 85, born Oct. 23, 1923 in Pittsburgh, PA, died April 17, 2009 in Port Orange, FL. She was a member of the Daytona Beach, FL, Church. Her 32 years denominational employment included being a staff nurse in the maternity department at Washington Sanitarium and Hospital, Takoma Park, MD; and establishing the

maternity department at Kettering Medical Center, Kettering, OH, where she also served in the nursing staff office and as a nurse on the medical care floor. She is survived by her husband, William; one son, Garry of Roswell, NM; one daughter, Patti Hall of Miami Lakes, FL; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**BLYTHE, Eugene S.**, 67, born July 10, 1941 in Muncie, IN, died Feb. 25, 2009 in St. Augustine, FL. He was a member of the St. Augustine Church for 13 years. He is survived by two sons: Dewain of Frankfort, KY, and Eugene Gus of Daytona, FL; two daughters: Angel of Frankfort, and Goldie of St. Augustine; his mother, Marie Thornburg of St. Augustine; and one brother, Joseph of St. Augustine.

**BOM, John F.**, 86, born April 20, 1922 in Louisville, KY, died July 11, 2009 in Louisville. He was a member of the Louisville First Church.

**BOYD, Hamilton**, 83, born June 28, 1925 in Woburn, MA, died May 27, 2009 in Kissimmee, FL. He was a member of the Fort Lauderdale, FL, Church. He is survived by one daughter, Bonnie Murrell of Kissimmee; four brothers: Alexander of Collegedale, TN, Blain of Gillmanton, NH, James of Stoneham, MA, and John of Nettles Island, FL; one sister, Elizabeth Coe of Big Rapids, MI; and four grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Mildred.

**BRADBURN, James L.**, 81, born June 29, 1928 in Indianapolis, IN, died Oct. 14, 2009 at Port Charlotte, FL. He was a member of the Port Charlotte Church for nearly 21 years. His 20 years of denominational service were spent at Punta Gorda Medical Center, Punta Gorda, FL, in administration; and Shawnee Mission Hospital, Overland Park, KS, assistant director materials management. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Muriel; two sons: David of Tillamook, OR, and Gordon of Loma Linda, CA; four daughters: Kathy Bradburn, Karen Bradburn, Tacoma, WA, Sherry Hickman, Santa Ana, CA, and Rena Gotschalk, Hayes, KS; one sister, Joan Bradburn, Chattanooga, TN; and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Bill, and daughter, Linda Stephens. The service was conducted by Pastor Tim Goff at the Port Charlotte Church. Interment was in Collegedale, TN.

**BRADLEY, Mildred Dockery**, 85, born Dec. 28, 1923 in Union, SC, died April 30, 2009 in Laurens, SC. She was retired from the Union County Council on Aging, and a member of Union Church. She is survived by her husband, Earl F. Bradley; two sons: Mitch Bradley and Myron Bradley; two sisters: Pat Dockery and Edith Payne; and one granddaughter, Heather Funk. She was predeceased by one son, Ryland Bradley.

**BRAUN, William (Bill) R.**, 87, born Dec. 11, 1921 in Cleveland, OH, died June 8, 2009 in Asheville, NC. He retired from Olin Corporation to the Hendersonville, NC, area. He was a member of the Arden, Hendersonville, and Asheville, NC, churches. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; two sons: Gregory and Glenn (Leslie); seven grandchildren; one stepson, Marvin (Idania) Oates; and two step-grandchildren.

**BRAY, Joseph Earl**, 78, born Nov. 22, 1929 in Alabama, died June 30, 2007 in Chattsworth, GA. He was a member of the Clanton, AL, Church, where he served for many years as an elder. He served as a literature evangelists for a number of years. He is survived by his wife, Flora Dell Bray; one daughter, Joy Foster; three sons: Claude Bray, Barry Bray, and Eric Bray; and eight grandchildren: Jennifer Gennick, Victoria McCormick, Bobby Foster, Meghan Bray, Rebekah Bray, Joseph Bray, Jonahon Bray, and Cordell Bray

**BROWN, Doris**, 88, born Feb. 12, 1921, died June 3, 2009. She was a member of the Pikeville, TN, Church. She is survived by two sons; two daughters; several grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

**BROWN, Marguerite Marie**, 88, born May 13, 1921, died Aug. 26, 2009. She was a retired school and piano teacher, also a homemaker. Her husband Everett, a retired pastor, preceded her in death. She is survived by her sons: David (Pam), Michael (Jane), Stephen (Jack Hardland), Joel (Yvonne), Timothy (Montine) Brown; 11 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one brother, Harold (Pat) Case; two sisters: Marily (Arlie) Cantrell and Jeanette (Bill) Griffith. She was a member of the Pikeville, TN, Church.

**BRUMMETT, Elsie Mae Morris**, 85, born June 20, 1924 in Monticello, KY, died Oct. 26, 2009 in Spartanburg, SC. She was a member of the Spartanburg Church. She

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is survived by her husband of 67 years, James S. Brummett; two sons: Jimmy (Donna) Brummett of Spartanburg, and Ronnie (Beth) Brummett of Greenville; one daughter, Shirley (Mark) Seay of Chesnee; nine grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. Burial is in Greenlawn Memorial Gardens.

**BUENO, Danilo A.**, 74, born July 23, 1935 in Santiago, Republica Dominica, died Aug. 10, 2009. He was a member of the Margate Spanish Church in North Lauderdale, FL, for three years. He is survived by his wife, Elena; three daughters: Margaret of Maryland, Rose of Dallas, GA, and Gloria of Pompano, FL; and five grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Jorge Rojas.

**BULLARD, Joseph**, 88, born Dec. 30, 1920, died July 12, 2009. He was a member of the Pembroke Church. He retired from the U.S. Army after serving 20 years, and was an active member of Pembroke VFW Post 2843. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn Bullard; four daughters; two sons; one sister; three step-daughters; one stepson; 18 grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; two step-great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren, a host of other friends; and relatives.

**BUSH, Francis**, 96, born Nov. 26, 1912 in Middletown, NY, died July 16, 2009. He was a member of the Orange Cove, FL, Church for 10 years. In 1934 he began his ministry as a baritone for Jon Ford evangelistic campaigns. Then he became a district pastor in New England, pastored in Ocala, FL, and Southside Chicago, youth and educational director for Illinois Conference, pastor in Pittsburgh, PA, Toledo, OH, Glendale, CA, Seattle, WA, Atlantic Union College Church, South Lancaster, MA, Stoneham, MA, and assistant ministerial secretary for Southern New England Conference, South Lancaster, MA. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Shirley; two sons: Donald and Brian; three daughters: Karen Day, Janet Pinero, and Diane Ledbetters; one sister, Nancy Peterson; 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild. His first wife, Gracelyn, predeceased him. Pastor Andre Van Heerden conducted the service at Holly Hill Cemetery, Middleburg, FL.

