

October 2012



T SOUTHERN

# TIDINGS



**Pastors Are People, Too**

SECCIÓN EN ESPAÑOL

# The Alarm Clock of Prophecy



**Ron C. Smith,**  
D.Min., Ph.D.  
*Southern Union*  
*President*

There is a clock called “prophecy” contained within the Holy Scriptures to assist human beings in the aimless meandering of life. Look at some of God’s timetables! Israel’s Egyptian exodus was dated, as was its Canaan entrance.

The Bible outlines many prophecies. I am sure that Christ’s return is dated and will be neither delayed for indulgence nor advanced for impatience. It is as calculated and dated as His birth. Count on it! There is nothing nebulous about the return of Christ.

Check His first advent. Galatians 4:4 says, “But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law.”

John the Baptist had no misgivings about God’s schedule. Mark 1:15 reports, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye and believe the gospel.” God is conscious of the clock!

The Bible writers often used agrarian terms to signal the coming of Jesus, and the time when Jesus returns for His children. Mark 4:29 says, “But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.” Notice the picture language of the Bible. John saw that sickle. He reports in Revelation 14:15, “And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: ... for the harvest of the earth is ripe.” There will be a summation, an end-time, and a harvest.

Keep something in mind when using and following this picture. Not all grain ripens at once and together. So harvesting is a protracted business. It suggests a period of time.

The writer of the Chronicles pictures the harvest as the time of David’s victory and the day of the overcomer. How near to this are we? There are definite patterns throughout your Bible to suggest that God always works to a plan.

To this end, the books of Daniel and Revelation showcase prophecies that point out how our world will end and how the return of Jesus will usher in the great day of the Lord. We encourage you to read and study God’s Word, for it outlines the picture in vivid relief.

Christ has extended an offer of grace for a limited time. How we view it and what we do with it is our personal responsibility. This I know! It is an offer that will be withdrawn at any moment. The clock of prophecy signals the alarm.

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# Pastors are People, **TOO**

BY ROGER HERNANDEZ

Someone wrote that being a pastor can sometimes feel like “being the captain of a ship, in the middle of a storm, in shark infested waters, with a mutinous crew, and a leaky boat.” That’s pretty extreme, but it’s no secret that ministry has some challenges. Since October is Pastor Appreciation Month, I’d like to give you a glimpse of some of those challenges, and then offer some practical suggestions to affirm the ministry of the men and women who serve in our Union as pastors.

## MINISTRY CHALLENGES

### Expectations

Everybody has a plan for the pastor. The Conference, Union, Division, and General Conference are all interested in providing great programs that you should try immediately. Your elders, board, ministry teams, and members are delighted to implement those programs as long as it does not disturb what they are doing and someone else can do it. Your spouse expects your love and

attention, your children expect a trip to the mall, and your dog expects a walk. You are supposed to preach like John the Baptist, lead like John Maxwell, make your children laugh like Johnny English (Google it), and be holy like John the Apostle. It’s not easy fulfilling all the demands people have on your life.

### Conflict

A recent study revealed that pastors are involved in a serious conflict in their church at least once a month.



Acting as a referee and making a decision one way or another can send the signal that the pastor favors one side over the other, which creates some uncomfortable situations. Conflict is stressful, and many times the effects from it are carried into the pastor's home, affecting the quality of life of the family. This is accentuated when the conflict is with the pastor itself, which, if not managed properly, can influence negatively the pastor's family's perception of ministry, especially the children.

## Finances

It is no secret that we are living in difficult financial times. Here are some interesting facts about Adventist pastors in North America, and the length of service in their present district:

51 percent: 3 years or less

21 percent: 4-6 years

10 percent: 7-9 years

11 percent: 10 years or more

The constant moving can strain the finances (as well as many other areas). It's hard to gain equity in a home, find new doctors, dentists, and day care. The impact that moving has on the spouse and their job, as well as the children, is seldom mentioned.

## Significant Relationships

Because of the reasons mentioned above, it's difficult for the pastor to connect deeply with other people. Therefore, accountability can suffer, which can be dangerous. This is even more of a problem in the pastor's spouse, which many times move into a new town, with no one they can call friend. While pastors can become instantly busy with the people under their care, the spouse can many times feel alone and neglected, and it may take longer for them to connect. I encourage churches to make sure that spouses are intentionally affirmed; ministry is a family affair. If the pastor is single, pray for him/her even more.

## Participation

In a "normal" church (is there such a thing?), 20 percent of the

members do 80 percent of the work, and give 80 percent of the funds. This creates a problem in two fronts. One, it can cause frustration in the pastor, as he sees the lack of cooperation and commitment. Two, it can create some push back from the congregation when the reality of their present state is presented to them and commitment is asked for.

## Ideas for Affirmation

Here are some practical suggestions you can do to affirm your pastor's ministry as well as the family's.

### Affirm the Positive

Many times, the people who call, text, email, or come to see the pastor do it because they have an issue to resolve, a problem to share, or a criticism to impart. Do something different. Catch your pastor doing something good and make a big deal about it. It works with children: It's called positive affirmation. It works with adults, too. Most pastors don't work for the money or the affirmation, but it is always nice to feel that someone cares enough to notice when we do something right.

### Respect Boundaries

One of the challenges of being a pastor is never having a "finish line." You are a pastor 24/7, even on vacation or when playing softball. Give the pastoral family space. Respect the evening hours and days off. Insist on the practice of taking a day off. There are emergencies that can't be avoided, but calling 50 times in one week ... not an emergency.

### Provide Resources

Pastors are always looking for resources to improve their ministry. Provide financial assistance for the pastor to attend a conference. Set aside a small budget for books and resources they can purchase once a month. Let them know about books and interesting quotes you've read. What he/she doesn't need is a highly doctored video of Sasquatch and the coming new world order. Keep it practical.

## Get Involved

Probably this one trumps all others. What would happen if you went to your pastor along with two others, and asked for a meeting? Put on your solemn face as you request to have the meeting as soon as possible. When you show up, explain that the reason you are there is to offer to help in whatever is needed. After applying CPR, you will have a very happy pastor! Be a part of the 20 percent.

## Love their Children Unconditionally

Pastors' children are just that: children. They possess no supernatural powers, and should not be expected to perform as super-Christians. Give them a break. Love them. Nurture them. Make them want to be pastors when they grow up by the way you treat their parents.

Pastors are not perfect. They are sinners saved by grace just like you and me. Make this October Pastors' Appreciation Month a special one. My friend, Pastor Chuck Burkeen, has the following quote in his email signature page. I think it's an appropriate one to end this article, "If you want a different pastor, pray for the one you have." ✨

*Roger Hernandez is the ministerial and evangelism director at the Southern Union Conference.*

*i 12 Ideas for your pastor. Pick one! <http://www.christianitytoday.com/holidays/clergy/features/bonor.html#cardsbower>*

*ii Roger Dudley and Monte Sablin (2011). Faith Communities Today 2010 Survey, Adventist Sample. Berrien Springs, MI: Institute of Church Ministry, Andrews University. (Special release of raw data.)*

## Comments? Questions? Affirmation?

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# the RETURN

Steven Norman interviews Jorge Mayer after the premiere of *The Return* movie.

**SN:**

*Pastor Mayer, the movie The Return came out in June. What was the goal Alejandro Bullón had in mind when he wrote the script for the movie?*

**JM:**

Alejandro Bullón, a well-respected evangelist in the Latino American Adventist community, had the dream of bringing souls to Christ in a way that is attractive to people of this era — a contemporary strategy. A movie can reach people wherever they may be. The Southern Union Conference His-

panic Ministries Department was the channel used to accomplish this dream.

**SN:**

*Please tell me about the movie itself.*

**JM:**

It is the story of a young man that becomes an Adventist as a result of the witnessing of a friend from work, who invites him to church and shows him the plan of salvation. Shortly after, this friend dies in a car accident. This was a shocking experience for this young man, who started questioning God's role in this event, as well as other issues he had never thought about since he had become an Adventist. He realized that in a

very subconscious way, he felt that this friend and his family were the Church, since they were the only ones that had shown interest in him.

At this precise stage in his spiritual life, he met a girl at work who distracted his attention from all this questioning, and very soon he left the Church and returned to his former lifestyle. He gradually started walking on a downhill path that took him to a deep crisis, and when he reached the bottom, he wanted to return to the path his friend had shown him. That is when the most important part of the movie plot starts.

**SN:**

*Is The Return a movie oriented to people who left the Church?*

**JM:**

That is correct, but it also appeals to Church members in their attitude toward those who leave.

It is very important to mention that before writing the script, Alejandro Bullón conducted a survey in the South American Division to discover the main reasons why people leave the Church. The results showed five main reasons, and all of them are represented at certain points in the movie. The viewers will identify with at least one of them.

**SN:**

*Is this the first movie Alejandro Bullón and your department made together?*

**JM:**

No, we made another movie called *The Window*, which is completely different. *The Window* is oriented toward active Church members. It shows the story of an Adventist couple who wanted to bring their neighbors to Christ. It shows how much simpler it is to use Jesus' method to attract people by connecting with their needs and suffering. Even though in *The Return* the role of the Church members is very important, the main target is those who have left the Church.

In this country, we face a sad reality: many immigrants who used to be Adventist in their countries lose their connection with the Church when they come to the United States. Often their attention is focused on bringing their families here or working as much as they can in order to earn enough money to live here and support their families back home, or are trying to go back to their country with a decent amount of money that will help them to build a future. This, many times, turns into their sole mission, and everything else becomes secondary or vanishes from their lives. We need to be the connectors between them and the Church.

**SN:**

*Statistically, what is the proportion of people who leave the Church*

*in relation to the number of active members?*

**JM:**

Comparing different statistics, I could see two results: the most conservative shows even proportions. The other one is more alarming and shows a ratio of three to one. In other words, two out of three people who are baptized leave the Church. It is a very sad result.

Another thing that these statistics show is that most of the people who leave the Church continue considering themselves as Adventists, and even keep their lifestyle. They are one step from the door, willing to come back, but scared of what will happen if they do — the potential is tremendous. Our goal is to prepare the Church members to love these people unconditionally. They will be very sensitive, and we need to be ready to receive them.

Bullón mentioned once that his wife has a mission every time she goes to her local church: to discover all those attending for the first time, and invite them to eat at her house. She learned this from her mother, and passed it on to her children, who also do the same. We never know if those people we've never seen before have left the Church and use a congregation where no one knows them as the point of return, or if we are dealing with people who are attending for the first time, looking for some type of help. Imagine what would happen if each church had at least five families doing what the Bullóns do. Visitors would have a loving experience, and would want to come back.

Every congregation should have a list of people who are not attending church anymore. Active members should be encouraged to work with these people. The movie could be given to visitors so they can watch it whenever they choose to. This creates a good reason to call them and ask their opinion about the story, and tell them that they are missed and that church is not the same without them. Another

approach would be to visit them and apologize for having ignored the fact that they were not coming to church anymore. We should not only invite them to church meetings, but potlucks are also a way to attract people. By the way, whenever there is a social encounter, it would be very nice if instead of sitting only with those we are friends with, we would try to find someone coming for the first time, and establish a relationship with them. This would make an impact. The statistics showed that most of the people who leave the Church do not do it because of doctrinal or theological reasons, but because of bad relationships or the lack of them. It would be wonderful that when they came back, they found that the congregation they left has experienced a complete change.

**SN:**

*This movie is an excellent means to reach more people than we normally can. It is something that my wife, children, and I can use. How can we get it?*

**JM:**

The movie can be purchased from the Hispanic Ministries Department at almost every conference in the North American Division. Most of them have bought the copyright. If your local conference does not have it, you can call the Southern Union Conference Hispanic Ministries Department, or find it online at [www.elregresomovie.com](http://www.elregresomovie.com).

**SN:**

*How much does it cost?*

**JM:**

The price will be determined by each conference.

It took a considerable amount of money for the Church to produce this movie. We know that this is a not-for-profit organization, but one that tries to equip its members with the necessary tools for winning souls. The price people pay for the movie is meant to cover the



cost of it. If you purchase *The Return* on the Internet, you will pay a little more than if you purchase it at your local conference. Conferences have made a small investment buying the copyright, and can offer it at a very affordable price. It is amazing to think that the cost of a small evangelistic crusade rounds to \$1,500, and the “profit” can be 10 baptisms. The cost of the copyright is smaller than \$1,500, and the possibility to reach hundreds of people who have left the fold is big.

**SN:**

*Whatever the cost is, it is always smaller than the price Jesus paid for*

*our salvation. I highly appreciate what He did for me, and I am willing to pay whatever it costs to bring someone to the Kingdom.*

**JM:**

Certainly when we get to Heaven the joy will be great as we see the little we invested had eternal results for the families who were brought back to the fold — a minimum investment, with an eternal profit.

**SN:**

*I assume that the premiere you had in San Antonio, Texas, gave you the possibility to evaluate the*

*reaction of those former Adventists who were invited to attend and listen to the call Pastor Bullón made at the end. What were the results?*


**JM:**

During the movie, I walked through the audience observing the expressions on people’s faces, and I was impressed to see so many faces covered in tears. They could identify with the story. “That is my son, my sister, my friend, or that is me.” There was no sermon at the end, only a call. “The movie was a sermon without words,” according to William Costa Jr., director of the Department of Communication at the General Conference. “It preaches to the contemporary mind in a very effective way.”

