

June 2010

TSOUTHERN IDINGS

Atlanta 2010
Special Souvenir Edition



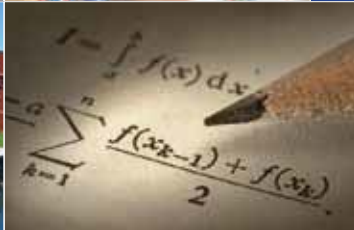
59th

General Conference Session





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SOUTHERN UNION STATISTICS



CHURCHES/ 1,068



SCHOOLS/ Pre-K-12 - 266



COLLEGE/ 1 - UNIVERSITIES/ 2



HEALTHCARE FACILITIES/ 38



MEMBERS/ 250,767



ORGANIZED AS A UNION/ 1901



ANNUAL TITHE/ \$187,828,353.48

MORE THAN 50 NATIONALITIES REPRESENTED



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LANGUAGES:

- American Sign Language
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- English
- French
- Ghanaian
- Korean
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Vietnamese
- Yugoslavian

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June 23, 2010

Delegates and Members
General Conference
59th Session



Gordon L. Retzer
PRESIDENT



Ron S. Smith
EXEC. SECRETARY



Randy Robinson
TREASURER



Dennis Millburn
UNDERTREASURER

Dear Delegates and Members,

On behalf of the Southern Union family, it is my privilege to welcome you to our home here in Atlanta.

The Southern Union family is more than 250,000 members in eight conferences, 1,068 churches, approximately 100 early childhood centers, 186 elementary schools, 16 academies, one college and two universities, 38 healthcare facilities, nine summer camp programs, and nine radio stations. We all welcome you!

The members of the Southern Union have a world view. Indeed, our diversity is indicative of the fact that our roots reach deep into the soil of every continent of the globe. We thank God that He has positioned us to be able to support the World Church through faithfulness in tithes and offerings, and through dedicated volunteerism and ministry.

For the past five years, the churches in the greater Atlanta area have been involved in an outreach called Good News Atlanta. We have been letting the people of this city, and its neighboring communities, know that Jesus and the Seventh-day Adventist Church love them. Indeed, recently we completed many evangelistic meetings which were followed by two large reaping meetings conducted by elders Mark Finley, Alejandro Bullón, and Nathanael Gracia. As a result, hundreds of decisions were made for Christ.

May God bless His remnant believers as we worship Him, and conduct the business of His Church during this General Conference Session.

Gordon L. Retzer, President



Good News Atlanta

The Georgia-Cumberland and South Atlantic conferences have been working together since 2005 to share Christ's love with more than five million people in Atlanta, Georgia.

These are photos depicting some of the projects.

Visit www.goodnewsatlanta.net for details regarding other projects.



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Atlanta and the Seventh-day Adventist Church

BY CLARISE J. NIXON

Not unlike the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Atlanta, Georgia, is a city with a strong culture, a diverse community, and a very rich history. Atlanta is the birthplace of historical notables like human rights activist Martin Luther King Jr., and Pulitzer Prize winner Margaret Mitchell. The city has hosted several events as well, including the 1996 Olympic Games, and will host the upcoming 59th General Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists.

A Short History of a Growing City

Atlanta began as a Native American village in the early 19th century called Standing Peachtree. Inhabited by Creek and Chero-

kee Indians, the land was taken over by white settlers in 1822 who established Decatur. During the next 15 years, this area went through several name changes: Terminus, Marthasville, and Atlanta-Pacific, which was quickly shortened to Atlanta.

The population in Atlanta grew

to more than 9,500 people by 1860. During the American Civil War, several battles took place in this area, including the Battle of Peachtree Creek, the Battle of Atlanta, and the Battle of Ezra Church. Despite being burned to the ground in 1864 by Union General William T. Sherman,

Atlanta repopulated and started to recover gradually. Today, there are more than five million residents in Atlanta and the surrounding areas.

In fact, Atlanta is one of the most crowded cities in the United States. The Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is the world's busiest airport, serving an estimated 88 million passengers per year. Metropolitan Atlanta





R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Rapid Transit Authority, or MARTA, is the ninth largest rapid-transit system in the United States. “The Connector,” the point where I-75 and I-85 connect, is one of the 10 most congested portions of interstate highway in the United States. Needless to say, Atlanta more than fully recovered from the destruction it endured in the 19th century.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Atlanta

In 1876 the first denominational worker, C. O. Taylor, entered Georgia. A decade later, a tent effort was held in the Atlanta area. The effort was well attended and several people embraced the Seventh-day Adventist truth. Because of the growing work, C. H. Bliss expressed to *The Review and Herald* that a church be organized in Atlanta. In 1887, Charles Bliss arrived in Atlanta with several other church missionaries, including George Anglebarger (head of city mission) and Charles Curtis (head of canvassing work).

Melvin C. Sturdevant began the Adventist work among blacks in Atlanta in the early 1900’s. Sturdevant was not discouraged by the amount of work that was needed, and W. H. Sebastian joined him some years later. Sturdevant wanted to reach some 65,000 blacks in the Atlanta area, but with no worship building and going from house to house to spread the Gospel, progress was slow. Between the years 1912 and 1918, a minister by the name of C. B. Haynes engaged himself in large-scale evangelism in Atlanta.

The Southern Union

The Southern Union was established in 1901; its headquarters is in Decatur, Georgia, 15 miles outside of Atlanta. It is one of nine unions within the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. The Southern Union is composed of eight conferences that span eight states — Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi. Additionally, the Southern Union has more than 1,000 churches, more than 300 schools (including early childhood, elementary, academy, and university), 38 healthcare facilities, nine summer camp programs, and nine radio stations. The president of the Southern Union is Gordon Retzer, who has served the Union since 2003.

Currently, there are three mission priorities of the Southern Union. Adventist EDGE serves to increase Adventist school membership by redesigning education in the Southern Union. It seeks to change the focus of classroom teaching from a teacher/textbook-centered method to a student-centered approach, taking into account the various learning styles of every student. For more information on Adventist EDGE, please visit www.adventistedge.org.

Evangelism in the Atlanta area is another mission of the Southern

Union. In 2005, all Atlanta churches joined together to form Good News Atlanta (GNA). It is the mission of GNA to touch every person in Atlanta with the good news of the saving power of Jesus and His second coming. GNA also provides resources, contacts, and ideas for effective evangelism in Atlanta. The entire Union membership is assisting with this initiative. For more information on GNA, please visit www.goodnewsatlanta.net.

Identifying and training evangelists is another mission that the Southern Union is wholeheartedly invested in. Through lay evangelism, the Gospel has been preached throughout the Southern Union and the world field.

Emory-Adventist Hospital

There are more than 150 Adventist hospitals in the United States. In 1974, Emory-Adventist Hospital became the first healthcare institution in the Atlanta area to be affiliated with the Adventist Church. It is operated by Adventist Health System (AHS) as a joint enterprise with Emory Healthcare.

Emory Healthcare has established a reputation as a leader in cutting-edge research and technology. With



1,184 licensed patient beds, 9,000 employees, and more than 20 health centers located throughout metro Atlanta, it is the most comprehensive healthcare system in Georgia.

Emory-Adventist Hospital’s mission is to promote healing in a caring, compassionate Christian envi-

ronment. To fulfill this mission, they will:

Aspire to provide the highest standards of healthcare consistent with community needs and hospital resources

- Extend personal caring and kindness to patients, guests, and coworkers.
- Operate in a fiscally responsible manner, maintaining an attractive facility that is properly equipped, appropriately staffed, and operates as a community asset.
- Advocate and teach principles of sound physical, emotional, and spiritual health.



- Promote an environment of fairness, trust, cooperation, and professional growth characterized by integrity, communication, respect, affirmation, and accountability.

General Conference Session

The Seventh-day Adventist membership and influence continues to grow in Atlanta and the surrounding areas, and these members look forward eagerly to welcoming the World Church. The 59th General Conference Session will be held June 23 through July 3 at the Georgia World Congress Center and Georgia Dome, and some 50,000 Adventists from around the world will make Atlanta their home for a brief visit. Welcome to Atlanta! ✨

Clarise J. Nixon is communication intern for the Southern Union Conference.

Follow the Adventist Church's World Session through Media Outlets

Daily news and analysis in print, Web, podcast, and television

Tens of thousands of Seventh-day Adventists are expected to gather in the Georgia Dome in Atlanta for the 59th Adventist Church World Session, June 23 through July 3. For those wishing to follow news from the Session, the Church is offering several daily media resources for news coverage, features, and analysis.

Adventist News Network

Adventist News Network (ANN) will regularly publish daily news and features on its website, news.adventist.org, as well as a daily podcast, *Atlanta 2010 Today*. In addition, ANN will also produce a daily television news show, *Adventist NewsLine World Session Edition*, broadcast on the Hope Channel at 6:30 p.m. U.S. Eastern Time.

Adventist Review

The *Adventist Review* will continue in its historic role of making official record of the Session with a daily print edition of the magazine. Regular subscribers to the magazine will receive the daily magazines automatically.

ANN on Twitter

ANN will also tweet Session news updates at twitter.com/adventistnews.

ANN Daily Podcast

ANN's daily one-hour podcast will be produced by former British Broadcasting Corporation radio producer John Smith. Available at the ANN homepage, *Atlanta 2010 Today* will offer in-depth features, interviews with new church leaders, and commentaries, as well as

coverage of worship services, music, and the Session's Parade of Nations. Smith will be joined by other broadcasters, including representatives from the U.S.'s National Public Radio and veteran Session reporters.

Adventist NewsLine

ANN's 30-minute daily television news show, *Adventist NewsLine*, will give viewers a glimpse of Session activities and a daily wrap-up of news. The show's producer, Williams Costa Jr., associate communication director for the World Church, said the goal is to inform the World Church of developments and changes. Willa Sandmeyer, a former veteran TV reporter for KTLA in Los Angeles, will coordinate news for the television broadcast.

Atlanta 2010 Today and Adventist NewsLine will begin broadcasting on Wednesday, June 23. For other news about the Session, visit news.adventist.org or gcsession.org.

Preparing for Service — One Student at a Time

BY ERIC CADIENTE

Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences (FHCHS) has always been guided by its four vision words — Nurture, Excellence, Spirituality, and Stewardship. In keeping with the mission of Florida Hospital, FHCHS has also incorporated the philosophy of *Healthcare as Ministry* as a guiding tenant in preparing students to serve in the healthcare field.

One aspect of preparing students to be leaders in healthcare is to incorporate service learning into any degree completed at FHCHS. In the evolution of developing the philosophy of healthcare as ministry, one of the things that the College asked itself was, “Are we as faculty and staff willing to do likewise?”

In August 2009, the new school year was kicked off during PUSH week (Preparing Us to Serve Humanity). This week was intended not only to prepare the faculty and staff of FHCHS for the upcoming year, but to propel them forward with a renewed energy, focus, and inspiration. The culminating event during PUSH week was a visit to the Primrose Center, a facility for adults with developmental disabilities. The entire faculty and staff of FHCHS traveled to the Primrose Center, and spent the

day doing various activities involving nearly all aspects of the facility. At day’s end, David Greenlaw, FHCHS president, challenged every department at the College to undertake a service project of their own. Here are a few examples of departments that have answered the call:

The nurse anesthesia department took its entire cadre of students, faculty, and staff to host the Christmas celebration at the Primrose Center.

Enrollment services has made two visits to Give Kids the World Village, an organization that exists to fulfill the wishes of children with life-threatening illnesses.

The radiologic sciences department has donated their time and expertise in assisting in the development and construction of the radiology suite at Grace Medical Home, which serves the indigent and uninsured of central Florida.

The IT department has been working in its spare time accumulating materials, and preparing to deliver 10 stand-alone desktop computers to the Primrose Center.

Student services has led various mission trips during the years to Central America, Russia, and Eastern Europe.

In addition to departmental service projects, many of the faculty and staff at FHCHS answer the call on their own. The nursing department’s Marlene Watson works with her church in adult literacy. Al Aldrich, of campus security, participates in a prison ministry. Carolyn Ramsey, Ph.D., Sara Madden, and Ann Johnson lend their efforts to the Shepherd’s Hope clinics located throughout the greater Orlando area.

The essence of “Healthcare as Ministry” is touching humanity for God, and the faculty and staff of FHCHS are willing to lead by example. At all levels, FHCHS faculty and staff model healthcare as ministry to showcase to their students that a career in healthcare is a career in service. Healthcare as ministry is manifest in the actions and interactions that the faculty, staff, and students of FHCHS demonstrate at all times. FHCHS is preparing the future leaders of healthcare one student at a time, and is modeling what service to humanity is all about. ♀

Eric Cadiente is director of marketing and public relations at Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences.



FHCHS faculty and staff during a visit to the Primrose Center.