**CARUTHERS, William Sidney, Jr.**, 52, of McDonald, TN, born Sept. 15, 1956, died July 18, 2009. He was a member of the

Collegedale, TN, Church. He is survived by his wife, Daisy Villanueva Caruthers of McDonald; son, Joshua Sidney Caruthers of McDonald; parents, William Sidney Caruthers Sr. and Bettie Jean Harris Caruthers of Salt Springs, FL; brother, Robert Allan Caruthers of Tampa, FL; and grandmother, Uceba Jones Babson of Tallahassee, FL. Funeral services and burial were held in Orlando, FL. A memorial services was held in the Chattanooga area.

**CLARK, Evelyn**, 84, born Feb. 13, 1925, died Aug. 16, 2009. She was a member of the Kingsport, TN, Church. She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Clark.

**COBLE, Evelyn V.**, 83, born Dec. 11, 1925, died March 15, 2009. She was a member of the First Greensboro, NC, Church for more than 70 years, and served as church clerk, treasurer, and flower coordinator. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Louis and Joy Coble of Pleasant Garden, NC; nephew, Martin Coble of High Point, NC; niece, Wendy Coble of Woodbridge, VA; and a host of friends.

**COSTER, Thomas J.**, 56, born July 16, 1952, died May 27, 2009 in Jacksonville, FL. He was a member of the Jacksonville First Church for six years. He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Sandra. The service was conducted by Pastor Mike Miller at the Arlington Park Funeral Home, Jacksonville. Interment was at the Arlington Park Cemetery, Jacksonville.

**CRANSHAW, Jake**, 87, born June 22, 1922, died Oct. 25, 2009. He was serving in the Merchant Marines when World War II ended, and finished his tour of duty after the war. His father was a newspaper photographer, and a great uncle was a portrait photographer, so he studied photography and worked in Pensacola, FL, Richmond, VA, and Atlanta, GA. He was active in many Adventist churches—teaching in the Junior and Adult Sabbath Schools, lay activities leader, elder, deacon, and church board member. He was a charter member at Belvedere, Duluth, Stone Mountain, Mid Cities (Texas), and Loganville. While attending the Kirkwood Church, he met June Black, and they were married Oct. 11, 1959. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Oct. 11, 2009. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, June Black Cranshaw; one son, Don Cranshaw; two daughters: Mitzi

(Neil) Davis and Julie (Larry) Bennett; three grandchildren: Shauna (Eric) Ayers, Jennifer (Justin) Seamands, and Jacob Andrew Bennett; two great-grandchildren: Gavin and Dilan Seamands; and one sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Johnny Mills.

**DAVIS, Reba**, 95, born Dec. 3, 1913 in Noma, FL, died July 2009. She was a member of the Altamonte Springs, FL, Church for 23 years. She is survived by two sons: Brian and Ken of Altamonte Springs; one brother, Brian Burnett of Tampa, FL; and one grandchild.

**DAVIS, Rose Marie**, 93, born May 17, 1911, died in Meridian, MS, in 2009. She was a member of the Meridian Community Church.

**DAVIS, T. J.**, 86, born in New Hope, AL, died Sept. 4, 2009 in New Hope. He was a member of the Big Cove Company. He is survived by one daughter, Patricia Treece; five sons: Carl Davis, Lawrence Davis, William Davis, Richard Davis, Lee Roy Davis Sr.; 26 grandchildren, and 49 great-grandchildren.

**DAY, Elmer**, 93, born Feb. 1, 1916 in Battle Creek, MI, died July 21, 2009 in Homosassa, FL. He was a member of the Homosassa Church. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; son, Randy of Litz, PA; two daughters: Sandra Vanerwegen of Chattanooga, TN, and Susanne Adams of Homosassa; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

**DEARK, Diane Willis**, 64, born Dec. 19, 1944, died Sept. 24, 2009. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, Church. She is survived by her husband, Gilbert Roy DeArk; one son, Rick Sigmon; two daughters: Kimberly (Quentin) Purvis and Rebecca Sigmon; two sisters: Fran Robinson and Linda Hawkins; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews.

**DRAIA, George, Sr.**, died Oct. 27, 2009. He is survived by two children: Diana (James) Aumack and George (Carol) Draia Jr. of Pennsylvania; five grandchildren: Jim (Lynn) Aumack, Chris (Sharna) Draia of Georgia, Sherry Aumack Reppert of Mississippi, Scott Draia of California and Tammy Halye of Pennsylvania; and six great-grandchildren. He was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church.

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**EDGMON, Verdune B.**, 93, born Feb. 17, 1916 in Darien, GA, died Oct. 6, 2009 in Collegedale, TN. She was a member of the Florida Living Church for two years and a member of Forest Lake Church for 30 years, Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband, Grover; two sons: Bob of Quincy, FL, and Tim of Collegedale; one daughter, Karyl Ludwig, Haywood, CA; and three grandchildren. Pastor Horace Walsh conducted the service at the Highland Memory Gardens, Apopka.

**FETALINO, Carl I.**, 72, born Jan. 14, 1937 in the Philippines, died July 28, 2009 in Avon Park, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park Church. His 32 years of denominational service included two years at Manila Sanitarium and Hospital, three years in Environmental Service and X-ray filing clerk, and 27 years in Maintenance at Hinsdale Hospital, Hinsdale, IL. He is survived by his wife, Rizalina; and two daughters: Carriza Lynn and Ivy Mae of Chicago, IL. The service was conducted at the Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home by Pastors Eben Aguirre and Paul Boling. Interment was at Bougainvillea Cemetery in Avon Park.

**FLYNT, Harold L.**, 88, born Jan. 18, 1921 in Savannah, GA, died July 25, 2009 in Jacksonville, FL. He was a member of the Jacksonville First Church for 22 years. He served the denomination as a pastor in Florida, North Carolina, Ohio, Illinois, and Alabama; and chaplain and public relations director at the Battle Creek Sanitarium for six years. After retirement he spent eight months in Japan as a chaplain at the Adventist Hospital and also filled several pastorates in the Florida Conference on a short term basis. He is survived by his wife, Emma; two sons: George of Orange City, FL, and Guy of Oak Park, IL; two daughters: Sharon Eul of Oak Park, and Brenda Deavers of Jacksonville, FL; one sister, Nadine Webb of Jacksonville; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Jacksonville Memory Park in Orange Park, by Pastor Michael Miller. Interment was in Orange Park.

**FOWLER, Annabell I.**, 93, born May 26, 1916 in Leetonia, PA, died Sept. 12, 2009 in Zephyrhills, FL. She was a member of the East Pasco Church for eight years, Zephyrhills. She assisted her singing evangelist/pastor husband for many years. She is survived by one son, Donald of Chateaugay, NY; one daughter, Sylvia

Coggin of Lakeland, FL; eight grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren. Chaplain George Capenter conducted the service at the Woodlawn Memorial Gardens, Orlando, FL.

