

April 2010

# TSOUTHERN IDINGS



# Good News Atlanta

Sección En Español

# There

Sometimes I need the encouragement of a succinct, inspired picture of what will be when we get there — what the hymn writer terms “Over Yonder.” I believe one of the very best descriptions is Ellen White’s conclusion in *The Great Controversy*. Perhaps someone else needs this inspired and inspiring word picture right now.

“There the redeemed shall know, even as also they are known. The loves and sympathies which God Himself has planted in the soul shall there find truest and sweetest exercise. The pure communion with holy beings, the harmonious social life with the blessed angels, and with the faithful ones of all ages who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, the sacred ties that bind together ‘the whole family in Heaven and Earth’ (Ephesians 3:15) — these help to constitute the happiness of the redeemed.

“There, immortal minds will contemplate with never-failing delight the wonders of creative power, the mysteries of redeeming love. There will be no cruel, deceiving foe to tempt to forgetfulness of God. Every faculty will be developed, every capacity increased. The acquirement of knowledge will not weary the mind or exhaust the energies. There the grandest enterprises may be carried forward, the loftiest aspirations reached, the highest ambitions realized; and still there will arise new heights to surmount, new wonders to admire, new truths to comprehend, fresh objects to call forth the powers of mind and soul and body.

All the treasures of the Universe will be open to the study of God’s redeemed. Unfettered by mortality, they wing their tireless flight to worlds afar — worlds that thrilled with sorrow at the spectacle of human woe and rang with songs of gladness at the tidings of a ransomed soul. With unutterable delight, the children of Earth enter into the joy and the wisdom of unfallen beings. They share the treasures of knowledge and understanding gained through ages upon ages in contemplation of God’s handiwork. *With undimmed vision they gaze upon the glory of creation — suns and stars and systems, all in their appointed order circling the throne of Deity. Upon all things, from the least to the greatest, the Creator’s name is written, and in all are the riches of His power displayed.* (Emphasis supplied.)

“And the years of eternity, as they roll, will bring richer and still more glorious revelations of God and of Christ. As knowledge is progressive, so will love, reverence, and happiness increase. The more men learn of God, the greater will be their admiration of His character. As Jesus opens before them the riches of redemption and the amazing achievements in the great controversy with Satan, the hearts of the ransomed thrill with more fervent devotion, and with more rapturous joy they sweep the harps of gold; and ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands of voices unite to swell the mighty chorus of praise. ‘And every creature which is in Heaven, and on the Earth, and under the Earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and ever’ Revelation 5:13.

“The great controversy is ended. Sin and sinners are no more. The entire Universe is clean. One pulse of harmony and gladness beats through the vast creation. From Him who created all, flow life and light and gladness, throughout the realms of illimitable space. From the minutest atom to the greatest world, all things, animate and inanimate, in their unshadowed beauty and perfect joy, declare that God is love” *The Great Controversy*, pages 677, 678.



**Gordon Retzer**  
Southern Union  
President

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# EMBARKING ON AN HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP

BY TAMARA FISHER

The countdown has begun. The General Conference Session will arrive in Atlanta, Georgia, in less than three months. Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences are gearing up for an historic event — “Searching for Hope,” an evangelistic harvest to be held June 16-19 at 7:30 p.m., at the Georgia World Congress Center, 285 Andrew Young International Boulevard, NW, Atlanta, GA 30313.

The South Atlantic and Georgia-Cumberland conferences have joined forces and are bringing in three speakers for an evangelistic outreach. Alejandro Bullón will speak in Spanish, Nathanael Garcia in French, and Mark Finley in English as they each present Searching

for Hope separate crusades. Musicians planned for the event include Richard Smallwood on Wednesday, Martha Munizzi on Thursday, and Larnelle Harris on Friday. For more details, call 404-792-0535.

Along with the main reaping event in June, there are numer-

ous local churches holding what has been termed “Merge” evan-



REBECCA BROOKS

Dan Hall, Duluth, Georgia, Church pastor, prays with a field school student at the Prayer Countdown Rally.

gelistic experiences leading up to the Searching for Hope series all spring and early summer. Preparation events are also scheduled, along with field schools working with Southern Adventist University and multiple health outreach meetings. Each local event has a goal of ending at the Searching for Hope series at the Georgia World Congress Center.

According to Calvin Watkins, coordinator of the event and church ministries director for the South Atlantic Conference, “merge” is the term being used to describe the massive joint evangelistic effort taking place in Atlanta. “This is when a set of objectives are pursued by different individuals with the same pre-determined purpose, which ultimately leads to the natural merging of their goals and objectives to achieve the maximum result.”

Vanard J. Mendinghall, president of the South Atlantic Conference, says, “It’s been a few years since Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences partnered together for mission and camaraderie. From this solidarity, the Good News Atlanta (GNA) initiative was born, and now 30-plus pastors and churches are engaged in an evangelist thrust that is the first of its kind. With all the anticipation, excitement, and exposure, we had to do something for the

Kingdom by taking advantage of the publicity surrounding the GC Sessions coming to Atlanta. As a result, we believe the Spirit of the living God is with us as we introduce thousands to this precious truth.”

Ed Wright, Georgia-Cumberland Conference president, added, “Clearly, the time has come for us to link arms and move forward together. The evangelistic challenges represented by metropolitan Atlanta are staggering. But, our God is more than able to meet the challenge. Working together, in the unailing power of the Holy Spirit, all things are possible!”

Alejandro Bullón is the evangelist for “The Voice of Hope” with the North American Division. He has written several books and defines himself as a preacher, while his main message is to know Jesus as the solution for all life’s problems.

Nathanael Gracia serves as director of the ministerial association and prayer coordinator for the North Jamaica Conference. He



NICK CLARK

*Atlanta-Berean Open Praise young adult choir sings during the Good News Atlanta Rally.*

He has published 71 books, and was previously the speaker/director for It is Written.

There are 23 South Atlantic and 57 Georgia-Cumberland churches in the metro Atlanta area. Of that number, 37 are holding “Merge” evangelism efforts.

Joe Cirigliano, Atlanta North Church pastor, shares, “At Atlanta North we have been creating an evangelistic church in preparation for the Field School of Evangelism with Southern Adventist University and Ralph Ringer, director of church growth with the Southern Union. Ringer and Alan Parker, D.Th., joined us for our ‘Evangelism For Everyone’ training, and I am training a team of more than 100 lay Bible workers. Atlanta North has an interest list of more than 1,000 names to begin connecting with as we follow God’s moving in Atlanta. Other plans include a large health and job expo at Perimeter Mall, and a reviving of the media ministry I started in Atlanta 10 years ago. Please pray for our efforts.”

“In 2009, the Lord blessed the Atlanta-Berean Church with 403 new baptisms,” states Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., senior pastor. “With the evangelism momentum from 2009, coupled with what is being planned for 2010, we believe that the Lord is going to do exceeding, abundant, and above all we could ever ask for this year.”

To keep the evangelism fires burning, and in preparation for



*Carlton Byrd, D.Min., Atlanta-Berean Church pastor, speaks to the attendees during the community block party.*

speaks four languages and lectures at Northern Caribbean University Salem Campus.

Mark Finley is one of nine vice presidents for the Seventh-day Adventist Church located in Silver Springs, Maryland.



*Atlanta-Berean Church held an evangelistic initiative immediately following the divine worship service at Frederick Douglass High School (next door to the church), to reach the unchurched and young adults in metropolitan Atlanta. It was entitled "Expressions of Praise." Carlton Byrd, D.Min., was the speaker, and special music was given by Byron Cage, renowned gospel recording artist.*

this summer's Searching for Hope series, a community-wide "Tract Attack" initiative is scheduled for April 17, 2010, along with a two-week evangelistic revival at Atlanta-Berean Church, beginning April 24 and continuing through May 8. Additionally, a neighborhood Block Party will take place in June, just prior to the opening night of the Share the Hope series. All of these evangelistic plans are being made with the ultimate goal of seeing men, women, boys, and girls accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

"PATHWAYchurch is the start of an organic/house network," according to Chris Donovan, PATHWAY founder and co-leader. "The founding group is made up of people from Millridge/Pebblebrook and Duncan Ridge sub-divisions. Currently, two Adventist members (my wife and I) attend, with an average of about a dozen in attendance Friday nights. We currently meet in our house (after meeting in a vacant lot and an attendee's house in Pebblebrook for the first year).

"We are intentionally working to keep PATHWAY effective at reaching lost and hurting

people," says Donovan. "We take seriously the call to 'GO make disciples,' and we have added a new option for increasing our ministry. It's a Victory Lane Toy Hauler Trailer that we call our Mobile Ministry Unit; it has open space in the back that can seat over a dozen people. It will be used for mobile church, community services, lifestyle training and services, etc. The funds were donated to outfit the trailer."

One thing anyone can do to help is pray for this event. Colossians 4:2-3 says, "Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time for us as well, that God may open up to us a door for the Word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ."

Will you commit to pray for these meetings? May 14, 2010, marks the final thrust for the Searching for Hope evangelistic meetings in the Atlanta metro area. The success of these meetings depends on prayers. About 1,000 people are needed to pray morning, noon, and night, from now until the "Searching for Hope" event, June 16-19, and until the General Conference Session, June 23. The prayers should include asking for the Holy Spirit's presence; for God's anointing on the speakers; that God will lead those who are ready to attend the meetings, and bless those who prepare for the meetings; and that God will do something miraculous in Atlanta and bring a revival.

For more details, visit [www.goodnewsatlanta.net](http://www.goodnewsatlanta.net). ✨

*Tamara Fisher is Georgia-Cumberland Conference communication director.*



*Attendees of the Prayer Countdown Rally pray together.*

REBECCA BROOKS

# BACK TO THE BASICS WITH EVANGELISTIC PRAYER

BY REBECCA BROOKS

In preparation for the “Searching for Hope” series featuring Mark Finley, Alejandro Bullón, and Nathanael Gracia, churches in the Atlanta area are taking part in a Prayer Countdown.

At the participating churches, each member will be asked to make a list of 10 people in Atlanta who they would like to pray for and invite to the upcoming evangelistic meetings. Beginning eight weeks before the meetings, each church member will pray by name

for every person on their list every day. When the meetings are only two weeks away, members will begin praying twice a day for each person listed. At this time, each church member will also receive 10 flyers to personally invite those they’ve been praying for to attend the meetings with them.

Ralph Ringer, director of church growth for the Southern Union, explained this approach to Atlanta pastors at a rally on March 6, 2010, challenging them to put

it into practice at their churches. He shared that enacting a Prayer Countdown could revive the prayer lives of church members and prepare them spiritually to invite others to the meetings.

“If you’ve been praying for six weeks for those people, it puts you in a much better frame of mind, attitude, and spirit to ask them....Secondly, if those people have been prayed for for six or seven weeks, they are in a better attitude to respond positively. So,



Featured speaker James Doggette, D.Min., senior pastor of Madison Mission Church in Huntsville, Alabama, preached during the Good News Atlanta Evangelism Rally at Atlanta-Berean Church.



Ed Wright, Georgia-Cumberland Conference president, speaks during the Good News Atlanta Evangelism Rally at Atlanta-Berean Church.

NICK CLARK

you have a win-win situation. You have much, much better results of people coming to the meeting — from your point of view and their point of view,” Ringer shared.

Not only does the Prayer Countdown spiritually strengthen church members, it also produces great results. He shared that when a person uses the Prayer Countdown method, they are usually able to bring at least one person to the meetings. “If you did nothing else but this...if every member brought



*Atlanta-Berean Church members held a block party for the community.*

two to four out of 10,000; this is proven to be much more effective. I’m excited about that.”

“I really feel that we’re at the point, in the Atlanta area at least, where this is something we really need to do,” says Hal Peggau, pastor of the Douglasville, Georgia, Church. “We just cannot go any longer with all the expense of going on mail outs. This is getting back to the basics — it really is.... We’re going to do this and I know it’s going to be a great blessing.”

The Prayer Countdown is an intentional effort to help church members develop an evangelistic mindset by inviting them to play a key role. “When our members start seeing souls changed, lives changed, and they had a part in it, evangelism won’t be a drudgery, it will be exciting,” says Ringer.

“I think this is the most important thing we will do to prepare for the meetings,” shares David Penno, Ph.D., Georgia-Cumberland Confer-

ence evangelism coordinator. “Everything else we do is important, but without the Holy Spirit and heavenly angels working on hearts and minds, our efforts will be in vain.”

The Prayer Countdown is part of a larger evangelistic plan as well. Fifteen Georgia-Cumberland Conference churches in the Atlanta area are participating in Southern Adventist University’s Field School of Evangelism. Each church has invited a theology student from Southern Adventist

University to lead out in a revival and an evangelistic series. The revivals were held across Atlanta, March 3-6. The Prayer Countdown began in March and will continue through the field school evangelistic series, to be held May 14-June 13. As a conclusion to the field school evangelistic series, the “Searching for Hope” series with Finley, Bullón, and Gracia June 16-19, will provide an opportunity for all the Atlanta churches to join together just prior to the General Conference Session in Atlanta, which begins June 23. ✨

*Rebecca Brooks is Georgia-Cumberland Conference assistant communication director.*



NICK CLARK

*Good News Atlanta hosted an Evangelism Rally at Atlanta-Berean Church, December 2009.*

one person to the meetings, you wouldn’t have to do advertising,” he shared, also noting that advertising is still important for reaching the people who don’t have a connection to a church member.

“I love the focus on using prayer and inviting friends that you’re praying for as a primary means of advertisement or soliciting people to come,” says Harold Cunningham, Georgia-Cumberland Conference vice president for pastoral ministries and evangelism. “The results we’re getting from mailings are so poor now —



*Field school students and pastors share experiences from a recent revival at the Prayer Countdown Rally.*



# Good News Atlanta Schedule of Events

## APRIL

- April 1-3 – Prueba con Jesus with speaker Jose Rojas, Atlanta Metro Hispanic Church
- April 1-3 – Conyers Hispanic Evangelism Crusade
- April 1-10 – Merge Evangelism with Patrick T. Carter, West End Church
- April 1-May 30 – Merge Evangelism with Nathaniel Hollis, Atlanta Boulevard Church
- April 7-24 – Merge Evangelism with Regulo Rivas, Norcross Hispanic Church
- April 10-24 – Merge Evangelism with Marvin Brown, New Covenant Tabernacle
- April 16-May 15 – Merge Evangelism with Rusty Williams, Alpharetta Church
- April 24-May 8 – Merge Evangelism with Edison B. Gonzalez, Metropolitan and Lawrenceville Hispanic churches
- April 24-May 8 – Merge Evangelism with Carlton Byrd, Atlanta-Berean Church

## MAY

- May-June – Merge Evangelism with Scott Annis, Chris Donavan, Questview Church
- May-June – Merge Evangelism with Shelbert Gaines, Chris Donavan, Greater Atlanta Church
- May-June – Merge Evangelism with Moses Edwards Sr., Shiloh and Mt. Pisgah churches
- May 1-31 – Merge Evangelism with Denton Rhone, Atlanta Belvedere Church
- May 12-June 15 – Merge Evangelism with Chris Montrose, Atlanta

- Southside Church
- May 12-13 – Southern Union Field School Orientation
- May 12-June 19 – Merge Evangelism with Hal Peggau, Douglasville Church
- May 13-June 13 – Merge Evangelism with Miquel A. Tirado, Canton, Marietta, and Acworth Hispanic churches
- May 14-June 13 – Southern Adventist University Field School of Evangelism, Atlanta
- May 14 – Revelation Speaks Hope, St. Elmo, begins
- May 14-22 – Merge Evangelism with Julio De La Rose, Gainesville, Cornelia, and North Gwinnett Hispanic churches
- May 15-June 15 – Merge Evangelism with Gabriel Boakye-Dankwa, Ghanaian Church
- May 15 – 6:00 p.m., Joint Evangelism Rally with GCC and SAC, Atlanta Belvedere Church
- May 15-June 5 – Merge Evangelism with Stephen P. Ruff, New Jerusalem and Newnan churches
- May 15-June 12 – Merge Evangelism with Kenneth J. Boswell, New Hope Church
- May 15-May 29 – Merge Evangelism with Sherwin Jack, Olin W. McGraw, Mountainside Church
- May 22-June 13 – Merge Evangelism with Atlanta Belvedere Church
- May 23-June 5 – Merge Evangelism with Ralph Peay, First Church of Covington
- May 29-June 15 – Merge Evangelism with Andrew Caban, Roswell-Springs Church
- May 31-June 15 – Merge Evangelism with Peter Kulakov, Lakeview Church

- ism with Peter Kulakov, Lakeview Church
- May 31-June 15 – Merge Evangelism with Wilma Zalabak, Geoff Patterson, Marietta Church

## JUNE

- June 2-8 – Merge Evangelism with Pedro Castillo, Athens, Georgia
- June 4-15 – ShareHim Evangelism Meetings, Atlanta area churches
- June 4 – The Everlasting Love, Mt. Olive Church at the El Ridel Presbyterian Church, 875 Scenic Highway, Lawrenceville, Georgia
- June 4-18 – Merge Evangelism with Brad Cassell, Fayette Church
- June 4-18 – Merge Evangelism with Marius Asaftei, Loganville Church
- June 5-19 – Merge Evangelism with Dave Ketelsen, Peachtree City Church
- June 5-12 – Merge Evangelism with Tabor Nudd, Hiram Church
- June 12-16 – Merge Evangelism with Regulo Rivas, North Atlanta Hispanic Church
- June 12-15, Merge Evangelism with Jorge Quintiana, Doraville, Marietta Central, and Chamblee Hispanic churches
- June 12-15 – Merge Evangelism with Ed Gonzalez, Dunwoody Hispanic Church
- June 16-19 – 7:30 p.m., Searching for Hope Crusade, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta
- June 19 – 7:30 p.m. Searching for Hope Baptism, Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta

# It All Started Here – And Flew All Over the World!

BY CARRIE PURKEYPILE

One very well-known supporting ministry of the Adventist Church has roots in the Southern Union. Florida native John Freeman, who now resides in Hendersonville, North Carolina, with his wife, Ida Mae, dreamed up the concept of matching willing volunteers with needs around the world. Forty years later, that bright idea is the thriving ministry of Maranatha Volunteers International.