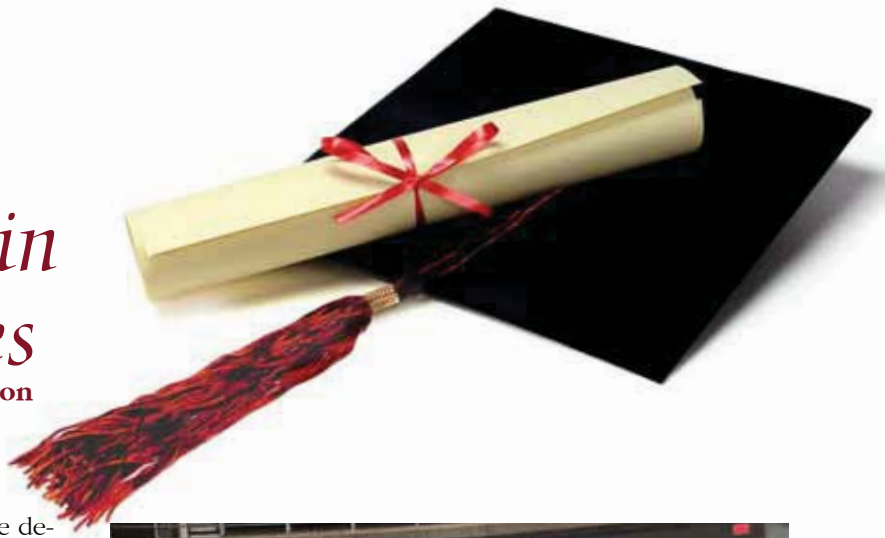
Primrose Center’s sign welcoming FHCHS faculty and staff.



Oswald Fletcher (left), Chuck Stuckie, and Carlo Semerzier are ready to work.

Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies

By Michele Solomon



Since its first ministerial graduate in 1912, the Oakwood University Office of Religion and Theology has been preparing men and women for various forms of pastoral ministry, church leadership, and evangelistic endeavors. Its newest program, the 36-credit-hour Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (MAPS), continues this great tradition, but with a renewed focus.

As the first graduate degree offered by Oakwood University, the curriculum focuses on providing pastors and qualified congregational leaders with the spiritual identity, critical knowledge, and skills needed to foster a Christ-centered approach to pastoral studies, so that they may meaningfully address the spiritual needs and life issues of church members and the community, within the context of their own ministries.

The program's concentration is on church development, and is grounded in the academic disciplines of biblical and theological studies, and pastoral practices. It provides the opportunity for students to develop a 14-credit-hour academic competency in one of the following areas: pastoral leadership, pastoral care, pastoral evangelism and discipleship, or Adventist heritage.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The MAPS degree equips students to offer faithful spiritual leadership to their congregation in light of their unique situation. They learn to evaluate and critically interact with other academic disciplines to foster contextual learning, theological reflection, and best professional practice in the development of effective church min-

istries. The degree also exposes participants to the issues and knowledge involved in planning building projects, financial and physical plant management, conducting demographic studies and networking, and the essentials of a church-run community corporation (501-C3) to meet the needs of a target group.

RESEARCH AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT — KEY COMPONENTS

A key component of the MAPS degree is its focus on pastoral research and resource development in one of the four competency areas previously mentioned. There are two courses specifically dedicated to this feature. During these courses, students concentrate on one of the following:

The development of a usable capstone resource project to critically integrate the overall learning.

The development and implementation of an approved proposal, allowing qualified students to do qualitative pastoral research in the context of their ministry.

A critical pastoral thesis on a pastoral issue, providing an extensive critique and integration of scholarly work in pastoral studies with the view of showing how new insights may be



Agniel Samson, Th.D. (front, center), Oakwood University (OU) religion and theology chair, presents the first 14 graduates of the OU MAPS program during the 2009 commencement service, accompanied on the platform by OU president Delbert W. Baker, Ph.D. (front, left); MAPS director Trevor Fraser, D. Min. (front, right); and John Anderson, Ph.D., OU vice president for academic affairs.

appropriately applied to their particular area of ministry.

A portfolio of clinical experience resulting from clinical pastoral education conducted in a supervised hospital or similar health care setting, or its counseling equivalent.

The MAPS program has graduated two classes since its inception in 2008 and continues to grow in strength and popularity. The degree emphasizes development of Christian identity, integrity, and service to others. The distinctiveness of the program is that it promotes a holistic approach to the development of congregations while taking into account their individual contextual needs.

For more information on this graduate program, contact Oakwood University's Office of Religion and Theology at 256-726-8391, or go online to www.oakwood.edu.

Michele Solomon is the director of public relations at Oakwood University.

LEAP: Oakwood's Adult Continuing Ed Program

BY RACHEL WILLIAMS SMITH, PH.D.

Most people are surprised to learn that if they have earned about two years worth of college credits, they can complete a four-year degree in about 18 months in Oakwood University's LEAP (Leadership Education for the Adult Professional) program. Inevitably one of the first questions they ask is, "What degrees do you offer?"

Well, the program's short list of degree offerings has just gotten a bit longer. The LEAP degree completion program started with one degree, organizational management, about 15 years ago. More recently, psychology and then general studies were added. Starting this fall, LEAP will now have five degrees to offer adults, age 25 and up, who are interested in finishing their degrees while maintaining their work and life obligations. The two new additions are church leadership and information technology.

Church Leadership

The church leadership program is designed to allow people of any faith to study how to be leaders within their own churches, enabling them to receive a college degree in their

area of primary interest. It combines leadership studies with Bible and ministry-oriented courses so that the lay church leader can be knowledgeable and effective in service. Furthermore, strategic thinking and planning skills can be invaluable to graduates in other professional areas of work and service as well.

Because the degree is offered in a blended online format, church leadership is not restricted to those who live within the Huntsville, Ala., area. Though some classes are offered onsite to provide the benefits of classroom instruction, much of the coursework is delivered online to provide maximum flexibility. Courses include "Foundational Theories of Leadership," "Spiritual Formation for Ministry," "Psychology of Religion," "Personal Evangelism," "World Religions," "Group Dynamics," "Studies of Applied Leadership in Organization Change," and "The Biblical Jesus."

Information Technology

The other new degree being offered in the LEAP program is information technology. The degree was established to meet the needs of those

who are experienced in the field and in search of advancements. Students can earn a four-year degree and gain certification in one or more areas, a combination that can be invaluable in information technology/computer science areas. Those who apply are expected to have 10 hours of IT-related coursework or a year of experience in an IT-related field. Like church leadership, the IT degree is offered in a blended online format. Courses include "Computer Science I w/C++," "Computer Architecture," "Web Design & Multimedia," "Management of Business Networks" (includes a lab), and "Information Security." Options for certification are *Server+*, *Security+*, *Network+*, and *MCITP*.

Learning More about LEAP

To learn more about the LEAP program and its degree offerings, visit www.oakwoodleap.com. You may also call the office at 256-726-7098, to talk to someone about the program, your interest, and your needs. ☞

Rachel Williams Smith, Ph.D., serves as the director of the LEAP program at Oakwood University.

No Accidents

BY MANUELA ASAFTEI

Is it an accident when two students make an international journey to Southern Adventist University before realizing they were enrolling in a Christian university — or were they led there?

Is it an accident that an extra \$300 showed up just when one student needed that amount to go on a life-changing mission trip — or did providence deposit that money?

Is it an accident that a non-Christian went on a Maranatha mission trip — or was this part of the plan to connect her with Christ?

Once you've read these stories, you can decide for yourself whether these experiences are mere accidents or moments designed by God.

Landing on a Christian Campus: Hai and Phuong's Story

In Vietnam, there are negative feelings towards Christianity even to the point where, as one Vietnamese said, "it destroyed Vietnam." As it turns out, two Vietnamese who had grown up surrounded by bias against Christianity recently found themselves on an Adventist campus.



Phuong Nguyen and Hai Vo have gone from holding a negative view of Christianity to studying the Bible during their time at Southern.

Hai Vo, a sophomore computer major, and Phuong Nguyen, a sophomore general studies major, learned about Southern's high ranking with *U.S. News & World Report* while they were living in Vietnam. Having already completed two years of university in their home country, they weren't satisfied with the quality of education they were receiving. Both applied to Southern, and before they knew it they were on a plane to a new country.

On the first day in the United States, they arrived on Southern's campus only to find that it was the

Christmas break, and the campus seemed deserted. Knowing only limited English, the two friends found one of the deans, who gave them a place to stay until classes resumed.

"We had no idea that Southern was a Christian school," says Phuong. "We did not even know what 'Adventist' meant."

Still, Phuong and Hai were excited to learn at an institution where, according to Phuong, "the people are dedicated to helping others."

As the months passed, Phuong and Hai began to be interested and curious as to what Adventists believe, and they began searching the Bible for answers to their questions.

"We wanted to know what the truth is," says Phuong.

Phuong and Hai began attending church and even praying before tests, which was a new experience for both of them.

When two friends, who used to have a negative view of Christianity, chose Southern, they became a part of what they describe as a "warm Southern family," which showed them that when Christ is at the center, we are all one family.

\$300 Goes a Long Way: Rachel's Story

"I'm not going to be able to go on the mission trip to Mexico," Rachel Burgos, junior liberal arts education major, told the chaplain's office secretary, explaining that she was \$300 short of her fundraising goal. She had felt this trip was something God was calling her to do, but things just weren't working out.

At that moment, the secretary received an urgent phone call. "You need to go down to the student finance office immediately," she told Rachel. Confused, Rachel did as she was told.

"Why the worried look on your face?" Rachel's student finance counselor asked. As Rachel shared her story, the counselor smiled. "God has bigger plans," she said, explaining that there was an extra \$300 that had appeared on Rachel's account, which she would be able to use for the mission trip.

With tears of joy, Rachel finalized the plans for the trip that she would later say changed her life — a life that is now defined by missions and service.

After returning, Rachel began to feel God's call again — this time to serve as a student missionary in China, where she taught English and gave Bible studies.

One day after class, Li*, a young man who had been an avid traveler throughout Europe before he finally found himself back to his motherland and into Rachel's classroom, struck up a conversation.

"I feel like my life is empty," he said. "It's missing something." He went on to explain how during his travels, he had tried to fill the void with partying, clubbing, and drinking. Then, having heard that she attended the only Adventist church in town, he asked her about her faith.

As Rachel shared her commitment and faithfulness to Jesus, Li listened, hanging on to every word. In time, he began attending church and was eventually baptized.

Today, Rachel is back at Southern



Rachel Burgos' mission service started with a trip to Mexico that she didn't think she'd be able to afford.

Adventist University, where she is actively involved in various campus ministries, and Li is back in Europe, where he is hosting weekly Bible studies.

"God's hands were in this from the beginning," says Rachel. "I praise God for the golden opportunity."

Finding God on a Mission Trip: Stephanie's Story

Feeling betrayed by a broken family life at home, Stephanie Hardy (now a freshman nursing major at Southern) reconnected with her father, whom she hadn't seen in many years.

As she shared with him how dissatisfied she was, her dad suggested she go on a Maranatha trip to Ecuador. Stephanie agreed, but not for the sake of ministering. Having grown up with only a basic knowledge of God, Stephanie signed up for the trip simply to get away from home.

"I had no plan of coming anywhere near God," recalls Stephanie.

In Ecuador, Stephanie discovered how serving God can bring people together and change lives. On the last weekend of the trip, Stephanie realized the other young people

who came were praying for her from the depths of their souls.

"I only wished I could have the same peace and understanding," recalls Stephanie. "I wanted the peace in the storm that they seemed to have."

Then during Friday night Vespers, the emotions Stephanie had been struggling with let loose in a flood of tears.

"I wanted to be a true part of what my new 'family' had," says Stephanie. "I begged God for another chance to be His, and I have been leaning on Him more and more ever since."

After returning from the mission trip, Stephanie chose to pursue nursing at Southern with students who share the same faith she now cherishes.

At Southern, she has found the same sense of family she felt on that mission trip. "I can go to worship and participate in community service projects," she says. "The students, professors, and staff have hearts that truly care about people." ❄

**name has been changed*

Manuela Asaftei recently graduated from Southern Adventist University with a bachelor of science degree in public relations.



Stephanie Hardy enrolled at Southern after a mission experience convinced her to join God's family.

What do you want to do WHEN YOU ARE 100?

BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN

Imagine...

Florida Hospital for Children gave my two-year-old son a T-shirt that says, "What do you want to do when you are 100?"

I've been thinking about it. I would love to celebrate my 77th wedding anniversary, take my son diving with the whale sharks in Australia, and go on a mission trip with my grandchildren.

Imagine... what would you like to do when you are 100?

THE EIGHT PRINCIPLES OF CREATION HEALTH

- C Choice**
Accept responsibility for your health
- R Rest**
Enjoy replenishing rest
- E Environment**
Create a rejuvenating surrounding
- A Activity**
Put your body into motion
- T Trust**
Express faith in God
- I Interpersonal**
Celebrate relationships
- O Outlook**
Practice a positive attitude
- N Nutrition**
Fuel your body

CREATION Health

The CREATION Health lifestyle creates more centenarians than any other lifestyle in the world. Its principles transform lives from the inside out, and are essential for living to a healthy 100. (See *National Geographic*, November 2005; Dan Buettner: "Blue Zones.")

The American Lifestyle

About 400,000 people die each year in the United States due to insufficient exercise and poor diet. Although the leading cause of preventable death is cigarette smoking, obesity runs a close second (67 percent of Americans are obese), and experts predict it will soon replace smoking for the top spot.