**GIBBINGS, Mary**, 95, born May 5, 1914 in Woodcreek, Trinidad, West Indies, died Oct. 3, 2009 in Upper Marlborough, MD. She was a member of the New Port Richey, FL, Church for 12 years. She is survived by four sons: Neville, Everead, Clive, Jr., and Roger; four daughters: Cynthia, Joan, Rosiland, and Gail; 20 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the New Port Richey Church by Pastor William Webb. Interment was in New Port Richey.

**GOODACRE, Rhea G.**, 96, born April 13, 1913 in Princeton, WV, died Aug. 19, 2009, Avon Park, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park Church. She is survived by one son, Charles of Redlands, CA; one daughter, Mary Alice White of Avon Park; one sister, Kathleen Wandersee of Hudson, FL; five grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and six great-great grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor George W. Brown at the Avon Park Church. Interment was in Cape May, NJ.

**HOWARD, Edgar R.**, 86, born March 4, 1922 in North Augusta, SC, died April 26, 2008 in Pueblo, CO. He graduated from Southern Adventist University in 1943, and taught in the Florida Conference for 10 years. For the last 36 years, he was a member of the Pueblo First Church, where he was known for his Sabbath evening Vespers programs. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; four children: Carolyn Colvin, Debra Worley, Paul Howard, and Catherine Hoosier; and seven grandchildren.

**HURST, Peggy L.**, 56, born Dec. 1, 1952 in Mountain View, AR, died Feb. 9, 2009 in Auburndale, FL. She was a member of the Winter Haven, FL, Church for 30 years. She is survived by her husband of 37 years, Ron; one son, Shannon of Lake Alfred, FL; two brothers: Jackie Freeze of Eagle Lake, FL, and Sonny Freeze of Winter Haven, FL; one sister, Erma of Modglin, TN; and two grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Oak Ridge Funeral Care in Winter Haven by Pastor Walter Maier. Interment was at Auburndale Memorial Park.

**INGERSOLL, Dale M.**, 86, died June 16, 2009 in Telford, TN. He served as a minister

in the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 43 years, including seven years in Ecuador, and then served the needs of young people throughout the remainder of his ministry in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Rhodesia, Africa. In retirement, he and his wife, Cheryl, were active in the Johnson City, TN, Church, nurturing members and people in the community.

**JONES, Robert Eugene**, 81, born in Washington DC, died Aug. 25, 2009 in Huntsville, AL. He was a member of the Athens, AL, Church. He is survived by his wife, Virginia Maxine Jones; three sons: Robert E. Jones Jr., William S. Jones, and Robert S. Jones; and one brother, Charles Holland.

**KARR, SR., Leon J.**, 88, born July 15, 1921 in West Chester, PA, died Oct. 15, 2009 in Zephyrhills, FL. He was a member of the East Pasco Church for 21 years, Zephyrhills. He is survived by his wife, Constance; one son, Leon James Karr Jr. of Rumney, NH; one daughter, Nancy Lathrop of Germantown, MD; two sisters: Edna Taylor of Troy, PA, and Louise McAnulla of Phoenixville, PA; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Art Stagg at the East Pasco Church, Zephyrhills. Interment was at Bushnell Veterans Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

**KING, Ted**, 85, born Sept. 15, 1923 in Nashville, TN, died July 26, 2009 in Ridgetop, TN. He was a long-time member of the Ridgetop Church where he frequently shared his musical talents. He served in the U.S. Army and was a World War II veteran. He was a home-builder and owner of King Construction Company. His wife of 55 years, Edith, preceded him in death. His father, Theodore King, donated the land for the Ridgetop Church in the 1950's. He is survived by two sons; daughters-in-law; four grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren. Pastor F. H. Hewitt and Jim Raines conducted the funeral service in Greenbrier, TN.

**LAWES, Sylvester**, 79, born Aug. 2, 1929 in Lucky Hill, St. Mary, Jamaica, W.I., died Aug. 1, 2009 in Ocala, FL. He was a member of the Silver Springs Shores Church in Ocala for 12 years. He is survived by his wife, Jasmine; five sons: Donal, Giffy, Desmond, Wayne, and Orville; five daughters: Elaine, Sharon, Winsome, Marcia, and Maxine; one brother, Matthew Lawes; and a number of grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. The

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service was conducted at the Silver Springs Shores Church by Pastor Reynold Maxwell. Interment was in the Highland Memorial Park in Ocala.

**LEE, Bernice**, 82, born Sept. 27, 1926, died July 18, 2009 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Altamonte Springs Church. She is survived by four sons: Ted Proveaux, Mike Proveaux, Donald Proveaux, and Terry Lee; one daughter, Diana Shank; and 17 grandchildren.

**LEMASTER, Addie Beatrice**, 98, died May 28, 2009. She was a registered nurse, class of 1935, Madison College. She worked for Kern County Public Health in Bakersfield, CA, for 30 years. She moved back to Murphy in 1980. She was a member of the Murphy, NC, Church. She is survived by her husband of 73 years, Everett LeMaster; and two daughters: Suzanna Curtin of Boulder, CO, and Shirley Boling of Fresno, CA.

**LESCAY, Luis F.**, 83, born Aug. 23, 1925 in Santiago, Cuba, died Aug. 17, 2009 in Muskegon, MI. He was a member of the Avon Park, FL, Church. He is survived by his wife, Monica of Muskegon; one son, Heernan of Muskegon; and two grandchildren. The service was conducted by Dionisio Charistian at the Avon Park Spanish Church. Interment was at Bouganvillea Cemetery, Avon Park.

**LINK, Flora J.**, 80, born June 2, 1926, died Jan. 12, 2007 in Ocala, FL. She was a member of the Ocala Church for more than 45 years. She is survived by one son, Wayne Nielsen of Ocala; one daughter, Kathleen Couch of Ocala; four grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. The service was conducted in Ocala by Pastor Dave Swinyar. Interment was in Ocala.

**LOPARDO, Philip**, 70, born July 20, 1939 in Melton, NY, died Aug. 12, 2009 in New Port Richey, FL. He was a member of the New Port Richey Church for one week. He is survived by his wife, Audrey; three daughters: Jillcan, Jacqueline, and Jeannine; one sister, Anna Muso; and two grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Tony Rivera at the New Port Richey Church.

**MATTERN, Mary K.**, 99, born May 5, 1909 in Pikesville, MD, died Feb. 23, 2009 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka,

for 32 years. She was employed by the denomination for 24 years and served in the following areas: East Pennsylvania Conference, General Conference, Potomac Conference, Pacific Union Conference, and Far Eastern Division in Singapore.

**MCCORKLE, Wynell**, died Oct. 17, 2009 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the Louisville First Church.

**MCGUIRE, Eula Rasnick**, 91, born April 19, 1918, died July 9, 2009. She is survived by several nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband. She was a member of the Bristol, TN, Church.