As a professional photographer, John traveled with Ida Mae frequently for work and for pleasure in the

small plane that he flew from site to site. It was on one of those trips to photograph a ship coming into the beautiful Jamaican Montego Bay that the idea for Maranatha truly began. John ended up staying with the president of the Adventist hospital, who requested his help, saying they had willing volunteers from Southern Adventist University to install a PA system, but no money to get them down to Jamaica to do the work.

“On the flight home I got to thinking, I bet a lot of people would like to do this!” remembers John. He arranged for the cruise line to donate passage for the volunteers from Southern, and started to brainstorm even bigger plans. He first wrote to each Seventh-day Adventist

mission in Latin America, asking if they could utilize volunteers to help out with projects. “The response was immediate!” says John. “They wanted to know, When can they come to help us?”

With the need confirmed, John set out to recruit volunteers. Many of his friends also owned small planes for their work, and they were more than willing to get involved. John and Ida Mae brainstormed along with John’s secretary, Marge Tesner, and her husband, Ted. They came up with the name Maranatha Flights International. It was 1969.

On a short trip to the Bahamas, the two couples rented scooters to zoom around the island. They passed an abandoned construction site, with no windows or doors and just three rows of cement block around the base. A sign in the overgrown weeds stated Seventh-day Adventist Church. “Well, that is not a very good way to represent our Church,” commented Ted Tesner.

It didn’t take long for the foursome to decide that they had found the first project for Maranatha Flights International. When Freeman ap-



*Current Maranatha president Don Noble (left) stands with founders John and Ida Mae Freeman in front of a completed church in Cuba.*

peared months later with plane-loads of energetic volunteers, local people were elated.

Right from the start the Freemans involved their young daughters in the mission process. "This mission started with the young people here," says Ida Mae. "Our girls didn't know what it is like to go without. It is good for them to go and see that not everyone has everything like we do at home. It made a difference!"

After that first trip to Eight Mile Rock Church in the Bahamas, the ministry slowly built on itself. Volunteers enthusiastically recruited their friends, and John dedicated a large chunk of his time and resources to spreading the Word.

John insists that his idea for Maranatha was to provide an outlet for young people to serve. "We really started Maranatha to work with young people, and we needed a few

thing where it is all over the world. They're building thousands of churches. People can't believe that!"

In 1989, Maranatha Flights International merged with another Virginia-based humanitarian agency (Volunteers International) to become Maranatha

Volunteers International. The organization prayerfully planned and grew, expanding



*The Freemans, affectionately known as "Mr. and Mrs. Maranatha," brought their congregation from Hendersonville, North Carolina, to Bideme, Mexico, to build a church together.*

the mission to include hundreds of building projects every year. Maranatha has now built or remodeled many thousands of urgently needed buildings, and they send more

than 3,000 volunteers each year.

Yet, founder John Freeman doesn't lay claim to these results. "I think the only thing that keeps Maranatha alive is the Lord. I think the whole thing is nothing but a miracle and an answer to prayer."

"Even now when somebody says Maranatha, you can tell it just sort of sparks an interest," says the Freemans' daughter, April Stevenson. John and Ida Mae have remained loyal to the work of the Lord. In 2009

they organized a Maranatha mission project to Mexico with their home church in Hendersonville.

Through all the projects near and far, Ida Mae has taken one life lesson to heart: "Well, it has helped me to realize that there is more to live for than just living for yourself. And, when ... you see other people with the need that they have, it just helps you to realize, what am I doing in this world if I can't help somebody like this?"

"It's tremendous what the Lord has really done in this," says John. "It's not what I have done. It's just what the Lord has done."

To get involved in missions for yourself, visit [www.maranatha.org](http://www.maranatha.org).

*Carrie Purkeypile writes for Maranatha Volunteers International.*



*Ida Mae hugs a new friend at the dedication of her church, built by the volunteers in just a few days.*

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*Traveling all over the world with Maranatha, John and Ida Mae Freeman have the wealth of unforgettable life experiences. Maranatha travels create deep friendships of the best kind. "It's the people that want adventure, I think. They hear the stories about what happens. And there's a lot of people that want to do something," says Ida Mae.*

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older people to show them how!" claims John. But Maranatha has always welcomed an enthusiastic panorama of volunteers — young and old. Experienced contractors, cooks, and carpenters coach new volunteers in all stages of life through the steps, and work is always completed with surprising speed and quality.

"Well, I'll tell you what I think about Maranatha today," says John. "I think it's fantastic what the Lord has done with these people that are sacrificing. When we look at how Maranatha started out with just a few churches that we built, and how it has grown into a tremendous

# A Divine Language

BY ASHLEY BATISTE

Ellen G. White says, “The melody of praise is the atmosphere of Heaven; and when Heaven comes in touch with the Earth, there is music and song” *Education*, pg. 191. The Music and Worship Conference was that small piece of Heaven, with the help of Oakwood University’s Music Department, faculty members Adriana Perera and Wayne Bucknor, Ph.D., accompanied by his wife, Carmen Bucknor, traveled abroad to participate as lecturers in the biennial Music and Worship Conference of the Adventist Association for Graduate Students in Spain. The Music and Worship Confer-



Wayne Bucknor, Ph.D., Oakwood University music department professor, shares insights to the roles and responsibilities of the music ministry.

ence brought together strangers and locals, young and old, Spanish and American, all on one common quest — to enjoy the music. The Conference fulfilled that quest, with the help of music professors Perera and Bucknor.

The Music and Worship Conference took place last December, in a small town called Alborache, a suburb outside of Valencia.

Perera, currently an assistant professor at Oakwood University’s

Department of Music, was born and raised in Spain. She has helped produce the Music and Worship Conference in past years, and when she was asked if she knew anyone who could lecture on American gospel music, she did not hesitate in recommending Wayne Bucknor. “I have always admired Dr. Bucknor’s leadership with the music at the Madison Mission SDA Church,” she said.

Perera’s lecture was entitled “Differences between Secular and Religious Music,” in which she addressed the atmosphere that secular and religious music each seek to create. Bucknor lectured on the “Roles and Responsibilities of the Music Ministry and Guidelines for Improving the Qualitative Use of Music in the Liturgy of the African-American SDA Church.” He also presented two workshops on “Piano Accompanying Techniques for Church Musicians.” Perera says that the young people enjoyed his lectures. “Everyone was ‘gospelized,’ and so excited about the songs.” Along with his lectures, Bucknor performed a classical recital.

When it comes to music and worship, Perera says, “Music is a divine language that connects God to His people.” Oftentimes, it seems to be the topic of debate in the Church — do



Adriana Perera, Oakwood University music department assistant professor, speaks to an attentive audience at the Music and Worship Conference in Spain.

we sing hymns only, or gospel music? Instead of allowing music to create barriers, it is meant to join people together. Even though there was that language barrier, everyone understood the universal language of music. “I was able to bring a little bit of Oakwood University to Spain; my two worlds were connected by music,” Perera said.

In a country that is 99.9 percent Catholic, Perera says there are only about 10,000 Seventh-day Adventists living in Spain, and Sagunto College is the only Adventist college for the young people to attend. Adventists are seen as some type of sect or cult. Carmen Bucknor noted that, “people smoke everywhere; they seem to think that anyone who doesn’t smoke is being ‘too healthy.’”

“It’s very challenging to be a Seventh-day Adventist in Spain,” Perera said. This Conference was very encouraging to the young people. It encouraged them in their worship experience, in their praise, in their music. The Conference helped to strengthen their belief in God and in the Seventh-day Adventist faith. ✨

Ashley Batiste is a student writer for the Office of Public Relations at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama.

# FOLLOW THE BIBLE

BY LICCI ZEMLEDUCH

*The State Department of Religious Affairs and other special guests held a special ceremony in front of the State Government Palace in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.*

If this 12 x 18 inch Bible had a passport, it would have been stamped more than 95 times for all the countries it has visited. It is a unique book written in 66 languages.

The “Follow the Bible” initiative of the General Conference was officially launched at the Sabbath afternoon program in the Araneta Coliseum in Manila, Philippines, on October 11, 2008, and will finish its journey during the 59th General Conference Session in Atlanta, Georgia, June 24 through July 3, 2010.

Follow the Bible is an initiative to stimulate a deeper interest in read-



*The Bible is dedicated by the world-wide division presidents.*

ing the Bible. The Southern Union will host the Follow the Bible tour from June 9 to 20. Orlando, Miami, Nashville, and Chattanooga are some

of the cities that the Bible will be visiting.

There have been a wide range of related activities, such as Bible reading marathons, copying the Bible cover to cover, parades, distributing literature on the importance of the Scriptures, and giving out Bibles in various communities. To see the picture galleries of any of these events, visit [www.followthebiblesda.org](http://www.followthebiblesda.org).

If you are interested in hosting Follow the Bible in your city, contact Licci Zemleduch in the Southern Union Communication Department, as soon as possible for available dates. Call 678-420-1413 or Email [lzemleduch@southernunion.com](mailto:lzemleduch@southernunion.com). ☎



*A horse parade in Panamá, Central América, displays the Bible.*



*Opening ceremony for the Follow the Bible tour around the world was held in Manila, Philippines, October 11, 2008.*



*The Bible was in Haiti just days before the seven-magnitude earthquake on January 12, 2010.*



*Prayer conference attendees bow their heads during the consecration service at the conclusion of the weekend.*

## IGNITING THE FIRE, SPREADING THE FLAME

BY NICK CLARK

The second annual Georgia-Cumberland Conference Prayer Conference took place during the weekend of February 20, 2010, and emphasized the real and current work of prayer in people's lives. The meetings, entitled "Igniting the Fire, Spreading the Flame," were held at the Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, Georgia. The guest speakers, well known for their emphasis on prayer, were Jerry and Janet Page of the Central California Conference.

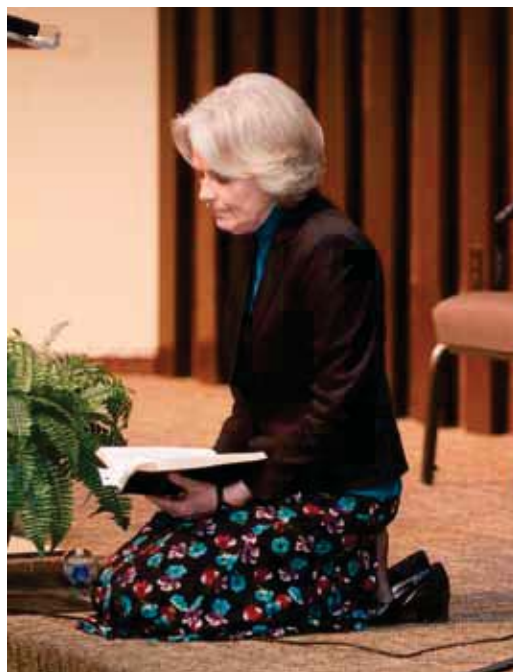
This year's conference had 164 attendees versus the 112 individuals who attended last year. "It is really important for all of us to reaffirm our relationship with Christ. Coming here, especially in the setting that Cohutta Springs provides, being with your brothers and sisters, and knowing that some of them are going through the same experiences that you are, lets you know you are in the right place at the right time," stated Beverly Scarlett of First Church in Augusta, Georgia.

Jerry and Janet Page gave a wealth of real-life experiences taken from their work at the conference, as well as the everyday trials of private life. When asked what he learned from this year's prayer conference, Matt Beasley of the Cartersville, Georgia, Church, stated, "Sometimes we don't know how to pray, so we need to ask

the Lord what we should be praying about. Many times our prayers become selfish with our laundry list of requests. We should pray in His will instead of forcing His will."

Two unique and new elements caught people's attention during the weekend, including the Interactive Prayer Room and the Worldwide Prayer Watch. The Interactive Prayer Room takes a person through an interactive, personal encounter with Christ, as well as teaching the im-

portance of reaching out to others in intercessory prayer. The Worldwide Prayer Watch is based on Ellen White's counsel in the *Review and Herald*, January 3, 1907: "A chain of earnest, praying believers should encircle the world. Let all pray in humility. A few neighbors may meet together to pray for the Holy Spirit." Mark Piotrowski, Conference prayer ministries coordinator, shares, "The vision is for all our families to be praying in a unified way for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at 6:15 a.m. or quarter past the hour, joining others in different time zones." About 500 refrigerator magnets with the following words were handed out: "Worldwide Prayer Watch: 'Lord, please pour out the Latter Rain on: Our family, our church and pastor, our Conference leadership, Global Mission.'" Piotrowski stated, "I sincerely believe that if we, as a Conference family, unite and earnestly seek for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on a regular basis, we will see amazing things happen in our churches throughout our Conference. Our effectiveness in reaching our communities will be so much more powerful and persuasive as we seek to prepare people for Christ's imminent return." ❖



*Janet Page leads prayer conference attendees in a group prayer.*

NICK CLARK



# Μακαριοις, Blessed Happiness

BY JEFF MARSHALL AND REBECCA GRICE

## A Chaplain's Desire for His Students

Jeff Marshall and his wife, Jerlanda, were studying at Andrews University when he received a call from Gary Wilson, principal of Bass Memorial Academy (BMA). "Will you come be our chaplain?" he asked Jeff. "It was during a cold, thick, overcast day in December that I got that call," Jeff recalls. He asked for a couple days to pray about it, but there was no need. His wife confirmed what he already knew, "It's sooner than we expected, but Jeff, that's exactly what we prayed for." They both felt that God was guiding. Jeff is a graduate of BMA and had previously worked there as an assistant dean, and had spent one semester as interim pastor for Bass Memorial Church.