There are reasons people turn to food, addictions, and risky behavior. Today, more than ever, people struggle with low self-esteem, hopelessness, emotional despair, internal

and external stress, low self-worth, and a sense of meaninglessness. So they look for ways to relieve tension and find comfort. Oftentimes, this is achieved through coping mechanisms that feel good in the moment, but are self-destructive.

CREATION Health, however, creates wholeness, comfort, and peace by nurturing *each dimension* of our well-being — the mental, physical, spiritual, and emotional. Once we experience what it means to be fully alive, we begin disengaging from our unhealthy habits.

Dream...

CREATION Health is *the* lifestyle for living to a healthy 100.

With God's eight secrets for feeling healthier, happier, and more *alive*, what do you want to do when you are 100? Start dreaming today... and live life to the fullest. ✨

That's CREATION Health!

OUTPOSTS OF HOPE & HEALING

The eight-week CREATION Health seminar turns your church, home, or organization into an outpost of hope & healing. Here's what one person says about CREATION Health:

"God is so good! I knew I needed to lose weight and have a better grasp on my over-all health...so I signed up for the CREATION Health course. Through the class discussions, reading the wonderful personal study guide, and watching the weekly DVDs, I have learned how God wove all of this together for our own good. Everything makes sense and falls into place. Now, it is a sheer joy and not drudgery to work toward a healthier lifestyle. Embrace life and sign up for this class! I promise you will never regret a moment spent in the CREATION Health workshop."

For seminar information, contact Lynell LaMountain
407-303-7711 x 32 | Lynell.LaMountain@flhosp.org

CREATIONHealth.com

United in Christ's Mission of Compassionate Care

BY JULIE ZAIBACK

Adventist Hospitals around the world are united in a shared mission — to care for God's children. This mission runs deep in our hospitals, inspires our caregivers, and directs our approach to health care. By putting Christ at the center of our mission, we are constantly reminded that when we serve others we are in fact spiritual ambassadors for Christ, presented with an opportunity to reveal Christ's loving nature to those in need, during a time of utmost vulnerability.

That's why Adventist hospitals are committed to providing Christ-centered care. This kind of care is multi-dimensional. In part, it means that patients receive whole-person care, care that focuses not just on physical ailments, but spiritual, mental, and emotional needs as well. It means demonstrating compassion, respect, and love just as Christ did to those with whom He came in contact. With Christ's love and example as the foundation and motivation of our mission, Adventist hospitals are committed to providing the patients with the highest quality of care. In today's world of health care, quality care is synonymous with electronic advancements; patient safety initiatives; and a commitment to a continual development of new research, techniques, and technologies. It is our moral responsibility as Christians to care for God's children with the best

possible care. And this means staying at the forefront of medicine.

Our hospitals are teaching by example, sharing with other hospitals the benefits that patients receive when they are treated in a hospital with an established electronic infrastructure. Adventist hospitals have switched from paper-based systems to fully electronic medical records. This means that a patient's records can be accessed by multiple hospitals, ensuring that the most accurate information about their previous care and needs is provided. Electronic medical records actually speed up the process of being seen by a caregiver, and help caregivers provide safer care.

Safety and quality of care is a priority in Adventist hospitals. That's why Adventist hospitals are taking steps to ensure that our patients receive the safest care possible. Technology can help us do just that. For years, physicians have written prescriptions by hand. Sometimes, when writing in a rush, handwriting can be hard to read and mistakes can unfortunately happen. That's why our hospitals are moving toward computerized physician order entry (CPOE), which means that all medication prescriptions are ordered electronically. This has reduced medication errors up to 86 percent (see news article on page 15).

The Adventist approach to health

care demonstrates that to honor Christ, we must care for His children to the best of our abilities. Whether at the bedside providing care, in administration making critical decisions, or in a laboratory developing critical research technology, employees of Adventist hospitals are doing Christ's work. And there is no greater honor than carrying out the work of our Savior.

For a complete list of web links to Seventh-day Adventist hospitals in the United States, visit www.sdahealthcare.org

Julie Zaiback is communications specialist at Adventist Health System in Orlando, Florida.



Christ-centered care is provided at all 37 hospitals that make up Adventist Health System.

Florida Hospital Fish Memorial Helps Local Children Through the Comfort Care Drive

Employees at Florida Hospital Fish Memorial, Orange City, Fla., donated much needed bedding items for the fifth annual Comfort Care Drive benefiting the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. With 300 residents, the Comfort Care Drive provides bedding items for children, many of whom have never had their own set of sheets or pillow. Together, the staff donated 45 blankets and comforters, 38 sheet sets, and six pillows.

Hospital staff delivered the donated items to John

Rivas, Florida United Methodist Children's Home vice president of development, and Miranda Levy, public relations coordinator, who accepted the items on behalf of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home.

"We are grateful to Florida Hospital Fish Memorial for their gift of comforters, pillows, and blankets for the children in our care. We value the partnership with



Annette Johnson, Florida Hospital Fish Memorial, and John Rivas, Florida United Methodist Children's Home, are thrilled by the generous donations of hospital employees.

MAYBELLINE FERGUSON

"Each and every child who comes into our care receives a welcome basket with items such as a stuffed animal, new bed linens, toiletries, and a Bible that are theirs to keep.

To have a new set of bed linens, that's all their own, means so much to a child, and is truly comforting to them in so many ways."

—BY MAYBELLINE FERGUSON

Florida Hospital Fish Memorial, and the role they play in assisting us make each child feel welcomed and loved by the Children's Home," said Rivas.

New Cancer Treatment Available in Tavares, Florida

As part of its ongoing commitment to providing state-of-the-art treatment options for cancer care, Florida Hospital Waterman Cancer Institute, Tavares, Fla., is now offering stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT). Located on the campus of Florida Hospital Waterman in Tavares, the Cancer Institute is the only facility in Lake County that offers this advanced treatment.

The SBRT treatment is a technique that delivers high doses of radiation with extreme accuracy to treat tumors in the lung and liver. The potent dose of radiation that is delivered by SBRT significantly increases the likelihood of

eradicating the tumor when compared to conventional radiation therapy. SBRT's accuracy allows physicians to minimize radiation dose to surrounding healthy tissue, reducing the chance of side effects for the patient.

Another advantage of SBRT is that patients usually complete their treatment in three to five sessions during a two-week period, compared to six to eight weeks of daily conventional radiation therapy. According to radiation oncologist Jeffrey



Brabham, M.D.,

"SBRT offers the dual benefits of improving tumor control rates while significantly decreasing treatment time. It is non-invasive and, when performed carefully, has a very favorable side effect profile."

SBRT may be used as a non-invasive therapy for

patients who are not healthy enough to undergo surgery to remove their tumor, or in patients with recurrent tumors that were previously treated with radiation therapy.

"There is growing evidence that SBRT may be as effective as limited

surgery in stage I lung cancers. For patients who are not healthy enough for surgery, SBRT is often an excellent alternative. We are very excited to now be able to offer this therapy to our patients here at Florida Hospital Waterman," says Brabham.

—BY BONNIE ZIMMERMAN

Emory-Adventist Leads the Way with “No-Wait ER”

When visitors arrive in Atlanta, Ga., for the General Conference Session of Seventh-day Adventists in June, they may be surprised to learn that they are in an area which offers a unique medical service, and that the service is provided by a local Adventist hospital.

In 2007 Emory-Adventist Hospital at Smyrna (EAH), Smyrna, Ga., became the first in the nation to offer In-QuickER — an online ER registration system for non life-threatening emergency conditions, which allows patients to wait in the



ER staff Brittany Runion (left), technician; Vivian Calderon, RN; and Prity Patel, RN, are proud to be a part of this new program.

comfort of their home or office rather than an ER waiting room.

Dennis Kiley, Emory-Adventist Hospital president, conceived the idea as a solution to the issues

that people dread most about ER visits — long waits and crowded waiting rooms.

“We are always looking for ways to serve our community,” states Kiley. “What could be better than offering a service that provides them with the medical care they need, and enhances their whole healthcare experience?”

Patients log on to the InQuickER website at www.inquickersmyrna.com. After completing a brief medical history and answering a few questions, they can then hold their place in line and wait in

their own comfortable surroundings before arriving at the hospital. The patient will be seen within 15 minutes of their appointed time, or the visit is free.

Patient reviews have been overwhelmingly favorable to this new approach to emergency care.

“We receive wonderful comments and letters from families who have used In-QuickER,” states Kiley. “It’s a good feeling to know that we are serving our community well. I’m proud and pleased that EAH is at the forefront of providing innovative healthcare.”

—BY BEV OWEN

Gordon Hospital Improves Patient Safety Through Elimination of Handwritten Physician Orders

Gordon Hospital, Calhoun, Ga., recently became part of an elite four percent of the nation’s hospitals to fully integrate an electronic medical records system known as Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE).

According to Pete Weber, president and CEO of Gordon Hospital, the days of handwritten physician and provider orders for all inpatients came to an end as the hospital converted to the new computerized system that is designed to drastically reduce medical errors and speed up patient care.

“We are proud to be in this elite four percent,” Weber explained. “This is

gratifying for everyone in the Gordon Hospital family and Adventist Health System, because it’s another instance where we’re adopting new technology to make our hospital the best it can be.”

Gordon Hospital is the third of Adventist Health System’s 37 hospitals to implement CPOE hospital-wide. Physicians and providers will now enter their medical orders directly into Gordon Hospital’s electronic medical record system to eliminate the trail of paper orders and notes that can delay patient care and contribute to medical errors.

“Just eliminating handwriting alone eliminates errors because there’s less

chance of misinterpretation,” Max Parrott, M.D., chief medical officer for Gordon Hospital, explained. “But with other systems in place, such as a system to recognize drug interactions or allergy interactions for patients, these errors are reduced even further.”

Brent Box, M.D., Gordon Hospital’s chief hospitalist, agreed. “CPOE is also more efficient because there are fewer steps, and fewer steps mean reduction of errors,” Box explained. “We’re basically removing the middle man between the provider



Brent Box, M.D., chief hospitalist for Gordon Hospital, works with CPOE. Gordon Hospital is only the third Adventist Health System hospital to go live with CPOE, joining an elite four percent of hospitals nationwide to implement this program.

and the patient’s treatment.”

“This is the age of health care technology,” says Weber, “and our hospital is honored to be a leader with new solutions and new paradigms.”

—BY KIM BRAZELL

The Carolina Conference: Securing Souls for Eternity



RON QUICK

The Tryon Church recently celebrated its 50th anniversary with a homecoming. Hundreds of current and former pastors, teachers, and members attended the special event.

This year commemorates the 140th year of the Seventh-day Adventist work in the southeastern United States, and it all began in the Carolinas in 1870.

The first church in the South was organized in Valle Crucis, N.C. When

the Carolina Conference was established in 1901, there were only three ministers, seven companies, 10 churches, and 300 members. The same passion and zeal which began the Adventist work in the South continues to spread throughout the Carolinas today.

Each church in this Conference strives to provide family-friendly, spiritually-led programs for its members. Family and community centers are sprouting up everywhere. Churches are continually being built, and the rate of mortgage burnings has increased significantly. Each department, from Pathfind-

ers to women's ministries, is doing their part to make a difference in people's lives.

Education & Wellness

Education and wellness are also very important to the Carolina Conference. Elementary schools and boarding academies give each student a complete experience that involves spiritual, mental, and physical nourishment. The Conference has two retirement centers, Winslow Memorial Home and Pisgah Manor, the latter giving much-needed employment to worthy students at Mount Pisgah Academy. Park Ridge Hospital, in Fletcher, N.C., is an Adventist facility which has been meeting the spiritual and healthcare needs of its patients since 1910. The Conference also promotes

wellness of mind and body through the Adventist Christian Book Center, with locations in Fletcher and Charlotte, N.C.

Diversity

In addition to its English-speaking churches, the Carolina Conference is witnessing miraculous growth in churches of different nationalities. The Hispanic community has grown from only one small group to more than 3,000 members Conference-wide. God has also set up Cambodian, Hmong (from Laos), Korean, Karen (from Burma and Thailand), Swahili, and Haitian groups throughout the Conference.

Evangelism

Evangelism steers every operation in this Conference. It is the driving force that motivates members to become preachers, teach-



ADELINE DOROUGH

Mount Pisgah Academy has a strong mission program. They recently sent the entire student body on mission trips, including Africa and Mexico (Above: Rachell Jordan).



BECKY CARPENTER

The Carolina Conference is blessed to have members from many cultural backgrounds. Recently baptized in Lexington, N.C., were 16 individuals of Buddhist backgrounds originally from Cambodia, in southeast Asia.



RON QUICK



RON QUICK

Whether in a 700-member church in the Carolinas or a mountainside gathering in remote Papua New Guinea (above), nearly 8,000 lay-people have been trained by ShareHim, a ministry of the Carolina Conference, to conduct evangelistic meetings wherever the Lord sends them. Ellie Green (right), who has conducted several international ShareHim events, now holds evangelistic meetings in the Charlotte Sharon Church every Sabbath morning.

ers, elders, musicians, and more. God has blessed this entity of believers to consistently see one of the highest church growth rates in the North American Division.