**MICHALENKO, Don J.**, 63, born Nov. 4, 1943 in Marshfield, WI, died June 11, 2007 in Hendersonville, TN. He worked for Loma Linda Foods in southern California and for Worthington Foods in California. He started his own vegetarian food distribution company, United Specialty Foods with a soup and chili line of Better Life Foods in Tennessee. He had been a church treasurer for many years in California, started a church plant in Ohio, and assisted the Madison Campus Church in their media ministries. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; one son, Kevin (Terri); one daughter, Tamara (Randy) Terry; and five grandchildren.

**MILLER, Geraldine June**, 76, of Ooltewah, TN, died July 11, 2009

**MITCHELL, Alfred B.**, 90, of Collegedale, TN, died Sept. 11, 2009. He was born in Winfield, KS. Soon after his birth, the family moved to Collinsville, AL. He was a member of the McDonald Road Church. He was an accomplished guitar and mandolin player, and a member of the Collegedale Melody Makers. For more than 30 years he was an auditor for Housing and Urban Development based in Atlanta, GA. He was recognized for innovation in saving the federal government hundreds of thousands of dollars. He was a veteran of WWII. He was preceded in death by his first wife of 52 years, Viola Turnage Mitchell. He is survived by his wife, Irene Denny Larkin Mitchell; one son, Kelvin Mitchell of Chunky, MS; two daughters: Renita McDougal of Hendersonville, NC, and Daina Spears of Ringgold, GA; two grandchildren: Rochelle Wilson of Smyrna, GA, and Megan Leffler of Shreveport, LA; five sisters: Mertice Meyer of Collegedale, TN, Nelda Reid of Elgin, S.C., Lorene Boddy of Cleveland, TN, Gladys Borah of Depew, NY, and Kathleen Ringer of Higdon, AL;

several nieces; nephews; great-nieces; great-nephews; great-great-nieces; and great-great-nephews. Interment was at Collegedale Cemetery.

**MOORE, Virginia Ruth**, 84, formerly of Kingsport, TN, and Loyall, KY, died Aug. 14, 2009 in Knoxville, TN. Born in Big Stone Gap, VA, where she was raised. She resided in southwest Virginia, eastern Kentucky, and east Tennessee. She was a homemaker and an avid bowler, having bowled in several area leagues. She was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and a member of the American Legion Post #3/265 Women's Auxiliary in Loyall, KY. She was preceded in death by her husband, Colonel S. Moore. She is survived by her daughter, Shelia (Wayne) Hendricks of Virginia Beach, VA; one son, Colonel "Jerry" (Margaret) Moore of Knoxville, TN; three grandchildren: Gerald Moore, John Moore, and Christopher Hendricks; five great-grandchildren; one sister, Hyson (Rufus) Barnett of Imboden, VA; several nieces; and nephews. Services were held at Powell Valley Memorial Gardens in Big Stone Gap, VA.

**MORAN, Betty**, 76, born Dec. 14, 1932 in Chicago, IL, died July 3, 2009 in Orange Park, FL. She was a member of the Orange Cove Church for 14 years, Orange Park. She is survived by her husband, Lucio. The service was conducted by Pastor Andre Van Heerden at Orange Cove Church.

**MORENINGS, Vanessa**, 48, born July 15, 1960, died March 12, 2009. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Imanuel Morenings; one son, Isaac; her mother, Laura Leonard; and one brother, Tim Leonard. She was a member of the Bristol, TN, Church.

**MULL, Alvin Edward**, 85, born Oct. 17, 1923, died Aug. 11, 2009. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and was a member of the Morganton, NC, Church. He retired from Burke County School System as a bus driver, and then drove a truck for Jack's Cookies for 20 years. He is survived by one son and daughter-in-law, Mike and Lucy Mull of Alturas, FL; two grandchildren: David and Sharon; one brother; three sisters; an aunt; two uncles; several in-laws; nieces; and nephews.

**NEWELL, Ruth Mae**, 89, born Aug. 27, 1920 in Cross Plains, TN, died Oct. 3, 2009 in McMinnville, TN. She is survived by her husband, Harvey; one son, Tommy;

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two granddaughters; and two great-grandchildren. She worked for many years at the Southern Publishing Association in Nashville, TN. Pastor F. H. Hewitt conducted the graveside service at Spring Hill Cemetery in Nashville.

**NEXSEN, Lyda Little (Oliver)**, 76, born Nov. 6, 1932 in Uriah, AL, died Feb. 1, 2009 in Atlanta, GA. She was a member of the Conyers, GA, Church. She taught Church school in Gainesville, FL, and Head Start in Mobile, AL, before becoming a registered nurse. She worked in hospitals in Chattanooga, TN, Atlanta, GA, and Conyers. She held many church offices during the years, which includes Sabbath School superintendent and leader of various children's divisions. She is survived by her husband, James; one daughter, Linda Oliver Konstanzer of Mt. Vernon, MO; two sons: Michael (Melinda) Oliver of Daphne, AL, and Edward (Kris) Oliver of Mobile, AL; and six grandchildren.

**OAKLEY, Ida Fay**, 86 born in Docena, AL, died Oct. 25, 2009 in Huntsville, AL. She was a member of the Huntsville Central Church. She is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Robert Aitken; and grandsons: Michael and Matthew Aitken.

**OFT, Juvernia**, died Oct. 5, 2009. She is survived by four children: Krystal (Charles) Bishop, Twyla (John) McKinney, Daryl (Mary Jo) Oft, Rusty Oft; and nine grandchildren. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church.

**PARKER, Velma Davis**, 93, born Dec. 30, 1911, died Sept. 18, 2009 in Meridian, MS. She was a member of the Meridian Community Church. She is survived by one son, Steve Parker; and two daughters: Susan Parker and Cindi Geeslin.

**PRELOG, Larry Michael**, 57, born April 14, 1952 in Madison, TN, died June 28, 2009. He was a graduate of Highland Academy in Portland, TN, and attended Andrews University. He was a member of the Niles, MI, Church. He worked in respiratory therapy in Gallatin, TN. While in Avon Park, FL, he worked as a bio-medical technician and a telephone systems manager at Walker Memorial Hospital, and owner of Westshore Communications. He is survived by his wife, Tammy; two daughters and sons-in-law: Mindy and Matt Bittle of Akron, Oh, and Melissa and Matt Kemp of Sarasota, FL; two

sons: Larry and Kenneth Prelog of Niles, MI; two sisters and brothers-in-law: Donna and Bob VanDevander of Soddy Daisy, TN, and Debra and Tom Candy of Battle Creek, MI; two grandsons: Wyatt Bittle and Matthew Kemp; nieces; nephews; great-nieces; and great-nephews.

**PURSLEY, Esther Irene**, 91, born May 3, 1918, died July 7, 2009. She is survived by one son, Richard Pursley; one daughter, Evelyn Kopitzke; three grandchildren: Raymond Pursley, Renne Long, and Logan "Eddie" Kopitzke; and one great-granddaughter, Mara Pursley. She was a member of the Bristol, TN, Church.