As Jeff begins telling about what is happening at BMA, since that fateful call, he says, "We have just boarded Continental flight 1524 to Mexico City where we will make our connection to the city of Tuxtla in Chiapas State, Mexico, where a group of students and staff will spend their spring break conducting a ShareHim evangelism meeting. As I listen to the air vents blow and watch people creatively jam their carry-on luggage in the overheads, I take a deep breathe. It feels like the first pause in two months."

He continues, "Follow When Led by God — the motto of my

class — still hangs in the gym at Bass. This is what we wanted for our class. This is what we want for the classes that now meet in this school amongst the pecan grove. But, how? What does it look like to follow God?

"It includes prayer. We meet for prayer every morning at 8:30, then again at 9:00 with the principal. My dad, also the church pastor, told me, 'We're praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.' Faculty, alumni, local church members, and students all come regularly. Maybe that's why we're seeing a spiritual blooming on our campus.

Μακαριοις (mak-ar'-ee-os) is our theme for the year. It's a Greek word from the New Testament. It means 'blessed happiness.' I received good marks on a research paper I wrote on this word back at the seminary. I hope this word Christ died and resur-

rected to give us, is marked on my students' hearts.

"Last Sabbath as the Bass Eagle [school bus] returned from outreach, the students sang hymns and shared stories of divine appointments. The outreach involves giving out free *The Great Controversy* [sponsored by Bass Church] and taking community surveys. I just interrupt Sam, a student who's filling out Mexican entry forms beside me, and asked, 'Why are you so willing and enthusiastic to go door-to-door?'

"'Because that's how we find more people for Christ.' He shrugs like the answer is obvious.

"His shrug gives me a smile. It should be obvious. It should be a given that if we love the Lord we share it. Here's an excerpt from an email of a student who will be baptized soon. It also gave me a smile.

'You know, Chaplain Marshall, I'm seeing how tight and close Adventist families are, and I never had that growing up. I'm so envious of that because it seems like such a rich childhood to have. I desire to raise my kids in an Adventist environment because I see how close and spiritual the whole family is. It's just something that I want them to experience.'" Lanae Henegar, Class of 2010. ❖



*Students return from an outreach ministry of giving away copies of The Great Controversy and taking community surveys.*

# Southeastern Film Festival

BY NANCY HOWARD

It took seeing the SONScreen Film Festival at the 2003 Society of Adventist Communicators Convention (SAC) to prompt Robert Henley into action. As the director of interactive ministries for the Southeastern Conference, Henley attended the annual convention in Orlando, Florida, and stumbled upon the SONScreen Adventist Film Festival, which was being held there. Henley was so inspired that he set about developing a similar festival for the Southeastern Conference. Hence, the iParable 10.DV Challenge was born.

The iParable 10.DV Challenge is a digital video festival sponsored by the interactive ministries department at the Southeastern Conference. The 2010 festival was held on February 12, 2010, at the Lake Buena Vista Palace at downtown Disney in Orlando, Florida. The primary purpose of the iParable 10.DV Challenge is to encourage young people to use their unique gifts in storytelling and video production to create relevant digital content that can be used to spread the Gospel in this Internet age. The video production contest was also established to

populate Southeastern's YouTube® channel with uplifting content.

"I hadn't heard much about SONScreen before the 2003 SAC Convention," Henley shared. "There weren't a lot of people there when I went — it was still fairly new. But in addition to seeing more people attend the festival, I wanted more of our young people involved and eventually entering SONScreen." (See sidebar for more information on the SONScreen Adventist Film Festival.)

Henley's vision was to develop a local digital media festival with workshops where participants throughout

Southeastern could learn how to create evangelistic films and videos. "And then we would send our winner to SONScreen," Henley continued.

"In our Church we have those who are very interested in digital media, and learning how to evangelize through film and video, but can't afford to participate in SONScreen," Henley explained. The travel expenses

just to get to Simi Valley, California, where the annual worldwide festival is held, are beyond the reach of many young people. So Henley started training during Southeastern's Leadership Training Summit



Briana Hunt (left), Brian Hunt, and Danielle Sexius, who produced a short film entitled "The Second Coming of Christ ... Are You Ready?" were the 2010 iParable winning team.



of church leaders at the annual camp meetings.

“During the week we would teach the kids how to make films,” said Henley. “From Monday through Thursday, we conducted intensive video workshops on writing, editing, shooting, lighting, music, production, etc. And then we give them cameras, and they would go out on the campground and make a short video.

Then we showcase the films at the end of camp meeting on Friday, and select the winning team.” About 15-20 youth participated each year.

The iParable 10.DV Challenge is a little different. “This is the first year



*Robert Henley, Southeastern Conference communication and interactive ministries director, teaches the 2010 iParable class.*

we did a competition like this,” Henley explained. The call for entries was put out to all the schools and churches in Southeastern. The challenge consisted of two categories — the Student Competition and the Professional/ Non-Student Amateur Showcase. This year’s winning team members were Briana Hunt, Brian Hunt, and Danielle Sexius, who produced a short film entitled “The Second Coming of Christ ... Are You Ready?” Each team member received an iPod Touch, a cash prize, and a copy of a video editing application.

Henley has created an excellent model in iParable that other confer-

ences can easily duplicate of a local or regional-level film festival, which can then feed into the annual worldwide SONscreen Film Festival. “In fact, the interactive ministries department was created several years ago to promote the use of current and emerging technologies, and new media in ministry,” Henley said. He explained that this is done by providing consultation services to ministries, churches, and pastors; assisting in the development of digital strategies for evangelism; providing education and training in technology and new media; and the creation of innovative programming such as iParable.”

And, there’s more to come. The interactive ministries department will be holding a film conference at the Southeastern Conference office this spring where they will be bringing in industry professionals to participate on panel discussions and conduct workshops in film and video production. For details, visit Southeastern’s website at [www.secsda.org/iParable](http://www.secsda.org/iParable). ❄

## SONscreen Film Festival

**DID YOU KNOW...** The Seventh-day Adventist Church has its very own annual film festival? SONscreen was created by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists in 2002 to nurture Christian filmmakers in their craft, career development, and spiritual lives. The SONscreen Film Festival (SSFF) is the annual gathering for Christian young adults who have a passion for using film and video to

create timely and relevant productions for social awareness, outreach, and uplifting creative entertainment. The Festival is typically held at the AMP Studios in Simi Valley, California – except every five years when SONscreen showcases the works of participating filmmakers during the Seventh-day Adventist Worldwide General Conference Session. Such is the case this year. The 2010 SSFF will not occur in

Simi Valley, CA, but in Atlanta, Georgia, at the Rialto Center for the Arts at Georgia State University, June 26 and 27. All are welcome and invited. If you are a Christian filmmaker or know one, this is an occasion you don’t want to miss! For additional information on SONscreen, contact Stacia D. Wright, Festival producer and co-founder, at 866-766-3146 or visit [www.sonscreen.com](http://www.sonscreen.com).

## Georgia BIG PICTURE Conference

Christian filmmakers in the southeast have found a friend in Nancy Howard, executive producer and founder of The Georgia BIG PICTURE Conference (GABPC). Howard, a Seventh-day Adventist filmmaker, created the student film conference in 2004 to provide an environment where students and industry newcomers can participate in a unique education, exhibition, and networking experience with media industry professionals

and peers. The GABPC is produced bi-annually by the Big Picture Film & Video Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established to support, utilize, and retain students and newcomers in the areas of film and the visual arts in Georgia. Students, newcomers, and professionals alike are all welcome to attend. The two-day event consists of workshops, panel discussions, a Directors Boot Camp, and a student film festival.

“We’ve also begun recognizing film and video instructors where students can nominate their teachers for a Big Picture Award,” said Howard.

The Georgia BIG PICTURE Conference takes place bi-annually, with the next one coming up in 2011. Information on conference registration, sponsorship, and nominations for the Big Picture Awards will be available at [www.gabpc.com](http://www.gabpc.com) in the fall.



# HEALING HANDS TOUCH HAITI

BY JULIE ZAIBACK

*Park Ridge surgeons worked 16-hour shifts to address the constant stream of patients coming into Hopital Adventise d'Haiti.*

A deep rumble. The Earth groaned, and the ground shuddered beneath Haiti. Within seconds entire towns crumbled. As we all watched the heart-wrenching scenes play across our television screens — districts rendered to rubble, families severed, countless people suffering from thirst and hunger — we were moved. A 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck just 16 miles west of Port au Prince, Haiti, on January 12, 2010 at 4:53 p.m. The devastation left behind

is overwhelming; the death toll still climbing. Now that the tremors have ceased and the dust has settled, Haiti is left with a brutal aftermath.

As a system of caregivers, the first instinct of employees throughout Adventist Health System hospitals was to reach out and help people in need. Immediately relief efforts were organized and people moved to action. Hospital staff members raised funds which were generously matched by hospital administration. Essential

medical supplies were donated, sorted, packed, and prepared for shipment. Florida Hospital campuses worked together to provide ADRA with \$71,000 worth of medical supplies, which included

23 palettes containing 10,000 bags of IV solution, IV lines, antibiotics, analgesics, masks, gloves, surgical instruments, orthopedic surgical supplies, bandages, and other supplies. Other hospitals, including Park Ridge Hospital in Hendersonville, North Carolina; Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center in Daytona Beach, Florida; Florida Hospital DeLand in DeLand, Florida; Florida Hospital Fish Memorial in Orange City, Florida; and Florida Hospital Waterman in Tavares, Florida, donated massive amounts of much-needed provisions: first aid kits, antibiotics, cast material, crutches, medical supplies, sleeping mats, food items, and much more. They even included comfort items for young children, including coloring books, crayons, and stuffed animals.

The medical mission teams from Adventist Health System hospitals assembled and prepared to travel to Haiti. Many teams would be stationed at the local Seventh-day Adventist hospital, Hopital Adventiste d'Haiti. Without commercial flights flying in or out of the country, special ar-



*The earthquake has left thousands with life-changing injuries.*



*Daphnee Moise, M.D., and Richard Fields, executive director of Helping Hands in Motion, attend the hospital prayer service for Haiti.*



*Florida Hospital immediately donated \$71,000 worth of critical supplies to Haiti.*

rangements were made — planes were chartered, private jets donated, and long, complicated trips became the norm. Daphnee Moise, M.D., an emergency room doctor from Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center, had a very difficult journey. She took a flight to Puerto Rico, and another to Santo Domingo. She then drove to the Haiti border and got a ride on a motorcycle. She then walked until she caught another ride from a cattle truck, and finally her last two hours into the city were by foot.

Only two days after the earthquake struck, Hanscy Seide, M.D., a cardiologist at Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center, traveled to Haiti with medical supplies donated by the hospital. “Even one person we touch, one person we help, one person we save from infection...that will make a big difference,” says Seide.

Park Ridge Hospital sent a team of 16 members comprised of four surgical teams, a CAMS Field Clinic Team, and a support team, including the hospital president and vice president. Only two hours after their plane touched ground in Haiti, the teams were performing surgeries.

“When word got out that we had American surgeons, people just flocked to us and we were overwhelmed to begin with,” explains Jason Wells, vice president of Park Ridge

Hospital. “More than 900 families came to the area next to the hospital to live because they knew they could get food and medical care there.”

For a total of eight days, the Park Ridge team worked 16-hour shifts, performing surgeries until midnight every day. In total, they performed 100 surgeries.

Gordon Hospital banded a team of five caregivers. After flying to Santo Domingo to purchase water, food, shelter materials, and construction supplies, they then drove across the island to Jacmel, Haiti, to begin work in conjunction with the Adventist churches there.

“We saw over 800 patients in three days,” exclaimed Brenda Cooper, respiratory therapist and director of the trip to Jacmel. “Everybody worked so well together! When doctors got caught up, they joined nurses in doing triage.”



*After the 7.0 magnitude earthquake ravaged Haiti, the people are left with a devastating aftermath.*

Other hospitals also sent medical mission groups, including Florida Hospital; Florida Hospital DeLand; Florida Hospital Waterman; Manchester Memorial Hospital in Manchester, Kentucky; and Takoma Regional Hospital in Greenville, Tennessee.

As the medical teams made their trips into Haiti, they were grateful to find others from around the world — along with hundreds of Haitians — compassionately and dutifully working with the constant flow of medical emergencies. Every person they met had a painful story.

Within a matter of seconds the lives of those in Haiti were ravaged, shattered, and forced to begin again from scratch. Every individual from Adventist Health System who served in Haiti shared in a life-changing experience. Beyond the devastation and magnitude of human suffering, these caregivers have come in contact with fervent prayer, unshakable faith, and astonishing hope.

“What strikes me the most is the spirit of the Haitian people,” said Alric Simmonds, M.D., a surgeon from Florida Hospital who served in Haiti. “If you walk through the tent cities that are there, they’re singing, they’re clapping, and they’re praying. Their spirit is bruised, but certainly is not broken.” ❖

# [heart disease]

1 in 4 male deaths is caused by heart disease in the United States.



Maybe it's his dad, mom,  
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).



## Jan Paulsen Inspires at Annual Conference on Mission

In an ever-changing world, our identity as Seventh-day Adventists is becoming increasingly relevant. On February 25-27, 2010 in Lake Mary, Fla., more than 200 delegates from Adventist Health System facilities, Seventh-day Adventist Union Conferences, and churches, came together for the 20th annual Conference on Mission: "Adventist Christian Identity, Communicating with Clarity." A highlight of the conference was the sermon given by Jan Paulsen, Ph.D., president of the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist Church.

"Preserving our Adventist Christian Identity is critical to witnessing our Christian mission to others," explains Donald Jernigan, Ph.D., president of Adventist Health System. "This year's Conference on Mission proved to be a wonderful opportunity to explore the best ways to share our identity



*Dennis Meyers (second from right), president of Manchester Memorial Hospital, is recognized by Jimm Bunch (left), president of Park Ridge Hospital; Don Jernigan, president of Adventist Health System; and Max Trevino, president of Southwestern Union Conference and board chairman of Adventist Health System.*

in a positive light."

The conference commenced with the opening session and banquet on Thursday night.

The Benjamin F. Reaves Keynote Address was presented by Gordon Bietz, Ph.D., president of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn.

During the awards ceremony, individuals were highlighted and honored for exceptional service.

Adventist Health System's Crystal Angel Award, acknowledging individuals for the advancement of the Adventist healthcare mission, was presented to Dennis Meyers from Manchester Memorial Hospital, Manchester, Ky.; Rich Reiner from Adventist Health System; and Samuel Turner Sr., from Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Shawnee Mission, Kans. The Christian Service Award, highlighting individuals who provide an outstanding Christian example through compassionate service, was awarded to John Guarneri, M.D., from Florida Hospital, and John Rapp from



*Gordon Bietz, Ph.D., provided insight into sustaining identity as a faith-based organization.*

Adventist Midwest Health in the Chicago area. The Community Service Award, recognizing individuals

who have made a significant impact on the community they serve, was presented to Vern Eitel from Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Shawnee Mission, Kans., and Karl McNair from Florida Hospital DeLand, Fla.

DeLand, Fla.

The Friday working session focused on communicating with employees about Adventist Christian identity. It was an opportunity to share what is being learned, explore how Adventist identity can be preserved, and identify how to better communicate the core values in extending the healing ministry of Christ. After an informative and collaborative day, the evening Vespers program included the premier of the film "The Adventists" by Martin Doblmeier.

The film celebrates the Seventh-day Adventist health message, and explores the role that this message plays in the lives of Seventh-day



*Karl McNair (center), from Florida Hospital, is honored by Don Jernigan (left) and Max Trevino.*



*Conference attendees were blessed by Jan Paulsen, Ph.D., president of the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist Church, as he provided a pertinent and inspiring sermon.*

Adventists.

The Sabbath sermon, given by Jan Paulsen, Ph.D., explored "Wholeness in a Fractured World." Paulsen provided valuable insight into an increasingly relevant topic.