At least 12 people responded to the call. One former Adventist could not even speak due to emotion. “This is exactly what I needed,” he said. A woman who was watching those who responded to the call confessed that she was shocked when she saw some of the people she had given Bible studies to walking to the front, and she had no idea they had left the Church. “I need to hug them,” she said.

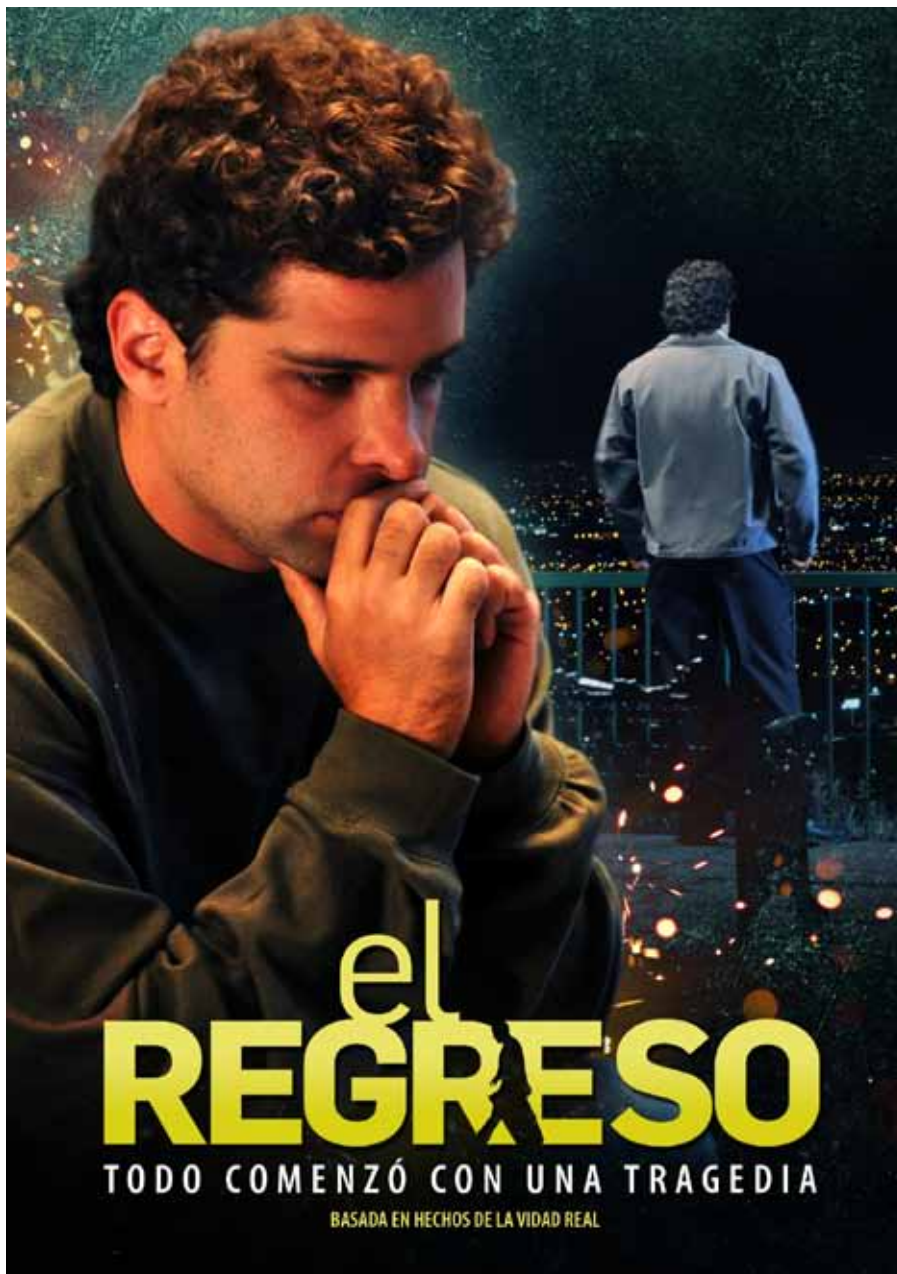
**SN:**

*I think the movie will fulfill its purpose. I will get one for my family.*

If you wish to purchase *The Return*, contact your local conference, or visit [elregresomovie.com](http://elregresomovie.com). 

*Steven Norman is Southern Union Conference director of communication.*

*Jorge Mayer is Southern Union Conference Hispanic ministries director.*





# Florida Hospital for Children Opens Bone Marrow Transplant Unit

BY SARA CHANNING

Florida Hospital for Children opened the first dedicated pediatric bone marrow transplant (BMT) unit in Central Florida on Aug. 16, 2012. The eight-bed unit features a nature theme that ties in the ocean, jungle, and savannah to create a relaxing environment. And, thanks to Kids Beating Cancer, each room can be decorated to reflect the patient's favorite theme.

With the newest technology and a kid-friendly environment, clinicians will care for children undergoing treatment for 72 cancerous and non-cancerous diseases.

"Recovering from a bone marrow transplant requires a lot of time in the hospital, so having a dedicated bone marrow transplant unit right here in Central Florida means patients now have a safer environment to recover

in," said Paul Gordon, M.D., medical director of the Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Program. "It also means we can perform this life-saving procedure close to home, which removes a huge burden from the families."

In addition, Kids Beating Cancer has pledged to provide funding for lab tests that are not covered by insurance. Thanks to their as-

sistance, Mikala Barnes, 15, recently received a bone marrow transplant at Florida Hospital for Children after being diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome, a disease that attacks bone marrow.

"Dr. Gordon, the nurses and the entire team at the hospital were so amazing throughout my transplant," Mikala said. "I know this program and the new unit will help so many

other kids. I think the other kids will really like this new unit because it is designed just for them."

## Mikala's Story: Painting to Help Other Patients

While recovering from a bone marrow transplant, 15-year-old Mikala Barnes discovered a passion for painting and quickly adorned her hospital room with artwork that she refers to as "smoosh" painting. Each of her masterpieces is created by dripping multiple colors of paint onto a page and then folding the paper together.

"I wanted to keep myself busy in the hospital," Mikala said. "I use the colors to reflect how I am feeling. I also take requests, and have even made paintings for my school using my school colors."

Recently, Mikala's paintings caught the attention of Kids Beating Cancer, who asked her to make a special painting using yellow, green, and purple.

"When we saw the beautiful artwork Mikala was creating, we thought the pattern would make a perfect design for a scarf," said Margaret Guedes, CEO and founder of Kids Beating Cancer. "The sale of these silk scarves will directly benefit kids just like Mikala. She truly is an amazing girl whose journey and courage should inspire us all to always think of others." ❧





Cleveland Houser, prison ministries consultant and trainer for the North American Division, taught a workshop on how to establish and coordinate prison ministries teams.

## I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU VISITED ME (MATTHEW 25:36)

BY BRIAN YOUNG

The Georgia-Cumberland Conference has seen a resurgence in prison ministries in the past couple years. There have always been the faithful, longterm ministries teams visiting their local penal facilities, but there seems to have been a lull in promotion of this very important outreach. A revitalization of prison-centric church services and Bible studies has been driven by church members who are looking for a ministry that aligns with their spiritual gifts.

This past August, Cleveland Houser, prison ministries consultant and trainer for the North American Division, returned to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference to teach a class in establishing and coordinating prison ministries teams. This year the facility was filled to capacity as Houser went over the do's and don'ts of navigating the prison system, making sure everyone stays safe.

Both veterans and those who have never set foot in a prison were in attendance. Rosemary Camarillo of Auburn, Georgia, Church, sees this as an activity to compliment her pursuit of licensure in marriage and family counseling. She came looking at this as an opportunity to minister together with her husband. "We're looking at how to get involved, especially with Latino people. I have a lot of questions

about how I can jump in and minister to them."

Long time veteran Earline Dowdy of Fayette, Georgia, Church, looks at this training as a good refresher course. "We minister in the Fayette Jail and we go every Sunday; last week we had nine ladies. It truly is such a blessing; they're so receptive to know about Christ. It's good to know the rules and regulations — what we should do, what we shouldn't do, and how we're allowed to mingle with the prisoners. It's not scary; I'm not scared at all, because we're working for the Lord. We're His eyes, His ears, and His legs."

The Chattanooga, Tennessee, North River Church, sent a group of 16 for training. That delegation has plans ready to put into action: "I think someone has some prisoners lined up to do some writing, too, and maybe do some one-on-one visitations," said Kristy Jonas, one of the 16. She's ready to go into the situation without fear: "This [training] keeps you from walking into the situation blind. It's good to draw off of someone else's experience."

Because of his past life, Leonardo Lechuga of Dalton, Georgia, Church, has to approach this ministry from a different angle, "We're involved in prisons in several different states: Tennessee, Georgia, and Illinois. I have a heart for Illinois because I'm from

Illinois, and was in prison there for 10 years. What we do is book ministries mostly. I found a lot of the books that I picked up and read in prison were a real blessing, so we send a lot of books to Illinois' prisons," says Lechuga.

Lechuga contacted the director of volunteer services for the Illinois state prison system, and they said anything that he could send would be a blessing, as there are more than 50,000 inmates.

"What we're doing now is they distribute it amongst the 28 prisons there in Illinois. Actually, right now, my car is loaded with videos of Doug Batchelor sermons, workshops, and seminars, which they said we can send and they'll be able to use. We have tons of stuff still sitting at the church that they're going to accept."

"Because I'm an ex-felon and I have a criminal background, it's really hard to get into places. So, this will be able to go on a resume that will let them know I'm serious about prison ministries. Really, it's the youth I like to target more than anything — young offenders and gang intervention, stuff like that — before they have a chance to graduate into the higher crimes." Lechuga declares, "They need to know that there is another way." ❖





KARA WIXWAT

# A Student Missionary Writes Home

BY REBECCA GRICE AND KARA WIXWAT

*Kara Wixwat with two of the island children she has grown to love*

When Kara Wixwat's family visited her in Palawan, an island province of the Philippines, she was serving there as a student missionary with Adventist Frontier Missions. There she tutored the children of the full-time missionaries, and also helped them with Sabbath programs and other educational activities in the school they run for the village children. Below is a story Kara sent home to her family who live in Pensacola, Florida. They and Kara are members of University Parkway Church in Pensacola.

## THE FRITOS SAGA

In a far-off place on the other side of the world lives a young missionary in a small bamboo hut on the side of a mountain. One of this young missionary's greatest joys is the many children living in her village. She affectionately refers to them all as her kids.

This story begins with an exciting event. Everyone in the village has been counting down the months, weeks, and finally, the days — especially this young missionary, because her family was coming. When the day finally came, she travelled down the steep, muddy path out of the mountains, then bumped along for four hours on a bus, and then waited at the airport until she finally saw them. Later that night, her family showed her a box full of treats they had brought from America. Among many other exciting things were two bags of Frito Scoops (now this young missionary has a special weakness for Fritos). She could

hardly wait to enjoy them. However, she deferred that pleasure until a later time.

The young missionary took great pleasure in sharing her home with her family. Her precious children played for hours with her father. Her best friend and her mother did their best to communicate. The large box full of special things had also made it up the mountain on the backs of some men, and when it arrived it was eagerly unpacked. The young missionary again looked and touched her special bags of Fritos, and again put them away for a later time.

When the time came for her family to leave, she travelled with them across the valley and there said goodbye among many tears. When she arrived back home, the welcoming cries of her kids filled the air, and her sorrow was lifted. Then she entered her humble abode only to find rice and flour all over the floor. It must be that cat again, she thought.

As she began to clean up, she noticed that, oh, horror of horrors, one of her Frito bags had been opened and half eaten. She cried out not a little angrily, "that stupid cat!" She looked around anxiously for the other bag. However, it was not to be found. Slowly suspicions began to grow in her mind, and so she carefully brought the split-open bag outside to where her kids were playing on her porch. Then she asked if they had seen anything like that earlier. They looked at each other and then looked back at

her. "Yes, Ma'am," they said. "We saw Tiper with it earlier." Her heart sank. "Not my little Tiper."

The anger and frustration vanished and was replaced with pity for the hungry, unloved little boy who had a very special place in her heart. She watched as her kids ran into the bush behind her house where they had seen him hiding. They returned proudly bearing an empty Frito bag. The story spread around the whole village, and soon everyone was talking about how Tiper had stolen food that had been brought all the way from America.

Everyone expected the young missionary to be full of anger, but instead, she told them she felt sorry for him because he was probably hungry. Suddenly, she realized how God had used her bag of Fritos for His glory. Her small treat had become a tool in the hands of God to demonstrate through her His gracious and unconditional love. Eventually, Tiper came and apologized. She told him she loved him and had already forgiven him. He went away happier, and hopefully a little wiser. As for the remaining half a bag of Fritos, she enjoyed part of it that night and kept the rest for the next day. When she woke up the next morning, the cat had eaten the rest. After her burst of anger, the young missionary paused and wondered if perhaps God wasn't trying to teach her something about the importance of Fritos. ✨



## Junior Volunteers Donate 2,000 Hours of Service to Hospital



Junior volunteers at Takoma Regional Hospital in Greenville, Tenn., were recently honored for the more than 2,000 hours of

service that they contributed during the summer.

During the special luncheon on August 3, 2012, Renee Lowery, the hospital's director of volunteers, shared a quote

from Benjamin Franklin: "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

That quote, she said, exemplifies what occurs with the junior volunteers during the summer. While assisting hospital staff, the junior volunteers gain many skills and insights into the medical field.

As they toured the facilities of Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson City, examined specimens from the gross anatomy lab, earned CPR certification, and participated in a

surgical knot-tying workshop, several students determined that they wanted to pursue medicine as a career.