**RANDOLPH, Zenith Elizabeth Chesney**, 86, a member of the Knoxville, TN, First Church for 60 years, died Sept. 20, 2009 in Berrien Springs, MI. She was the wife of the late Robert Eugene (Gene) Randolph. She is survived by her children Gary (Karen) Randolph, Sharon (Richard) Terrell, all of Berrien Springs, MI, and Kathy (Ed) Reid of Highland, MD; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; two sisters: Cora (Eugene) Hickman and Carolyn (Richard) Hackney; and one sister-in-law, Mildred Chesney, all of Knoxville; nieces; and nephews. Services were at the McCarty-Evergreen Chapel in Knoxville with Elder Ed Reid officiating.

**REAMS, Joseph**, 86, born April 23, 1922 in Richmond, VA, died Oct. 17, 2008 in Avon Park, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park Church for 19 years. His 33 years of denominational service included being a teacher from 1954-1960 and a pastor from 1960-1987 at the following churches: West Palm Beach, Lakeland, and Apopka, FL. He is survived by one son, David of Avon Park; one daughter, June Brown of Lumberton, MO; three grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the home of David Reams by his family.

**RICHARDS, Leslie J.**, 36, born Aug. 5, 1972 in Huntington, WV, died June 18, 2009 in Homosassa, FL. He was a member of the Homosassa Church. He is survived by his mother; three brothers: Harold of Whitesburg, GA, Christer of Hiram, GA, and Tommy of Nicholls, GA.

**RINGE, Nina**, 98, born July 5, 1911 in Detroit, MI, died Aug. 15, 2009 in Bremen, GA. She was a member of the Carrollton, GA, Church. She was a registered nurse and worked for many years at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI. Her husband of

62 years, George, preceded her in death. She is survived by two sons: Dennis and David of Temple, GA; 12 grandchildren; 25 great-grandchildren; and five great-great grandchildren.

**ROBERTS, Arlene McGrath**, 81, born June 17, 1928 in Pt. Blank, TX, died July 29, 2009 in Mobile, AL. She was a member of the Cody Road Church in Mobile. She is survived by her husband, Marcin Roberts; one daughter, Bonnie Daniel; and one son, Mike Roberts.

**RONAY, August P.**, 96, born Feb. 8, 1913 in Cleveland, OH, died Feb. 20, 2009 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka for seven years. He served as the lead carpenter for 15 years at Kettering Medical Center, Kettering, OH. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; one daughter, Carol Anderson of Fishersville, VA; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. The memorial service was held at the Florida Living Church by Pastor Horace Walsh.

**ROWE, Kermise E.**, 74, born Nov. 23, 1934, died July 31, 2009. He retired from Collegedale Academy in 1998, where he served as principal for many years. He was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church, and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Vornholt Rowe; two daughters: Susan Brown of Collegedale and Sandy Keele of Calhoun, GA; two brothers: Berlin Rowe of Muncie, IN, Philip Rowe of Lasantville, IN; four grandchildren: Kelly Brown, Jill Reading, Donnie Keele III, Andrea Keele; and one great-granddaughter, Clara Mae Reading. Interment was in Collegedale Memorial Park.

**RUPPENTHAL, Gladys**, 93, born June 15, 1916 in Buffalo, NY, died Nov. 6, 2009 in New Port Richey, FL. She was a member of the New Port Richey Church. Her denominational employment was at New England Sanitarium and Hospital. She is survived by one brother, Jacob; and two sisters: Naomi and Arlene. The service was conducted in New Port Richey by Pastor William Webb. Interment was in Buffalo, NY.

**SACKETT, Kenneth**, 69, born Dec. 1, 1939 in Athens, PA, died July 29, 2009 in Winter Haven, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park, FL, Church. He is survived by two sons: David and Anthony of Frostproof, FL.



# Obituaries

**SANTOS, Gustavo, Jr.**, 62, born Dec. 21, 1946, died July 4, 2009. He was a member of Collegedale, TN, Church. He is survived by his wife, Kathy Faye Santos of Collegedale; mother, Esthervina Santos of Collegedale; stepfather, Frank Sierra of Chattanooga, TN; and a host of other relatives. He was preceded in death by his father Gustavo Santos Sr. Interment is at Chattanooga National Cemetery.

**SCHABER, Lurenia**, died Aug. 23, 2009 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the Louisville First Church. She is survived by her husband, Marion Schaber; and her daughter, Pamela Marie Cushman of Louisville.

**SCOTT, Lanell D.**, 90, born Dec. 4, 1919 in Lumberton, MS, died Feb. 21, 2009 in Berrien Springs, MI. She was a member of the Bass Memorial Academy Church in Lumberton, MS. She is survived by her daughter, Mary Nell (Tim) Rosenboom; grandson, Eric Bond of Berrien Springs, MI; grandson, Chad (Siabhon) Bond of Lumberton; granddaughters by marriage: Laura Rosenboom and Chari (Olin) Gilbert of Michigan; and great-grandson, Timmy Gilbert. She was predeceased by her husband, Fraer; and great-grandsons: Conner and Chad Bond Jr.

**SEEBERGER, Emma E.**, 90, born Nov. 17, 1918 in Indian Fields, NY, died June 24, 2009 in Lima, OH. She was a member of the Florida Living Church, Apopka, FL, for 15 years. She is survived by one son, Edward Hoffmeyer of Lima; one sister, Carol Perry-Frisby of Walla Walla, WA; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Chiles-Laman Funeral Home in Lima by Pastor Bruce Hayward. Interment was at the Chestnut Lawn Cemetery in Ravena, NY.

**SHIRTCLIFF, June H.**, 82, born Jan. 15, 1927 in Camden, NJ, died July 23, 2009 in Greer, SC. She was a retired registered nurse, and a member of the Woodruff Church. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Walter Shirtcliff; two daughters: Nanci Shirtcliff and Suzie Ross; three sons: Dennis Shirtcliff, Douglas Shirtcliff, and Timothy Shirtcliff; two sisters: Ruth Leonard and Marge Vesely; one brother, Gerald Murcell; 13 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**SMITH, Daniel Oliver**, 72, born Nov. 30, 1936, died Aug. 3, 2009. He was a veteran

in the U.S. Navy, and spent his life doing all phases of construction. He and his first wife, Carol, had three children. In 1984 he married Marlene Broderick, and they went on short-term mission trips. His last mission trip was to Nicaragua in April 2008. He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Marlene; three children: Cheryl, Frank, and Barbara; 10 grandchildren; three stepsons; and seven step-grandchildren.

**SMITH, Doris**, 66, born Aug. 13, 1942, died May 27, 2009. She is survived by her husband, Ronnie Smith; two daughters: Karen Felty and Sharon Quales; two grandsons: Justin Quales and William Diviak; and one brother, Phil Draper of Arizona. She was a member of the Bristol, TN, Church.