*John Guarneri (second from right), from Florida Hospital, is honored by Lars Houmann (left), president of Florida Hospital; Brian Paradis, executive vice president of Florida Hospital; Don Jernigan; and Max Trevino.*

Attendees were blessed by the time to congregate, collaborate, and communicate. By taking the time to hone the focus of the organization's mission, attendees were reunited by a shared desire and purpose — to serve others.

## Umoja Central is United in Mission



BONNIE DAVIDSON

Four years ago a small Swahili-speaking group began meeting in the Raleigh area. By February 2008, Umoja Central became an official church in the Carolina Conference. Enock Omosa, who relocated from Minnesota, became their pastor. Eventually the church outgrew its facilities and began renting a larger building. When the owners of this building decided to move their church to a different county, negotiations began for Umoja Central to purchase their first church home in less than two years of becoming an organized church. Jim Davidson, Conference president, attended their ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate this blessed accomplishment.

Before a place of worship existed, the people formed simply a social group, determined to help people in that area from East and Central Africa with everyday living. While there were a few Adventists within the group at the

time, the primary motivation involved helping others establish themselves in a different country. Today those social efforts still continue. Members are helping people in their community look for jobs, find ways to keep their children in high school and college, provide food, attend to the sick, and so much more. They also give Bible studies and conduct evangelistic seminars three times a year. From the beginning the Umoja Central church implemented a five-year program to reach a goal of 500 members. To accomplish this, members

divided themselves into small support groups to meet specific needs. For example, a group is specifically assigned to helping women, men, youth, and so on. They believe this will help them reach their goal efficiently.

The church also assigns different leaders to minister to other Adventists from East and Central Africa who live in North and South Carolina. They try to find churches for

them to attend in the area, set up Sabbath School programs in their Swahili language, and visit them whenever possible. Omosa would like to encourage other pastors in the Carolinas to encourage this community to come to church and contact the Umoja Central Church for any assistance they need.

It is no surprise why

this church is growing steadily. The Umoja Central Church is an action church. They understand that the importance of living for Christ requires a constant motion of reaching out with love and biblical wisdom. Not only this, but Umoja means united, and they intend to live up to the name. Currently, there are 150 members, but up to 200 attend regularly. The Umoja Church has much to



Jim Davidson (right), Conference president, stands with Enock Omosa, pastor, and his wife, Florence Okari Omosa.

celebrate and be thankful for. They seek your faithful prayers in reaching their goals.

—BY JACQUIE PINDER



## Scripture Memorization Seminar Held in Monroe

For those who have trouble remembering names of people just met, where the car keys are, or sometimes even why you walked into a room, attending a seminar on Scripture memorization seems somewhat a pointless endeavor. But in fact, it is all the more important for the memory-challenged to hear that there is hope; that with prayer, and just a few tricks, and the right tools, anyone can hide the Word of God in their heart for a time of need.

And if you want to learn how to memorize Scripture, Robert Banks, D.Min., Potomac Conference ministerial associate, is just the one to teach you. To date, Banks has more than 600 chapters of the Bible filed away in his brain, and has done his doctorate

dissertation on Scripture memorization. He was at Monroe, N.C., Church this past February to share how he does it.

“There are many reasons why it’s good to memorize Scripture,” Banks shared. “Once we have the motivation, we can move on to the methods.” He went on to give seven basic techniques for Scripture memorization: Desire (commitment), Prayerful Meditation, Proper Health and Diet, Golden Moments (using bits of time as they come), Repetition, Association, and Make a Covenant. He suggested printing verses onto small cards, or even cutting texts from old



Robert Banks, D.Min. (holding Bible), shows Charles Neu, Vashti Brantley (right), and Savannah Brantley some of the techniques he uses to memorize Scripture.

or riding in an elevator, can now be used to add a Scripture to memory. But reading the verse is only the beginning. It takes every one of these seven steps to achieve success.

“I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word” Psalm 119:16. Begin now to deliberately add Scripture to memory daily, even if it’s just one word at a time. The more you do, the more blessings will abound, and your memory will improve. Who knows? You may even remember

unused Bibles to have on hand at all times. Moments spent at a stoplight, waiting in line at the grocery store,

where you put those car keys!

—BY BECKY CARPENTER

## Columbia Member Named in Top 20 Under 40

Ernie Boughman, a member of the Columbia First Church, received the distinct honor of making South Carolina’s Twenty Under Forty list for 2010. Along with the other recipients, Boughman met the criteria of achieving significant success in both a professional and community setting.



A local newspaper, *The State*, reviewed more than

140 nominations this year.

With an educational background in architectural design and city/regional planning, his experience reflects the influence he has in the city of Columbia. Some of his projects include development plans near Fort Jackson and McEntire Air National Guard

Base, and designing a bike and pedestrian pathway plan

for the city of Columbia.

Boughman, and his wife, Gale, are the proud parents of their five-year-old daughter, Emma, and three-year-old son, Alex. When their daughter was diagnosed with leukemia, the Boughman’s courageously took on the fight. As a result, Ernie Boughman founded Emma’s Light to help raise money for the Palmetto Health Children’s Hospital. He has raised \$11,000 so far, and Emma’s cancer is now in remission.

“Emma’s illness was what brought balance to my

life. Prior to her diagnosis, I certainly loved and cared for my family, but work was my priority; 60-plus-hour workweeks were the norm. When you are told that your child has a potentially fatal disease, things come into perspective pretty quickly, and you realize that balance is critical and healthy. As odd as it may sound, my daughter’s leukemia has been a blessing to me personally, and for my family as a whole.”

—ARTICLE BASED ON INFORMATION FROM THE STATE NEWSPAPER.

## Umatilla Church Burns Mortgage in 14 Months



MICHAEL MCHONE

Umatilla, Fla., Church leaders burn the mortgage. Roy Chang (left), treasurer; Edith Tokics, decorating committee chair; Bob Nelson, head elder; Bill Bower, honorary elder; former Pastor Jim King; Pastor Albert Ellis; current Pastor Jim Appel; and Pastor Al Anderson.

"Hallelujah! God is so good!" reverberated throughout the Umatilla, Fla., Church, January 23, 2010, as members celebrated burning the mortgage.

In slightly more than one year from the move-in date, a beautiful 275-seat church, at a cost of \$1.5 million, stands mortgage-free. God's hand has been

visible in the building of this church, from the unique purchase of land, through construction, and the debt reduction phase.

In the final months, the church was blessed with matching funds of \$2 for \$1 during a limited time, and then God stepped in with His "exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we

may ask or think" type of blessing and provided the church with another group that matched funds of \$4 for every \$1 raised. The congregation made phone calls and mailed letters to family and friends seeking donations, and the Lord blessed in a way only He could supply.

—BY ESTHER NELSON

### Highlights of Umatilla Church Timeline

- Oct. 6, 2001 - organized as mission group
- April 13, 2002 - organized as company
- March 15, 2003 - organized as church
- Nov. 30, 2008 - new church grand opening
- Jan. 23, 2010 - mortgage-burning ceremony

## Bob and Mary Lee to Celebrate 67 Years of Marriage



Mary and Bob Lee.

Bob and Mary Lee will celebrate 67 years of marriage, April 14, 2010.

Bob retired from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service, including World War II and the Korean War, where he was a P.O.W. for almost three years. He was known as "the preacher" among fellow captives to whom he ministered.

Bob had a second career and retirement at Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, Fla., where he managed several industries and headed the engineering department.

Mary worked at Florida Hospital for 25 years as a nurse. Patients she served were blessed with her kind witness and gentle treatment.

Bob and Mary have attended Altamonte Springs Church the past 46 years, serving in many capacities with zest, including maintenance and community services.

The Lees have four children, 10 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and many wonderful friends.

—BY LYNETTE LEE HYATT



## Vegan Cooking Class Attracts 500+ NonAdventists

A new restaurant opened in my Orlando, Fla., neighborhood last year. Not just another eatery, the Loving Hut serves vegan food, Vietnamese style.

When owner David Tran chatted with me — a new Adventist — about the health advantages of a plant-based diet, I told him I was vegetarian. I didn't know it then, but lunch at the Loving Hut that day was disguised as a divine appointment from God.

Later, in the restaurant's peaceful surroundings, I introduced Gary Watts, Orlando Central Church elder, to vegan Happy (corn) Dogs, and suggested that we invite the Loving Hut to present a free cooking school at the church. I had no idea how God would lead in this venture.

We offered the first class in June 2009, and were stunned as we welcomed more than 90 attendees. Following Tran's cooking demonstration, his team served healthy platefuls of free food to everyone in the room.

Seven events later, more than 500 people have attended vegan cooking classes at Orlando Central Church, with more than 90 percent of them not Adventists. Young and old from all social classes and ethnic groups have attended at least three out of seven classes. Participants who were surveyed overwhelmingly stated their desire to attend additional classes to continue learning healthier



*The Loving Hut cooking team served delicious vegan samples of recipes demonstrated in class.*

options for eating. In addition, guests have donated nearly \$600 to help feed the needy through special love offerings.

As we welcome repeat students, we notice them asking questions about the Adventist faith, and many have requested prayer. Orlando Central Church has worked hard to cultivate this family of potential believers. "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few" Luke 10:2.

As a sower on God's appointed path that has helped bring more than 500 new people through the doors, my prayer is that reapers will help gather them to hear God's message, just as I heard Lester Pratt, Florida Conference evangelist, present Bible truths during meetings at Orlando Central.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DAVID TRAN

*David Tran (right), Loving Hut owner, works with a team member to demonstrate recipes for vegan cooking class attendees. Tran discusses ingredients and gives step-by-step instructions on preparing dishes such as brown rice soup and clay pot tofu. Loving Hut offers vegan lifestyle and cooking class information on its web site: [www.lovinghut.com](http://www.lovinghut.com).*

Opportunities for evangelism can be found when and where people least expect them. Even a simple

meal in an offbeat eatery can be a divine appointment with God.

—BY CHERIE FAIRCLOTH

## Church Mortgages Burn Despite Economy

Despite the economic climate, two churches in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference were able to



ALAN DARMODY

Lee Beers, Auburn Church treasurer, watches the mortgage go up in flames.

burn their mortgages in January 2010. Members of the Atlanta Romanian Church in Lawrenceville, Ga., and the Auburn, Ga., Church have been working hard to pay off their debts.

"I'm thankful to God because in such a hard economic time He provided for our members, and they kept their commitment to give even when that meant to sacrifice," shares Lydia Mohorea, a member of the Auburn Church.

Kurt Allen, Conference vice president for finance/treasurer, and Mitch Hazekamp, Conference trust services director, took part in both services on be-



ALAN DARMODY

Kurt Allen (right), Conference vice president for finance/treasurer, burns the Atlanta Romanian Church's mortgage as church officials and Mitch Hazekamp (left), Conference trust services director, look on.

half of the Conference, as smoke rose from the burning paper.

Danny Popa of the Atlanta Romanian Church, shares, "Even though the smoke detectors did not go off, this ceremony brought a soothing aroma to the hearts of the people attending, in the same way that the sacrifices of old times brought a soothing aroma to the Lord, who has provided many blessings and to whom we will always be indebted."

—BY REBECCA BROOKS

## String Festival Unites Musicians

Elementary students and homeschoolers from around the Conference were invited to participate in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference String Orchestra Festival.

This year 63 participants took to the stage of the Dave C. Cress Memorial Youth Worship Center on the campus of Georgia-Cumberland

Academy in Calhoun, Ga., February 19, 2010, for their performance. The members of the ensemble met the day before for the first time as a whole group for intensive practicing.

Kevin Kossick, Conference regional education director, calls it "a perfect example of collaboration

in our K-16 program ... a University clinician, developing the skills of elementary students, on a secondary campus."

The festival offers students, who wouldn't otherwise have an opportunity to play in a larger group, a way to connect with other musicians. Daniel Howard has come three times. "I just like coming to play. I hope to come back next year. It just sounds so cool with all the orchestra and stuff," he said.

Elizabeth Hall expressed the same sentiment, "I enjoy playing the violin and playing with an orchestra... I was in the symphony orchestra [before we moved here], but then when we moved,

there wasn't one nearby. But I'm in a string group at the academy where I live and at my school."

The director, Laurie Redmer Minner, associate professor at Southern Adventist University, was excited to bear witness to "the miracle of transformation."

"For them to have the opportunity to hear what it sounds like with more players and more people than just them, can give them a vision of what music can do to transform their lives... Once they catch the vision, then I am just a guide, I am no longer a puller and a pusher. That's what makes this fun and rewarding," said Minner.

—BY BRIAN YOUNG



BRIAN YOUNG

Sixty-three elementary students participated in this year's String Festival.

## Valentine's Banquet Draws Couples to Cohutta



JENNIFER HALDEMAN

Forty-four couples attended the "Enchanted Evening" Valentine's banquet at Cohutta Springs.

Cohutta Springs Conference Center opened its doors to the Murray County, Ga., community for a Valentine's Banquet on Sunday, February 21, 2010. As an attempt to reach out to the residents of Cohutta's home in the north Georgia Mountains, Cohutta Springs organizes four events every year specifically designed to bring people on-site and help them "experience Cohutta."

In the spring, they orga-

nize a huge Easter Egg Hunt, with tons of activities for children. In the summer, a Family Fun Day event offers the opportunity for parents and children to enjoy the zip line, water slide, blob, and other summer activities. In the fall comes the "Christian-style" Oktoberfest. In the winter, guests are invited to celebrate Valentine's Day.

This year, the theme for the Valentine's banquet was "An Enchanted Evening."

After a delicious meal

served by the Cohutta Springs staff, guests were invited to watch a highly-entertaining DVD from Mark Gungor, a nationally recognized marriage expert who loves to explain how men and women are wired differently.

Peggy Hallman, director for mission development, organized this event. "The invitations to this couple's banquet were sent by the Chamber of Commerce to their members and information

was given to the local paper," she says. "I believe that God sent the guests to us and He blessed our efforts. We will be able to continue building relationships with people from our community with follow-up sessions of the Mark Gungor DVD we showed. One activity during the Valentine's banquet was 'A Message in a Bottle.' After decorating a bottle with a heart charm and ribbon, and filling it with silk rose

petals, each person wrote a message to their mate to put in the bottle."

Several guests sent encouraging feedback to Cohutta Springs. "My husband and I had a great time. Everyone at our table did," shared Donna McCorkney of Hixson, Tenn. "The entertainer was fantastic. The film was light-hearted and great fun. It was very well represented. And the food! The menu was great. The message in a bottle was a very nice touch. Bill and I plan to open it on our 40th anniversary, which will be in two and a half years. To me, The Enchanted Evening was perfect. We thoroughly enjoyed it. We would do it again."

Forty-four couples attended this community banquet. Eleven of them were not members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. After Peggy encouraged them to sign up for the follow-up session, five out of the 11 couples signed up to come back on March 14 to watch the second part of the video.

—BY OLIVIER LEMAITRE

## Hispanic Children's Leaders Convene

"Building Character like Jesus" was the theme for this year's Hispanic Children's Ministries Convention. Complete with construction signs, the convention was held January 15 and 16, in Atlanta, Ga.

The 155 people at the event were able to attend

seminars about praise, teaching children how to pray, crafts, *Gracelink*, teaching from nature, and children's church, among other things. The featured speaker was Norma Rocio Rojas of New Mexico.

—BY NANCY ORTIZ



ORLANDO GONZALEZ

Attendees practice activities they can use to help teach children about Jesus.

## Members Honored at Atlanta Belvedere Church

Ryan Forrest, 12, a member of Atlanta Belvedere Church in Decatur, Ga., is doing his part in encouraging his peers and church family to take an active role in preserving water. Forrest's informative essay about water conservation was chosen among other students competing to represent Dekalb County in the 2009 Metropolitan North Georgia Planning District "Clean Water Campaign and Essay Contest." In his essay, Forrest emphasized

the importance of keeping water clean by not polluting it, and highlighted the ways all can preserve water by doing simple things such as limiting the amount used for watering yards and saving rainwater to water plants.