"You have much to be proud of," Lowery told the volunteers and their families. "You have met new faces, learned new skills, and all the while advanced yourselves progressively toward an exciting and rewarding future."

—BY TINA CHUDINA

## Children's Symptom Checker App Help Parents

As a parent, there is nothing more stressful than the moment your child begins to cough or run a fever. You stay home from work, make panicked calls to your spouse or mother, and spend hours searching the Internet trying to

figure out if your child has the dreaded flu or just a common cold. Knowing that any illness is stressful, Florida Hospital for Children recently launched a symptom checker app for iPhone called Docs2Go.

With information vetted

by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Docs2Go provides a preliminary diagnosis and home care advice to relieve symptoms. It can also connect parents with physicians at Florida Hospital for Children and, in an emergency situation,

provide an immediate connection to 911, and directions to the nearest emergency room.

The free app is available for download at the iTunes store.

—BY SARA CHANNING

## Crocheted With Love: Woman's Blankets Warm Patients

Valerie Johnson warms the hearts of people she's never even met. She learned to crochet in junior high home economics class, and since she's started she has never stopped. Through the years she's created a variety of hooked needlework items such as hats and toys, but now she's crocheting blankets to be given away for free to cancer patients who visit the Judith C. Macko Cancer Resource Library at Florida

Hospital Flagler.

In April 2012, Johnson's husband, Jeffrey, was diagnosed with stage four Hodgkin's lymphoma in his spine. One day, while he was receiving chemotherapy at Florida Hospital Flagler, Johnson noticed another patient wrapped in a blanket that, she learned, was given to her by the Judith C. Macko

Cancer Resource Library.

The encounter gave Johnson the idea to create

what she affectionately refers to as her "waiting room blankets." While her husband is at his various doctors' appointments, Johnson sits in the waiting room and crochets blankets, which she then donates to the Florida Hospital Flagler Judith C. Macko Cancer Resource Library.

—BY LINDSAY REW



## Anesthesia Students Attend Meeting in California

In August of this year, five students travelled to San Francisco, Calif., to attend the annual meeting for nurse anesthesia students and certified registered nurse anesthetists.



*The group of nurse anesthesia students with two of their professors before attending the AANA annual meeting: Manuel Tolosa (left), assistant professor in the Department of Anesthesia; Amanda Hughes, Marian Santos, Kate Olsen, and Vickie Stephens, all senior nurse anesthesia majors; Alescia DeVasher-Bethea, chair of the Department of Nurse Anesthesia; and Michael Kuria, senior nurse anesthesia major.*

At the meeting, which is conducted by the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA), the students attended lectures about current anesthesia practices and met anesthesia professionals. The meeting also gave them a chance to get a foot in the door in the industry.

“You have employ-

ers and recruiters from all over the country, so it was a good opportunity to network,” says Michael Kuria, senior nurse anesthesia major.

Not everything at the

event was business, though, and this year one student from Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) had a unique opportunity.

This year, Amanda Hughes, senior anesthesia major, was the first ADU student selected to participate in the annual Anesthesia College Bowl. She joined a team of students from

around the country and competed to answer anesthesia-related questions.

For Amanda, it was a fun way to step outside of her comfort zone, and gave her a great reason to re-study all the anesthesia-related material she’s learned in her classes.

“It was exciting to be asked to represent the school and show what we’ve learned,” she says. “I’ve never done anything like this before.”

While her team did not make it past the first round, Amanda and the rest of the students who attended left the event with something better than winning a competition.

—BY SARAH CROWDER

## University Employees Serve Local Community

Located just 23 miles from the center of Orlando lies the small town of Bithlo, described by some as a “forgotten community.” Despite its central location, the town has numerous problems that affect the population’s education, safety, and health.

On August 29, 2012, Adventist University of Health Sciences pooled resources and partnered with United Global Outreach, the organization heading the Bithlo transformation effort, to assist a community that has been overlooked for too long.

The University’s faculty and staff, a team of about 220, rolled up their

sleeves and served Bithlo in four main areas: they refurbished a food pantry; facilitated classes at Orange County Academy; assisted with programs at Head Start, an organization for vulnerable children aged 2 to 5; and landscaped a charity processing building.

Daphne Nelson, one of the coordinators of the local food pantry, says the help came at just the right time. “We have inspection coming up and we were wondering how we would get the building up to speed,” Nelson says.

The benefits of the service day stretched beyond those in Bithlo, says Tia Hughes, chair of the

Department of Occupational Therapy and service day coordinator. It was also a hands-on opportunity to implement the beliefs the University is built on.

“The mission of our University is to educate others to serve in the healing ministry of Christ,” Hughes says.

Ruby Gutierrez, director of community engagement, says the end goal of the transformation effort is to see Bithlo become a self-sufficient and healthy community, and this service day was just the beginning of a long relationship with the community.

During this school year about 200 students will

teach health and nutrition classes; other students will travel twice weekly to tutor students; and, in celebration of the University’s 20th anniversary, students, faculty, and staff will participate in 20 service projects in Bithlo.

“I can’t think of any better example for our students as to what service learning is about,” Gutierrez says, “to really get involved and become aware of the issues people in their own backyard are facing, realizing they can be part of the solution.”

—BY SARAH CROWDER

## Blythewood Church Welcomes Three New Members

Charlie Young, pastor, conducted his first full baptism on August 4, 2012, since becoming the pastor of the Blythewood, S.C., Church about a year ago. Sophie, the woman who was baptized, had been studying through Amazing Facts and had begun attending Blythewood Church on a regular basis. In addition to the baptism, another added surprise to the congregation's joy was when a husband and wife joined by profession of faith the same day. After learning about the message from listening to WBAJ radio station, this couple had attended the Columbia, S.C., First Church for several years. They attended the pastor's



study class which was conducted by John Earnhardt, pastor. After Earnhardt moved to Upward, N.C., the couple started attending Blythewood because it was closer to their home.

As soon as the baptism was finished, Young made an altar call. Paul and Sarah raised their hands indicating they wanted to

join, too. Acknowledging them, Young said he would get with them a little later. During the morning message, at 11:45, Young stopped preaching and called Paul and Sarah up to the front of the church to start the process. At that time, Young had another surprise in store for the couple, as well as the

congregation who had been earnestly praying for them. During the presentation, Young pulled out his cell phone and called Earnhardt. He had the cell phone on speaker and everyone was able to hear it through the P.A. system. This was a wonderful surprise for everyone, especially Paul and Sarah. Young asked Earnhardt

to go through the important questions with them since he had been so instrumental in getting them grounded into the knowledge of the Adventist beliefs. Once they completed the questions, both congregations voted them into the Church with resounding, "Amen."

—BY CHARLIE YOUNG

## Doris Wolter Takes On a Special Mission

Eighty-four-year-old Doris Wolter recently completed a series of evangelistic meetings at Fairview Church near Asheville, N.C.

After joining other pastors' wives on a mission trip to Nicaragua last year where Wolter held her first evangelistic meeting, this former pastor's wife was anxious to conduct her own series of meet-



ings back home. Wolter, a member of the Hendersonville Church, found a church nearby in Fairview, N.C., where she could hold

the campaign. "Doris Wolter is a spark-plug," reports Ed Couser, Fairview pastor. "In addition to generating folks for us to work with and baptize, she inspired our own church members to conduct their own meetings." After losing her husband, Jim Wolter, this past year, Wolter feels that preaching the Gospel in this way has been a wonderful outlet for her. "Besides," she says,

"evangelism is my passion."

She conducted her meetings four nights a week — Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday — with the easy-to-use and effective ShareHim sermon series. This energetic widow also preached two sermons each Sabbath.

One could easily say, "If 84-year-old Doris Wolter could do it, then anybody can!" Learn how at [www.sharehim.org](http://www.sharehim.org).

—BY RON QUICK



## Conference Ordains Cheol Soo Han

Cheol Soo Han, pastor of Evergreen Korean Church in Asheville, N.C., was ordained into the gospel ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath, September 18, 2012.

Han attended the Presbyterian Church for 27 years in Jun Nam Do, South Korea. He was converted to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1990. He resigned from LG-Caltex Oil Refinery to honor the Sabbath.

Beginning in 1994 he attended the Seventh-day Adventist Sam-Yuk Graduate School. While a student, he started the Chang Se Construction Company. With his company, and personal donation



*Cheol Soo and Sam Deok Han are pictured with Carolina Conference leaders Rick Russell (left), treasurer; Leslie Louis, president; Gary Moyer, executive secretary; and Haskell Williams, ministerial director.*

of \$70,000, he built the Yeo Soo Chung Ang Adventist Church. From 1994-97 he served as an associate pastor in training at this church.

God arranged for Han to meet Sam Deok Soel, an Adventist woman, and they were married in Seoul, Korea, on June 6, 1997. They have two children, one

daughter and one son.

Han graduated in 1999 with a master of arts degree in Christian religious education studies. In 1999, Cheol and Sam Deok served as self-supporting missionaries in Biskeke, Central Asia. They also spent one year doing evangelism and pastoral work in Shakhalsinske, Russia, during the year 2001.

In November of 2005, he and his family moved to Asheville, where Han has been serving as pastor of the Evergreen Korean Adventist Church in the Carolina Conference.

## Smart Skills Camp Turns Education into Evangelism

Students at the Adventist Church School in Camden, S.C., are getting a head start on the school year. The program is called Smart Skills Day Camp, and according to the developers, it's "changing the way America learns."

Each day parents from the community drop their children off for a day of learning in a Christian environment. It's fun and educational, and it fills a need for busy parents as well.

Students learn skills to help them retain learning and score better on tests. The curriculum, developed

by Stephanie Nash and Sherry Housely, teaches students to understand a step-

by-step process of how to take notes and how to read for better comprehension.



*Ann Arquitt (left, sitting), Camden teacher; Sherry Housley, program co-creator; and Pamela Forbes, Ph.D., associate superintendent for education at the Carolina Conference, work with students at the Smart Skills Day Camp.*

The curriculum is designed for children in 3rd through 8th grade. Smart-Skills™ Camp is a creative and positive way for a church or school to involve themselves in the local community. "It doesn't take the place of Vacation Bible School," states Nash. "It can be in addition to VBS."

For further details on this unique program, you can go to [www.smartskills-center.com](http://www.smartskills-center.com).

—BY RON QUICK

## Sabine Vatel Set Apart in Commissioning Ceremony

“The officers of Florida Conference have seen fit, according to the leading of the Spirit in their lives and the observation of her work, to, on this day, July 28, 2012, officially commission Sabine Vatel, D.Min., pastor, as a commissioned minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church,” proclaimed Geoff Patterson, senior pastor of Forest Lake Church, Apopka, Fla., as he welcomed family and friends to a special commissioning service.

The ceremony was one of praise and exaltation, presentation, ministry of the Word, and consecration led by individuals who have been a part of Vatel’s professional journey.

David Smith, senior pastor of Collegedale, Tenn., Church and Vatel’s college English professor, presented the message, “Our Deepest Longing.” In speaking to Vatel, Smith said, “I am so encouraged that you would value the presence of God in your life above everything else.” Credentials were presented by Carmen Rodriguez, Florida Conference executive secretary.

Vatel became pastor of discipleship at Forest Lake Church on September 1, 2007. In this role, she oversees new member assimilation, parish education, and congregational spiritual growth. “She is somebody



JEFF HAWKINS

Sabine Vatel

who God has appointed, anointed, and empowered,” said Ruthie Jacobson, North American Division prayer ministries coordinator, as she presented the morning prayer.

Under Vatel’s direction, the House of Prayer Experience (HoPE) on Wednesday evenings brings members and the community to a closer walk with Jesus. Into whatever ministry she is involved, Vatel brings a special vitality, as well as due diligence. As part of the church’s response, Wilson Lima, elder, along with Clelia, his wife, a HoPE facilitator, spoke these words to Vatel, “You had your plans, but you let God put His

plans in your heart, and you followed Him.”

Those plans led her from ministering as a registered nurse to pre-medical studies as part of a dream to become a mission-driven doctor, until she knew and felt in her heart the call to become a pastor. After graduation from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich., Vatel accepted a call to serve as campus chaplain for Canadian Uni-

versity College and associate pastor for young adults at College Heights Church in Alberta, Canada. Later, she would serve in Takoma Park, Md., as a chaplain at

Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University), and as an associate pastor at Sligo Church before joining the ministry of Forest Lake Church.

Vatel’s response during the commissioning service included a thank you to those who had helped her on the journey. She gave tribute to her mother, “whose belief that God could call me propelled me forward to believe that God ordains the messenger He chooses even when the messenger is His daughter.”

“May God find His sons and His daughters faithful to His call when He returns,” was Sabine’s closing thought.

—BY GLADYS NEIGEL



DELWIN FINCH

*During the prayer of commissioning, Tim Nichols, Florida Conference vice president for pastoral ministries, petitioned: “Here, today, we are Your hands as we seek to bring Your blessing upon Pastor Sabine Vatel who has heard Your call to ministry, who has dedicated herself to Your service, who has demonstrated in so many ways her willingness to humbly serve.”*

## Danilo and Lucila Rodriguez Celebrate 60th Anniversary

Danilo and Lucila Rodriguez were married September 28, 1952, in San Francisco de Macoris, Dominican Republic. Throughout the early years of their marriage, the couple worked as literature evangelists.

Danilo was ordained as a minister in 1965, and his first church was in San Cristóbal, Dominican Republic. For 41 years, Danilo and Lucila were spiritual leaders in 50 churches with Danilo serving as pastor and Lucila fulfilling several church roles.