Lay-Evangelism

Perhaps the most unique aspect of this growth is the work of lay evangelists. The Conference encourages lay-people to preach, give Bible studies, conduct prophecy seminars, and befriend people in their own communities and around the world. It is the heart and soul of the Carolina Conference. For example, one of the initiatives of the Conference has been to put an invitation for Bible study in every home in the Carolinas. Though not complete, to date more



RON QUICK

Chester Caswell, pictured here with his entire upper-grade class from the Charleston Adventist School in South Carolina. Every one of these students has recently made the decision to be baptized. Caswell states, "Adventist education doesn't cost, it pays!"

than 11,000 people have responded to this invitation.

ShareHim

ShareHim, a ministry of the Carolina Conference, was created to train lay-people for spreading the

Gospel through preaching evangelistic series. Since ShareHim was established in 2001, nearly 8,000 lay-people have conducted meetings both overseas and here at home. Students, construction workers, lawyers, retired members — people from every walk of life are transformed in mind and spirit as they have shared the Three Angels Message.

Unlimited Blessings

There is no limit to what God can do when full trust is put in Him. The pioneers who began this great work in the South amidst the serenity of the mountains in North Carolina could not have imagined this movement would spread with such fervor.

God has blessed the Carolina Conference in many ways, using each member to captivate hearts and secure souls for eternity.

—BY JACQUIE PINDER



A Body of Believers

Members	19,998
Churches	120
Companies	18
Elementary Schools	22
Academies	2
Pastors	75
Associate Pastors	11
Radio Stations	12
Retirement Centers	7
Adventist Book Centers	2
Retreat Center/Summer Camp	1
Pathfinder & Adventurer Clubs	85



RON QUICK

Mount Pisgah Academy, located near Asheville, N.C., is one of two academies in the Carolina Conference. The campus of Fletcher Academy is near Park Ridge Hospital in Fletcher, N.C.

Five Values Drive Florida Conference Members



Spirit-led

Our leadership depends upon the Holy Spirit as the source of guidance and vision.

This is a journey that we are on, and the Holy Spirit will teach us as we commit to following in the footsteps of Adventist pioneers. I envision local church leaders praying, studying their communities, and begging the Lord for wisdom to transcend the secular culture with a timeless message.

—MIKE CAULEY, FLORIDA CONFERENCE PRESIDENT



Incarnational Passion

Our passion is to reach people far from God; and, therefore, our ministry must be relevant, connected, and incarnational.

Young professionals from the Advent Hope Service at **Forest Lake Church**, Apopka, Fla., conducted meetings at Florida Hospital Altamonte last fall, resulting in eight baptisms by Ron Perez (center), Forest Lake Church pastor for evangelism. Thirty continue Bible studies.



Discipleship

All believers are called to walk together with people at different stages of spiritual growth to offer an experience of grace, encouragement, accountability, and growth in the ways of Christ.

Port of Call: Heaven — More than 600 men enjoyed fellowship at two English-language men's ministries weekends in March at Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, Fla. The weekends included celebration of The Last Supper and a foot-washing service. In February, "How to Resolve Conflict" was the Haitian convention theme, attended by approximately 500 men. A Spanish-language convention will be held in September.



New Beginnings...It's Never Too Late — Florida Conference celebrated 21 years of women's ministries with three English-language retreats and one Spanish-language retreat in February at Camp Kulaqua; more than 1,200 women attended. For the first time, a teen track was added, and the combined attendance during the four weekends was approximately 150 young women.

Empowered to Serve as 21st-Century Missionaries

Every Member a Missionary

We are committed to the empowerment of every member to serve as a 21st-century missionary where they live, work, and play.

Palm Coast Church — Two years ago, a transformation process began to focus on needs in the community. Soon, an invitation came to assist at a free medical clinic two Sundays a month. While 40-50 patients wait for medical attention from



volunteer doctors and nurses such as Joyce Hudson (above), they receive tips for healthful living. Members have claimed the promise in Isaiah 58 that their light will shine if they care for the needy. As a result, Bob Hayes, pastor, and his congregation have seen doors open to reach people who are hungry to hear about Jesus, leading to 14 baptisms.



Orange Cove Church — After visiting the medical clinic operated by Palm Coast Church, André Van Heerden (center), Orange Cove Church pastor, guided his congregation through training to open a clinic in Green Cove Springs. Through his work with the clinic, Van Heerden was invited to attend The Mercy Network monthly meetings with representatives (above) from approximately 100 humanitarian organizations in Clay County. He is now the president of this organization.

In addition to running the clinic, Orange Cove members serve meals at a soup kitchen, distribute hot meals and clothing through Countywide Outreach, provide temporary housing in the church's Sabbath School rooms once a quarter, and operate a food pantry.

Small Groups

People are reached, disciplined, taught, and trained through relationships. The community of the church organized in small groups for this purpose is the effective expression of New Testament ministry.

Westchester Spanish Church — Young leaders Denysse Alvarado (left), 12, and Rebeca Amich, 14, started a small group last September with six girls. With an average attendance of 15 in their group, two have already been baptized, and two others are preparing for baptism. The Westchester Spanish Church has now spawned nearly 20 small groups.



Fort Lauderdale Church — Four new members, including Marsc Meritilus (left), were baptized January 23 by Jeffrey Thompson, pastor. Small group ministries, launched by Thompson last year, played a major role in their decisions. Member

Jackie Carryl, who opened her home for a small group meeting, was instrumental in the process. Thompson met with baptismal candidates to give further instruction, and he anticipates conducting additional baptisms at Fort Lauderdale Church in 2010 as a result of the seven small groups that now meet.

Savannah Education: The Future is Now!



JULIE GATES

Savannah pastor Mark Piotrowski baptizes Damien, a student at Savannah Adventist Christian School. Piotrowski holds weekly baptismal classes at the school.

Six years ago Savannah Adventist Christian School (SACS) was a two-room elementary school employing two teachers. Thanks

to a lucrative property sale and moving into a new facility, the school now has a five-room school serving students age three to eighth

grade. It employs five teachers, three teachers' aides, and one secretary.

SACS was pleased to find that many community parents are looking for a Christ-centered education for their children. Several families have reported attending church and some have even joined the Savannah First Seventh-day Adventist Church since enrolling their child.

Excellence in education was a huge focus for SACS. Field trips, guest speakers, and many items were added which would provide a new element to the educational curriculum, and also draw free advertising. The school was even featured on the local news twice, and several times in the newspaper.

Spiritual emphasis is an-

other important part of the curriculum. In addition to daily tasks, the pastor offers a weekly baptismal class for students in grades 3-5. These classes have resulted in a number of baptisms for children both from within and outside of the church community. The school also held a "Blessing of the Children" ceremony and a prayer breakfast during the first of the year.

SACS is proud to provide a loving, Christian environment to all faiths, and now has a 60 percent enrollment of children who are not Seventh-day Adventists. SACS still finds relevance and success by pointing students toward Christ.

—BY JULIE GATES

Pathfinders Gather for Camporee

Fifty-seven Pathfinder clubs of 1,600 people gathered at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp on April 22-25 for the 2010 Georgia-Cumberland Conference Pathfinder Camporee.

Activities ranged from learning to play the dulcimer to visiting the prayer cabin. Worship messages were shared by David Turner, speaker for Tiny Tunes Ministries, who challenged the Pathfinders to listen to God's spirit and follow God's leading. The Pathfinders also enjoyed hearing the experiences of Jordan

McKee, who portrayed Esther in the play during last year's international camporee in Oshkosh, Wisc. She shared what it was like to play the part of Esther, and challenged the Pathfinders to be ready to do all they can if they are called upon to use their skills for God.

Kethleen Duverge of the Atlanta,



REBECCA BROOKS

Pathfinders march in the parade Sabbath morning before the worship service.

Ga., Southside Precious Stones shared, "It's been

an enjoyable week-end. This is awesome and I recommend it to anyone else who would like to do it."

On Sabbath afternoon, it was decided to cancel the Sabbath evening program due to severe weather. "We have a plan that's given to the directors," shares John Swafford. He notes that the camporee leaders have a 911 radio and monitor the weather.

—BY REBECCA BROOKS

Transformer Kids “Tri” Their Best



LISA BECKER

Children ages 6 to 13 recently participated in the Collegedale Community Church Transformers Tri this April.

More than 70 young people gathered in the Collegedale, Tenn., Church parking lot one the morning of April 11 to begin the TRANSFORMERS TRI, a children’s triathlon. The focal point of the Collegedale Community Church organizers was to encourage children to “tri” their

best. As one racer said after the race, “When I was on my bike I kept hearing a voice in my head say ‘try your best’ so I did!”

Children ages 6-9 ran one mile, biked two miles, and swam 75 yards; ages 10-13 went twice as far, running two miles, biking four miles, and swimming

150 yards.

This event was seven months of training in conjunction with Kingdom Kids, a ministry of the Collegedale Community Church. Kingdom Kids is a combination of Vacation Bible School, summer camp, and Pathfinders all rolled into one. They meet from 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday evenings, September-April, and create opportunities for parents to disciple their children through songs, skits, stories, running, swimming, walking, and sign language. The worship team is mostly children. The stories feature children as well.

The hard work and training paid off as 100 percent of the racers finished the Tri. All the participants

received a finisher’s medal, T-shirt, and water bottle. The fastest children in their age groups received trophies. Event sponsors include:

- Kingdom Kids
- SouthEast Bank and Trust
- Chattanooga Tri Club
- Southern
- Talge Hall, Southern
- East Ridge Bicycles
- School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness
- David Smith Plumbing
- Grace Healthcare
- Sunbelt
- David Smith Photography
- Village Market
- Allied Mobile Imaging
- Art Automotive
- Morning Pointe Assisted Living Center
- College Press

—BY KEVIN BECKER

Knoxville Invites “Try Jesus”

The Knoxville Spanish district held a one-week evangelistic effort entitled “Try Jesus,” from March 27 to April 3. An estimated group of 60 visitors attended the meetings, and received the message of love and grace of the Lord Jesus.

The members of the small groups brought those who were interested in the message and their missionary contacts to the meetings, and also went out in pairs to personally distribute the invitations in several parts of the city.

As the result of the

work and endeavor of the lay people and pastors, 14 individuals were won to Christ in these public meetings. The work is still going forward, and the small groups will work hard all year round in order to prepare the seed that will be harvested in the public evangelistic meetings held by the churches.

Glory be to God for this wonderful outreach, and for the humble and dedicated lay people who are willing to dedicate their time and gifts to the much loved work of God.

—BY RICHARD URDANETA



The Knoxville Spanish district and Richard Urdaneta (right), pastor, recently baptized 14 precious souls for Jesus following a one-week evangelism effort.

Dothan Women's Ministries Receives Award

When women's ministries of the Dothan, Ala., First Church partnered with Urban Regional Extension agent Rosalind James to implement the CHAMPION Exercise and Health Program in the spring of 2009, the last thing the volunteers expected was a state-wide award. Volunteers from Dothan First Church were pleasantly shocked to learn that their organization was the one selected out of several hundred nominees in Alabama, to receive the "World of Difference" Award for this six-week community health program. This is a state organizational volunteer award, given by the Urban Affairs & New Nontraditional Programs of the Alabama Cooperative Extension

System, based on volunteer support and hours.

Brenda Boutin, Dothan First Church women's ministries director, and Dorothy Lee, head deaconess, coordinated the preparation of nutritious and delicious recipes, which were adapted to a diabetic diet and served to the 42 CHAMPION Class participants, 85 percent of whom were diabetic. The weekly classes also consisted of weigh-ins, walking, aerobic exercises, diabetes information updates presented by health professionals, cooking demonstrations, and nutrition education. In addition, each class participant received a pedometer to measure their steps during the week, and a food log to record and track the



The women involved in the CHAMPION Wellness Program pose with their pastor, Eric Bates, and display the award they received.

foods they consumed during each meal. Recognizing that good health addresses more than just the body, volunteers also offered prayer and inspirational materials to encourage class participants.

Eric Bates, Dothan First Church pastor, expressed his gratitude when the award was given on April 8, 2010, saying, "It is a great honor for our women's ministries department to be selected

for this award out of so many outstanding volunteers and organizations. We are thankful that we were able to bless our community with the CHAMPION Health Program, and we are proud of all the participants for losing weight; gaining knowledge of how to prepare healthy, nutritious meals; and learning the benefits of exercise."

—BY ANN MARIE BATES

"God Has a Plan for You," 3ABN Host Tells Adventurers



Brenda Walsh was the featured speaker during the Adventurers weekend program.

Brenda Walsh, producer and host of the 3ABN children's program "Kid's Time," was the featured speaker during the Adventurers weekend program held March 26 and 27, at the Pensacola University Parkway Church. Some 45

Adventurers from several Northwest Florida churches, including Pensacola, Fort Walton Beach, and Panama City, participated in the event. A vibrant speaker, Walsh conducted a Positive Parenting workshop on Friday evening, and related her own spiritual adventures during Sabbath services. "In order to be used by God, you need three things," Walsh explained. "You must be willing, obedient, and joyful."

An evening of family fun at a Western Roundup church social topped off the Adventurers weekend.



Rayna Reyes (center) help young artists at the face painting booth during the Western Roundup social.

The children enjoyed food, arts and crafts, a bouncer, games, and face painting. An author of several books for adults and children, Walsh signed some of her books at the Adventist Book

Center display in the Pensacola Junior Academy gym. Her latest project is a series of five children's books entitled "Miss Brenda's Bedtime Stories."