**SMITH, George L.**, 89, born Feb. 12, 1920 in Salem, SC, died Oct. 24, 2009 in Salem. He was a retired dental lab technician and country gardener, sharing the bounty with others. He served our country in World War II, doing reconnaissance in the European theater, earning medals including a Purple Heart and Bronze Star. Smith was a long-standing member of the Salem Church, where he was an active leader (more than 20 years as head elder) and participant as long as his health allowed. He is survived by his wife, Mabel Albertson Smith; two daughters: Linda Duncan and Judy Hunt (wife of retired Carolina pastor Marvin Hunt); one son, Steve Smith; two sisters: Faye Talley and Helen Luce; four grandchildren: Stella Bradley (MPA teacher), Matthew Crowe, David Smith, and Luke Smith; and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one granddaughter, Karen Duncan.

**SMITH, Shirley M.**, 76, born March 23, 1933 in Hamlin, IA, died Sept. 29, 2009 in Walla Walla, WA. She graduated from Maplewood Adventist Academy in Hutchinson, MN, attended Andrews University for one year, and graduated from the nursing program with her two sisters at Hinsdale Sanitarium and Hospital, Hinsdale, IL. She worked as director of surgical services at Walker Memorial Hospital, Avon Park, FL, from 1969 to 1995. She was a member of Avon Park Church where she enjoyed singing in the choir. She moved to Walla Walla in July this year from Avon Park. She is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and David Haugen of Martinez, CA, and one son and daughter-in-law, Bob and Susan Smith of Walla Walla; two sisters:

Jeanette Foreman of Highland, CA, and Carol Curry of Berrien Springs, MI; one brother, Leo Christensen of Avon Park; five grandchildren: Jeffery Haugen of Memphis, TN, Sara Haugen of Martinez, CA, Rachel Smith of Moscow, ID, Stephanie Smith and Michael Smith of Walla Walla; numerous nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by one brother, Larry Christensen, and one sister, Delores Johnson.

**STEWART, Annie Louise**, 86, born June 23, 1923 in Hattiesburg, MS, died Oct. 29, 2009 in Hattiesburg. She was a member of the Hattiesburg Church. She is survived by one daughter, Patricia "Tootie" Moore; son and daughter-in-law, Raymond Richard and Doris Stewart; son, Terrell Moore; two sisters; two brothers; six grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**TITUS, John Henry**, 87, born Sept. 29, 1922 in Pennington, NJ, died Oct. 10, 2009 in Hendersonville, TN. He married Lillian Esther Snook in 1946. They moved to Takoma Park, MD, and lived in the area until May 1979. John worked for many years as a finish carpenter. John and Lillian attended the Adelphi, MD, Church, which eventually was sold. The members built a new church, Burnt Mills Seventh-day Adventist Church. John donated many hours to help build that church. In May 1979, John and Lillian moved to Hendersonville, NC. John continued his excellent work there as a finish carpenter until his retirement in 1985. They were members of the Upward Church. John was very involved in building their school gymnasium. In April 2008, John and Lillian moved to the middle Tennessee area to live with their daughter and son-in-law. In August 2009 they moved to an assisted living facility in Hendersonville. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lillian E. Snook Titus of Hendersonville; one daughter and son-in-law, Sharon A. Titus Harrell and Michael S. Harrell; one grandson, Ryan A. Harrell; one granddaughter, Jolene R. Harrell Sharp; several nieces; and nephews. He was preceded in death, March 1968, by his son Donald R. Titus, who was killed in the line of duty in Vietnam. John was a loving and giving person who was always looking for ways to help others. He was dependable, and could often be found doing repairs for friends, neighbors, and church members who needed help. He strongly believed in the Second Coming of Jesus, and looked forward to someday living in Heaven with his family and friends.

# Obituaries

**TUCKER, Arthur Lee**, 96, born Dec. 21, 1911 in Virden, IL, died July 1, 2008. He attended Emmanuel Missionary College (Andrews University), and graduated in 1941 with a degree in bookkeeping. He served the Church in this field for 10 years in the United States and abroad. In 1952 he returned to the States and worked in the treasury department for the General Conference. Upon retiring in 1974 he moved to his final residence in South Carolina. After losing his first wife, Grace, to cancer, Tucker married Mabel Gould Walther in 1989. They enjoyed 19 wonderful years together. He is survived by his wife, Mabel; two brothers: Allen Tucker and Howard Tucker; one sister, Lena Mae Sawyer; one son, Larry Tucker; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Also surviving is his family through marriage which includes Mabel's daughter, Jacque Courtney; four step-grandchildren; and nine step-great-grandchildren.

**TYSON, Martelle**, 94, born May 4, 1915, died Oct. 7, 2009. Family and friends gathered for visitation Oct. 10, 2009 at Farmville, NC, followed by a graveside service in the Tyson family cemetery, near Greenville, NC. She attended Bethel Academy and Emmanuel Missionary College where she met Elbert M. Tyson Jr., who was just entering the ministry. Together they ministered in the Church for nearly 50 years. Martelle shared her ability to play the piano and organ in hundreds of services through the years. Her husband, Elbert M. Tyson Jr., preceded her in death, March 26, 1994. She is survived by four children: Doris Tyson of Albemarle, NC, Jeanie Tyson of California, Sharon Dustin of Albemarle, and Elbert Tyson III of Lake Mary, FL; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**VANBELLE, Ethel H.**, 86, born July 24, 1922, died Aug. 23, 2008 in Port Charlotte, FL. She was a member of the Port Charlotte Church for 17 years. Her husband, Julius, predeceased her July 12, 2009. She is survived by three daughters: Barbara Orr of Port Charlotte Diane Harris of Punta Gorda, FL, and Charmaine Gorski of Port Charlotte; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Port Charlotte Church by Lee Huff.

**VANBELLE, Julius D.**, 89, born Nov. 28, 1919, died July 12, 2009 in Port Charlotte, FL. He was a member of the Port Charlotte

Church for 18 years. He is survived by three daughters: Barbara Orr of Port Charlotte, Diane Harris of Punta Gorda, FL, and Charmaine Gorski of Port Charlotte; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Port Charlotte Church by Lee Huff.

**WHALLEY, Robert Stephen**, 60, born April 12, 1949 in Valleyfield, Québec, died Oct. 4, 2009 in Charlottesville, VA. He was a pastor, teacher, husband, and father. His denominational service included churches in Cornwall and Brockville, Ontario, and then Marystown, Newfoundland, Canada. In 1982, the family moved to Danville, VA, where he served churches in Danville and Martinsville. In 1987 the family moved to Tanzania, Africa. While there, he was a teacher at the Tanzania Adventist Seminary and College. In 1988 the family moved to Tennessee to serve in Morristown and Newport. In 1991, he moved to Dayton, TN. In 2000 he moved back to Danville, VA, to work at the family business. His first love was Jesus and telling others about His saving grace and love. He touched thousands of lives, and his ministry will be missed by many. Whalley lived in the Danville area since 2000 where he and his wife owned and operated Pincrest Adult Home. He was a member of the Martinsville Church. He is survived by his wife; three sons: Michael R. Whalley and his wife June of Boiling Springs, SC, Richard Mark Whalley and Daniel Andrew Whalley of the residence; two granddaughters: Kaityln and Rachel Whalley. He is also survived by one brother John H. Whalley and his wife Delores of Petite River, Nova Scotia, and their two children. Interment was in Danville Memorial Gardens.