The couple relocated to New York City after Danilo's retirement in 1988. They currently live in Kissimmee, Fla., and are members of the Buenaventura Lakes Spanish Church. Since retirement, Danilo has led evangelistic campaigns in the United States and served as first elder of several churches.



Lucila and Danilo Rodriguez

Lucila has also continued to be heavily involved in

church responsibilities.

As the couple celebrates 60 years, they credit long marriage to God's leading, their lasting love, and mutual respect. Raising their children in the Church and assisting in their grandchildren's spiritual growth is among their proudest accomplishments. They have five daughters, Besaida, Bethania, Brenda, Belinda, and Belisa; one son, Danilo Jr.; and 15 grandchildren.

—BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

## New Home for South Florida Singles' Ministries

South Florida Singles' Ministries has a new place to call home in the newly decorated fellowship hall of the Boynton Beach, Fla., Church. Recently, singles from across Palm Beach County got



RON LANE

together for a reunion and to delight in some Sabbath hours together. Dolores Jacoby, Ph.D., D.Div., gave

a straight-up talk on single life. "Friends are very important," says Jane Justice, Boynton Beach Church singles ministries director, "and that's what singles ministries is all about!"

—BY JANE JUSTICE

## Evangelistic Meetings Proclaim Better Days Coming

"Better Days Are Coming" was the joyful proclamation at Sunrise, Fla., Church during summer evangelistic outreach meetings that ended with a baptism of 10 individuals.

The successful series was conducted by four church elders. Amazingly, each evangelist did not

know the topic of each other's sermon until the final planning stages; yet the topics were all related in a remarkable way. Michael McIntosh kicked off the series with "How to Know the Future;" Scott White presented "Hidden in Plain Sight;" Jespert Powell, "I Shall Return;" and Noel

Graham, "Home at Last." The theme song, "To the Utmost, Jesus Saves" echoed loudly through the community each evening.

The personal ministries department made this event a reality with the support of Michael Reid, Sunrise Church pastor, and collaboration with other depart-

ment leaders and church members. The series climaxed with a baptismal service in the morning, a singspiration in the afternoon, a closing sermon of "Life's Hardest Question," and a candlelight celebration.

—BY JOY BAILEY



## Tri-Conference Camp Meeting a Success

This first Tri-Conference Unity Camp Meeting brought 1,200 believers out for the day with each of the 11 host churches' members and many guests from outside Augusta, Ga., and Aiken, S.C., attending. Representatives from three conferences, Carolina, Georgia-Cumberland, and South Atlantic, made this Camp Meeting possible. Tri-Conference Unity Camp Meeting was held Sabbath, August 4, 2012, at First Baptist Church in Augusta.

Hyveth Williams, D.Min., Andrews University Theological Seminary professor, and Lincoln Steed, *Liberty Magazine* editor, were the keynote speakers. Jennifer LaMountain and Dedication provided special music. The young adult program was given by Brennon Kirstein, chaplain of Southern Adventist University, and Howard

Weems, Ph.D., chaplain of Oakwood University. Jackie James, Southern, led a praise team, as well as Michaela Jeffery, Adventist Campus Fellowship. Ben Roy, the Science Zone, shared experiments with the children's departments.

B.J. Boles, event coordinator and pastor of the Augusta Church, said, "I think we must 'press together,' as Sister White says. As the end of time nears, God's people all the more need to press together and become one. We as a Seventh-day Adventist Church must become one. As the pastors and churches of this region develop fellowship and friendship



NATHAN LEWIS

*Members gather to pray during the Tri-Conference Camp Meeting in Augusta, Ga., on August 4, 2012. There were 11 churches represented from three conferences: Carolina, Georgia-Cumberland, and South Atlantic.*



NATHAN LEWIS

*Hyveth Williams, D.Min., Andrews University Theological Seminary professor, was the featured speaker for the Tri-Conference Camp Meeting held in Augusta, Ga. Three conferences participated: Carolina, Georgia-Cumberland, and South Atlantic.*

es and the members and seeing how they bind and click: It is such a blessing."

Wanda Miles, member of the Augusta First Church, said, "I was blessed in working in the kitchen and seeing the camaraderie with everyone from sister churches, and how they worked together."

Boles said, "A huge thank you to the many people who assisted, volunteered, presented, sang, helped,

and supported in this camp meeting. It literally took hundreds of individuals joining together to put on an event of this magnitude to the glory of God. Thank you for your selfless sacrifice ... God was uplifted, and people were brought closer together as they were drawn closer to Christ!"

Event planning began last November when the pastors of the area began to come together to form a ministerial association.

—BY B.J. BOLES AND  
TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

and become a family, we work more in harmony and evangelize as one. We become more effective for the Kingdom. We can be more effective in ministry together, rather than standing apart."

Boles added that the events flowed smoothly all day. The main meetings were translated simultaneously into Spanish and Korean. They were blessed with a surprise visit from Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., Southern Union president, who flew in to be part of the worship service.

Kaye Carson, a member of the Augusta First Church, said, "Getting to know the different church-

## GCA Partners With ADRA in China

Learning to serve is an important part of being a Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA) student. Opportunities for service are many, some within the local community, and some in various parts of the world where they partner with local communities to meet a particular need.

Immediately following graduation this past May, a group of 24 students, alumni, staff, and parents set off on an adventure in service that took them to a rural area of China where they helped install biogas tanks in the remote area of Dan Ling County.

The adventure began with a few days of site-seeing in and around Beijing as their jet lag wore off. With their bodies rested, the group flew to Chengdu and, from there, drove to an area near their work site where they would spend the next week.

Apparently, many groups who come to do humanitarian work in China are there for the photo opportunities. When the GCA group showed up ready to actually work and were able to accomplish all that they did, ADRA China officials and local leaders were quite surprised. ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) hoped the group would be able to install three biogas tanks. The group surprised ADRA by installing almost seven tanks. Locals, working with ADRA, will complete the work of installing the



*The GCA group installed seven biogas tanks. They were only supposed to install three.*

remaining biogas tanks that were purchased by fundraising the group did prior to the trip.

The biogas tanks take human and animal waste and convert it to methane gas, which is delivered to the home via a hose that is directly attached to the family cook stove. Without this technology, villagers rely on wood or coal-fired stoves for their cooking needs. The leftover “slurry” then provides a more sanitary source of fertilizer for their crops. The gift of these tanks will provide a cleaner, healthier environment for this remote village.

Greg Chase, Class of 2009, described his feelings about the trip. “Going on this trip definitely cemented in my mind that ‘actions speak louder than words.’ Since we weren’t

able to evangelize through our words, we became even more cognizant of



*A group of GCA students, alumni, staff, and parents traveled to China to install biogas tanks in a remote area of Dan Ling County.*

our actions.” And it appears that those actions did speak loudly. Greg continues, “The last day we were there, a government official kept on saying how he couldn’t believe that school kids would want to come to a different country and

help out other people.”

Many take-away lessons are learned during a service trip of this nature. Kalli Wilkens, GCA senior, drew spiritual lessons from the biogas tanks themselves. She says, “I am convinced that if feces can be turned into a cooking agent, then by all means God can take me and transform my life.”

In gratitude, the villagers held a ceremony for the GCA group on their last day in the village. But, as is almost always the case in mission trips of this sort, it is those who serve who feel the most blessed.

For details about GCA’s

spring break trip to Cambodia to work with ADRA, contact Serge Gariepy at 706-217-7138, or [segariep@gcasda.org](mailto:segariep@gcasda.org).

—BY NANCY GERARD, RE-PRINTED FROM THE GCA CUMBERLITE



## Montgomery First VBS is Church Effort

A Vacation Bible School (VBS) that would reach out to the church's children, and to the neighborhood children as well, was a part of the evangelism plans for the Montgomery, Ala., First Church this year.

A VBS had not been conducted at the church in several years, so the members wanted this one to be exceptional. With the leadership of Brittney Halversen, VBS director, planning began early in the year. The theme would be Babylon, and the gymnasium would be transformed into a replica of a Babylonian marketplace.

The whole church got involved collecting cloth for tents, baskets for the marketplace, and a variety of other items that would



RICHEL HALVERSEN

*Children were placed in an Israelite tribe and given a bandura to wear on their heads identifying to which tribe they belonged. Staff and children all wore authentic-looking costumes.*

be needed. Costumes were made by Faye Pitman. There was an authentic-looking tunic for Daniel, whose part would be played by Richie Halversen, Montgomery First pastor,

plus numerous other outfits for everyone who participated, from shop keepers to tribe leaders.

On opening night the children were assigned to be in an Israelite tribe. The tribes were there to tour the city and to evangelize the local residents. Afterwards, the tribes went into the marketplace of Babylon. Each place was set up under a different canopy or tent. Merchants included a bread maker, a perfume maker, woodworker, a musical instrument maker, and an animal merchant.

One of the highlights was to visit the palace where Daniel lived with his

helper, Ashpenaz, played by Caleb Halversen. Together they told the life story of Daniel. Each night, numbers attending grew, with quite a few community children attending. "I don't know where all of those children came from," one member exclaimed.

"In order to have people in each marketplace and for it to run smoothly, we needed our church," declares April Hobbs, assistant/music maker. "We all pulled together to make this a spiritual success. I think the church members enjoyed it just as much as the kids. We really hated to see it end. When you work together each day, bonding takes place."

—BY APRIL HOBBS AND REBECCA GRICE

## Hurricane Isaac Passes Over Bass

A flood of memories came back to those working and living near Bass Memorial Academy (BMA) when the storm trackers predicted that Hurricane Isaac's track would be 'eerily similar' to Katrina's. Katrina had almost flattened BMA just seven years earlier. Through that disaster miracles occurred. "One of those miracles," says Jeff Marshall, BMA staff member, "is that we have a virtually brand new campus."

Katrina instigated another kind of rebuild as well. Soon after the completion of the new campus, much thought and prayer

was given about the direction BMA should go. The



*Amelia Johnson, BMA senior, says, "It is a good environment to grow up as a teenager. I really love it here, and I wouldn't pick anywhere else."*

focus became to deliberately align BMA with the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy.

It was worth it. Enroll-



*Charisse Carlton, BMA senior, smiles all the time, her mother says.*

ment is up and parents and students are excited about what is happening at BMA. Charisse Carlton's mother says, "We chose Bass because Charisse really wanted to come here for a Christian experience. I think it is wonderful. Since she has attended, I have seen a great difference in her life. She smiles all the time now."

"This year began with 93 students! You have to meet them. They are incredible! It may have taken a storm, but we have a new campus. Come and see," invites Marshall.

—BY JEFF MARSHALL



## Don and Anita Shelton Retire After 43 Years of Service

Don Shelton, Conference ministerial and evangelism director, retired after more than 43 years of denominational service. His wife, Anita, Conference receptionist and secretary to the ministerial department, joined him in retirement. The Sheltons have worked in the Gulf States Conference for the past 12 years.

They both graduated from Southern Adventist University in 1969. After graduation, Shelton received a call to the Carolina Conference to serve as an intern pastor in the Raleigh/Durham/Pittsboro, N.C., district. It was in Durham that he conducted his first evangelistic meeting. Evangelism would become one of the driving forces in his ministry. In 1973, after serving in several other church districts in the Carolina Conference, Shelton was called to be the evangelist for the Conference.

In 1978 the Sheltons moved to the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference where he worked as the Conference evangelist.

Two years later, in 1980, the Sheltons accepted an invitation to become the evangelistic team for the Colorado Conference (later to become the Rocky Mountain Conference).



*Don and Anita Shelton at the farewell dinner Gulf States Conference hosted for them.*

Then the Mid-America Union called them to serve as the Union evangelist, where they conducted meetings throughout the Union. But, their two children were school age and it was not in their best interest to keep moving about, so Shelton accepted a call from the Texas Conference to serve as a pastor in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

In 1986, John Thurber, Dakota Conference president, called Shelton to serve as ministerial director

and Conference evangelist. One year later when Thurber went to the Florida Conference, Shelton was elected the Conference president, and served there until the spring of 1993.

It was while in the Dakota Conference that the Sheltons conducted three major evangelistic meetings in Ukraine, and fell in love with the Ukrainian and Russian people.

In 1993 they were invited to become assistant to the president for the eastern area of the Carolina

Conference. They served in this capacity until the spring of 2000 when they came to the Gulf States Conference.

Shelton says, "In the 43 years of ministry, it has been a tremendous blessing to become acquainted with so many of God's children in churches throughout North America and around the world. Five of the men who I baptized in evangelistic meetings became pastors. It has brought satisfaction to me to watch many of the young men who I interviewed for pastoral ministry grow and become successful pastors. Anita and I leave the ranks of full-time ministry knowing that God's Work will move forward under

the leadership of dedicated men and women. We look forward to the soon coming of our Lord and Savior.

The pastors, Conference office staff, and members of Gulf States Conference will miss their leadership, and look forward to that time when there will be no more good-byes.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

BRENDA STEPHENS

## Southside Louisville Hispanic Company Organized



The Southside Louisville Hispanic Mission Group began 10 years ago with a nucleus of six members: Basilio Claxton, Carmen Claxton, David de la Cruz, Candida Gonzalez, Yoisy Hernandez, and Arodis Lopez. At the time, the pastor of the South Louisville Church was Al Matchim. Matchim ordained David de la Cruz as head elder and leader of the group. The group began



*Officers of the newly organized company*

to grow and in 2009 they had their first Spanish-speaking pastor, Luis A. Ruiz. The

group is very appreciative for the support of the South Louisville Church and for

the use of their fellowship hall as their meeting place. However, they continued to grow and wanted to find a separate place of worship. A place was located by the new first elder, Neftali Perea, just five minutes from the South Louisville Church. On August 18, 2012, Steve Rose, Conference executive secretary, organized the group as a company.