The Dekalb County Board of Commissioners honored him by proclaiming January 26, 2010, as "Ryan Forrest Day" in Dekalb County. On that day, no homework will be assigned to the students at Mount Carmel Christian



NATHAN GAIN

*Simone Garwood received Northeast Region "Teacher of the Year Award" by the commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice on February 8, 2010.*

School where he attends. Forrest was also invited to share his essay with the Atlanta Belvedere Church congregation on February 20, 2010.

Another member, Simone Garwood, was also recognized during the same service. Garwood received the Northeast Region Teacher of the Year Award. The commissioner of the Department of Juvenile Justice honored her on February 8, 2010. Garwood is a mathematics teacher at

the Metro Regional Youth Detention Center, where she has taught confined youths for the past three years. She previously taught business studies in Clarendon, Jamaica, for 10 years. Her future career goals include obtaining a Ph.D. in education leadership, and becoming an educational administrator. She is grateful for the award and credits the guidance of the Lord for her success.

—BY COLEEN WILLIE



COLEEN WILLIE

*Denton Rhone, D.Min., congratulates Ryan Forrest after he read his award-winning essay for the Atlanta Belvedere congregation.*

## Hesters Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Willis and Hazel Hester were married January 16, 1960, in Cedartown, Ga., at the home of Hazel's parents.

Three years later their home was blessed by the arrival of their daughter, Laura. Laura graduated from Southern Adventist University with a B.S. degree in nursing, and is currently employed by Hamilton Medical Center, Dalton, Georgia, where she is clini-

cal manager of Cardiac Services. Willis and Hazel have been blessed with two lovely granddaughters, Amanda and Emily.

The Hesters were active members of the Atlanta Belvedere Church in Decatur, Ga., for many years before moving



to the Collegedale area after their retirement to be near their daughter.

Hazel was denominationally employed in the Georgia-Cumber-

land Conference, Adventist Book Center in Decatur, and in the treasury department at the Southern Union,

before her retirement with 30 years of service.

Willis is a graduate of Berry College, Rome, Ga., and was employed by U.S. Geological Survey in Atlanta, Ga., for 40 years until his retirement in 1996.

Many friends and family joined in their 50th anniversary celebration at the First Chattanooga, Tenn., Church, on January 17, 2010.

—BY BARBARA PIERCE

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## Workshop Shows Part of Worship



*The 2010 Adult Sabbath School Workshop Weekend included leaders from every section of the Conference, including Alabama, Mississippi, and northwest Florida.*

During the past few years, the Gulf States Conference has hosted an annual Adult Sabbath School Workshop Weekend to educate, equip, and inspire its leadership in the churches and companies throughout Alabama, Mississippi, and northwest Florida.

The theme of the 2010 Adult Sabbath School Workshop held in February was "Sabbath School that Makes a Difference." Gary Swanson, the featured guest, has served for the past four years as the associate director of the Department of Sabbath School and Personal Ministries at the General Conference world headquarters. During the past 19 years, he has conducted workshops around the world in creative writing and techniques to improve Sabbath School learning.

The Sabbath School experience for the weekend was highlighted by a number of features. The mission focus on the East Central Africa Division was well presented by Bob Kane from the Montgomery, Ala., First Church. Jonnie

Shipbaugh from the Panama City, Fla., Church, led the group in an interactive Bible lesson study on kindness as a fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Swanson demonstrated the four fundamental aspects of Sabbath School by using the story of Phillip and his role in the baptism of the Ethiopian eunuch, as told in the book of Acts. Swanson's seminar also demonstrated the "Cone of Learning," in which Sabbath School teachers studied the 10 levels (from the least useful to the most valuable) of experiences that could be practiced in a Sabbath School setting. The attendees explored and practiced using some of the teaching techniques of Jesus.

To close the weekend, the Sabbath School leaders discovered how they could reach the four types of learners in the classroom by following a cycle of learning that involved motivation, exploration, application, and creative experimentation.

One of the unique features of the weekend was a balanced group of

both English- and Spanish-speaking leaders. With the skilled translation of Nilton Garcia, Conference Hispanic coordinator, both groups blended their experience with a unified and renewed purpose to help make Sabbath Schools truly the heart of worship in each church. Leslie Louis, Conference Sabbath School director and executive secretary, explained, "Every healthy heart has and needs four chambers to function properly to process the life-giving blood in our bodies. When one of those chambers is weak or malfunctions, the results can have fatal consequences. Using the analogy of the four-heart chambers, Elder Swanson underscored the vital role of Bible study, mission focus, fellowship, and outreach to our adult Sabbath Schools. By God's grace, may we work together to develop vibrant, inspirational, and life-changing Sabbath Schools in our churches."

—BY LESLIE D. LOUIS

## Name the Skeletons



Students taking anatomy and physiology at Bass Memorial Academy are planning to make fellow students and the community more aware of just how important it is to exercise and understand how their bodies function. "Name the Skeletons" contest has been launched. A poster contest dealing with healthful living, related contests, health fair type activities, and special lectures by guest speakers are planned.

Recently, visitors to Bass discovered the two skeletons that inhabit the biology department's lab had no names. This event triggered their thinking and brought on an announcement of a skeleton-naming contest. Currently, more than 50 names have been submitted by Gulf States elementary school children. Later this spring, online voting by schools and community is planned.

—BY CLIFTON KELLER

## Camp Alamisco Provides Fun, Friends, Jesus



*Helping campers learn new skills, make new friends, and get to know Jesus better in a safe environment is the focus of the Alamisco staff.*

“Fear not: for I am with thee” has been chosen as the theme for summer camp this year at Camp Alamisco.

James Mangum, Conference youth and camp director, explains, “God’s young generation today are bombarded with many trials. Our mission is to show all campers that with God everything is possible, and there is no need to fear!”

Camp Alamisco is

located on beautiful Lake Martin. The facility is located in a natural setting and offers a wide range of outdoor activities such as swimming, canoeing, boating, water skiing, knee boarding, camping, rock climbing, horsemanship, BMX, archery, gymnastics, extreme sports, basketball, and nature classes. Campers may also choose to express their creativity in craft building,

working with pottery, painting, and other arts.

The program is planned to develop life skills and self-confidence in the young person by promoting sportsmanship, emphasizing teamwork, teaching responsibility, and building self-esteem. Campers are also able to earn Pathfinder honors through participating in many of these activities.

The staff that is chosen to work at Camp Alamisco has been thoughtfully selected. Safety is a priority. Standards approved by Christian Camping International (with which Camp Alamisco is accredited) are strictly enforced for every activity. All counselors are trained and certified in first aid. All waterfront staff members are licensed life guards. Boat drivers also receive special

training, and must have a current boat driving license. All staff members are CPR certified. Mangum says, “Our continued accreditation with the American Camping Association reflects our commitment to safety.”

A priority of the staff is to encourage each camper to get to know Jesus better, and to make Him number one in their lives. Many youth make their decision to follow Jesus while at camp.

—BY REBECCA GRICE



*James Mangum, camp director, baptizes a youth during camp.*

## Churches Fill Bags for Haiti

The Montgomery, Ala., First Church and the Dothan, Ala., Church joined together to help with Haiti relief. Acts of Peace, a First Church outreach ministry to the underprivileged, teamed up with United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to provide health kits to the people in Haiti.

In less than two weeks the churches exceeded their goal of providing 200 kits. The kits consisted of one-gallon-sized zip lock bags filled with two wash cloths, a hand towel, soap, comb, band-aids, toothbrush, and a nail file.

Filled bags and supplies were collected. On Wednesday, February

10, 2010, as a part of the Prayer Meeting service, church members helped fill remaining empty bags with donated supplies. The final count was 215 bags, with the Dothan Church contributing 50 of the filled bags.

—BY REBECCA GRICE



*Montgomery First members worked after Prayer Meeting to finish filling the bags destined for Haiti.*

## Church Burns Mortgage

Troy Peoples, Conference treasurer, and Carlis Clinton, pastor of Community Church, joyfully burned the mortgage note in a recent ceremony. In

approximately two and a half years, the members of the Commu-



nity Church, located in Meridian, Miss., worked together to

pay off a \$3.5 million loan borrowed for the construction of a new church and school.

## Construction Progresses at Indian Creek Camp

Construction began November 1, 2009, on a new meeting facility at Indian Creek Camp (ICC).

The final plans for the new building were approved by the Conference executive committee in September 2008, and construction was originally scheduled to begin in the fall of 2008. However, because of the economic instability of the nation and the uncertain financial future just when construction was to begin, the committee voted to postpone construction, although the funds were in hand to complete the project.

With building costs down and time running



in the lodge. Some of the larger events, such as the Pastor-Elders Conference, are postponed until 2011.

Constituents voted in 1999 to initiate a reconstruction at ICC to

replace the aging buildings. The first phase of the project was the demolition and replacement of the 40-year-old cabins, which had been erected in 1959 and were supposed to be temporary. Two years later, the new dining hall and kitchen were the second phase of the project. The new auditorium is the final phase of reconstruction voted by the members of the Conference in 1999.

out on permits which had already been secured, the executive committee voted in September 2009 to move ahead with the planned construction. The new facility is being erected on the same site as the old chapel, but will accommodate up to 525 people in a theater-style seating arrangement — more than twice as many as the chapel. The building can also be divided for multiple groups or break-out sessions using

folding partitions, and will be equipped with video and sound technology.

With the expansion of the dining room and cabins, the size of many groups has been limited because the chapel could not accommodate the larger numbers of people wishing to attend some events at ICC.

Construction is scheduled to be completed in time for summer camps this year. In the meantime, some events will take place

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## Revival Comes to Dickson

Preparing for evangelism is a big undertaking. How can anyone lead another person to Christ without a vibrant relationship with Him themselves?

The answer to this question led Brian Hadley, Dickson, Tenn., pastor, to hold a series of meetings, February 17-20, 2010, entitled, “Revive Us Lord.” The meetings were intended to be a catalyst for revival, reformation, and spiritual renewal for the church.

The congregation



Brian Hadley, pastor

was very receptive to the series and responded with an average attendance each meeting of about 40 people. Each meeting opened with the theme song, “Come, Holy Spirit,” and concluded with a hymn of response, “Breathe on Me, Breath of God.”

Hadley spoke on “The Greatest Privilege: Being a Christian,” “Prepare to Meet Thy God,” “Our Preparation,” and “Our Greatest Need: the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.”

Several of the members expressed their appreciation for messages, describing them as challenging and convicting.

Hadley emphasized that the meetings themselves were not the revival. “What each one does in response to the message at home and in their lives is the revival.”

The Dickson members are fervently and spiritually preparing their hearts to minister to their community as they prepare to hold their evangelistic series later this year.

—BY AMY ADAMS



## Church Member Honored for Service

Joe McGee, now retired from his work in radiology, was recently honored in a special worship service at the Lawrenceburg, Tenn., Church. By request, McGee wore his military dress uniform that even his wife of 32 years had never seen him wear, and one that he had not worn for 42 years.



Joe and Veronica McGee stand with Lloyd Schomburg, pastor.

Sergeant Joe McGee served in the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army from 1959 to 1968. He was stationed at Fort Campbell in Kentucky, and then Germany. He later survived two years as a communication specialist assigned to

an infantry unit in Vietnam, where he was serving on April 4, 1968, when Martin Luther King Jr., was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn.

McGee remembers having completed basic training and riding to Ft. Campbell on a bus. He and the other black soldiers were forced to sit in the back of the bus. When they stopped

at a restaurant, the black soldiers had to remain on the bus and were not allowed to go into the restaurant. Food had to be brought out to them.

There was no opportunity for weekend trips to his home in nearby Nashville, Tenn., due to restrictions

of black travel during a time when riots and racial tension brought army tanks and other armored vehicles to the streets of downtown Nashville.

McGee was raised by a hard working, conscientious mother who alone parented six children. He recalls how she taught her children

not to waste their time and energy on prejudice.

Referring to the anti-Vietnam war sentiment, McGee described how humiliating it felt when returning to the States. The pastor remarked that it was 42 years overdue, but church members were invited to stand to show their respect and appreciation for McGee's years of military service and affirm having seen God's love in his life. Everyone in church not only stood, they applauded for several minutes, with few dry eyes.

At the close of the worship service, McGee's wife, Veronica, a speech pathologist, sang a moving rendition of "Balm in Gilead."

—BY LLOYD SCHOMBURG

## Website Training Offered to Churches and Schools

Thanks to AdventSource and Adventist Church Connect (ACC), training was offered to local church webmasters recently at the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference headquarters. Lonnie Nelson, web specialist and support provider for ACC, led out in the training.

The session was the first of two to be conducted in the Conference. The training attracted 32 individuals from local churches and schools across Tennessee and southern Kentucky, as well as departments at the Conference office.

"With the availability of the Internet, it just makes sense for our churches and schools to be out there

where the public can find us," says Marvin Lowman, Conference executive secretary and communication director. "For many people, it has become a habit to get information from the Internet."

Prior to 2006, a few Adventist churches in North America had a website, but there was little consistency in format. In January 2006, the North American Division released Adventist Church Connect. The primary objective was to provide every Adventist church, company, and group



Lonnie Nelson explains the "nuts and bolts" of maintaining an attractive church website.

across the Division with a website that is attractive and could be easily updated.

The online software has a lot to offer, and the basic package is free to churches and schools. The great thing about it is that no techni-

cal experience is required to set up and maintain a church or school website. And, user support is available by phone, e-mail, and online services. There are even online tutorials that provide step-by-step instructions.

"The goal is," says Lowman, "to have every church and school in our

Conference online with an attractive, up-to-date website. Thanks to Adventist Church Connect and Adventist School Connect, that possibility exists."

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

## Wrens Church Conducts Health Evangelism Seminar

Recently, the South Atlantic annual health retreat was an inspiration to the participants from Wrens, Ga., Church. David Moore, M.D., Conference health ministries director, challenged all to practice and share their new "Best Way to Health" lifestyle as the "right arm of the Gospel."

The Wrens members accepted the challenge and, with the help of Moore, conducted the Eight Weeks to Wellness program.

With the support of Ronald Wright, pastor, the 15 members of the health team, which consists of various health professionals, went to work distributing

more than 1,000 flyers, arranged for weekly radio announcements, and advertised in the local newspaper.

Attendance was overwhelming, from the first night with 64 attendees, which steadily increased to 87 by the final night, in spite of inclement weather. Nightly screenings for weight, body mass, glu-

cose, blood pressure, and cholesterol were offered.

Upon completion of the eight weeks, everyone was invited to Sabbath worship with Moore as the speaker. A fellowship dinner and graduation service followed, and the participants were given their diplomas. Each graduate received a copy of *Your Best Way to Health, Ministry of Healing*, and a set of *Amazing Facts* Bible lessons.

During the graduation service, several participants testified to changes in their lifestyle resulting in improved health, weight loss, lower blood pressure, diet changes, and better eating habits. Many tasted

soy milk, tofu, and healthful vegetarian foods for the first time with very positive reactions. Healthy recipes were also given. At the conclusion of the seminar, many asked, "Why do we have to stop? Can't we continue meeting at least once or twice a month?" It was agreed that every second Thursday night, Moore would do a follow-up lecture. Three subjects were unanimously chosen: heart disease, high blood pressure, and diabetes.

As a result of the meeting, nine persons were baptized, and three others made their commitment for the next baptism. Others from the seminar have been regular Sabbath visitors.

—BY CHRISTINE W. LEWIS



Participants in the eight-week program ranged in age from 6 to 92.

## New Bethel Church Honors Long-time Member

The women's ministries at New Bethel Church in Columbus, Ga., under

the leadership of Carlestiene Johnson, honored outstanding women in the

church. One of those honored was Sarah Davis. In 2009 she was awarded the South Atlantic Conference Crystal Award at a ceremony held at Riveroaks Campground in Orangeburg, S.C. She is married to Dan Davis, a local elder at New Bethel Church

Davis was instrumental in supporting the building fund in the construction of a new church facility. During the years she has served as a deaconess, usher, and as children and adult Sabbath School teacher. She has also

served on the hospital-ity committee, Vacation Bible School volunteer, Bible worker, Sabbath School youth director, and Sabbath School superintendent. She is also one of the lead singers in the adult gospel choir.