**WILLIAMS-HIBBERT, Arturo**, 58, born Oct. 30, 1950 in Panama, died May 30, 2009 in Ocala, FL. He was a member of the Silver Springs Shores Church in Ocala for eight years. He is survived by his wife, Marlene; three sons: David of Toronto, Canada, Carlton Brown of Ocala, Marvin Brown of Gainesville, VA; four sisters: Yolanda Morgan of New York, Joann Hogan of Atlanta, GA, Bonnie Moore, Panama, and Marya Laison of Ocala; and two grandchildren. The service was conducted in the Silver Springs Shores Church by Pastor Reynold Maxwell, Pastor Creaton Francis, and Pastor Samuel Lumbsden. Interment is in the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

**WILLIAMS, John Christopher**, 43, born Nov. 7, 1965, died Oct. 8, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Lizette Mendoza-Williams; three children: Zane, Sophia and Isabella Williams. He was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church.

**WYSONG, David H.**, 70, born Aug. 11, 1938, died July 22, 2009 in Parrish, FL. He was a member of the Palmetto, FL, Church. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; two sons; two daughters; two brothers; two sisters; and five grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Palmetto Church by Pastor Norman Bassett.

**YAWN, Harvey Albert**, 89, born in Florida June 23, 1920, died Sept. 2, 2009 in Panama City, FL. He was a member of the North Bay Church in Lynn Haven, FL. He was a veteran of WWII and a survivor of the sinking of the USS Vincennes at the Battle of Savo Island. He was honored years later for saving the life of Paul Moore, a fellow seaman who was severely wounded. Yawn served the Church as a literature evangelist, and at times as an assistant publishing director for 30 years. He began his literature evangelism work in the Gulf States Conference. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Charlotte Yawn; one son and daughter-in-law, Mike and Lily Yawn; daughter, Ann Pepper; and daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and David Eubanks; four brothers; three sisters; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one grandson, Dustin Pepper.

**ZAHARIE, John**, 91, born March 15, 1918 in Alliance, Ohio, died Sept. 6, 2009 in Jeffersonville, KY. He was a veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Jackson, KY, Company. He was instrumental in bringing a number of souls to Christ while serving for several years as a lay missionary in Hawaii and Brazil. He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris Taylor Zaharie. He is survived by four children: Nancy Works of Osage, AR; Brian Zaharie of Jeffersonville; Nadine Lauren of Auburn, WA; Wade Zaharie of Coeur d'Alene, ID; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

**ZIMA, Patricia**, died Oct. 5, 2009. She was the mother of Bob Zima, Jeff Zima, and Nancy Zima-Gentry. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. Interment is in College View Cemetery, Lincoln, NB.

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**CEMETERY LOTS FOR SALE** – A six-grave lot at Valhalla Cemetery, south of Birmingham on Bessemer Highway. Choice location and easy to find. Originally \$4800 (over ten years ago). Will sell for \$4500. (Today's price: over \$9000). Contact Pastor Wm. Webb in Florida: 727-372-7088. email: [sdapas@verizon.net](mailto:sdapas@verizon.net). [1]

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## MISCELLANEOUS

**SINGLE AND OVER 40?** Stay home and meet new friends in USA, only interracial group for Adventist singles over 40. For information, send large self-addressed stamped envelope to ASO-40, 2747 Nonpareil, Sutherlin, OR 97479. ©

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**ARE YOU MOVING SOON?** Before you rent an U-Haul and do it yourself, check our price and save yourself the hassle. Plan now and reserve a time slot. Fast, direct, and economical. Contact Gary Erhard, Erhard Furniture, 610 South Mechanic Street, Berrien Springs, MI; 49103; 269-471-7366 or 248-890-5700, evenings 8-11 p.m. ©

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**HOW TO BEGIN YOUR OWN MINISTRY:** Intensive 2-week course focusing on starting a ministry, knowing your Bible, prophecy, prayer, practical nutrition and vegan cooking, and hydrotherapy. Dates: Jan. 18-31, 2010. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$425 (includes room, vegan meals, and materials). For more information: Lew Keith 931-724-6706. Email: [lykeith@gmail.com](mailto:lykeith@gmail.com). [1]

**HUSBANDS & WIVES SEMINAR:** A 1-week Bible-based seminar focusing on strengthening relationships between husbands and wives. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Dates: Feb. 8-14, 2010. Cost: \$199 per person (includes private room, vegan meals, all materials). For more information: Lew Keith 931-724-6706. Email: [lykeith@gmail.com](mailto:lykeith@gmail.com). [1]

**FOR MEN ONLY:** A Bible-based seminar addressing the challenges men face living in a modern world. Topics include: Relating to Women in the Work Place, Safeguarding the Sacred Circle, Keeping the Body Under, Marriage Relationship – Include and Exclude. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Dates: Feb. 18-21, 2010. Cost: \$119 per person (includes room, vegan meals, all materials). For more information: Lew Keith 931-724-6706. Email: [lykeith@gmail.com](mailto:lykeith@gmail.com). [1]

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**VACATION ON KAUAI, HAWAII** – "THE GARDEN ISLAND" – Kahili Mountain Park is a scenic mountain getaway located at the base of Kahili Ridge. Just minutes from popular Kauai attractions, the park has an assortment of 1-4 room cabins with sleeping for 2-6 persons. See pictures and rates at [www.kahilipark.org](http://www.kahilipark.org). Info: [info@kahilipark.org](mailto:info@kahilipark.org) or 808-742-9921. [1-6]

**VISIT EUROPE!** Adventist group travel or individual arrangements: discounted hotels, car rentals, trains, cruises. 601-891-0414 or [starmountaintravel.com](http://starmountaintravel.com). [1]

**AFFORDABLE WEBSITES:** Does your ministry need an affordable website? Does your current website need an updated look? We can design a professional looking site to meet your needs. Call George at 704-900-3015 or visit us at [GeoDenSolutions.com](http://GeoDenSolutions.com). [1-4]

**ESTABLISH YOUR OWN P.T. CLINIC** – partnership opportunity for experienced physical therapist in an Adventist owned outpatient physical therapy company based in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Contact Don at 423-413-8348. [1]



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# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**Pathfinder Council** – Jan. 8, 9. NPR.