—BY DAVID DE LA CRUZ

## Fillmans Celebrate 65th Wedding Anniversary

Gerald and Naomi Fillman celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary August 18, 2012, in Madison, Tenn., with family and friends. The Fillmans met when they were students at Union College in Lincoln, Nebr., and were married in 1947 in Nevada, Iowa.

They began their 50-plus years of denominational service teaching church school together in Oak Grove, Mo. Following completion of his theology degree, Fillman pastored churches in New Mexico,

Texas, Iowa, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania, many of them three-church districts.

From the start, it was a ministry partnership. Naomi loved helping with the children's departments at church, camp meetings, and evangelistic meetings; and conducting Vacation Bible School, often writing songs and programs for them. They also enjoyed making beautiful music together, first singing duets, then with their children, and also in their church choirs.



*Gerald and Naomi Fillman*

In 1992, they "retired" and came to Madison Campus Church near Nashville, Tenn., where Fillman

worked part-time as associate pastor for more than six years. Along the way they were blessed with four children: Rita (Jerry) Wagner, Debra (Gray) Coyner, Gary, and Kathy (Jim) Brummett. They have 10 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. They continue to be healthy and active in their church, serving people, giving Bible studies, and working in their garden.

—BY KATHY FILLMAN BRUMMETT



## Literature Evangelists Retreat at Indian Creek Camp

“Is it safe for our students to work in Memphis?” This was a commonly asked question at the beginning of the summer. God sent His angels to protect His student literature evangelists, protecting them from dogs, people, heat, loneliness, traffic, and a truck losing control and taking the ditch rather than hitting a van of students. The Lord is to be praised!

A comment made often by the students this summer was, “We need more of the book *Great Controversy*.” One student’s testimony says best what was accomplished by all the *Great Controversies* placed in the homes: “I thank God for helping me do great damage to Satan’s kingdom.” Another student was so excited because he was able to leave five message books (*Conflict of the Ages* series) with a woman who thought she was a prophetess. Another student left a *Great Controversy* with a Muslim family who was interested in religious history. One woman was so impressed with the work the students were doing that she offered to pay \$100 a month toward a student’s tuition.

Some of the other testimonies were in the form of praises. “Thank you for helping me place *Peace Above the Storm* with a verbally abused woman.” “Thank you, Lord, for helping me leave two books with a Catholic family.” “Thank you, Lord, for sending your angels to help

us reach those who need You.” “Thank you, Lord, for not giving up on me.”

At the close of the Summer Program, one student shared how this summer helped him break his addiction to the media. He is now reading more and is reading the *Great Controversy* himself.

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony,” Revelation 12:11.

This text is very important to literature evangelists, both students and full-time workers.

Recently, the full-time literature evangelists came together at Indian Creek Camp for a special weekend of testimonies, training, and recreation. They went from riding horses to riding water skies and inner tubes. Many took advantage of using the swimming pool and the gym. However, the testimonies were the highlight of the weekend.

“I know you must get paid by commission,” a young man said after following a literature evangelist to his car. “I’m sorry grandpa didn’t buy anything.” Aleki, the literature evangelist, assured the young man that his work was more than just selling something to get a commission. His work was



Conference literature evangelists and their families

telling people about Jesus. In the conversation that followed, the young man was encouraged by Aleki’s willingness to spend time with Jesus every day. They exchanged phone numbers and promised to keep in touch. Since then, they have talked on the phone, the young man wants to learn more about the Bible, and is starting to have Bible studies with Aleki.

Another man told Matthew, the literature evangelist, “Money is tight.” But, something impressed Matthew to keep appealing to the man to make a decision on the *Bible Stories*. He finally said, “Yes, I’ll take them.” While driving home that night, Matthew received a phone call from the man’s wife. He thought she was calling to cancel. “I just want to thank you for coming to see my husband tonight. Did you see the luggage by the door? My husband was moving out tonight, but after your visit he has decided to stay. Thank you!”

One family worked together, raising most of

their own food and home schooling their children. They had already purchased the *Bible Stories*, the *Conflict of the Ages* series, and *Bible Readings for the Home*. The literature evangelist Dan’s visit was to see how they were doing, and to introduce some of the other material

such as *Foods for Healing* and *Medicinal Plants*. They immediately saw the value of these books for their children’s schooling and research. Dan was impressed to ask them if they had heard of the seventh day Sabbath. To his complete surprise and delight, they said, “Why yes, we have been keeping the Sabbath for some time.” They went on to say they didn’t know of anyone else keeping Sabbath. Tim, the father, said that he went to the local gas station and posted a note inviting anyone wanting to study on God’s Sabbath to contact him and come to their home!

Here was a family that, as a result of studying God’s Word and the Spirit of Prophecy books, found the true Sabbath and was calling it a delight, (Isaiah 58:13, 14).

These are just a few of the delightful testimonies that were shared during the weekend. God is to be praised!

—BY DAN HERWICK



## Conference Appoints New Associate Superintendent of Education

Kim Gaiter, former teacher at Atlanta-Berean Christian Junior Academy, Atlanta, Ga., has been named South Atlantic Conference's new associate superintendent of education. Gaiter replaces James Lamb, Ed.D., who was appointed Conference superintendent of education in September 2011.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, Gaiter holds a bachelor of social work degree from Georgia State University, and a master's degree in brain-based teaching with an emphasis in reading and literacy from Nova Southeastern University.

A longtime educator who served the last 14 years as a teacher-leader, Gaiter has also worked



*Kim Gaiter, Conference associate superintendent of education*

as curriculum writer and editor with the Southern Union and South Atlantic Conference, served as a team member on various South Atlantic Conference school accreditation teams, mentored and coached

teachers, and strategically planned and developed vibrant age-appropriate school and children's church programs.

"Never have I aspired to be anything in Adventist education other than a phenomenal, Christian teacher-leader," says Gaiter, who plans to strategically promote and facilitate the South Atlantic educational shift from what is being taught by teachers to what is being learned by students.

Raised in a loving, Adventist Christian home, Gaiter's parents, Richard and Bertha Major, believed deeply in the importance of Christian education, and lovingly and intentionally instilled

those values in her.

"Working in the teaching ministry in this capacity is a very humbling and exciting change," said Gaiter. "I embrace the change and look forward to working effectively here in the South Atlantic Conference with some of the finest educators and schools in the North American Division doing the greatest work.... "Educating minds for time and eternity."

Gaiter is married to her husband, Buford, for 27 years, and they have two children who are both products of Adventist education, from kindergarten through Oakwood University.

—BY WHITNEY K. JORDAN

## Mountainside Holds Back-to-School Event, Assists More Than 300 Children

More than 300 children and their parents attended the sixth annual Mountainside Church, Decatur, Ga., "Back-to-School Event." The event was held August 5, 2012, one day before the start of school in the Atlanta metro area.

Every child attending the event was pre-registered, and received the basic school supplies specific to their grade level. Supplies were given to youth in grades Pre-K through 12, and volunteer barbers provided free haircuts for all the boys.

According to Anita Stokes Hicks, Mountainside community service leader, "The purpose of the event

is to fill a need, share Jesus with the community, and brighten the corner where we are." Church ministries

such as Adventurers, personal ministries, and health ministries set up tables and introduced the community guests to the many helpful ministries at Mountainside. Also, Mountainside's prayer team was on hand to pray for and with participants at the event.

During the past six years, Mountainside's "Back-to-School Event" has helped more than 1,000 children in the community.

—BY REGGIE HICKS



*Volunteer barbers provided free haircuts for all the boys.*

## Artifacts from King David's Reign Displayed at Campus Museum

Was King David's reign a myth? The poet king is at the center of Israel's ancient biblical history, but many have questioned if he and his kingdom actually existed.

After years of work at Khirbet Qeiyafa, the Institute of Archaeology is proud to help answer these questions. "The Battle Over King David: Excavating the Fortress of Elah" opens November 7 at Southern Adventist University's Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum.

For the past four years, the Institute of Archaeology has been taking students to Israel to help uncover the remains at the Fortress of Elah, an ancient city from the time of David. Archaeological evidence found at this site has shed new light on the authenticity of the history of David and his kingdom.

"What's great about this exhibit is that for the first time we will have artifacts Southern students have excavated for themselves," said Michael Hasel, director of the Institute of Archaeology.

Displays will include several pottery and stone vessels dating to the time of King David, as well as coins and stamp seals from various other periods.

"The excavations at Khirbet Qeiyafa have been making headlines since 2008," said Justo Morales, coordinator for the Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum. "The oldest Hebrew inscription (or piece of writing) in existence was



*The Khirbet Qeiyafa Ostrakon, or inked potsherd, was found in 2008, and it is possibly the earliest sample of Hebrew writing.*

discovered there, along with strong evidence that the Fortress of Elah may be where the Israelites camped before David had his famed battle with Goliath."

The artifacts that will be featured at the exhibit are on loan from the National Treasures of Israel, and will be returned at the end of

April 2014.

"We have invested a lot of time and financial resources into this incredible site for four years now, and we are delighted to make the findings and discoveries of Khirbet Qeiyafa available to the public for the first time in the world," Hasel said.

The work done at Khirbet Qeiyafa has earned Southern's Institute of Archaeology a \$10,000 sponsorship

from Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries International. The money will be used for the final publication of evidence that was uncovered at the site.

For more information, please call 423-236-2030.

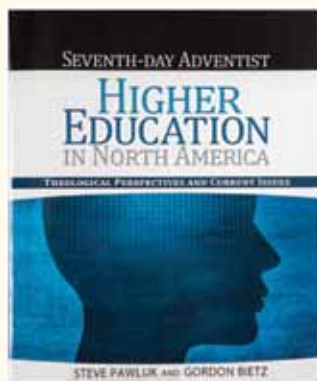
—BY LUKE EVANS

## President Bietz Edits Book About Adventist Higher Education

Gordon Bietz can now add editor to his growing list of official titles. The book *Seventh-day Adventist Higher Education in North America: Theological Perspectives and Current Issues* has just been released, and represents four years' worth of writing and research.

The book was put together by Bietz and Steve Pawluk, former vice president for academic administration, and contains four sections: Theology of Sev-

enth-day Adventist Higher Education, The Value-Added Aspect of Seventh-day



Adventist Higher Education, External Perspectives, and The Future of Seventh-day Adventist Higher Education.

"When Pawluk approached me about contributing to the book I was immediately interested," Bietz said. "It is one of the only books I have seen deal with the subject in great detail."

Along with being president of Southern, Bietz has also been executive director for the Association of Adventist Colleges and

Universities (AACU) for the past four years, making his contribution to the book all the more insightful.

"I found that our schools are more alike than they are different, and each of them makes an important contribution to higher education," Bietz said.

The book can be ordered from [adventistbook-center.com](http://adventistbook-center.com).

—BY LUKE EVANS

## Eastern Region Federated King's Daughters Hold Convention in Huntsville

In 1920, Katherine Baker, a Bible worker at First Church in Washington, D.C., organized a group of women into a missionary service chapter. The goals instituted were to bring comfort and cheer to the sick, shut-ins, and the elderly. Since these women were to render service to others in the name of the King of the Universe, they were called "King's Daughters."

Since that small beginning, more than 92 years ago, the King's



*Oakwood Adventist Academy students enjoy a field trip to Birmingham Civil Rights Museum, sponsored in part by the King's Daughters.*

Daughters now boast 27 chapters located in Alabama, Florida, Georgia,

Indiana, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and St. Thomas

through December 2011, this chapter has continued

in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The motto, "Lifting as We Climb," and aim, "Putting Christian Ethics into Practice," speak to their commitment. They support education, care for the elderly, and participate in community outreach programs.

The Huntsville Chapter was organized in 1994. This chapter continues to exemplify the ideals of the King's Daughters. Their records indicate



*Principal Sharon Lewis (left), Oakwood Adventist Academy, accepts \$350 check from King's Daughters Hazel Richardson (center), treasurer, and Yvonne Donatto, president, to assist with a field trip to the Civil Rights Museum in Birmingham.*



*Prudence Pollard, Ph.D., will be the 11:00 a.m. worship service speaker for the King's Daughters Convention on October 27, at Oakwood University Church. She is the assistant vice president for faculty development/research and leadership development, professor of management in the School of Business, author of a newly released book *Raise a Leader [God's Way]*, and OU's first lady.*

GENE TRENT



the tradition of the King's Daughters. The following is an overview of the tradition: Bible studies, 25; visits to sick and shut-ins, 964; cards, 997; persons helped, 4,446; hours of volunteer service, 2,237; books, magazines, and tracks, 361; food baskets, 47; telephone calls, 235; and cash donations/scholarships, \$14,827.

Each year, a convention is held in a different city. The Huntsville Chapter will host the convention on Wednesday, October 24, through Sunday, October 28, at the Westin Hotel, Huntsville's only five-star hotel. The theme for this year is "Women of God ... Called to Serve." Several events are planned. To whet the appetite, a Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for Friday, October 26, at 8:00 a.m., with speaker Janis Newborn, director of Institutional Effectiveness at Oakwood University (OU), and wife of Craig Newborn, D.Min., Conference Sabbath School and Gift of Prophecy director. The candlelight Vespers service will convene on Friday evening at 7:30; Kimberly Pearson, OU chaplain, will speak. Sabbath services will begin with Sabbath School at 9:15 a.m. and worship service at 11:00 a.m. at Oakwood University Church. The speaker for the Worship Service will be Prudence Pollard, Ph.D., assistant vice president for faculty development/research and leadership development, professor of management

in the School of Business, author of newly released book *Raise a Leader [God's Way]*, and OU's first lady.