—BY GLENDA HASS

Investment Project is No “Lemon”



Alice and Don Whitt stand by their investment lemon tree.

Dedicating a lemon tree for an investment project in north Alabama where temperatures dip into the teens and even into the single digits during lemon-harvest time sounds somewhat absurd. But on February 13, Don and Alice Whitt thrilled the Athens, Ala., Sabbath School with a report on their investment project that resulted in more than 500 lemons for missions in January and February this year.

This lemon-tree venture actually didn't start as an investment project. The Whitts already had an investment project. In fact, they've been investing in missions since 1968 — the year they were married. During that time, Don Whitt was in the television repair business, and his first project was to give a portion of the money he collected on bad debts to investment. Then came the “strawberries project,” then eggs from the Bantam hens project, the tomato juice project — from their abundant tomato crops — and, of course, the usual health food labels, and finally the “blueberries.” Blueberries have been their major invest-

ment project since 1984. They continue to raise large beautiful blueberries; last summer their seven bushes produced 464 pounds of delicious blueberries.

But the lemon tree project didn't begin until 2004. It was 1974 when Alice Whitt saw an ad in the newspaper for three citrus trees — one orange, one lemon, and one lime — all for \$2.98. Alice sent for the trees. When they arrived, they were just little twigs, and Don said, “These things will never grow.” But the Whitts planted them in separate little pots and waited to see what would happen. The orange and lime trees soon died, but the lemon tree began to grow. As it grew, they planted it in larger pots. When it got too big for the pots, they put it in a 30-gallon can on a plant roller so they could roll it in and out of the garage during good and bad weather. The lemon tree just kept on growing. In 1978 the tree began to produce a few lemons, and the Whitts would give them away.

God continued to bless the lemon tree until it grew so large the Whitts found it

increasingly difficult to roll it in and out of the garage. So, they decided to plant the tree outdoors and dedicate it to the “Investment Plan.” In 2003 during a storm, a couple of the Whitts' shade trees were blown down. One of those resulting holes became the home for the newly planted lemon tree. Since then, Don has covered the tree in the winter and used a little heater that turns on when the temperature dips down below freezing. The lemons are large and very juicy, and the Whitts now sell them for “missions.” Since the project began, they have picked more than 1,720 lemons.

Don says, “The lemon

tree reminds me of Aaron's rod that budded with almonds.” The rod only budded because of God's blessing, and that's the only explanation he has for an abundant crop of lemons in north Alabama. Watching the lemon tree grow is a real blessing and, he believes, is one of the greatest benefits a farmer can enjoy — seeing God's hand at work with the Earth. His advice is that if you want to take God as your partner in an investment project, be prepared for surprises. You can never underestimate God's blessings when you partner with Him.

—BY SANDRA PRICE

Mecurious — Blessed Happiness

“Weekends are boring with nothing to do,” is the complaint of many young people. This is particularly true where church membership is low or demographics have shifted to where there are just a few teenagers. To alleviate this problem, Bass Memorial Academy's faculty and staff invites prospective students to consider enrolling next year at Bass where there is renewed interest in spiritual things. There will be two typical weeks of prayer conducted by visiting ministers and two more led by students. Every weekend bus loads of students will spend Sabbath afternoons

in outreach. The theme will be Mecurious — Blessed Happiness.



An example of a pastor-led week of prayer was conducted recently by Scott Moore, director of the Institute of Lay Evangelism in Lady Lake, Fla. He graduated from Bass in 1991. During each morning devotional, he used sacrifices and offerings conducted in the earthly Sanctuary to illustrate his point.

—BY CLIFTON KELLER

Two Conferences Minister to Nashville Women

"I assure you when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters you were doing it to me" Matthew 25:40 (NLT).

From the first time God walked in the Garden of Eden to when Jesus traveled the dusty roads of Palestine, He called His disciples to "walk" wherever



Karen Hamberger (left), God in Shoes coordinator, and Gail McKenzie, Kentucky-Tennessee women's ministries director

After a delicious luncheon prepared by Linda Evens and her gifted cooks, the volunteers boarded buses and cars donated by Madison Academy, and were

taken to 11 different sites. Included were domestic violence shelters, recovery homes, the 403 Center (the local Adventist Community Service Center), and two assisted-living facilities.

A spa experience was available for every woman, along with haircuts, manicures, pedicures, and crafts for the children. Many women who have only experienced pain and abuse were overwhelmed with the caring, gentle touch of a

hand massage and warm neck wrap.

Because of the recent interest in making Nashville a Blue Zone, the opportunity to sample vegetarian food and talk about whole living was added. Coordinated by Jessica Brito and women from the Nashville First Church, this took many hours of preparation. More than 200 care bags filled with personal

hygiene items were distributed, as well as 50 bags for children.

Volunteers included many women from other faith walks who joined the ranks by invitation of neighbors, friends, and coworkers. Two academy girls and two fifth graders with their mothers also participated.

The Aflac representative for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference heard about the event and got so excited that she even brought a friend. Though moving to Michigan, she has made it clear she will be back next year.

Shannon Shreeve asked her employer, Amerigroup Insurance Company, for a donation and received

\$1,500 for care items and spa supplies. The company even told all women employees that if they participated they could count it as their community service day. They got paid to come!



A client gets a foot and leg massage from one of the volunteers.

This very special ministry to those who have been wounded, abused, and sometimes forgotten or ignored will be felt throughout eternity. These women cannot wait to hear the rest of the stories when God walks!

—BY GAIL MCKENZIE

Pam Brito cuts and styles a client's hair.

there was pain, suffering, weakness, and heartache. As a theme, Matthew 25:40 has challenged women from the Kentucky-Tennessee and South Central conferences to walk into the lives of women on the street, in shelters, and in community homes.

This year on March 14, under the direction of Karen Hamberger, 85 women joined to make "God in Shoes Nashville" a reality.



This was truly a spa experience for most of the women served.

Pewee Valley Supports Mission in Kenya



Douglas Na'a (left), pastor; Bill Humeniuk; Velma Secrist; Bonnie Riebel; Lori Thomas; Meliana Na'a (kneeling with Gizmo); John Kupka; Bonnie Kupka; Bob Kupka; Ronnie Harris (kneeling); Debbie Harris; and Conrad Pickard stand in front of boxes packed and ready for shipment.

The Sojourner Sabbath School Class at the Pewee Valley Church, with the pastor and several other members, met at the home of Bill and Becky Humeniuk on Sunday, April 18, 2010, to pack, seal, weigh, and label more than two and a half tons of

items to be sent to Kenya. The goods are part of the Humeniuk's Advent Hope Ministries.

Items included clothing, shoes, medical supplies, kitchen/eating utensils, bedding, towels, building and gardening equipment, and vegetable

seeds. These items are to be used for construction of an orphanage, operation of the existing medical clinic, teaching the people how to grow their own food, and to clothe and care for the orphans and workers.

Women's ministries representatives sewed more than 100 girls' dresses. A large number of Spirit of Prophecy books are also being purchased because the people of Kenya have little or no access to these writings. It was

a wonderful day of work and fellowship and, as Bill Humeniuk would say, "All to the glory of God." More information about the ministry is located on the website, www.biblesforafrica.org.

—BY BONNIE KUPKA



Women who helped sew dresses for African children and some of their handiwork: Bonnie Kupka (left), Jeanette Rau, and Naomi Oaks. Others who sewed were Frances Moss and Jackie Dunlop.

Community Services Changes Lives

Winifred Blanding, a native of Detroit, Mich., came to Pulaski, Tenn., to make a new start in life. "I had nothing when I came," she says. "Then my sister told me about the Seventh-day Adventist Community Services Center in town."

At the center, Blanding met Madge Brown, one of the volunteers who helped her find some household items. James Brown, another volunteer, delivered some furniture to Blanding's apartment and discovered that she

was sleeping on the floor.

At home that night, the Browns decided to give Blanding a spare twin bed they had in their home, as well as sheets and a bedspread.

Delighted to receive

these things the next day, Blanding told the Browns, "You are going to be my parents." That was the beginning of a friendship that prompted James Brown one day to ask his wife, "Why don't we invite that girl we gave our bed to to come with us to the Amazing Facts meetings at the high school to hear Evangelist Jason Sliger?"

Blanding had already received the flyer in the mail, and was more than eager to go with the Browns. She never missed a night and

was baptized. "I love my new church family," Blanding told the congregation. Blanding now serves as a volunteer at the center, helping others find a new beginning.

The present director of the center, Peggy Hopper, reports that, in addition to those helped at the center, "We often refer clients to other agencies who can better assist them."

The work at the Community Services Center is not just about doing things and giving things away — it is about sharing hope, joy, and a future with precious souls for whom Jesus died.

—BY LLOYD SCHOMBURG



James Brown (left), Winifred Blanding, and Madge Brown volunteer at Pulaski Community Services Center.

South Atlantic Conference Praises God for 65 Years of Blessings

The South Atlantic Conference was organized in December 1945, and began operating January 1, 1946. The territory the Conference covered included the states of Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

At the time of its organization, the Conference membership was more than 3,500, with 32 churches and companies. South Atlantic personnel in 1946 included 26 pastors, 28 church teachers, and 31 literature evangelists. As a result of the first year's operation, there were 526 baptisms, and the tithe for that first year was \$141,371.69.

Harold D. Singleton was the first president of South Atlantic, serving from December 1945 to 1954. His astute administrative ability provided a strong and solid beginning of a successive line of dedicated leaders who led the Conference to accelerated heights of success. One of Singleton's many talents was the intuitive insight and ability to perceive outstanding potential in young ministers; and, as a result of their successful efforts, the Conference grew rapidly.

In 1952, 40 acres were purchased for \$10,000 for a campground in Hawthorne, Fla.

Later in that same year, an additional 20 acres were purchased as well.

In 1954, Singleton accepted a call to become the president of Northeastern Conference. His successor was John H. Wagner.

His tenure of leadership was also characterized by phenomenal success. The Conference continued the strong evangelistic thrust with evangelists such as E. E. Cleveland, E. C. Ward, W. M. Starks, C. B. Rock, H. L. Cleveland, F. S. Hill Sr., L. E. Daniels, J. M. Phipps, H. M. Barber, D. L. Crowder, and J. P. Winston.

In 1957, Wagner inspired a tremendous venture of erecting a new conference office building. An aggressive church building

program was launched during Wagner's administration as well.

In July 1962, Wagner became ill and passed away at Riverside Hospital. The constituents looked to Warren S. Banfield as president to continue leading the Conference to even greater heights.

Banfield's administration resulted in many of the major church building programs being initiated and completed. Some of the churches constructed and purchased included Atlanta-Berean, Atlanta-Boulevard, Charlotte-Berean, Columbus, Ft. Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Miami-Bethany, Miami-Northside, and Tampa.

In April 1971, a change in administration came about when Banfield was elected associate secretary of the Southern Union, and

Robert L. Woodfork became the president of the Conference. The Conference was already in high gear and was accelerating in progress, so it was not too difficult for the new administration to keep the momentum going.

New incentives to inspire evangelistic exploits were enacted. As a result of the combined efforts of pastors and laymen, between 1970 and 1980, 15,584 were added to the Conference membership.

When the membership reached 20,423 in 1980, South Atlantic was then the largest conference in the Southern Union.

Because of the rapid growth in membership and the large increase in the number of churches, many of the pastors were responsible for as many as five to seven churches. The Conference launched a program of reorganization and division of church districts, thereby reducing the number of



Vanard J. Mendingball, Conference president



William L. Winston, Conference executive secretary



Larry E. Johnson, Conference treasurer



Evangelism is the life blood of the Church and is the focus in South Atlantic.



The South Atlantic presidents: Harold Singleton (seated, left), Vanard Mendinghall, Ralph Peay, John Wagner (inset), Warren Banfield (standing, left), Robert Woodfork, and Ralph Hairston.

churches assigned to pastors in order to maximize pastoral ministry, and to improve the efficiency of church growth and church administration.

In May of 1979, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the construction of a new Conference office building, which was completed in July 1980.

Thirty-five years after the Conference's organization, the membership grew to almost 21,000, with 128 churches and companies. Serving the membership were 63 pastors, 69 church teachers, 43 literature evangelists, and two full-time Bible instructors.

The greatest percentage of increase was in the faithful giving of the membership. In 1980, tithe had increased to close to \$4,000,000.

With such tremendous growth in the Conference and a large territory to cover, it became necessary to divide the Conference.

lina and the majority of the counties in north Georgia.

Southeastern Conference would cover the state of Florida and a few counties in south Georgia.

In 1981, Woodfork accepted a call to the General Conference, and Ralph B. Hairston became president of the reorganized South Atlantic. For three years after the division of the Conference, the two conferences continued to share the Hawthorne property for Camp Meeting, until 1984, when South Atlantic purchased 75 acres in Orangeburg, S.C., to hold its own Camp Meeting.

Evangelism was the key word of Hairston's administration. It was under his leadership that the campground was purchased in Orangeburg, and

the dream for a developed facility was born.

Hairston served South Atlantic with distinction until 1988, when Ralph P. Peay became the Conference president. Through many challenges, the Conference continued to prosper. The growth among the Hispanic and Haitian communities blossomed during Peay's administration.

In 1997, Vanard Mendinghall was chosen to lead the Conference, and is presently serving as president.