Davis has 38 years of service with the Muscogee County School System as a teacher's aide. She has stood fast concerning her conviction for the Sabbath, and the administrators respect her stance.

—BY WESLEY B. JONES



Pictured are Sarah Davis (center) and her daughters, Reba Best and Bridgett Jackson.

## BJA Students Experience Homeless Awareness Walk

When the suggestion of attending a cardboard campout in honor of the homeless was presented to the students at Berean Junior Academy (BJA) in Charlotte, N.C., they were very unsure about the idea. However, after carefully thinking it over, they came to the conclusion that it would be a great experience.

Along with their teacher chaperones, Lawa-



*Berean students wait for the Homeless Awareness Walk to begin.*

nna McCoy, Grace Smith, and Sheila Faison, they put self aside and accepted the challenge, committing themselves to the task. Many times they contemplated backing out, but didn't.

It was difficult sleeping outside in a cardboard box in 40-degree weather. However, the students valued their homeless experience beyond great measure. It opened their eyes to see the world for what it truly is. They now know that this is not their home, but while here they must help those in need. By extending a helping hand, they can give someone else hope, happiness, and joy.

The students also

participated in the Homeless Awareness Walk with many others in Charlotte.

*de-Evelyne Farrell, 15, is a 9th grader at Berean Junior Academy.*

—BY DE-EVELYNE FARRELL



*Berean students make friends at the overnight cardboard campout.*

## West End Church Distributes Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Fellowship was the focus of the Thanksgiving community service effort at West End Church in Atlanta, Ga., during November 2009. The church distributed approximately 90 Thanksgiving baskets to non-members, along with *Steps to Christ* and *The Ten Commandments Twice Removed*.

Since the Community Service Department is a bridge between the church and the community, organizers wanted to create a vehicle where the church members could not only hand out baskets, but also fellowship with the basket receivers. West End Path-

finders carried the baskets out to the recipients' cars, adding a loving touch to the distribution. Several organizations also attended to make the event a success, including Hosea Feed the Hungry, Atlanta Food Bank, and the Boys & Girls Clubs. To facilitate the hospitable atmosphere, light hors d'oeuvres were served.

West End also held a Thanksgiving fellowship meal the following week, feeding 130 homeless people in the community. The church family and community organizations supported the event so well that there were more volunteers than clients. Omega

Psi Phi and Delta Sigma Theta, along with the Boys & Girls Clubs and Donnelly Beecher Community Association, were among the groups that had volunteers present.

To complete the experience, community services also distributed socks and toiletries, and licensed barbers gave approximately 67 haircuts. The mission of West End Church is always soul-winning, and the prayer and counseling

teams were available to assist guests.

Damien Smith, community service leader, plans to conduct both events annually to continue to fellowship with and to evangelize the community.

—BY KRISTAL TUCKER



*The invitees received a hot meal and services provided by West End members.*

## Conference Executive Committee Votes New Officer, Director

The South Central Conference executive committee voted Auldwin T. Humphrey to serve as the executive secretary on January 4, 2010. Two weeks later, January 17, Benjamin Jones Jr. was voted to serve as the ministerial director.

Dana Edmond, Conference president, stated, "I have had the privilege of knowing Elder Humphrey for many years. He is a veteran leader in our Church, with departmental/administrative experience on the

conference, union, division, university, and academy levels. He will be a blessing to our Conference as the final piece of our administrative team. He begins this new area of ministry immediately."

Edmond expressed in a statement to the South



*Auldwin T. Humphrey*



*Benjamin Jones Jr.*

outstanding record of Elder Jones as a pastor in this Conference. I am particularly grateful for what the Lord has done through him at Huntsville First Church. It has become one of the premier churches in this part of the country."

—BY MICHAEL HARPE

Central workers about Benjamin Jones Jr., "I believe that all of us know the

## Young Christian Soldier Stands Firm

As Autumn Williams picked up the microphone and stood in the spotlight to offer the morning prayer, she simply said, "It is prayer time, but before I pray I would like to give my testimony." Many of the 400 attendees listened intently during the South Alabama/Northwest Florida



*Corps Commander Autumn Williams, Air Force JROTC at Daphne High School, Daphne, Ala., is a member of the Gethsemane Church in Daphne.*

Winter Youth Federation held on January 30, 2010, at the Mattie T. Blount High School in Mobile, Ala.

Dressed in her full cadet officer's uniform, standing tall, with shoulders straight, Williams began to speak: "I am the first black

female at Daphne High School to be Corps com-

mander." As she continued sharing her testimony, she related how she had been passed over time after time, unable to receive promotions in the Air Force's JROTC Program because she had refused to participate in events that were held on Friday nights and Sabbath. She could only be promoted if she participated in those events. Williams is a member of the Gethsemane Church in Daphne, Ala.

She stood firm for the Sabbath, and after three

years, she was greatly surprised to be given the honor of being promoted to the position of Corps commander. Williams is not only the first female African American to hold this title, but the only black female officer in Daphne High's Air Force JROTC.

Following Williams testimony, all who could stand were on their feet, and the auditorium was electrified with praise and applause.

—BY JOYCE  
SAMPSON-ROBINSON



*Autumn Williams offers prayer at the south Alabama/northwest Florida Winter Youth Federation in Mobile, Ala.*

## First Elmore Begins to Grow

The Lord blessed the efforts of First Elmore's Community Outreach projects. The First Elmore Church in Elmore, Ala.,



*Aaron Mills, pastor, examines baptismal candidates Charlie Benson and Carla Jackson in the presence of the New Life Church family prior to their baptism.*

is a small church that is concerned with doing the Lord's bidding. The church spent several months getting to know the community and meeting their needs by providing a free clothing giveaway (spring and fall), Community Fun Day, Vacation Bible School (VBS), Super Saturday Story Hour, Cuts for Christ, Heavenly Festival (alternative to Halloween), and personal Bible studies.

The Lord impressed Aaron N. Mills Jr., pastor, to run an evangelistic meeting entitled, "Unfolding the Mysteries of Revelation," November 1-24, 2009, at the First Elmore Church. Mills, and several members, used one

weapon to help assist in winning souls — prayer.

As a result of building a relationship with the people, prayer, and preaching the everlasting Gospel, the Lord blessed with the addition of four new members who were baptized on November 28, 2009 — Shero Brown, Charlie Benson, Carla Jackson, and Marquita Johnson.

Charlie Benson, after hearing the health message, stopped smoking the same day, "cold turkey." The other baptized candidates are parents of children who attended VBS, Super Saturday Story Hour, and other activities designed for



*Marquita Johnson (left) and Shero Brown commit their lives to Jesus as they go through the baptismal vows with Aaron Mills, pastor.*

children.

The church family at First Elmore is excited about the growth, and has proclaimed that this is just the beginning of more to come.

—BY MAQUILA MILLS

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## Perrine Members Practice “Service Evangelism”

Under the leadership of Brenda Griffin, the Perrine Community Service Department has continued to grow by leaps and bounds. They have used various methods to evangelize to the community.

For more than 10 years, every first and third Sunday afternoons and every third Thursday evening of the month, their evangelistic efforts have been focused on serving hot meals to thousands of homeless men, women, and children.

hands with two more organizations that help provide food for the pantry: The Daily Bread Food Bank and Farm Share.

During hours of operation, community residents come to select clothing, school supplies, and home furnishings. All the distributed items are donated by the members of Perrine, and are free to the guests who are very happy to receive these most needed donations.

Referral services for shelter, employment, food stamps, and rental assistance are also given to those in need by the team of experts.

In November 2008, community services teamed up with the Perrine Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School and initiated a food drive to collect non-perishable food for the pantry.

The students collect non-perishable food from their family members or neighbors, and bring the items to school to fill the bags that have been provided by community services for each classroom. At the end of each month, it is determined which class collected the

most food for the month, and community services gives a bonus incentive to all the students of the winning class. The incentive serves as a learning tool for the students to see how they too can help others.

A Perrine youth group, The Fishers of Men, sends greeting cards to the sick and shut-in, birthday celebrants, the bereaved, and for many other occasions as needed. They also send cards to family and co-workers of some of the church members. Each card has an evangelistic message, and some include inspiring tracts.

For six consecutive weeks, the Adventist Youth Society (AYS) organized a team of vans and drivers to pick up residents, most of whom were young teens and children who resided at the Community Partnership for the Homeless, and escorted them to Perrine Church. Members of AYS awaited their arrival with organized and well-developed interactive youth programs that evangelized, witnessed, and testified to the new friends in the name of Jesus.

The visiting youth participated with great enthu-



*The Fishers of Men youth group sends greeting cards with an evangelistic message to individuals in the community.*

siasm, and were delighted to receive an evening meal after the program. That was truly a demonstration of “service evangelism.”

In December 2008, community services sponsored a round-table forum where representatives from local organizations provided an overview of the services they provide for the community. The forum gave Perrine Church members and visiting guests an opportunity to network with these organizations. The forum also enlightened attendees with information, revealing the needs of the community and sharing what Perrine Church has to offer in meeting those needs.

One of the networking projects that derived from the forum was the connection that AYS made with the Community Partnership for the Homeless, an organization Perrine members have been working with for many years.

—BY MILICENT TAYLOR



*Brenda Griffin, Perrine’s community service director, signs in a young woman who will receive goods and services from Perrine Community Food Pantry.*

Additionally, the team members give Bibles, countless tracts and pamphlets, as well as provide musical enjoyment during the holidays.

In October 2008, Perrine’s Community Food Pantry opened its doors to 15 families in the community every other Tuesday evening. Today, there are more than 75 families that God has placed in their care. This year Perrine community services joined

## Mt. Zion Evangelizes Through Basketball

“We believe that this is a great way to witness, seeing that it affords us an opportunity to share the values of a drug-free lifestyle with the community,” stated Maxwell Berkel, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, Kissimmee, Fla., during the Midnight Basketball grand opening service that was held on January 24, 2009.

Officially known as the Arthur Jackson Midnight Basketball of Florida, the Mt. Zion Midnight Basketball initiative will be held every Sunday, 4-8 p.m. The

program is the result of a partnership with Mt. Zion and The Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc.

Attending the grand opening was Michael Lewis, director of the Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc., Vincent Carter Sr., father of NBA great Vince Carter; and Lawrence Smith, a member of the CFDL Board of Directors.

The Center for Drug-Free Living, Inc., is the parent company of Arthur Jackson’s Midnight Basketball, which has been

night Basketball was all about. In addition to providing a safe environment to play basketball, the program features an education segment that is designed to provide life skills training, and aid in over-



Michael Lewis (left), Maxwell Berkel, and Vincent Carter Sr. display the Midnight Basketball banner that will hang in the Mt. Zion gym.

motivating, giving, and touching the lives of many communities for 19 years.

“More than just a game,” Carter stated as he explained what Mid-

coming the negative pressures of the world today.

Donald Williams, site supervisor, presented the initial education segment of the program on the topic “Health and Disasters.” He presented tips on how to be mentally and physically prepared for environmental disasters.

Hurricane preparedness was brought up as an example, an area in which

many are guilty of procrastination. “I think with this program we can reach out to others, and that’s the main purpose behind it all,” stated 17-year-old Mt. Zion member Courtney Hunt. “I am proud to be a part of this event that allows many lives to be brought to God through fellowship and encouragement from our church members.”

—BY KRISTOPHER BRICE



Young men from the community play basketball during the grand opening of Midnight Basketball.

## More Than 1,000 Attend Officers’ Training

“At its zenith, every church begins to decline,” Fredrick Russell, president of the Allegheny West Conference, told the more than 1,000 local church officers who attended the eighth annual Southeastern Conference Leadership Summit in Orlando, Fla., February 12-14, 2010.

Russell explained, “Unless a church undergoes a period of regeneration during its decline, it will die.” He cited a report compiled

by the North American Division, that states in less than 10 years, 50 percent of the churches in North America will close their doors.

This regeneration period includes an in-depth reevaluation of the churches, community, and a retooling of its evangelistic methods.

The Summit featured more than 30 ministry tracks, and for the first time conducted tracks in French and Spanish.

Prior to the 2010 Summit, both language groups held their officer training events during different times of the year.

“Consolidating the training events brought Southeastern together and enabled us to utilize Conference resources better,” said Hubert Morel, Southeastern president. The next leadership summit is scheduled for the weekend of December 9-11, 2011.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY



Fredrick Russell, Allegheny West Conference president, outlines how declining churches can begin to thrive again.

## Art Gallery Dedicated to Former Dean

The evening of January 18 found the School of Visual Art and Design experiencing both sadness and joy as the art gallery, which showcased various pieces from late dean John C. Williams' work, was dedicated to him.

Attendees who knew Williams as a professor were glad for the chance to see his work.

"His giftedness is evident, and I only wish we could see what he would have done if he had the time," says Giselle

Hasel, assistant professor in the School of Visual Art and Design. "As John once said, 'In Heaven many professions will no longer be useful; however, the artist will continue painting there.' Perhaps someday soon we will enjoy a great gallery opening in Heaven with John's works of art there."

Williams' history in Southern's School of Visual



Gallery visitors contemplate John Williams' artwork on the exhibit's opening night.

Art and Design began in 2002 when he joined the faculty as a professor, three years later becoming its dean. As dean, Williams brought "peace,

trust, respect, and professionalism," says Hasel. "Professors under his leadership were to focus on the quality of teaching as well as take responsibility for the content of the art produced by students under their care."

Williams died on October 8, 2009, from liver cancer, yet his legacy continues to inspire art students.

—BY SUZANNE OCSAI

## Discovery Confirms Significance of Student Dig Site

An important piece of pottery recently found near a dig site in Israel where Southern students spend their summers digging reveals just how important this location is for discovering biblical evidence.

Each summer, around 60 Southern students and staff work on excavating

Khirbet Qeiyafa, a location that is unique in that it is the only excavated town to have two gates, which the Bible talks about in association with David. The town gives evidence that David was king over a large area.

Recently an ostrakon, a broken piece of pottery with writing, was found in that

area. About 800 years older than the Dead Sea Scrolls, the ostrakon might be the oldest Hebrew inscription ever found. Although the writing on the piece has no indication of being from the Bible, it does show that Hebrew writing existed earlier than some scholars had believed.

"Our Institute of Archaeology and our programs in archaeology are very key in this whole debate," says Michael Hasel, archaeology professor at Southern, "and it is very exciting to be part of a project that is going to be potentially making such a major contribution."

—BY CARRIE FRANCISCO

## Southern Alum Serves as Photographer in Haiti

Matt Herzel, '08, witnessed a war zone as he arrived in Haiti on January 15, 2010, with a group from the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Bodies were lying in the street and parentless children struggled to survive.

"The devastation and hurt in Port-au-Prince is impossible to describe," Herzel says. "Even videos and photos don't come close to conveying the emotion of

being there."

Herzel has been working with ADRA as a photographer since he graduated from Southern's School of Journalism and Communication two years ago. He went with the ADRA team to photograph their activities in Haiti.

While ADRA and its partners were able to provide aid to tens of thousands of people every day, the need was far too

great and some had to be turned away. Photographs of the devastation can be seen on the ADRA website, [www.adra.org](http://www.adra.org), and are also being used in printed materials to convey the need in Haiti.

"It was heartbreaking," says Herzel, "to meet dozens of people who had traveled, sometimes an hour or more,



Citizens of Port-au-Prince survey damage from the January 12, 2010, earthquake that devastated the city.

to ask for help, and have nothing for them."

—BY JAROD KEITH





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## El Arte de Predicar

En respuesta al creciente interés de la feligresía por comunicar el mensaje de salvación, se llevó a cabo un curso de homilética titulado El Arte de Predicar, que benefició a las congregaciones del distrito. El curso duró 3 meses y contó con la asistencia de 52 laicos pertenecientes a las iglesias Mount Olive, Dudley, Wilson y Greenville-NC.