**Workers' Meeting** – Jan. 12.

**Lay Pastoral Training** – Feb. 5-7. NPR.

**Romance @ the Ranch** – Feb. 12-14. NPR.

**Lay Bible Worker Training** – March 5-7. NPR.

**Pathfinder Workbee** – March 19-21. NPR.

**Church Works** – March 26, 27. Blue Ridge Assembly.

**WM Spring Retreat** – April 2-4.

**Adventurer Fun Day** – April 10. NPR.

**ShareHim Lay Evangelism Festival** – April 8-10. British Columbia, Canada.

**MPA Alumni Weekend** – April 16, 17. MPA.

## 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@gmail.com](mailto:djmiller4000@gmail.com), or 386-789-3235.

**North Florida Oakwood University Alumni Chapter** – membership information and event listings for Oakwood alumni in Florida. Details: <http://www.oakwoodalumniinfl.org/>, [oakwoodalumniinfl@gmail.com](mailto:oakwoodalumniinfl@gmail.com), 888-719-7776, or 904-616-1896.

**Florida Hospital DeLand Support Groups** – Florida Hospital DeLand offers a variety of support. Details are available under the "Support Groups" link in the "Patients and Visitors" box at <http://www.fhdeland.org/>.

**Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars**

Jan. 23. South Orlando.

Feb. 13. Sunrise.

Feb. 20. Palm Coast.

Feb. 27. St. Augustine.

March 6. Florida Camp Meeting at Camp Kulaqua.

March 13. Titusville.

April 4. Cocoa

**International Food Festival**

– Jan. 24. Indigo Christian Jr. Academy, Daytona Beach.

Details: [tolgang@cfl.rr.com](mailto:tolgang@cfl.rr.com), 386-740-7029, or 386-405-2490.

## Florida Adventist Book Center

– Winter Park: 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222). Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: <http://www.floridaconference.com/abc/> or order by e-mail: [FloridaABC@floridaconference.com](mailto:FloridaABC@floridaconference.com).

## Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

Feb. 6. Sunrise.

Feb. 7. Plantation, Lauderhill, Deerfield Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)

Feb. 13. Naples.

Feb. 14. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Winter Haven.

Feb. 20. Port Charlotte.

Feb. 21. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

Feb. 27. West Palm Beach.

Feb. 28. Midport, Ft. Pierce, Cocoa, Titusville. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, Palm Bay.)

March 13. St. Petersburg.

March 14. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City.

March 20. Jacksonville Southpoint.

March 21. Jacksonville First, Orange Cove, St. Augustine, Palatka, Palm Coast, New Smyrna Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

March 27. Port Charlotte.

March 28. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

## 116th Annual Florida Conference Camp Meeting

– March 4-7. New venue: Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details online: <http://www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/>

## Georgia-Cumberland

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

**Pioneer Outreach Ministries** – Jan. 9. Bainbridge, GA.

**Adventurer Director Council** – Jan. 9. Cohutta Springs.

**Pathfinder Director Council** – Jan. 10. Cohutta Springs.

**Elementary Band Festival Deadline** – Jan. 11.

**Hispanic Children's Ministries Convention** – Jan. 15, 16.

Atlanta, GA.

**Pathfinder Teen Backpack Trip** – Jan. 15-17. Cohutta Springs.

**Pathfinder Teen Trip** – Jan. 15-17. Cumberland Island.

**Prayer Ministry Day** – Jan. 16. Cartersville, GA.

**Lay Evangelism Rally** – Jan. 16 (3-6 p.m.). Chattanooga First Church, TN.

**Leadership Training - Health/Personal Ministry** – Jan. 23 (2-6:30 p.m.). Macon, GA.

**Hispanic Lay Evangelism**

**Festival** – Jan. 29-30. Toccoa, GA.

**Children's Ministries Convention** – Jan. 29-31. Cohutta Springs, GA.

**North American Division**

**Health Summit** – Jan. 29-Feb. 7. Orlando, FL.

**Leadership Training – Health/Personal Ministry** – Jan. 30. Tifton, GA.

**High School Retreat** – Feb. 5-7. Cohutta Springs.

**Young Adult – Life Group Experience** – Feb. 5-7. Cohutta Springs.

**Prayer Conference** – Feb. 19-21. Cohutta Springs.

**Pathfinder Teen Bible Conference** – Feb. 19-21. Cohutta Springs.

**Leadership Training – Health/Personal Ministry** – Feb. 20 (2-6:30 p.m.). Atlanta Belvedere, GA.

**Hispanic Couples' Retreat** – Feb. 26-28. WinShape Retreat, Rome, GA.

**CONNECT: ACF Leadership Conference** – Feb. 26-28. Knoxville, TN.

**Family Fun STAYcation** – Feb. 26-28. Cohutta Springs.

**Leadership Training – Health/Personal Ministry** – Feb. 27 (2-6:30 p.m.). Collegedale, TN.

**Health Rally** – Feb. 28. Greater Atlanta.

## Gulf States

**Complete Calendar online** – <http://www.gccsda.org>

**Pathfinder Council** – Jan. 8-10. Camp Alamisco.

**Teen Caving Invitational** – Jan. 22-24.

**Education Fair** – Jan. 31-Feb. 1. Bass Memorial Academy.

**Adult Sabbath School Workshop** – Feb. 5-7. Camp Alamisco.

**Singles Retreat** – Feb. 12-14.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Association Board** Jan. 12. March 16. May 4.

**Conference Executive Committee**

Jan. 12. March 16. May 4.

**West Tennessee Festival of Faith** – March 6. Memphis, TN.

**Eastern Kentucky Camp Meeting** – March 12, 13.

Prestonsburg, KY.

**Prayer Conference** – March 19-21. Indian Creek Camp.

**Highland Academy Alumni**

## Southern Adventist University

**Classes Begin** – Jan. 5.

**Online Registration Open for New/Transfer Students** – continues through Jan. 8.

**Outdoor Education Winter Intensive** – Jan. 17-28.

**Community Service Day** – Jan. 18.

**PreviewSouthern** – Jan. 21.

**Symphony Concerto Concert** – Jan. 31.

## Announcements

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	Jan. 1	Jan. 8	Jan. 15	Jan. 22	Jan. 29	Feb. 5
Atlanta, GA	5:40	5:45	5:52	5:58	6:05	6:12
Charleston, SC	5:24	5:30	5:36	5:42	5:49	5:56
Charlotte, NC	5:22	5:27	5:34	5:41	5:48	5:55
Collegedale, TN	5:39	5:45	5:51	5:58	6:05	6:12
Huntsville, AL	4:46	4:52	4:58	5:05	5:12	5:19
Jackson, MS	5:06	5:12	5:18	5:24	5:31	5:37
Louisville, KY	5:33	5:39	5:46	5:54	6:02	6:10
Memphis, TN	4:59	5:04	5:11	5:18	5:25	5:32
Miami, FL	5:41	5:46	5:51	5:57	6:02	6:07
Montgomery, AL	4:51	4:56	5:02	5:09	5:15	5:22
Nashville, TN	4:43	4:49	4:56	5:03	5:10	5:17
Orlando, FL	5:40	5:45	5:51	5:56	6:02	6:08
Wilmington, NC	5:13	5:18	5:25	5:31	5:38	5:45

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