With continued emphasis on evangelism, and a participatory leadership style, Mendinghall placed the Conference on a solid financial foundation while leading in the development of the Orangeburg campground. Under his administration, much has been accomplished, including the completion of a state-of-the-art convention center which seats 4,500, and a youth center complete with a gymnasium.

From 1997 to present, more than 13,000 have been added to the Conference's membership. Also during

this time period, 38 new pastoral interns have been mentored, along with the addition of 12 senior pastors.

During 2009, the "Year of Evangelism," the Conference witnessed its largest increase through baptisms with 2,076 baptisms.

Today, South Atlantic has grown to more than 40,000 members, 168 churches, 19 schools, 95 pastors, and 72 teachers. The faithful giving of the membership has translated into \$21,500,000 for annual tithe.

God has truly blessed this Conference with dedicated pastors, teachers, and committed members who have embraced the Conference's mission. The South Atlantic Conference empowers and encourages its members to invite people to know Jesus, and to experience the joy of salvation.

—BY ROBERT L. WOODFORK,
DAVID M. JONES, AND
JAMES K. LAMB



South Atlantic pastors

“Healthy Church Challenge” Happens in the Delta

In Mississippi, arguably the most challenging state in the nation health-wise, the Shiloh Church, nestled in Greenwood, Miss., took a bold step in faith and launched a city-wide “Healthy Church Challenge.” God blessed Shiloh to be the recipient of grant funds from the Mississippi Health Department for the project.

Troy Brand, pastor, and his members, advertised for many area churches to form teams to determine the healthiest church during a set five-month period. The kickoff was a health fair and wellness conference, held April 5, 2010, at the Leflore Civic Center

in Greenwood, using the *HER (Health Education Resources) Health Expo* screening materials. Seven teams registered and “weighed in” that night, going through all the screening stations for their baseline. Upon completion, they received a health-age computer printout and the *Amazing Facts* lesson study #13 (God’s Free Health Plan). Each lesson study had a tracking code written on the back for follow-up. One team member was so excited about the lessons, she requested 17 copies to take back to her church. Next, all team members move into the next room for the wellness



Troy Brand, pastor, is interviewed by local TV personnel about the Healthy Church Challenge.



Paula Eakins delivers a presentation to all team members on how to lower high blood pressure.



Glucose screening and counseling was conducted.



A team member is tested for stamina on the stepping box.

conference entitled “The Pressure’s On,” how to lower high blood pressure without drugs, presented by Curtis and Paula Eakins, South Central health directors. All participants

received conference workbooks as well.

During the five-month period, Shiloh members will be using the *Abundant Living* DVD telecast series aired on 3ABN for

the education. They are looking forward to discovering not only the winner of the Healthy Church Challenge, but, more importantly, how the Holy Spirit will move upon the

team members in revealing new biblical truths while utilizing the right arm of the Gospel.

—BY CURTIS EAKINS

God Turns Tragedy into Blessings

Todd Terrell Brown, a baptized member of the New Life Church in Huntsville, Ala., was senselessly and tragically shot and killed on Friday, February 5, 2010, while attending Discovery Middle School in Madison, Ala. He was 14 years old.

This is the sort of incident that clearly reminds us of the times in which we live, but which is also always profoundly depressing. Faith is inevitably tested, and particularly that of the bereaved family. However, in this case a gracious gesture of Christian benevolence on the part of the family of Todd Brown, many of whom were also members of First Church in Huntsville, resulted in Todd’s kidneys being donated to two different local Seventh-day Adventist ministers, James Caldwell, an elder at First Church, and James Doggette, D.Min., Madison Mission Church senior pastor, Madison, Ala.

Todd was the third of Towanda Moore’s four sons. His father was Michael Todd Brown. He most often attended First Church with his grandmother, Lucille Hurst, and aunt, Melinda Allen.

The last day that Todd left for school, he told his mother that he would attend Madison Mission Church, her favorite, with her the next day.

However at 2:40 p.m., she received the fateful call from the police, informing her of the shooting and that her son had been taken to Huntsville Hospital.

Once it was clear that Todd had no brain activity and that he would not recover, the doctors approached Moore regarding the possibility of Todd’s organs being used to help someone else. Moore states that then “a still small voice seemed to whisper in my ear, [say] yes.”

The fact that the family was aware of two local ministers who were both in need of kidney transplants was a major coincidence to say the least. The fact that both of these ministers were matches for Todd’s kidneys, when they couldn’t even find perfect matches in their respective families, was nothing short of miraculous.

The opportunity to in effect share her son to extend the lives of others, particularly to men who touch so many other lives,

brought back to Todd’s mother the principle of Genesis 50:20 — in another son’s words, “what the devil meant for evil, God meant for good.”

Additionally, the outpouring of support from both the community and the children at Todd’s school, as well as the apparent success of an initiative started by Todd’s godmother, Marian Guidry, called “Talk for Todd,” in which local school children are encouraged to speak up and let teachers and other authority figures know if they know of school mates who may have weapons or may be a threat to use weapons, have all helped

tremendously. This initiative may well have contributed to averting two other local school incidents soon after Todd’s tragedy and reinforce the knowledge of God’s working.

In questioning God, Todd’s mother said that she told God, “You know how much I loved him.” She says that God’s response to her was, “Yes, but I loved him more.” Moore then simply said, “What else could I say after that?”

On Monday, April 12, 2010, many gathered at Madison’s City Hall, Madison, Ala., to pay tribute to a life. The month of April has officially been declared “Donate Life Month.” As a result of Todd’s family’s generosity, these two men were chosen, James Doggette, D.Min., and James Caldwell, who were among the 3,000 people on the Alabama organ donation list waiting to receive a transplant. After years of praying and waiting, God provided. God turned the tragedy of Todd Brown into blessings for Caldwell and Doggette, and Todd’s family.

—BY STEPHEN FOSTER AND MICHAEL HARPE



Todd Brown

McCalls Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage

Some of us may only read about it. Some could only hope for it. However, Daryl and Roselyn McCall experienced it — their 50th wedding anniversary celebration.

With the seed of friendship already planted in their hearts, the buds of love bloomed into matrimony on April 17, 1960, on the twin islands of Trinidad and Tobago.

Fifty years later, their love is still holding strong, a love that has matured into a beautiful fragrant example and has influenced many. What a tribute this is to the enduring principle of love in the institution of marriage.

The memorable celebration was hosted at Mt. Zion Church in Kissimmee, Fla. Surrounded by children, grandchildren, brother and sister-in-law, other members of the family, church members, and friends, the couple beamed their welcome to one and all.



Daryl and Roselyn McCall celebrated 50 years of marriage. They are active members of the Mt. Zion Church in Kissimmee, Fla.

Maxwell Berkel, Mt. Zion Church pastor, gave the opening remarks. In addition to the expected congratulations, Berkel expressed his gratitude to the couple for their ministry at Mt. Zion.

Even though they are retired, the McCalls have not retreated from active church service.

Daryl is the leader of

a weekly, vibrant nursing home ministry. They officiate in the deaconry, volunteer in the community services food distribution program, take part in cell group meetings, and are in regular attendance at the Elite Club Wednesday afternoon prayer sessions.

Expressions of love and appreciation came from their daughter and son-in-

law, Delores and Dennis Wilson, coordinators of the event.

Warm sentiments flowed from their niece, Denise, and from Dezrene Morgan, president of the Elite Club. When asked what was one thing that contributed to the long-lasting marriage, Daryl stated, "Marriage has its ups and downs, so let's think of it as an old car. If you have an old car that is overheating, and you keep driving it without fixing the problem, it would eventually destroy the car. You must stop along the way, allow the engine to cool, and fix the problem. In the same way, if in the marriage the two persons have an argument, one must give in or compromise for the sake of peace. Arguing brings separation. Good communication is the way to peace, love, and a long-lasting marriage."

—BY EDNA FRANCOIS

Going Green More Than Fad for Some

Everywhere, environmentalists are encouraging everyone to "Go Green," but several Southeastern Pathfinders in District 3 are going "green" too — Pathfinder green.

Recently, Tyrone Cobb, Southeastern Pathfinders Federation vice president, and Walter Reddick, District 3 area coordinator, awarded seven leadership awards to candidates who have been

diligently working for the past year on their leadership course of study, from Master Guide to Pathfinder Instructor Award.

Maureen Peterkin and Sandra French-Rose from Progress Village Church Pathfinders Club, were invested as Master Guides. Invested as Pathfinder Leadership awardees were Beverly James from the Thonotosassa Pathfinders Club, Clifford Wallace from

Ewing Scorpions Pathfinders Club, Genevieve Royes and Christine Antoine from Lehigh Acres Royal Knights Pathfinders Club, and Camille Watkins from Westside Lions Pathfinders Club. The only person invested as Pathfinder Instructor was Jackie Mentor from Thonotosassa Pathfinders Club.

The ceremony was held at Westside Church in Tampa, Fla. Dolphy Cross,

Westside Church pastor, offered a special prayer of dedication to the newly invested Master Guides, Pathfinder Leadership awardees, and Pathfinder Instructor. Candidates were encouraged to continue serving the youth and be strong, consistent leaders. Oftentimes, some leaders wear green to show authority, but these use 'green' to glorify God and serve the youth. Cobb



Seven Pathfinders from District 3 in Southeastern, were recognized during a Pathfinder investiture service. They are Maureen Peterkin (left); Beverly James; Sandra French-Rose; Christine Anotine; Walter Reddick, Southeastern Pathfinder Federation area coordinator; Jacquelyn Mentor; Camille Watkins; Geneive Royes; and Clifford Wallace.

and Reddick charged the seven candidates to stay strong, move on to the

next level, and continue serving the youth. If you touch one youth by serv-

ing diligently, then living would not be in vain. Going 'green' takes a lot of

time and dedication, and District 3 is preparing to save any youth they can.

Ewing Memorial Partners with Community to Shape Future

What originated as an Adventist Youth Society concert at Webster Park in Lakeland, Fla., blossomed into a community event that ministered to a whole neighborhood.

Ewing Memorial Church, under the leadership of Georges Job Fleurimond, pastor — and in conjunction with Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church, The Freedom Center, various local organizations, clubs, and churches — teamed up with the Mid Florida Center to present “Take the Lead” on April 10, 2010.

The event was spearheaded by Ewing Memorial Church in Lakeland, Fla., in cooperation with the Mid Florida Center.

The Center’s director and Ewing Church mem-

ber Sherlene Berkel leads this non-profit community behavioral health organization that seeks to promote healthy families and communities through a vast array of substance abuse and mental health services for Polk, Highlands, and Hardee counties.

The event took place at Webster Park, adjacent to Ewing Church. Since the start of this outreach ministry, 38 individuals have been tested for AIDS/HIV, and many more have

received free health screenings for high blood pressure, diabetes, and healthy living lifestyle changes, provided by the Ewing health and temperance department.

The goal of this ministry is to offer a wholeistic service by meeting the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of the community.

Activities for the day included a bounce house, which was donated by a local company, as well as a basketball tournament, which was hosted by the Freedom Center and the Mid Florida Center.

During the event, members of Ewing, along with members from local area churches, provided a live gospel concert that included poetry; sign-language performances; and

selections by the Ewing Memorial Community Choir, led by Sean Wilson.

As the “Take the Lead” event concluded, the community took a pledge that this event would be held annually.

When asked about this joint effort, Fleurimond responded, “Utilizing the resources at our disposal, we want to win souls to the Kingdom by setting our communities free with both knowledge and power, making a difference and an impact... one life at a time. My prayer is that we will be blessed with more resources to reach past the one person, and past the community, and to ultimately reach the whole city.”

Among the list of sponsors were Lowe’s, The Boys & Girls Club, Publix, local area churches, and the Mid Florida Center.

—BY CLIFFORD WALLACE



Sherlene Berkel, director of the Mid Florida Center, and Georges Job Fleurimond, Ewing Memorial Church pastor, helped coordinate the “Take the Lead” event on April 10, 2010.