La homilética estudia cómo organizar el tema que se va a presentar, preparar el bosquejo, y predicar en forma clara y concreta.

Los estudiantes recibieron materiales de estudio, y luego de varias clases, investigación y lectura, se les asignó la preparación de un sermón que fue filmado para

su posterior evaluación de contenido, tono de voz y desplazamiento en la plataforma. El 19 de diciembre se llevó a cabo la ceremonia de graduación en la que 42 de los participantes recibieron sus diplomas. Se premió a los estudiantes en diferentes categorías: Sermón, Llamado, Estructura y Tarea.

Oramos para que esta oportunidad de crecimiento redunde en la salvación de muchas personas.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



## Inauguración del Templo de Mount Olive

El domingo 17 de enero los miembros de la iglesia de Mount Olive, NC, vieron sus oraciones y esfuerzos concretos al inaugurar su templo con capacidad para 450 personas, gimnasio, comedor, cocina y aulas para los menores.

El programa contó la asistencia del presidente de la asociación, Jim Davidson, quien tuvo el mensaje central, Samuel Romero, coordinador hispano, Mario Muñoz, uno de los primeros pastores de esta congregación, e invitados especiales de diferentes iglesias de la zona.

Se realizó

un emotivo recuento histórico, y por la tarde la celebración culminó con un concierto musical.

Esta iglesia está trabajando fuertemente con el método de grupos pequeños con el anhelo de traer muchas almas a los pies de Jesús.

—Elías Sandoval,  
pastor del distrito



# Florida Noticias

## 2009, Año Bendecido Para Northwest y North Miami

Con el método de trabajo de grupos celulares, la iglesia de Northwest Miami experimentó el gozo de traer 72 almas a los pies del Señor en el 2009. En adición a esta bendición, luego del bautismo de la campaña de cosecha llevada a cabo en noviembre, dirigida por

el pastor Roberto Herrera, 30 personas comenzaron a estudiar la Biblia con el deseo de unirse al pueblo de Dios en un futuro cercano. Tanto los miembros de iglesia como el pastor Rodney Aquino y su familia están totalmente comprometidos en la misión que el Señor encomendó.

Otro resultado del trabajo de esta iglesia en años anteriores, fue el nacimiento de la iglesia de North Miami que en el año 2009 llevó 29 almas



al bautismo usando el método de los grupos pequeños. En el 2010, se sumarán 3 grupos a los 8 ya existentes. Se agradece al pastor laico Irvin Soriano y su familia por a dedicación que demuestran en esta obra de salvación.

—HUMBERTO HURRUITINER,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

## Feria de Salud

Con el objetivo de beneficiar a la comunidad, los 8 grupos pequeños de la iglesia de Gainesville organizaron una feria de salud que se llevó a cabo del 6 – 8 de noviembre.

El evento se inició con una demostración de las maravillas de nuestro cuerpo y la forma de



cuidarlo. Se programaron seminarios sobre Dios y la salud, medicina preventiva, cáncer del pulmón, y cáncer del colon. Los asistentes pudieron donar sangre, tomar clases de CPR, conocer su presión arterial, recibir literatura cristiana y disfrutar de una comida saludable.

Se ofrecieron también actividades organizadas para los niños.

Varias entidades de la ciudad y el condado se hicieron presentes como demostración de apoyo. Como broche de oro, un grupo de artistas de las iglesias locales ofreció un concierto.

Lily Rosales, directora del ministerio de la mujer de la iglesia, expresó: “Debemos planear esta actividad más a menudo

para promover la unidad de la feligresía y brindar un servicio a la comunidad.”

La iglesia fue la primera beneficiada por compartir el amor de Dios con los vecinos.

—POLO TORRES, IGLESIA DE GAINESVILLE



## Grupo de Júpiter Organizado Como Compañía

El pasado 12 de diciembre, el grupo de Júpiter fue organizado como compañía en una ceremonia dirigida por el pastor Paulín, que contó con la presencia de

numerosas visitas. Esta congregación nació en la iglesia de habla inglesa de Júpiter y en la actualidad se reúne en el salón del coro de la escuela secundaria de esta misma

ciudad. Los hermanos están trabajando duro para que esta compañía crezca y sea una fuente de ganancia de almas.

—ISABEL FERRÁS, PASTORA LAICA DE JÚPITER



## Kentucky-Tennessee Noticias

### Curso de Cocina en Nashville

Recordando la conocida frase "cuando el hombre aprendió a cocinar, comenzó a enfermarse", el pastor Carlos Pinto dio inicio al primer curso de comida vegetariana cruda. El novedoso evento se realizó en las instalaciones del nuevo gimnasio de la iglesia de Nashville el pasado 13 de enero. Se limitó el número de asistentes a 30 personas

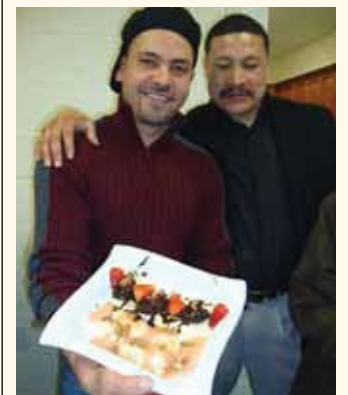


debido al método de enseñanza de la licenciada Loreley Walwyn, encargada de dictar el curso y presentar el menú. La traducción estuvo a cargo de Ana María Stefani.

Los asistentes se mostraron muy entusiasmados al comprobar que estos alimentos saludables y balanceados son también deliciosos. Varias familias han adoptado este régimen dos veces por semana, otras durante una semana y los resultados obtenidos han sido notables.

Debido al éxito de esta actividad, ya se está promoviendo el nivel dos.

—CARLOS PINTO, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



## Nueva Congregación en el Sur de Atlanta

El pasado diciembre se dio inicio oficial al grupo hispano de Atlanta Sur. Hermanos de diferentes congregaciones, liderados por Nadín Díaz y Francisco Lizardo se han dedicado a evangelizar el área con el propósito de plantar una nueva

congregación. Gracias a Dios, al espíritu misionero de estos hermanos, y al apoyo la iglesia Fayette bajo el liderazgo del pastor Brad Casell, el grupo cuenta con cerca de 60 miembros.

—NANCY ORTIZ, SECRETARIA DE LA PRESIDENCIA DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

## Retiro de Caballeros

Del 20 - 22 de noviembre se llevó a cabo el retiro de caballeros en Cohutta Springs. La asistencia sobrepasó los 100. El invitado especial fue

el pastor Francisco Vega, profesor de teología de la Universidad de las Antillas.

—NEFTALY ORTIZ, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

## Nuevo Edificio en Brunswick, GA

La iglesia de Brunswick compró un edificio estratégicamente localizado compuesto por siete locales, con el objeto de utilizar uno como santuario, y otro como banco de alimentos. Los restantes han sido alquilados, y dos de los inquilinos son congregaciones religiosas.

Con el incondicional apoyo del pastor Jair Pinilla, los miembros de esta iglesia han trabajado arduamente para remodelar las instalaciones sustancialmente, y lograr

que el sueño de tener un lugar propio de adoración se haga realidad.

—NEFTALY ORTIZ, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



## Camino a Belén

Pese a las inclemencias del tiempo que se vivieron ese fin de semana, y al hecho de que Camino a Belén se presenta totalmente al aire libre, 2,500 personas se hicieron presentes y disfrutaron de la caminata por la aldea de Belén mientras participaban de la dramatización en vivo de la historia más maravillosa que vivió nuestra humanidad.

Este año la comunidad

también participó en el proyecto. El supermercado Jalisco lo hizo a través de donaciones, los dueños de la hacienda Santa Ana prestaron los animales que dieron un marco muy real a la dramatización.

Un vecino de la iglesia, que no asistía a ninguna congregación desde hace 15 años, luego de este fin de semana expresó su deseo de conocer

acerca de las creencias adventistas, y ofreció un lugar de almacenamiento para guardar los materiales propios de la producción para la próxima navidad, como también un espacio de estacionamiento para que la iglesia pueda usar en todos sus eventos.

—IVETTE FIGUEROA, SECRETARIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA UNIÓN DEL SUR

## Reviviendo el Pentecostés.

El distrito de Knoxville ha concentrado sus fuerzas misioneras en el ministerio de los grupos pequeños. Se han organizado 24 centros con el propósito de integrar a

la membresía en el estilo de vida del discipulado. Semanalmente los grupos de hermanos se reúnen para orar, cantar, compartir sus testimonios de fe, estudiar la Palabra y hacer planes de testificación

misionera. Esta comunión y testificación están fortaleciendo la vida espiritual de los miembros, y formando en ellos un estilo de vida misionero.

—RICHARD URDANETA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



Luego del éxito del evento navideño Camino a Belén que tuvo lugar en diciembre del 2008, el 12 y 13 de diciembre pasados se repitió el programa con un resultado aún más alentador.



## Capacitación para Maestros de Niños

Con la presencia de 155 maestros, se llevó a



cabo la capacitación para el ministerio infantil, en



la iglesia Metropolitana de Atlanta. La actividad fue dirigida por Karen González y Nancy Ortiz, con la ayuda de varias esposas de pastores y otros colaboradores. La invitada especial fue Norma Rocío Rojas, de

Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Alabamos a Dios por estos maestros comprometidos en la tarea de plantar el carácter de Jesús en los niños.

—NANCY ORTIZ, SECRETARIA DE LA PRESIDENCIA DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

## Donación de un Templo para Bexley

En la ciudad de Bexley, al sur de Georgia, los hermanos se reunían en un local de un centro comercial, hasta que la congregación de habla inglesa decidió,

en coordinación con la asociación, donarles su antiguo templo. Antes de hacerlo repararon el techo, y dejaron varios miles de dólares para ser usados en lo que fuere necesario.

La iglesia no deja de agradecer a Dios por esta gran bendición.

—NEFTALY ORTIZ, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



## Evangelismo, un Estilo de Vida

Modesto Santos y su familia aceptaron la propuesta de la escuela de evangelismo laico del Ministerio Hispano de la Asociación, que consiste en hacer del evangelismo un estilo de vida y no sólo un evento. Organizaron una campaña en su hogar con entusiasmo y oración. En cada reunión la asistencia era de entre 15 a 20 personas. Este esfuerzo

trajo como resultado el bautismo de cinco almas para el reino de los cielos. En una ceremonia bautismal realizada por el pastor Julio de la Rosa la iglesia recibió en su seno a los nuevos miembros.

Otros hermanos entre los que podemos mencionar a Eugenio Clark, Osvaldo Mejía, Mario Fuentes y Facundo Álvarez, también aceptaron

el desafío y llevaron a cabo campañas de hogar por cuyo esfuerzo mas personas ya han tomado la decisión de bautizarse.

Estamos felices por el sentido de misión que han demostrado los miembros del distrito

de Gainesville, Cornelia y North Gwinnett.

—JULIO DE LA ROSA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO



## South Central Noticias

### Primeros Bautismos del Año

El 29 de enero el distrito conformado por las iglesias Trinity y Alpha, celebró un bautismo en el que tres almas se unieron

públicamente a la familia de Dios. Al final del programa cinco visitas expresaron su deseo de hacer lo propio en un próximo bautismo.

—CRISTIAN BORBÓN, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO ATHENS-DECATUR



## Bautismo en Raleigh

Un día muy especial se vivió el pasado 10 de octubre en la iglesia Getsemaní, en Raleigh, NC, por el bautismo de la hija mayor de la familia Alexis. El pastor Loyd Johnson tuvo a su cargo el examen público y el pastor Poloche la ceremonia.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



## Crecimiento en Wilmington

Es alentador seguir el crecimiento de la iglesia de Wilmington, NC, dice el anciano Ovidio Roblero. Los miembros están comprometidos en la tarea de ganancia de almas. El sábado 31 de octubre, el pastor Poloche bautizó a Heriberto García, quien se

unió a esta congregación y participa del gozo de pertenecer a la familia de Dios.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

## Primer “Camporee” de Aventureros en Carolina del Sur

Quinientos ochenta y seis fue el número de acampantes que participó en el primer “camporee” de aventureros que unió a las asociaciones de Georgia Cumberland y

South Atlantic, bajo el lema “Creciendo con Jesús.”

Fue una bendición compartir y aprender mientras se desarrollaban los eventos y actividades

planificados. Se acordó organizar un programa como este cada año. El próximo tendrá como lema, “Creciendo en Sabiduría”, y se continuará hasta cubrir los temas del

versículo 'Jesús crecía en sabiduría, en edad y en gracia para con Dios y los hombres'. (Luc. 2:52).

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

## Federación Infantil

Con la participación de las iglesias de Jonesboro, Marietta, Doraville, Central, y Carrolton entre otras, se llevó a cabo Fish, el encuentro infantil anual de las iglesias del área metropolitana de Atlanta. La organización estuvo a cargo de Lady de Uribe junto con su esposo, el pastor Ismael Uribe.

Este evento se caracteriza por el protagonismo de los niños

quienes cantan y son también los encargados de presentar el mensaje. Se agradece la colaboración de la iglesia de Doraville que hizo que este evento sea un éxito, y los niños sientan el gozo de trabajar para el Señor desde temprana edad.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

## Retiro de Varones

Setenta varones asistieron a Liberty Hill, SC, para participar del retiro espiritual de varones. Allí, el pastor Eradio Alonso, uno de los líderes jubilados de la división norteamericana, tuvo a su cargo mensajes que fueron inspiradores e impulsaron a la acción y la pureza obtenidas por la influencia del Espíritu Santo. Dos asistentes fueron bautizados y se tomaron decisiones de salvación.

Cada participante recibió un CD que contenía la Fe de Jesús y el himnario adventista a manera de herramientas para predicar el mensaje de Jesús. El pastor Ismael Uribe dirigió la parte musical y el licenciado Francisco Flores se encargó de la inscripción y los anuncios del evento.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



## Grupo Peregrinos del Sur

El recién iniciado grupo de Peregrinos del Sur, recientemente terminó una campaña evangélica en la que varios interesados se unieron a la congregación con la intención de prepararse para el bautismo. Este grupo muestra claras señales de crecimiento inclusive en la parte infantil. Es notable la cantidad de niños que se dan cita todos los sábados. El pastor del distrito,

Rafael Ortega y el pastor laico Marco Echevarría, se sienten bendecidos al ver el crecimiento acelerado de un área que recientemente no contaba con presencia adventista.

—ROGER ÁLVAREZ, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



## Inauguración de la Iglesia de Boca Ratón

El pasado 30 de enero se llevó a cabo la inauguración de la iglesia de Boca Ratón. De la ceremonia participaron su pastor, Josué Parker y líderes de la Asociación como el presidente pastor Hubert Morel, Gregory Mack y su esposa, y Roger Álvarez y su esposa, entre otros. Durante

el programa se destacó el rol de liderazgo del pastor Charles Vento, fundador de la obra hispana, como la obra del hermano Osvaldo Menendez y su madre, quien fuera antiguamente dueña de la propiedad.

—ROGER ÁLVAREZ, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

## Retiro Matrimonial de Obreros en Tampa

Nueve pastores y sus esposas asistieron al retiro ofrecido por la asociación el pasado enero en Tampa. La experiencia fue enriquecedora.