Also, each year the host chapter chooses an outreach project where all chapters participate. This year they have chosen the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Madison and Limestone counties. They will receive donations to purchase requested items: computer software, school/art supplies, sports equipment, and books.

The scholarship banquet, an International Extravaganza, will climax the activities on Saturday night at the Westin. The master of ceremonies is Anthonye Perkins, manager of Oakwood University Media Center. On this occasion, fortunate students will receive \$2,000 in scholarships to the college/university of

their choice.

A souvenir journal chronicling all the activities for this convention will be produced. Inquiries about this journal and ministry event may be sent to Yvonne H. Donatto, presi-

dent, Huntsville Chapter and first vice president, at ydonatto@oakwood.edu.

—BY YVONNE H. DONATTO



*King's Daughter Debrah Slack made these pillowcases for the children at the Harris Home. The Harris Home for Children was founded in 1954, and began with the purpose of providing the highest level of foster care, therapeutic care, and educational services to help the children of Alabama achieve their maximum potential.*



*A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to the King's Daughters for the pillowcases and their service to the Harris Home for Children. King's Daughters: Miriam Williams (left), Oakwood University Church; Joyce Orr, Mt. Calvary Church; Donna Peters, child care worker, supervisor, and award presenter; Harris Home for Children; Yvonne Donatto, president, and award recipient on behalf of King's Daughters; Debrah Slack, Oakwood University Church; and Frances Calhoun, Oakwood University Church.*

## Trece Nuevos Hogares Trabajan en Evangelismo

El sábado 11 de agosto, la iglesia de Mt. Olive, NC, reanudó el trabajo misionero a través de los grupos pequeños, liderados por el pastor Elías Sandoval y el director de obra misionera Honorio Rodríguez.

Trece grupos se comprometieron a llevar a cabo un trabajo de evangelismo con misión y



propósito teniendo como blanco el bautismo de 45 personas. Cada grupo fue provisto de materiales preparados por el pastor Sandoval, suficientes para un año de trabajo como

y discutidas en las reuniones. También se distribuyeron CDs con 20 pistas de himnos cantados y orquestados con su respectivo manual. El

los manuales “Jesús Nuestro Mejor Amigo” “Regocijémonos con el Salmista” y “El Retorno de Cristo.” Estos manuales contienen veinte lecciones cada uno, para ser desarrolladas

propósito de este plan, es preparar el terreno para las dos campañas de barrio que tendrán una duración de treinta noches, y se llevarán a cabo en septiembre del 2012 y marzo del 2013.

Los grupos pequeños tendrán cuatro presentaciones oficiales en la iglesia, en las que presentarán un reporte acerca de su avance.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

## Concurso “Libro de Daniel”

El sábado 7 de abril, los jóvenes de las iglesias del distrito de Greenville, compuesto por las congregaciones de Greenville, Mt. Olive, Dudley, Wilson y Mante, se dieron cita en las instalaciones del auditorio de la escuela Brodgen, en



Dudley, donde se llevó a cabo el concurso acerca del libro de Daniel. En segundo lugar estuvo la iglesia de

libro de Daniel.

Los concursantes fueron sometidos a una rigurosa prueba oral y escrita. La iglesia de Wilson obtuvo el primer premio, representada por Martín Ayala.

Greenville, representada por Carlos Chavala. Ambos participantes recibieron un certificado, una banda de honor y una medalla.

Este concurso tuvo como propósito incentivar a los jóvenes en el estudio de la Biblia y las profecías.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

## “HASTA AQUÍ NOS AYUDÓ JEHOVA”

El domingo 29 de julio la congregación de Mt. Olive celebró el segundo aniversario desde su organización como iglesia. La ceremonia tuvo momentos inspiradores en los que se repasaron las



bendiciones de Dios desde los inicios. Los asistentes repitieron al unísono “Hasta Aquí nos ayudó Jehová”. El pastor de la iglesia Elías Sandoval, tuvo el mensaje central y resaltó la necesidad de renovar el compromiso con Dios y buscar

siempre la guía del Espíritu Santo. Los miembros de la iglesia de Mt. Olive renovaron su compromiso de fidelidad, entrega y dedicación.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

## Jóvenes al Servicio del Señor

El sábado 7 de abril las iglesias del distrito de Greenville se reunieron con motivo del segundo congreso de jóvenes en la iglesia de Dudley. El título del evento fue Jóvenes al Servicio del Señor. Se habló sobre la juventud y las vanidades.



El Pr. Jim Davidson, Secretario Ejecutivo de Southern Union, fue el orador principal y enfatizó

el hecho de no permitir que las vanidades de este mundo sean motivo de alejamiento de Jesús, y de orar para tener la disposición de transformar a otros mediante nuestro testimonio.

Norma Sandoval, presidenta del congreso de jóvenes, junto con su comisión y los directores

asociados de cada iglesia, fueron los responsables de la programación del evento. En la actualidad se trabaja en la organización del tercer congreso que se llevará a cabo el 27 de octubre en la iglesia de Wilson, cuyo título será “¿A Quién iré?” Se tratarán temas relacionados con el joven y el tiempo del fin.

—ELÍAS SANDOVAL,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

## Tercer Retiro de Damas del Condado de Broward

El 9 de junio, la iglesia de Fort Lauderdale, FL, llevó a cabo el tercer retiro de damas del condado de Broward en el centro de convenciones Duncan, ubicado en Delray Beach. Asistieron 80

hermanas de 10 diferentes congregaciones. La persona invitada para presentar los temas fue Liz Enid Polanco, de Puerto Rico.

—CLARA ROJAS, IGLESIA DE  
FORT LAUDERDALE



## Caravana de la Victoria, Cerca de 500 Bautismos

El sábado 26 de mayo culminó el esfuerzo evangélico de la asociación, Caravana de la Victoria. El lema fue: Jesús está a las puertas.

Cerca de 500 almas fueron bautizadas al finalizar la campaña. Esta fue la primera cosecha del proyecto de evangelismo del 2012. Se llevó a cabo en 91 centros de predicación con 267

predicadores, en su mayoría laicos, utilizando como temario una serie de sermones basados en el libro “El Camino a Cristo”.

Fue una hermosa experiencia de sacrificio, esfuerzo y dedicación por parte de laicos y pastores. Dejó una huella imborrable que marcará un nuevo



rumbo en la historia del evangelismo de la asociación.

Este evento no se considera como una

ocurrencia aislada. En la actualidad, se continúa con la segunda etapa: grupos celulares y campañas evangélicas. Toda la fuerza laica estará involucrada, bajo la influencia del

Espíritu Santo.  
—IRMA GÓMEZ, EDITORA DEL  
MINISTERIO HISPANO



## VBS, Temporada Milagrosa

La actividad de las Escuelas Bíblicas de Verano 2012 en las iglesias hispanas de la asociación fue altamente bendecida esta temporada. Con notable entusiasmo



los equipos de trabajo formados por maestros y jovencitos ayudantes, presentaron sus programas con una asistencia significativa incluyendo un alto número de niños

procedentes de hogares no adventistas. Aunque no se sabe el número exacto, se augura que será una cifra récord, especialmente en la asistencia de pequeños que no pertenecen a la iglesia. Se contó con la participación de 41 iglesias y compañías incluyendo dos grupos misioneros en desarrollo en los que el total de los niños

asistentes son visitas.

En su mayoría, las iglesias presentaron el programa titulado "Babilonia" en el que se enfatiza la fidelidad de Daniel y sus jóvenes amigos.

Incentivados por las bendiciones recibidas, el equipo de instructores voluntarios que apoyan el departamento infantil cruzó las fronteras para presentar el programa en Panamá y la República Dominicana.

Una de las experiencias más conmovedoras fue la de Denis, una niña vecina de la iglesia Central de Miami. Su madre Jenifer la trajo convaleciente de una delicada operación de cerebro, con el diagnóstico que de que probablemente no volvería a hablar ni caminar. Al ver a tantos niños sentados en la alfombra escuchando

atentamente las historias bíblicas, Denis pidió a su mamá por señas que la sacara de su silla de ruedas y la sentara en el piso. Poco a poco se comenzó a operar un cambio en esta niña, y al finalizar la semana, estaba hablando y caminando. Al llevarla a la sesión de terapia la siguiente semana, nadie pudo entender en el centro de salud, el por qué de esta recuperación. La conmovida madre pidió a su esposo que viniera a la iglesia a agradecer a Dios por ese milagro. Dios puede hacer grandes cosas a favor de los niños y sus familias mediante las Escuelas Bíblicas de Verano.

—REBECA DE LOS RÍOS,  
DIRECTORA DE MINISTERIO  
INFANTIL Y VIDA FAMILIAR EN  
ESPAÑOL

## Georgia-Cumberland Noticias

### Evangelista Hispano de la Asociación



Luego de haber trabajado exitosamente

como director del departamento hispano de la asociación durante 13 años, el pastor Neftaly Ortiz ha aceptado el llamado a ser evangelista para el público latino.

Dios bendijo su ministerio, y la obra

creció considerablemente durante su gestión. En 1999, el número de miembros hispanos era 800, y en la actualidad es 4,220, lo cual representa un crecimiento de más del 500 por ciento en esta área. Las 14 congregaciones existentes trece años atrás se convirtieron en 56. Los 6 templos propios en 28, y

el número de pastores se cuadruplicó.

Dios bendiga al pastor Ortiz en su nueva asignación dentro de la misma misión de llevar almas a los pies de Cristo

—MARIEL LOMBARDI,  
EDITORIA, SOUTHERN TIDINGS

## Nuevo Director del Departamento Hispano



Damos la bienvenida al nuevo director del departamento hispano, pastor Miguel Tirado.

Tirado tiene una amplia

experiencia en ministerio pastoral, capellanía y administración. Durante los últimos 5 años trabajó en el crecimiento de la obra en este territorio, y se desempeñó como director del ministerio juvenil hispano de la

asociación. Que Dios bendiga su ministerio.

—IVETTE FIGUEROA, SECRETARIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

## Once en el 2011

A fines del año 2010, los pastores hispanos recibieron el desafío del plan "Once en el 2011." Se animó a las congregaciones a que pusieran un blanco

de bautismos de 11 almas, ya sea por año, semestre o trimestre. Si el blanco era trimestral, por ejemplo, esto implicaba que al final del año traerían 44 almas a



Jesús. La iglesia Metropolitana, bajo el liderazgo pastoral de Edison González, se propuso bautizar 111 almas en el 2011, y Dios bendijo su deseo.

Las siguientes doce

congregaciones alcanzaron su blanco:

- Metropolitana, Pastor Edison Gonzalez
- Sandy Springs, pastor Edison González
- Chattsworth, pastor Manuel Mendizábal
- Cornelia, pastor Julio De La Rosa
- Gainesville, pastor Julio De La Rosa
- North Gwinnett, pastor Julio De La Rosa
- Coockville, pastor Héctor Hernández
- Cleveland, pastor

Héctor Hernández

- Marietta, pastor Miguel Tirado
- Cedartown, pastor José Escobar
- Collegedale, pastor Danilo Cornejo
- Augusta, pastor Aldo Espinosa

Durante el campestre anual, estos pastores recibieron una placa de reconocimiento.

—NANCY ORTIZ, DEPARTAMENTO DE PUBLICACIONES

## Congreso de Entrenamiento Para Líderes de Grupos Pequeños



El distrito hispano de Knoxville llevó a cabo un encuentro de entrenamiento para líderes de grupos pequeños. El objetivo de este programa de capacitación consistió



en dar un enfoque de discipulado a la familia, involucrando a los niños en la programación de las reuniones semanales de los grupos pequeños. De esta forma, se logra que ellos

también sean parte del desarrollo y crecimiento espirituales.

El número de jóvenes que se alejan de la iglesia en la adolescencia es alarmante. Es por eso que se decidió incluirlos en los planes misioneros desde la niñez. El profeta Joel dijo: "Y después de esto derramaré mi Espíritu sobre toda carne, y profetizarán vuestros hijos

y vuestras hijas; vuestros ancianos soñarán sueños, y vuestros jóvenes verán visiones". Joel 2:28

Dios tiene un hermoso sueño para sus hijos: desea derramar su Espíritu tanto en los pequeños, como en los jóvenes, ancianos y adultos. El estar activos en la iglesia, forma parte de la preparación para que este sueño se haga realidad.

—RICARDO UNRDANETA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

## Eventos en Montgomery



Luego de concluir el evento “Cuarenta Madrugadas”, la iglesia comenzó a profundizar en el tema de la oración y el estudio de la Biblia. Los hermanos se pusieron la meta de traer un alma por persona a los pies de Jesús. Se organizó un día de servicio comunitario, en el que se ofrecieron cortes de pelo, lavado de autos, masajes, y ropa. Además, se sirvieron más de 300 almuerzos, y se distribuyeron más de 200 toneladas de comida. El presidente de la asociación, Mel Eisele, donó 1,000

libras de papas de su propia huerta, que fueron distribuidas entre 122 familias.