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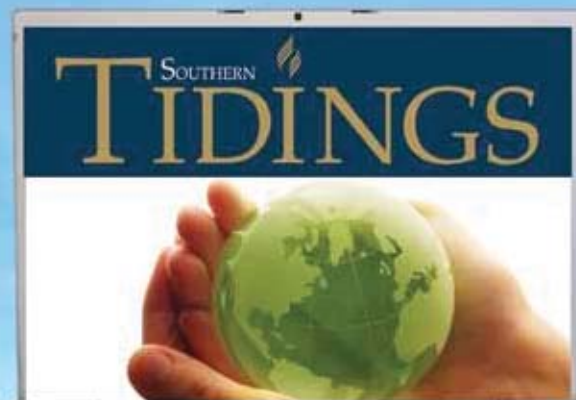
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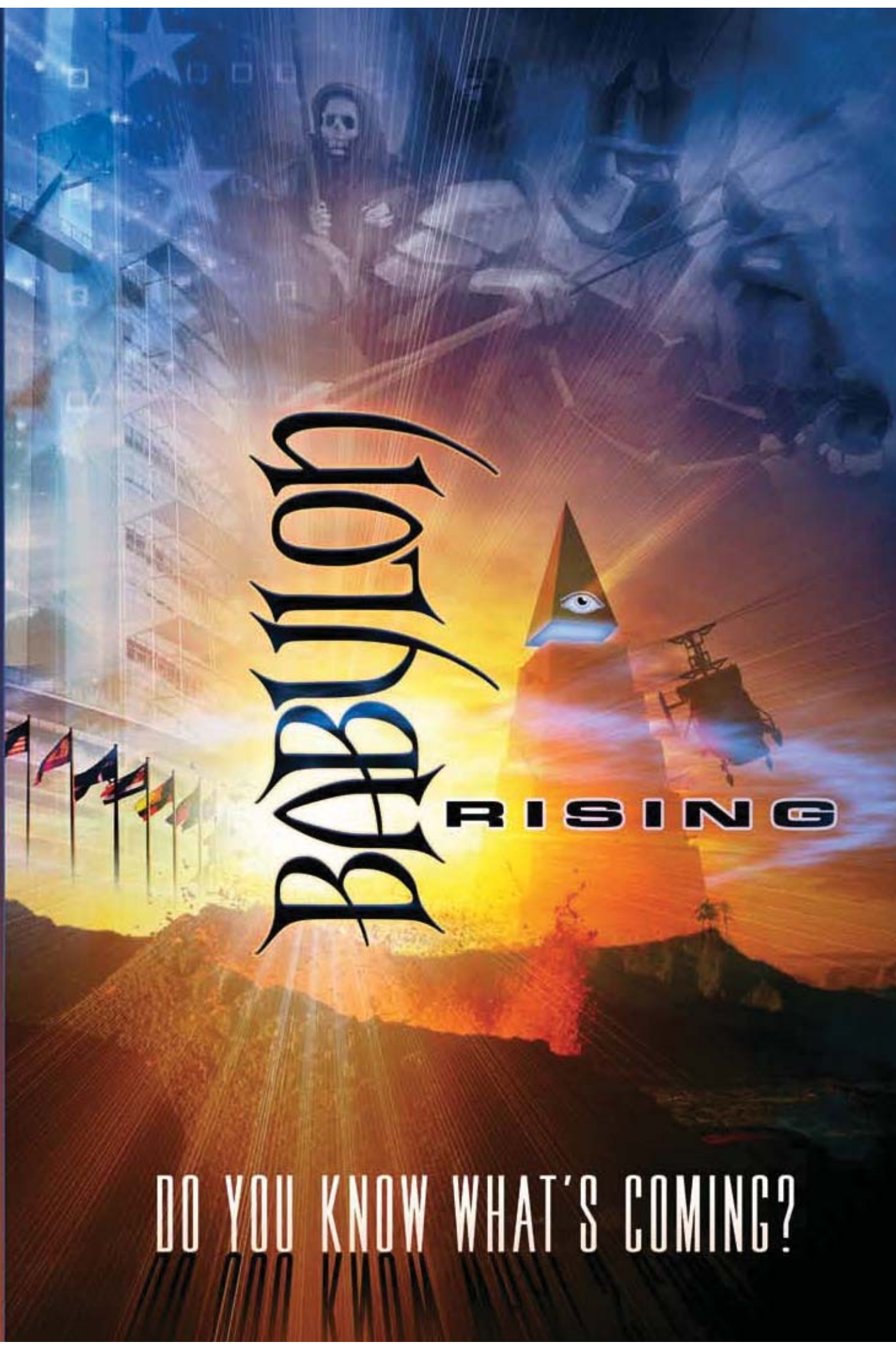
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BUILDERS PERSONAL HOME! Newly built country home on 5 acres with barn, only 15 minutes to SAU! 3600 square feet with upscale furnishings. A must see! \$469,000. See www.wendydixonhomes.com. Wendy Dixon Crye-

Leike Realtors, 423-883-0654 or 423-238-5440. [6]

MOUNTAIN HOME on over 1 acre with wooded privacy fence and 2560 square feet. 4 bed/4 bath/3 car garage. Full unfinished basement and full unfinished third floor. Only 2.7 miles to SAU. \$269,000. See www.wendydixonhomes.com. Wendy Dixon Crye-Leike Realtors, 423-883-0654 or 423-238-5440. [6]

APISON, TN – near SAU. Two homes on 5 acres for \$339,000, plus a barn and a pond. Both homes are a 3/2. One of them is a log cabin. Both built in 2002. See www.wendydixonhomes.com. Wendy Dixon Crye-Leike Realtors, 423-883-0654 or 423-238-5440. [6]

CLEVELAND, TN – 4 Bedroom, 3 full bath, 2076 square foot renovated home, w/new tile flooring/fixtures/paint, etc. Convenient to shopping and I-75. Priced to sell. Realty Specialists 423-238-7325. www.4realtyspecialists.com. Tammy Thayer 423-645-9621. MLS #1144836. [6]

8 MILES FROM SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY – Over 3,000 square feet, 5 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 2006 home with lots of extras including completed downstairs with kitchen, full bath, office, bedroom, living room & separate entrance. Realty Specialists 423-238-7325. www.4realtyspecialists.com. Tammy Thayer @ 423-645-9621. MLS #1119470. [6]

SIDEWALK ACCESS TO COLLEGEDALE GREENWAY – 0.25 miles from SAU. Lovely 6 year old home kept like new! 2 story great room, 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, tile floors, custom cabinets, open floor plan, loads of windows! Realty Specialists 423-238-7325. www.4realtyspecialists.com. Tammy Thayer @ 423-645-9621. MLS #1142870. [6]

COLLEGEDALE, TN – 2000, 3 bed, 2 bath well maintained home. Close to SAU, mall & I-75. Appliances to stay with home: refrigerator, dishwasher, washer, dryer, electric range. Move in ready. \$119,900. Realty Specialists 423-238-7325. www.4realtyspecialists.com. Tammy Thayer 423-645-9621. MLS #1142050. [6]

COLLEGEDALE-OOLTEWAH, TN COMMERCIAL PROPERTY (For Sale) – Wolftever Creek has beautiful hardwood floors. New kitchen Appliances & floor. New bathroom. Retextured walls & crown/picture molding. New parking & landscaping. Security System. Many upgrades. Realty Specialists 423-238-7325. www.4realtyspecialists.com. Holly Bushong 423-619-1829. MLS#11220. [6]

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1 MILE FROM HIGHLAND ACADEMY – 4000 square foot home, beautiful setting, 1 mile from SDA church. 3.5 bath, 5 bedrooms, gas heat, 2.5 acres, brick, 2+ car garage, granite counters, custom made, hardwood floors. Call 423-505-2500. See it & fall in love with it. [6]

3 BEDROOM HOME IN RURAL SUBDIVISION outside Portland, TN near Highland Academy. 2 full baths, 1312 square feet, all electric. Paved drive, several flowering and fruit trees. 12x16 foot shed, 0.90 acres that is 3/4 fenced. \$134,900. Phone: 615-323-8623. [6]

COUNTRY LIVING on Lookout Mountain Ga. Rooms to rent in private home for senior citizens who desire family atmosphere and home style cooking. Transportation also available if interested. Lookout Mountain church close by and 45 minutes from SAU. 423-488-4530 or sjmej5@tvn.net. [6, 7]

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BRYANT, AL – 1620 square foot, 2 bed, 2 bath rancher, western cedar siding on 24 acres. 40'x72' tri-level shed, 36' equipment shed, small

spring-fed pond. Also, 36 acres, 15 acres mostly level field, remainder mature woods. Year-round creek. Both have utilities, paved road frontage, -4 miles to SDA church and k-9 academy. 30 miles to Chattanooga. Call 256-597-2350. [6]

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SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Ph.D. prepared **biologists** for fall, 2010. Looking for two talented, committed SDA creationists who are able to inspire students in classroom and in research. Teaching assignments are negotiable in a 5-person department. Contact Dr. Suzanne Phillips, Chair, Biology, SWAU, Keene, TX. 817-202-6274 or suzannephillips@swau.edu. [6]

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS is seeking a **Director of Archives and Statistics** for its headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. Candidate must have proven experience in statistical analysis, records management, resource and research techniques and historical preservation applications. Previous denominational archival or statistical experience required. Graduate degree in statistical methods, information science or religion required, doctorate preferred. Candidate must be a member in good standing with the Adventist church. Please submit resumes to Lori Yingling at YinglingL@gc.adventist.org. [6]

HOPE CHANNEL, located at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists headquarters, has a **marketing position** available for a candidate with proven experience in directing marketing and sales either in the church or the business world. Demonstrated written and verbal communication skills, experience with design and advertising, and sales experience required. Candidate must be a member in good standing with the Adventist Church. Minimal travel required. Please submit resumes to Gary Gibbs at garyg@hopetv.org. [6]

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are bringing more people into the area. For our information packet, call 570-278-1727. [6, 7]

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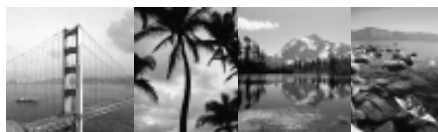
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MISCELLANEOUS

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WILDWOOD WEIGHT MANAGEMENT SEMINAR: Intensive 14-day seminar focusing on education, motivation, planning, and commitment. July 18 - August 1, 2010. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$499 (Includes room and vegan meals). Contact: Lew Keith 931-724-6706 or Sarah 931-724-5603. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. Email: lykeith@gmail.com. [6]

WILDWOOD COUNTRY LIVING SEMINAR: Intensive 7-day seminar focusing on practical living skills. July 4-11, 2010. Morning and evening devotionals include: Prophetic Pictures of Laodicea, Remnant Church, Language of Heaven, Babylon, Long Wait, Coming Crisis, Relating to Leadership, Church Militant, Midnight Cry, and Oct. 22, 1844. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$249 (Includes room and vegan meals). Contact: Lew Keith 931-724-6706 or Sarah 931-724-5603. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. Email: lykeith@gmail.com. [6]

WILDWOOD 10 TALENTS COOKING SEMINAR: Intensive 14-day seminar focusing on vegan food preparation, storage and preservation, nutritional insights, meal planning, and more. August 8-22, 2010. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$499 per person (Includes room, vegan meals). Contact: Lew Keith 931-724-6706 or Sarah 931-724-5603. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. Email: lykeith@gmail.com. [6]

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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. [6, 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. Info: info@kahilipark.org or 808-742-9921. [6]

Events Calendar

Carolina

Family Camp – July 14-18. NPR.

ShareHim Boot Camp – July 23-25.

Nosoca Pines Ranch Adult SS Workshop – July 30-Aug. 1. NPR.

Master Guide Camp Out – July 30-Aug. 1. NPR.

Florida

Florida Calendar

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>, or 407-703-3050.

North Florida Oakwood University Alumni Chapter – Details: <http://www.oakwoodalumni.org>, 888-719-7776, or 904-616-1896.

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

Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

June 26. Tallahassee.
June 27. Perry, Cross City, Ocala, Silver Springs Shores, Belleview, Inverness.
July 10. West Palm Beach.
July 11. Midport Road, Ft. Pierce, Cocoa, Titusville. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, Palm Bay.)
July 17. Jacksonville Southpoint.
July 18. Jacksonville First, Orange Cove, St. Augustine, Palatka, Palm Coast, New Smyrna Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)
July 24. St. Petersburg.
July 25. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City.

Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars

July 24. Lauderhill.
July 31. Eliathah in Tamarac.
Go Fish for Kids – Learn ways to witness to friends and neighbors.

Kids In Discipleship seminar for parents. Details: 407-644-5000 x136.

Spanish-language Marriage Retreat – Aug. 27-29. Daytona Beach Hotel Plaza and Resort. Details: 407-644-5000 x138.

Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online – www.gccsda.com

ShareHim Meetings – June 4-15. Atlanta area.

Evangelistic Meetings with Warren Couple – June 7-12. Vidalia, GA.

Prayer Ministries Day – June 12. Cookeville, TN.

Searching for Hope – June 16-19. Georgia World Congress Center, Atlanta, GA.

Adult Ministries Training Day – June 21. Atlanta, GA.

Equally Yoked – June 23-July 2. Atlanta, GA.

Andrew Ishee, Gospel Pianist – June 26. Atlanta Metropolitan Church at 11 a.m. Details: 404-289-1748.

Health Rallies
July 10. Madison, GA.
July 31. Dalton, GA.

Women's Ministries Leadership Training – July 30-Aug. 1. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

Gulf States

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

Pathfinder Council – June 6. Camp Alamisco.

Executive Committee – June 8. Montgomery.

Family Ministries Mini Couple's Retreat – June 12. Cody Road Church, Mobile, AL.

Teen Mission Outreach Trip – July 10-26.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board
July 20. Sept. 28. Nov. 30.

Conference Executive Committee
July 20. Sept. 28. Nov. 30.

Southern Adventist University

PreviewSouthern – June 10, 11.
Khirbet Qeiyafa Archaeology Excavation in Israel – June 16-July 27.

Campus Visits for GC Session Guests – June 24-July 2.

Recharge Pastors Retreat – July 11-23.

Announcements

Follow the BIBLE Schedule

www.followthebiblesda.org

June 11 – Florida Hospital, Orlando, 11 a.m.

June 12 – DeLand, FL, Church, 11 a.m.

June 12 – Orlando Filipino Church, Apopka, FL, 5 p.m.