—ROGER ÁLVAREZ, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



## Imágenes de Actividades en Nuestro Territorio



*Día de visitas en Nueva Jerusalelem, Pastor Abel Morrobel*



*Pastor Roger Álvarez transmitiendo el Mensaje de Salvación por radio*

—ROGER ÁLVAREZ, COORDINADOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

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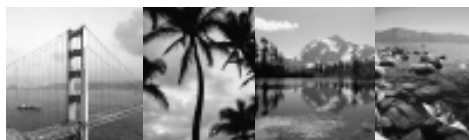
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**WILDWOOD COUNTRY LIVING SEMINAR:** Intensive 7-day seminar focusing on practical living skills and last day events. May 16-23, 2010. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$249 (Includes room and vegan meals). Contact Lew Keith 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). Email: [lykeith@gmail.com](mailto:lykeith@gmail.com). [4]

[wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://wildwoodhealthretreat.org). Email: [lykeith@gmail.com](mailto:lykeith@gmail.com). [4]

**WILDWOOD LIGHT MEDICAL MISSIONARY SCHOOL:** Intensive, Bible-based health evangelism school. May 30-June 23, 2010. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$875 (Includes room and vegan meals). Contact Lew Keith 931-724-6706. [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). Email: [lykeith@gmail.com](mailto:lykeith@gmail.com). [4]

**PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR?** Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners, and mailing services? Call free, 800-274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit [www.hopesource.com](http://www.hopesource.com). You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin's HOPE deliver on-time. [4-6]

**AdventistEvangelism.com** – your #1 source for seminar handbills and brochures. If you are considering a community outreach series in your area we can help you design, print, and mail your invitations. Call Color Press toll free at 1-800-222-2145 and ask for Janet or Lorraine. [4-7]

**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. [4-6]

**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). [4]

**ADVENTIST ALASKA CRUISE** September 5-12. Roundtrip from Seattle on beautiful Norwegian Pearl. Ports: Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, Victoria, British Columbia, Cruise Glacier Bay. Enjoy Christian fellowship, celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, family reunions, etc. Foll Travel, 1739 Orangewood Pl, Avon Park, FL 33825. Ph/Fax: 863-453-7196. Email: [bobkatfoll@embarqmail.com](mailto:bobkatfoll@embarqmail.com). [4]

**MENTALLY CHALLENGED ADVENTIST ADULTS** need a group home or day program where they can maintain their identity and live their lifestyle. If you are interested in partnering with someone to start one for your loved one or others, please call Carrie at 334-855-3263 or 334-855-9524. [4]

# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**Mt. Pisgah Academy Alumni Weekend** - April 16, 17. Candler, NC.

**Welcome to the Family Retreat** - April 23-25. NPR.

**Mt. Pisgah Academy Days** - April 25, 26. Candler, NC.

**Mt. Pisgah Graduation** - May 14-16. Candler, NC.

**ACBC closed for camp meeting set up** - May 23-28. Lake Junaluska, NC.

## 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.floridaconference.com/family/>, [djmiller4000@gmail.com](mailto:djmiller4000@gmail.com), or 407-703-3050.

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

**Florida Keys Camp Meeting** - April 23-24. Camp Sawyer Boy Scout Camp, Big Pine Key, MM 34 Oceanside. Speaker: David Asscherick. Children's program available. Free tent and RV camping for this Camp Meeting beside the Atlantic Ocean. Sponsored by the Marathon and Key Largo Churches. Details: [okajo@bellsouth.net](mailto:okajo@bellsouth.net), 305-743-5268, 305-872-5434, or 305-923-0675.

**Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars**

April 24. Gainesville.  
May 1. Tampa Spanish.

**Greater Miami Adventist Academy Golf Tournament and Family Festival** - April 25. J.C. Bermudez Park and Doral Resort and Spa. Details: [cleo.trevilcock@att.blackberry.net](mailto:cleo.trevilcock@att.blackberry.net), 954-254-9249, or 305-220-5955 x151.

**Melashenko Worship Service and Gospel Concert** - May 1. Jacksonville Mandarin Church. Details: 904-268-7476.

**Spanish-language Satellite Evangelism / Red de la Florida**

**2010** - Mayo 1-8. Iglesia de Hialeah. Información: 407-644-5000 x253.

**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**

June 5. Sunrise.  
June 6. Plantation, Lauderhill, Temple Adventiste in Deerfield Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)  
June 12. Naples.

June 13. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Winter Haven.

June 19. Port Charlotte.

June 20. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

## Georgia-Cumberland

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

**Pioneer Outreach Ministries**  
April 10. Americus, GA.

**Prayer Ministries Day**  
May 15. Columbus First Church, GA.

**Transformers Tri** - April 11. Collegedale, TN.

**Hispanic Women's Retreat** - April 16-18. Cohutta Springs.

**Midterm Report & Town Hall Meeting** - April 17. Knoxville First Church.

**Pathfinder Camporee** - April 22-25. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

**3-Point Play Basketball Training** - April 25. Macon, GA.

**Health/Personal Ministries Leadership Training** - May 1. Harriman, TN.

**Midterm Report & Town Hall Meeting** - May 8. Collegedale Community Church, Ooltewah, TN.

**Field School Evangelistic Meetings** - May 14-June 12. Atlanta area churches.

**GCC/SAC Evangelism Rally** - May 15. Atlanta Belvedere Church.

**Health Rally** - May 15. Brayton, TN.

## Gulf States

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

**Gulf Coast Pathfinder Spring Fling** - April 9, 10. North and Central Alabama.

**Outdoor Education** - April 12-15. Camp Alamisco.

**Take-a-City at Panama City (with Ivan Lugo)** - April 16, 17.

**Advent Connect Church & School Website Training** - April 18. Bass Memorial Academy.

**Adventurer Family Fun Weekend** - April 23-25. Camp Alamisco.

**Central Alabama Investiture** - May 1.

**Bass Memorial Academy Graduation Weekend** - May 14, 15.

**Pathfinder Fair at Bass Memorial Academy** - May 23.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Association Board**  
May 4. July 20.

**Conference Executive Committee**

May 4. July 20.

**Board of Education** - April 15.

## South Atlantic

**Adventurer Family Fun Weekend** - April 23-25. YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC.

## Southern Adventist University

**Wind Symphony Spring Concert** - April 11.

**Preview Southern** - April 15, 16.

**Symphony Orchestra Concert** - April 20.

**Semester Exams** - April 25-28.

**Graduation Weekend** - April 30-May 2.

## Announcements

**Jefferson Academy Alumni**

**Weekend** - April 16-18. Details:

903-665-3973 or .

**Weimar College Alumni Weekend** - April 16-18. Details/Registration: 530-422-7933 or [alumni@weimar.edu](mailto:alumni@weimar.edu).

**La Sierra Academy Alumni Weekend** - April 23 and 24. Golf Tournament April 23. Vespers and Alumni Sabbath Homecoming, April 24, at LSA Gym; Potluck, Reunions, Alumni/Varsity Basketball Game. All welcome! Contact Alumni Office at 951 351-1445 x244, check website for details: [www.lsak12.com](http://www.lsak12.com).

**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](http://www.broadviewacademy.org).

**"Ye Olde" Cedar Lake Academy Reunion** - June 3-6. For alumni and schoolmates of 1960 and earlier, at Great Lakes Adventist Academy (formerly CLA). Honor classes: 1930, '40, '50, and '60. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. Also, you may contact the GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit [www.GLAA.net](http://www.GLAA.net) for further information.

**Madison College Alumni Homecoming** - June 18-20. Honoring classes of 1940, '45, '50, '55, '60, and all others attending. Friday evening, Sabbath, and Sunday breakfast at Madison Academy Campus. Details: Jim Culpepper, secretary/treasurer, 615-654-3311.

**Adelphian Academy Class of 1960 Reunion** - July 9, 10. The 50th class reunion will be at the Academy in Holly, MI. Details: Duane Lemon, 423-693-8649 or email: [lemon075@comcast.net](mailto:lemon075@comcast.net).

	Apr. 2	Apr. 9	Apr. 16	Apr. 23	Apr. 30	May 7
Atlanta, GA	7:59	8:05	8:10	8:15	8:21	8:28
Charleston, SC	7:41	7:46	7:51	7:56	8:01	8:06
Charlotte, NC	7:46	7:52	7:57	8:03	8:09	8:14
Collegedale, TN	8:03	8:08	8:14	8:20	8:25	8:31
Huntsville, AL	7:09	7:14	7:20	7:25	7:30	7:36
Jackson, MS	7:22	7:27	7:31	7:36	7:41	7:46
Louisville, KY	8:07	8:14	8:21	8:27	8:34	8:40
Memphis, TN	7:22	7:28	7:34	7:39	7:45	7:51
Miami, FL	7:38	7:42	7:45	7:48	7:52	7:55
Montgomery, AL	7:06	7:11	7:16	7:21	7:26	7:31
Nashville, TN	7:10	7:16	7:22	7:28	7:34	7:40
Orlando, FL	7:44	7:48	7:52	7:56	8:00	8:05
Wilmington, NC	7:34	7:39	7:44	7:50	7:55	8:01

**SmartStart:** FREE tuition for first-time Southern undergrads from **July 26 to August 20, 2010.** Registration begins April 26. Register online at [www.southern.edu/smartstart](http://www.southern.edu/smartstart).

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## Camp Meeting 2010 Schedule

### CAROLINA

Portions of Camp Meeting will be viewable at [www.carolinasd.org](http://www.carolinasd.org)  
 Hispanic ..... April 16-18 ..... Nosoca Pines Ranch  
 English ..... May 30-June 5 ..... Theme: Reflecting His Love ..... Lake Junaluska, NC  
 Speakers: Shawn Boonstra, Gordon Bietz, Mike Tucker, and Karl Haffner  
 Eastern Carolina ..... TBD ..... Oak Island, NC  
 Speaker: Philip Samaan  
 Musical Guests: Jaime Jorge

### GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Korean ..... May 21, 22 ..... Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA  
 English ..... May 28, 29. Theme: ..... Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN  
 Speaker Wednesday/Thursday: Dick Tibbetts  
 Speaker Friday/Sabbath: Ron Smith  
 Hispanic ..... June 4-6 ..... Georgia Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA  
 Olde Time ..... June 17-19 ..... Deer Lodge, TN  
 Speaker: Ron Halvorsen  
 Southern Deaf ..... Aug. 4-7 ..... Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA  
 Northeast Tennessee ..... Sept. 24, 25 ..... The Oaks, Greeneville, TN  
 Speaker: Jiri Moskala

### GULF STATES

May 21-29 ..... Theme: Show Yourselves to be HIS Disciples ..... Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS  
 Speaker 1st Sabbath: Frank González  
 Mornings/ Monday-Friday: G. Edward Reid  
 Evenings/ Monday-Friday: Philip Samaan  
 Speaker 2nd Sabbath: Ron Smith  
 Musical Concert 2nd Sabbath: Marion Peppers

### KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

English ..... May 28-June 5 ..... Theme: So Much to Share...So Little Time! ..... Highland Academy, Portland, TN  
 Speakers: Fred Kinsey, Gary Gibbs, Lincoln Steed, Dennis Priebe, and Clarence & Dianna Schilt  
 Seminar Presenters:  
 Hispanic ..... June 12 ..... Highland Academy, Portland, TN  
 Speaker:

### SOUTH ATLANTIC

June 11 and 12 ..... Theme: Grace to Begin Again ..... River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC  
 Speaker: Charles Drake

### SOUTH CENTRAL

Hispanic ..... TBA ..... Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL  
 English ..... June 6-12 ..... Theme: ..... Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL  
 Speaker:

## Summer Camp 2010 Schedule

### CAROLINA

Nosoca Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC  
 [Register online at [www.nosoca.org](http://www.nosoca.org)]  
 Staff Week/SIT Camp ..... June 13-20  
 Adventure (ages 7-11) ..... June 20-27  
 Horsemanship (ages 12-16) ..... June 20-27  
 Basketball (ages 11-16) ..... June 20-27  
 Mountain Bike (ages 13-16) ..... June 20-27  
 Water Sports (ages 13-16) ..... June 20-27  
 SIT Camp ..... June 20-27  
 Junior Camp/Horse  
 Camping Trip (ages 10-12) ..... June 27-July 4  
 Tween/ Horsemanship 3 (ages 12-14) ..... July 4-11  
 Teen/ Horsemanship 4 (ages 13-16) ..... July 11-18  
 Teen Extreme Adventurer Horse  
 Camping Trip (ages 14-17) ..... June 21-28

### GULF STATES

Camp Alamisco, Dadeville, AL  
 [Details: [www.alamisco.org](http://www.alamisco.org)]  
 Adventure Camp (ages 7-10) ..... June 6-13  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12) ..... June 13-20  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-16) ..... June 20-27  
 Family Camp (all ages) ..... July 5-11

### SOUTH ATLANTIC

River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC  
 Junior Bible/Summer Camp (ages 8-17) ..... TBA  
 Basketball Camp (ages 8-17) ..... TBA

### FLORIDA

Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL  
 [Details: <http://summercamp.campkulaqua.com/>]  
 Equine Week (ages 11-16) ..... June 6-13  
 Cub Camp (ages 7-9) ..... June 6-27  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12) ..... June 6-27  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-16) ..... June 6-27  
 Basketball Camp (ages 13-16) ..... June 6-13  
 Basketball Camp (ages 9-12) ..... June 13-20  
 Basketball Camp (ages 13-16) ..... June 20-27  
 Cowboy Adventure Week (ages 13-16) ..... June 11-18  
 Cowpoke Week (ages 11-16) ..... June 13-20  
 FL Frontier Week (ages 11-16) ..... June 20-27  
 Family Camp (all ages) ..... Sept. 6-9  
 Young at Heart Camp (ages 50+) ..... Oct. 17-21

### KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

Indian Creek Camp, Liberty, TN  
 Blind Camp (mixed ages) ..... June 13-20  
 Cub Camp (ages 7-9) ..... June 13-20  
 C.I.T. (ages 16, 17) ..... June 13-20  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12) ..... June 20-27  
 Family Camp I (all ages) ..... June 29-July 4  
 Tween Camp (ages 12-14) ..... July 4-11  
 Teen Camp (ages 14-17) ..... July 11-18  
 Family Camp II (all ages) ..... July 18-25  
 Extreme Outpost Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 25-3

### SOUTH CENTRAL

Camp Lee, Anniston, AL  
 Friendship Camp (ages 7-16) ..... TBA  
 Super Sports Camp (ages 7-17) ..... TBA

### SOUTHEASTERN

Southeastern Conference Campground, Hawthorne, FL  
 Pee Wee Camp (ages 5-8) ..... July 11-17  
 Summer Camp (ages 9-16) ..... July 11-25

### GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Cohutta Springs Adventist Center, Crandall, GA  
 [Details: [www.cs-yc.com](http://www.cs-yc.com)]  
 Junior Camp I (ages 10-12) ..... June 6-13  
 Golf Camp I (ages 13-17) ..... June 6-13  
 Paintball Camp I (ages 13-17) ..... June 6-13  
 Rock Climbing Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 6-13  
 Fit for Life I (ages 10-13) ..... June 6-27  
 Junior Camp II (ages 10-12) ..... June 13-20  
 Mountain Bike Trip (ages 13-17) ..... June 13-20  
 Paintball Camp II (ages 13-17) ..... June 13-20  
 Skateboard Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 13-20  
 S.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up) ..... June 13-20  
 Adventure Camp (ages 7-9) ..... June 20-25  
 Horse Pack Trip (ages 13-17) ..... June 20-27  
 Paintball Camp III (ages 13-17) ..... June 20-27  
 Wakeboard Camp I (ages 13-17) ..... June 20-27  
 C.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up) ..... June 20-27  
 Tween/Pathfinder Honors Camp (ages 12 & 13) ..... June 27-July 4  
 Gym-Masters Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 27-July 4  
 Ultimate RAD Camp (ages 13-17) ..... June 27-July 4  
 Fit for Life I (ages 13-17) ..... June 27-July 18  
 Teen Camp I (ages 13-17) ..... July 4-11  
 Rock Solid I (ages 16-18) ..... July 4-11  
 Basketball Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 4-11  
 Whitewater/Kayak Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 4-11  
 Teen Camp II (ages 13-17) ..... July 11-18  
 Rock Solid II (ages 16-18) ..... July 11-18  
 Golf Camp II (ages 13-17) ..... July 11-18  
 Wakeboard Camp III (ages 13-17) ..... July 11-18  
 Surf Camp (ages 13-17) ..... July 18-25  
 W.I.T. Camp (ages 15 and up) ..... Every week (June 8-July 20)  
 Family Camp (all ages) ..... July 20-25

# SOUTHERN TIDINGS

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