Como resultado, 50 personas pidieron que se les diese estudios bíblicos. Para ello, se lanzó el plan “Overtime4Jesus”, que constó del estudio de las Escrituras con 52 amigos, durante 20 días consecutivos. Este plan fue la introducción a una campaña evangélica que se llevó a cabo más tarde. Treinta y tres personas se graduaron y recibieron una Biblia de lujo, y el resto de las 52 continuaron



estudiando y se graduaron poco tiempo después.

El resultado de todos estos esfuerzos fue de gran bendición para la iglesia. Los miembros que participaron activamente en los eventos enriquecieron su vida espiritual, y 13 personas se unieron a la iglesia, en su mayoría provenientes

de las iglesias Pentecostal y Bautista. Más tarde, en el campamento familiar anual, un buen número de interesados que no habían tomado su decisión durante estos eventos pasados, se entregaron a Jesús por medio del bautismo.

La iglesia continúa trabajando con más personas, que impresionadas por el Espíritu Santo durante estos esfuerzos, buscan el reino de los cielos.

—NILTON GARCÍA, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## IV Convención de Mujeres Hispanas

Durante el fin de semana del 11 y 12 de mayo, 250 mujeres hispanas se reunieron para buscar a Dios en el Campamento Alamisco. Son muchos los testimonios que confirmaron la presencia del Espíritu Santo en esta ocasión. Se vivió una profunda renovación espiritual, y las asistentes sintieron la necesidad

de comprometerse a ser mejores esposas, madres, hijas, hermanas, amigas y siervas de Jesús.

Carmen Jiménez fue la oradora central, y Ruwie inspiró el momento con su canto.

—SARA GARCÍA,  
DIRECTORA DEL  
MINISTERIO DE LA MUJER  
HISPANA





## Retiro de Jóvenes



Ciento setenta y cinco jóvenes se dieron cita en el retiro juvenil, que contó con la presencia del

pastor Winston Simpson. Los temas tratados fueron inspiradores y como resultado, varios jóvenes decidieron entregar sus vidas a Cristo Jesús.

—PASTOR ARMANDO DE

LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Somerset, Esfuerzo bendecido

Frente a la llegada de numerosos hispanos al área, la congregación americana de Somerset vio la necesidad de compartir el mensaje del amor de Cristo en su ciudad, con personas que hablan un lenguaje diferente, pero están amparados por el amor de un mismo Padre. Fue así como nació el grupo hispano.

Bajo el liderazgo del pastor Sam Soler y con el esfuerzo misionero de la familia Castillo y Elizabeth Harsh, la asistencia hispana comenzó a crecer, hasta verse en la necesidad



de traer un pastor para levantar una nueva iglesia. Luego de seis meses 70 personas se reunían para adorar a Dios cada sábado y al poco tiempo debieron adquirir un salón en un viejo edificio en Monticello. Desafortunadamente, éste fue destruido por un incendio. El grupo se mudó de un lugar a otro, sin encontrar uno que los

congregara definitivamente. Fue entonces que la familia Puerto, tocada por el Espíritu Santo cedió un garaje, y allí se llevaron a cabo los cultos durante 5 años. Poco a poco el lugar fue transformándose en un sencillo pero hermoso centro de adoración. Durante este tiempo se compró un terreno, y en los momentos libres los

hermanos se reunían para trabajar en la construcción de un templo.

Por la gracia de Dios, en la actualidad 37 personas se reúnen en el nuevo edificio, y han sido organizados como compañía. Los miembros saben que Dios bendecirá sus esfuerzos misioneros, y confían en que pronto podrán convertirse en iglesia.

—PASTOR ARMANDO DE LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Campestre

Grande fue la alegría que experimentaron más de mil personas que asistieron al campestre que la asociación organiza anualmente para los miembros de habla hispana. Los pastores Peter



Simpson y Felipe Garibo fueron los instrumentos que Dios usó para que su nombre fuera glorificado. Una vez más se demostró que la iglesia adventista constituye un pueblo que tiene como misión y

necesidad espiritual, tocar el corazón de aquellos que están viviendo sin Dios y sin esperanza.

—PASTOR ARMANDO DE LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Bautismo en Springfield

Luego de un esfuerzo a cargo del pastor Juan Calcedo, seis personas se unieron al pueblo de Dios por medio del bautismo. No existen palabras para

agradecer al Padre por el maravilloso don del evangelio, que trae el inmenso gozo



de ver almas rendidas a los pies de Jesús.

—MARCO BARRERA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

## Campestre

Con una notable asistencia se llevó a cabo el campestre familiar de la asociación en Panama City, del 10-12 de agosto. El título fue: "Familias Sanas y Cristianas"

El invitado especial fue el pastor Manuel Moral, especialista en temas relacionados con la



familia. Sus meditaciones incentivaron a los asistentes

en el crecimiento espiritual, físico y emocional.

Estuvieron presentes congregaciones de los tres estados que abarca la asociación. Algunas de ellas viajaron durante más de 10 horas para hacerse presentes, y esperan el campamento del 2013 para participar nuevamente.

El sábado se llevó a cabo un bautismo en el que 14 personas entregaron sus vidas a Jesús, y una boda. Al finalizar estas ceremonias se realizó un llamado, y 6 personas manifestaron sus deseos de unirse a la iglesia de Dios en un próximo bautismo.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,  
DIRECTOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## En Cristo Hay Esperanza

Durante la semana del 7 al 14 de julio, el pastor de la iglesia de Warsaw, NC, Ismael Uribe, dirigió una semana de conferencias titulada en Cristo Hay Esperanza. Cuatro almas entregaron sus vidas a Cristo al finalizar este ciclo.

El sábado 14 de la noche, se celebró una ceremonia de casamiento, en la que Jazmín y José, amigos que estuvieron asistiendo a las conferencias, unieron sus



vidas en matrimonio luego de haber decidido seguir a Cristo.

La iglesia de Warsaw se gozó durante esta semana

al escuchar mensajes de esperanza, y sus miembros siguen firmes en el deseo de trabajar para traer más almas al Señor.



—ISMAEL URIBE,  
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO.

## Congreso de la Asociación

El sábado 16 de junio, los pastores Juan Reyes e Ismael Uribe reportaron los logros de la obra hispana en la primera mitad del



año 2012, ante más de 3000 asistentes, en la sesión del congreso de la asociación.

El pastor Alvin Freeman, director del departamento de ministerio personal, invitó a los miembros hispanos a participar, y animó a los presentes a apoyar el crecimiento

de la obra hispana.

—PASTOR EFRAÍN  
POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Ordenación al Ministerio

Dos mil personas se congregaron en el centro de convenciones de Orangeburg, SC, para presenciar una ceremonia de ordenación, en la que entre otros, el pastor Ismael Uribe recibió la imposición de manos de parte de los líderes de la asociación. Uribe es pastor del distrito Norte Carolina, que comprende las congregaciones de



Warsaw, Clinton, Seven Springs, Goldsboro, Smithfield, Wilson, Wallace y Newbern. Su esposa Lady es licenciada en Educación Pre-escolar y ha sido un apoyo valioso, y una ayuda imprescindible para el departamento hispano de la asociación, como secretaria voluntaria.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,  
DIRECTOR DEL  
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Entrenamiento para Líderes

El sábado 26 de mayo se llevó a cabo el entrenamiento para líderes del distrito de José Reyes, pastor de las congregaciones de Cayce, Saluda, Greenwood, Newberry, Rock Hill, Florence, Orangeburg y Conway.

Los líderes de tesorería, recibieron instrucción de parte del auditor de la aso-

ciación, Hubert Thomas; los diáconos y diaconisas, fueron instruidos por Xiomara Poloche; los departamentos de escuela sabática, por Claudia Reyes;



y el pastor Poloche estuvo a cargo de los ancianos.

Al final del entrenamiento el Grupo Fortaleza deleitó a la audiencia con un hermoso concierto.

—LADY URIBE, SECRETARIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

## Cuarto Camporee de Guías Mayores

En el mes de junio, bajo la dirección del licenciado Antonio Pereira, ayudante del

departamento hispano en el área de jóvenes, se realizó el cuarto Camporee

de Guías Mayores y Conquistadores en la ciudad de New Jersey.

El capellán para este evento fue el pastor Jason Espinoza, quien vino desde Venezuela para

presentar las meditaciones espirituales. El pastor Juan Reyes estuvo apoyando la actividad en representación del cuerpo pastoral de la asociación. Se aprovechó este viaje para llevar

al grupo a conocer las instalaciones de la Asociación General, en Silver Springs, MD.

—LADY URIBE, SECRETARIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO





## Actividades de la Universidad Adventista Southern

### Lecturas de arqueología promocionan serie evangélico

Michael Hasel, director del Instituto de Arqueología de la universidad Adventista Southern, y Ron Clouzet, quien fuera decano de la Escuela de Religión, presentaron la serie “Descubrimientos Asombrosos en la Tierra de le Biblia” en las iglesias de Hendersonville y Foster NC, del 15-18 de agosto.

Desde el 2006, Descubrimientos Asombrosos ha traído a la luz a algunos de los descubrimientos de arqueología bíblica más importantes de los últimos dos siglos. Cada una de las cinco presentaciones incluyen fotos de sitios arqueológicos, artefactos antiguos, y contexto histórico, los cuales ayudan a la audiencia en su entendimiento de la Biblia.

La serie se usa previo a los esfuerzos evangélicos. Fue diseñada para atraer grupos de personas que no conocen mucho acerca de las reuniones de la iglesia, o pueden tener prejuicios al respecto. “Nosotros no hablamos de los tópicos religiosos que se escuchan comúnmente en reuniones evangélicas,” dijo Hasel. “Nos enfocamos en descubrimientos de arqueología bíblica que ayudan a que las personas se interesen en el estudio de las Escrituras.”

Durante cada noche

de la serie organizada en las iglesias Hendersonville y Foster, se presentaron temas bíblicos diferentes. La primera presentación fue sobre maravillas Egipcias, cubriendo desde la piedra de Rosetta hasta la madre adoptiva de Moisés. La siguiente noche, los asistentes escucharon sobre los descubrimientos arqueológicos de la antigua de Babilonia, llevados a cabo en los últimos dos

tienen en la actualidad.

—LUKE EVANS, EDITOR,  
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST  
UNIVERSITY

### Departamento de Idiomas de Southern Organiza Campamento de Verano

El departamento de idiomas modernos de la Universidad Adventista Southern, junto con los programas de servicio cristiano y de liderazgo

La maestra de español de la academia de Southern, Yvette Youngberg, sugirió que el departamento de español de ofreciera sus recursos a las estudiantes, y con la ayuda de Melissa Tortal, directora del departamento de servicio cristiano, el campamento de verano se hizo realidad. Un total de 10 estudiantes asistieron al mismo. Las clases incluyeron educación al aire libre, español, y ciencia. Estudiantes de Southern que hablan español colaboraron como mentores. Los padres pudieron participar en recorridos por el campus, sesiones de preguntas con líderes de la universidad, y la ceremonia de graduación de sus hijas.

“El objetivo del campamento fue aprender el idioma, pero interesar a las estudiantes y sus padres en lo que ofrece nuestra institución. Pudimos establecer una buena concexión con las estudiantes y tanto ellas como sus padres respondieron positivamente. Muchos de ellos no conocían Southern. Sentí que el programa fue excelente.” Dijo Adrienne Royo, directora interina del departamento de idiomas modernos.

—INGRID HERNÁNDEZ,  
EDITORIA, SOUTHERN  
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY



siglos, y su relación con el cumplimiento de profecías hechas 2,500 años atrás.

La serie culminó con un evento de dos partes: en la primera, respondió a declaraciones hechas por el autor Dan Brown (El Código Da Vinci) sobre Jesucristo, con descubrimientos hechos en el Mar de Galilea, Cesárea de Filipo, y la ciudad de Jerusalén. La segunda parte consistió de la presentación de los mensajes que Dios dio a las siete iglesias de Apocalipsis, y demostró la aplicación que los mismos

al aire libre, y el Departamento de física e ingeniería, ofrecieron un campamento de verano para estudiantes de español en la Academia de Liderazgo de Niñas en Chattanooga (CGLA), que tuvo lugar del 11 al 15 de junio.

CGLA es la primera escuela semi-privada de niñas de Tennessee. Ofrece un currículo preparatorio para la universidad, y se enfoca en fortalecer la confianza y las habilidades de liderazgo en las jovencitas.

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**Society of Adventist Communicators Annual Convention** – Oct. 18-20. Theme: Soaring to New Heights. Hotel Albuquerque Old Town, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Visit www.adventistcommunicator.org for details.

**Southern Singles Ministries Fall Retreat** – Oct. 19-21. Sterchi Lodge in the Great Smoky Mountains. Details: avocadofiddler@gmail.com or 423-243-4001.