June 13 – Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN/ All day event.

June 16 – Huntsville, AL, Central Church/ Prayer Meeting.

June 17 – Camp Alamisco, Dadeville, AL/ Evening program.

June 19 – Madison, TN, Campus Church, 11 a.m.

June 20 – Arden, NC, Church, 2 p.m.

June 21 – Stone Mountain Park, Stone Mountain, GA, 6:30 p.m.

Southern Union Prayer

Ministries met in March to establish and implement goals with the conferences. These are the goals: Southern Union churches to become houses of prayer for all people; Unity through communication and prayer partnering among all churches; Encourage more prayer rallies, prayer days, weeks of prayer, in every church; Plan and implement children's prayer conference; Encourage families to establish family altars; and Encourage families to establish time and place for personal prayer.

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, secy./treasurer, 615-654-3311.

Maranatha Golf 4 Hope – June 21, 22. 2-day pre-General Conference Golf event is a South Atlantic Conference Haiti Mission project. Golfers and non-golfers are invited to attend. Details: www.maranthagolf4hope.golfreg.com.

IMPACT Atlanta [iATL] – June 23-July 3. Young Adult Leadership and Discipleship Experience, at Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Registration required @ www.impactatlanta.info.

Adventist Race for Health 5/10K – June 27. Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta, GA. Details: www.AdventistRaceForHealth.org. Walkers enjoy the InStep trail on June 25, and June 27-July 1 at 7 a.m., at the fountains in Centennial Olympic Park.

WWU Alumni Event – June 27. Join fellow Walla Walla University alumni for an Atlanta Braves baseball game at 1:35 p.m., when they play the Detroit Tigers at Turner Field. Limited seats are available. Register online at alumni.wallawalla.edu or call the alumni department at 800-377-2586.

South Atlantic Women's Ministries "Hearts Across the Waters" – July 1. A formal Gala at Georgia Aquarium. Details: Sylvia Wilson, 336-240-7996 or Janice Carter, 678-698-2830.

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.

South Central Conference Women's Retreat 2010/ "At Jesus' Feet" – Oct. 29-31. Park Vista Resort Hotel, Gatlinburg, TN. Details: 800-732-7587 or www.plusline.org.

	Sunset						
	June 4	June 11	June 18	June 25	July 2	July 9	
Atlanta, GA	8:46	8:49	8:51	8:52	8:52	8:51	
Charleston, SC	8:25	8:28	8:31	8:32	8:32	8:30	
Charlotte, NC	8:35	8:38	8:41	8:42	8:42	8:40	
Collegedale, TN	8:52	8:55	8:57	8:59	8:59	8:57	
Huntsville, AL	7:57	8:00	8:02	8:03	8:03	8:02	
Jackson, MS	8:05	8:08	8:10	8:12	8:11	8:10	
Louisville, KY	9:03	9:07	9:09	9:10	9:10	9:08	
Memphis, TN	8:11	8:15	8:17	8:18	8:18	8:16	
Miami, FL	8:10	8:13	8:15	8:16	8:16	8:15	
Montgomery, AL	7:50	7:53	7:55	7:56	7:56	7:55	
Nashville, TN	8:01	8:05	8:07	8:08	8:08	8:06	
Orlando, FL	8:21	8:24	8:26	8:27	8:27	8:26	
Wilmington, NC	8:21	8:24	8:26	8:27	8:27	8:26	

[stroke]

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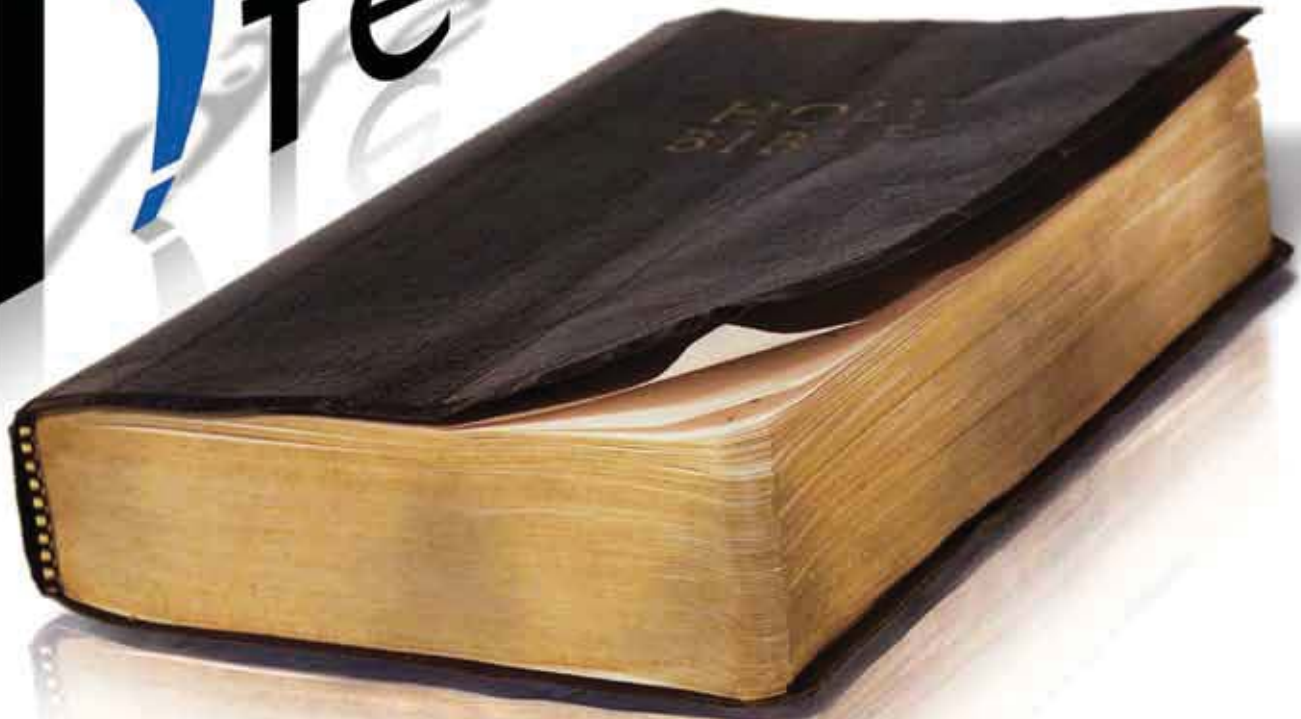


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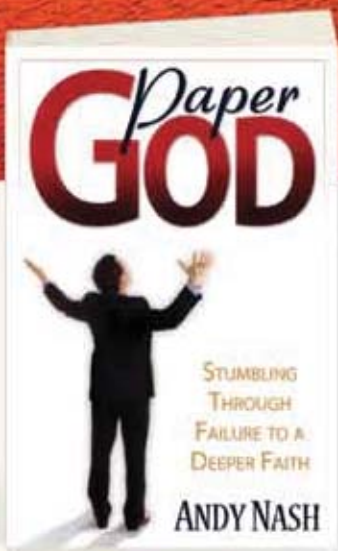
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Desmond Doss is remembered for his legendary heroism during World War II when he was awarded the Medal of Honor. Books have been written, and a full length documentary film graphically portrays his life story. Doss was known by those closest to him as a humble, generous man who modeled the life principles and values that defined him. He was a man who loved God first of all, as well as his Church, his family, his country, and his fellowman. He left much of his humble estate, including his life story, to those who meant the most to him—God, his Church, his family, his country, and his fellowman—especially the youth. His legacy is preserved in the values he left behind.

Mitch Hazekamp, Georgia-Cumberland Conference/ 706-629-7951



Elder and Mrs. Roy B. Thurmon are a beloved retired pastoral couple who are known for modeling Christian stewardship. To pass on their values, they took out a Charitable Gift Annuity with the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. They happily state, “For many years we have received a monthly check to supplement our salary and now our retirement income. This gives us great comfort knowing that an annuity income is certain as long as either of us lives. Then, at our demise, a sizable amount will continue to support God’s Church which we sincerely love.”

Lin Powell, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference/ 615-859-1391



Elder and Mrs. Silas McClamb served the Seventh-day Adventist Church for more than 40 years. With his wife Gladys by his side, Elder McClamb was the Publishing Director of the South Atlantic and North-eastern conferences. In 1992, when the McClambs were in their mid-80’s, they executed a revocable trust to provide for each other and pass on their values. Although Elder McClamb died last year at the age of 99, these values continue on through the Church beneficiaries they have named.

David Long, Southeastern Conference/ 352-735-3142



From the Carolina Conference comes the story of **John Watson Jr.** He states, “I thank God every day that He brought me into this Church. I just appreciate so much having the opportunity to become a part of what I believe is God’s true Church. My wife passed away in 2001, and our daughter passed away in 2003.” After this deep personal loss, John made plans to pass on his values upon his death, saying, “Out of appreciation I want to give back to God whatever I have left. This includes my house, life insurance policies, and my bank account. Having made these arrangements, a burden is lifted off my shoulders because now I feel everything is in God’s hands.”

Ken Ford, Carolina Conference/ 704-566-3200



When **D. J. Eurick** retired as a leading salesman for a large pharmaceutical company, he volunteered his services as a recruiter for Bass Memorial Academy. From 1992 until 2000, he and his trusty little pickup truck drove thousands of miles to visit the homes of prospective students. He solicited thousands of dollars to help students enroll at Bass, and provided thousands of dollars out of his own pocket to help needy students acquire a Christian education. Hundreds of Bass students have benefited because of values passed on by D.J. Eurick.

Rick Hutchinson, Gulf States Conference/ 334-272-7493

Come to the Southern Union booth

anned Giving & Trust Services



Robert and Anne Murphy established a Donor Advised Fund with the Florida Conference which has proven to be a real blessing to them, the Conference, and the Church entities that have received donations from the Fund. Their alma mater and their local church have benefited from the Fund. In the future, their children will continue to advise in a way that their values will live on.
José Legrand, Florida Conference/ 407-644-5000



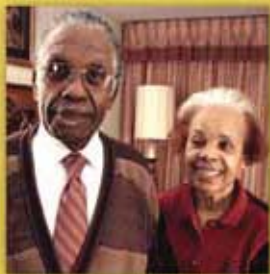
Sidney and Ann Parker continue to pass on their values at Emmanuel Church in Mobile, Alabama. Married 53 years, they have been faithful stewards since they were baptized in 1952. Having adopted the 10-plus-10 plan. Ann served as Community Service Federation President in south Alabama, and both Sidney and Ann have been involved in community service for more than 50 years. At 93, Sidney, who was head elder for 31 years, visits the sick with Pastor Michael Ross. The Parkers have helped raise many thousands of dollars for the local church. In addition, Sidney served on the Conference executive committee. In their sunset years, their values continue to live on.
Michael Harpe, South Central Conference/ 256-830-2411



Lena Elizabeth Roberson, a member of Immanuel Temple Church in Durham, North Carolina, opened her home to care for persons with special needs, including Alberta Beckwith, who also belonged to her church. Her Christian value of helping others was passed on even in death. She made provisions in her will so that when she died Alberta would be cared for as long as she lived. Lena also loved the Lord and wanted to pass on the values of Christian stewardship. So after the death of both Lena and Alberta, the residual of Lena's estate went to bless the Lord's Work through the South Atlantic Conference.
Lawrence Hamilton, South Atlantic Conference/ 770-879-8661

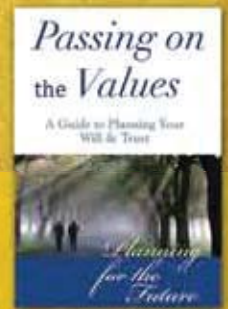


At Southern Adventist University, donors are changing lives by passing on values long after their death. This year, freshman **Travis Wichman** received a scholarship that touched his life. Although he had been into drugs with no interest in God, Travis felt God calling him to Southern and into the ministry. However, as he was finishing his first semester, insurmountable financial problems arose. After much prayer, Travis discovered that he had been selected to receive a scholarship from the Milton and Eunice Rieber Ministerial Student Endowment Fund. Because of the Riebers thoughtful planning, Travis remains at Southern, preparing to spread God's love to the world.
Carolyn Liers, Southern Adventist University/ 423-236-2818



Charles Edward Dudley Sr., and his companion of 62 years, Etta Maycock Dudley, have been long-time supporters of Oakwood University. Charles in the 1940's sang in Oakwood's quartet that travelled nationwide to raise funds in support of Oakwood. His support became more intense during his 31-year tenure as president of South Central Conference. Through his initiatives, Oakwood has been the recipient of millions of dollars. Sadly, Elder Dudley passed away on April 18, 2010, but his values live on. His family continues these Christ-centered values by establishing an endowed scholarship fund in his memory to benefit and encourage ministerial students until Christ returns.
Fred Pullins, Oakwood University/ 256-726-8278

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- October 7-8, 2010
- November 11-12, 2010
- January 20-21, 2011
- February 21, 2011
- March 24-25, 2011
- April 14-15, 2011
- June 9-10, 2011

Southern welcomes visitors all year long, so if you're not able to attend one of the above events, consider scheduling a private campus tour.

For GC Session Guests

Visit the Southern booth (#959) to:

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*includes free meals and lodging for students interested in attending. Student families are encouraged to visit too.




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