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## ZEPHYRHILLS, FL –

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## MOUNTAIN LOT FOR SALE –

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## UROLOGY OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH

**GEORGIA.** Gordon Hospital is seeking **Board Certified/Board Eligible Urologist.** Live within a beautiful southern community which offers a gorgeous Adventist hospital ([www.gordonhospital.com](http://www.gordonhospital.com)), Adventist elementary school ([www.cobleschool.com](http://www.cobleschool.com)), and first class Adventist high school ([www.gcasda.org](http://www.gcasda.org)). Southern Adventist University within a 45 minute drive ([www.southern.edu](http://www.southern.edu)). Contact [bonnie.shadix@ahss.org](mailto:bonnie.shadix@ahss.org), 800-264-8642. [10-12]

## INVASIVE CARDIOLOGY OPPORTUNITY

located in North Georgia. Gordon Hospital is seeking **Board Certified/Board Eligible Cardiologist.** Outstanding opportunity! Excellent salary and benefits. Beautiful community to raise a family! Outstanding Adventist elementary ([www.cobleschool.com](http://www.cobleschool.com)) and high school ([www.gcasda.org](http://www.gcasda.org)). Southern Adventist University within a 45 minute drive ([www.southern.edu](http://www.southern.edu)). Contact [bonnie.shadix@ahss.org](mailto:bonnie.shadix@ahss.org), 800-264-8642, [www.gordonhospital.com](http://www.gordonhospital.com). [10-12]

## HOSPITALIST (Internal Medicine) OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH GEORGIA.

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**ORTHOPEDIC OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH GEORGIA**. Gordon Hospital is seeking **Board Certified/Board Eligible Orthopedic w/ sub-specialty**. Live within a beautiful southern community which offers a gorgeous Adventist hospital ([www.gordonhospital.com](http://www.gordonhospital.com)), Adventist elementary school ([www.cobleschool.com](http://www.cobleschool.com)), and first class Adventist high school ([www.gcasda.org](http://www.gcasda.org)). Southern Adventist University within a 45 minute drive ([www.southern.edu](http://www.southern.edu)). Contact [bonnie.shadix@ahss.org](mailto:bonnie.shadix@ahss.org), 800-264-8642. [10-12]

**ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES** (formerly Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences) in Orlando, FL, seeks an **Assistant Program Administrator for the Nurse Anesthesia Program**. Qualifications: CRNA with current recertification, eligible for FL licensure, minimum of master's degree from regionally accredited institution with doctoral degree preferred, academic experience. This is a faith-based institution which seeks candidates who fit its unique culture and mission. Submit letter of interest and CV to Dr. Alescia DeVasher Bethea, [alescia.devasher@fhchs.edu](mailto:alescia.devasher@fhchs.edu) or fax 407-303-9578. [10]

**JELICO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL** is looking for physicians to work in our hospital. We are currently seeking the following positions: **Family Practice, Family Practice/OB, Orthopedic, Nephrology, Internal Medicine**. Please contact Jason Dunkel @ [jason.dunkel@ahss.org](mailto:jason.dunkel@ahss.org) or 423-784-1187 for more information. [10-8]

**ANDREWS UNIVERSITY** seeks an **Assistant/Associate/Full Professor** for the Educational and Counseling Psychology department. Qualified candidates should have an earned doctorate in School Psychology, Educational Psychology or related field. For more information and to apply visit: [http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp\\_jobs\\_faculty.cgi](http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi). [10]

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for a **full-time faculty position in Biblical Studies** to begin January 2013. For more information and to apply, please visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>. [10]

**WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY** seeks applicants for a full-time faculty position as **Dean of the School of Education & Psychology** to begin July 2013. For more information and to apply, please visit <http://jobs.wallawalla.edu>. [10, 11]

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM** at Union College seeks **Clinical Director**. Faculty position offers opportunities for teaching and advising beyond typical responsibilities of the position, such as developing clinical sites, working with clinical

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**IMMEDIATE OPENING** – Looking for retired teacher/tutor, student missionary or volunteer to **teach at Dine Outreach**, on the Navajo reservation in Northern Arizona. 20 miles south of Lake Powell. Housing and stipend provided. Please contact Allen or Kelley Fowler at 928-221-9477, [oliveandsage@yahoo.com](mailto:oliveandsage@yahoo.com). [www.dineoutreach.org](http://www.dineoutreach.org). [10]

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**IN GOD'S LOVE SONG**, Ginny Allen shows God's love through stories that come from the deepest places of the heart. *God's Love Song* is the women's sharing book for 2013. To order, call 1-800-765-6955, or shop online at [AdventistBookCenter.com](http://AdventistBookCenter.com). [10, 11]

**TERRORIST THREATS, DEVASTATING TORNADOES, A SHAKY ECONOMY** – it's enough to frighten anybody. Mark Finley's *End-Time Hope*, the 2013 sharing book, provides answers to the turmoil the world is facing. To order, call 1-800-765-6955 or shop online at [AdventistBookCenter.com](http://AdventistBookCenter.com). [10, 11]

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**UPCOMING WILDWOOD HEALTH RETREAT SEMINARS:** Intro to Medical Missionary Work, Oct. 28-Nov. 4. Husbands & Wives, Nov. 4-11. Lifestyle Renewal & Weight Management, Nov. 11-Nov. 18. Country Living Thanksgiving Retreat, Nov. 18-25. Simple, practical, interactive seminars to aid in lifestyle change, personal growth, peace, and happiness. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$370 (includes room, vegan meals). Contact Charene: 931-724-6706. See website for details: [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). [10]

**WILDWOOD HEALTH RETREAT** Comprehensive Hydrotherapy Seminar, Dec. 9-16. Lifestyle Seminar: Victory over Stress, Depression, and Anxiety Dec. 16-23. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$370 (includes room, vegan meals). Contact Charene: 931-724-6706. See website for details: [www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org](http://www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org). [10]

**THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE PROGRAM** can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression and many more. Invest in your health, call

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1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit [www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle](http://www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle). [10-5]

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**AUTHORS WANTED** – If you've written your life story, want to tell others of God's love, or desire to share your spiritual ideas and want it published, call [TEACHServices.com](http://TEACHServices.com) at 800-367-1844, x3, for a FREE manuscript review. [10]

**FREE BOOKS!** Would you like materials for your church/school/institution library that are free of cost and shipping? These powerful books by W.D. Frazee, are recommended by Doug Batchelor, Mark Finley and others. Simply have someone in charge of your organization contact us at 1-800-WDF-1840, [www.WDFsermons.org](http://www.WDFsermons.org). [10]

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY** offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus

programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit [www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees](http://www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees). [10-5]

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**CHALLENGES IN YOUR LIFE TROUBLING YOU?** Consider a confidential consultation from the privacy of your own home or office with a life and wellness coach. As an experienced SDA professional, I offer coaching services,

both in English and Spanish, that include spirituality, career guidance, interpersonal issues, parental challenges and more. Visit [www.yourwellnesscoaching.com](http://www.yourwellnesscoaching.com), call 864-756-1305, or e-mail [walter.vyhmeister.phd@yourwellnesscoaching.com](mailto:walter.vyhmeister.phd@yourwellnesscoaching.com). [10-12]

**ATTENTION ADVENTIST HEALTH STUDY-2 PARTICIPANTS!** Please update your contact information if it has changed (address, phone number). Contact us by email ([ahs@llu.edu](mailto:ahs@llu.edu)), phone (1-800-247-1699), or fax (909-558-0126). You may write to: AHS-2, Loma Linda University, Nichol Hall 2031, 24951 N. Circle Drive, Loma Linda, CA, 92350 or visit [www.adventisthealthstudy.org](http://www.adventisthealthstudy.org). [10]

**EDEN'S PATHWAY** can help you if you have diabetes, cancer, HBP, etc. to change your L.I.F.E.S.T.Y.L.E.S.. We offer the 10-day "Daniel Challenge" detoxification/cleanse program educating in lifestyle modification mentally, physically, and spiritually. For more information, visit [www.edenspathwayhome.com](http://www.edenspathwayhome.com), email: [edenspathway@yahoo.com](mailto:edenspathway@yahoo.com), or call 423-338-4144. [10-11]

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# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**Women's Retreat** – Oct. 12-14, NPR. Visit [www.carolinasda.org](http://www.carolinasda.org) to register.

**Hispanic Women's Retreat** – Oct. 19, 20. NPR.

**Marriage Matters in English** – Oct. 29. Charlotte. Training seminar for those interested in counseling couples with pre-marital and marital issues. \$150 includes seminar, materials, and lunch. Register at [www.carolinasda.org/family-ministries](http://www.carolinasda.org/family-ministries).

**Marriage Matters en Español** – Oct. 30. Charlotte. Same information as above seminar, but presented in Spanish.

**Pastoral Crisis Care Seminar** – Nov. 2-6. Nosoca.

**Community Services Retreat** – Nov. 2-4. Nosoca.

**High Country Campout** – Nov. 2-4.

**Low Country Campout** – Nov. 2-4. Kinard Campground.

**Carolina Men's Retreat** – Nov. 9-11. Nosoca.

**Elders' Certification Training** – Nov. 8. Greenville North.

## Florida

**Complete calendar online** – <http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar/>

**Florida Pathfinder events** – <http://www.floridaconference.com/youth/> 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/childrenandfamily/>, [djmiller4000@gmail.com](mailto:djmiller4000@gmail.com), or 407-703-3050.

**Florida Hospital DeLand Support Groups** – Florida Hospital DeLand offers a variety of support groups such as attention deficit disorder, bereavement, brain injury, celiac disease, diabetes, sleep disorders, and more. Details are available under the "Support Groups" link in the "Patients and Visitors" box at <http://www.fhdeland.org/>

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

**Florida Conference Basketball and Soccer Leagues** – Oct. 27, basketball. Oct. 28, soccer. Locations throughout Florida. Sponsored by Florida Conference **Youth Ministries**. Cost: \$150 for one team or \$100 per team if registering two or more. Additional \$100 if registered after September 30. League descriptions including age groups: <http://www.floridaconference.com/youth/youth/sports/>. Additional Details: [floridasports2012@yahoo.com](mailto:floridasports2012@yahoo.com) or 850-792-3422.

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

**Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule**  
Oct. 27. Tallahassee.  
Oct. 28. Perry, Cross City, Ocala, Silver Springs Shores, Belleview, Lady Lake, Inverness.  
Nov. 3. Sunrise.  
Nov. 4. Plantation, Lauderhill, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)  
Nov. 10. Naples.  
Nov. 11. Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Fort Myers Shores, Arcadia, Avon Park, Winter Haven.  
Nov. 17. West Palm Beach.  
Nov. 18. Midport, Port St. Lucie, Fort Pierce, Cocoa, Titusville. (Southeastern Conference: Palm Bay.)  
Dec. 1. Maranatha in Miami Gardens.  
Dec. 2. Fort Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Pompano Beach, Jupiter-Tequesta.

**Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics**  
Nov. 3. Bonita Springs.  
Nov. 17. Miami Springs.  
Dec. 1. University in Orlando.

**Young At Heart Camp** – Nov. 4-8. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Retreat for age 50+ and young at heart. Fellowship and lots of camp fun and activities. Details: <http://www.campkulaqua.com/>, [summercamp@campkulaqua.com](mailto:summercamp@campkulaqua.com), or 386-454-1351.

## Georgia-Cumberland

**Women's Fall Retreat** – Oct. 5-7. Renew, Refresh, and Restore. St. Simons Island, GA.

**Health Rally** – Oct. 6. Crossville, TN.

**Health Expo** – Oct. 7, 12-5 p.m. Hiram, GA.

**Sunbelt/Cohutta Springs Triathlon** – Oct. 7. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

**Southern Union Pathfinder Camporee** – Oct. 10-14. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL.

**The Great Marriage Experience** – Oct. 12, 13. Calhoun Church, GA.

**ACF Student Leadership Retreat** – Oct. 19-21. Cohutta Springs Conference Center.

**Men's Retreat** – Oct. 19-21. Speaker: Philip Samaan. Cohutta Springs Conference Center.

**Executive and Personnel Sub Committee Meetings** – Oct. 24. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

**Marriage Retreat: "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage"** – Oct. 26-28. Winshape Retreat, Rome, GA.

**Health Seminar with Vicki Griffin** – Oct. 27. Chattanooga, TN, First Church.

**Hispanic Youth Camp "Makeover"** – Oct. 24-28. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

**Pathfinder Teen Challenge** – Nov. 30-Dec. 2. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

Online registration for events available: [www.registration.gccsda.com](http://www.registration.gccsda.com).

## Gulf States

**Complete calendar online**

<http://www.gscsda.org>

**Women's Ministries Retreat** –

Oct. 5-7.

**Principals'/Head Teachers' Retreat** – Oct. 5-7.

**Teachers' In-service** – Oct. 7-9.

**Executive Committee** – Oct. 9.

**Birmingham, AL, Roebuck Church 60th Anniversary Celebration** – Oct. 13. Jim Gilley from 3 ABN is the Sabbath morning speaker.

**Teen Invitational Biking** – Oct. 26-28.

**Teen Invitational Rock Climbing** – Nov. 2-4.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Men's Conference** – Oct. 19-21. Indian Creek Camp.

**Outdoor Education** – Oct. 24-26. Indian Creek Camp.

**Conference Board of Education** – Oct. 25.

**Elders' Training** – Oct. 26-28. Indian Creek Camp.

**Highland and Madison Academy Boards** – Nov. 8.

**Conference Association Board** – Dec. 4.

**Conference Executive Committee** – Dec. 4.

## Southern Adventist University

**Musical Drama** – Oct. 9. "The Rock & the Rabbi," a play about the friendship between Peter and Jesus. For details: 423-236-2814.

**Homecoming** – Oct. 25-28. Come celebrate the 120th Anniversary of Southern! For details, visit: [southern.edu/](http://southern.edu/) alumni.

**Announcements, see page 43.**

Sunset						
	Sep. 28	Oct. 5	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	Nov. 2
Atlanta, GA	7:20	7:11	7:02	6:54	6:47	6:41
Charleston, SC	7:03	6:54	6:45	6:37	6:30	6:24
Charlotte, NC	7:05	6:56	6:46	6:38	6:30	6:24
Collegedale, TN	7:22	7:13	7:03	6:55	6:48	6:41
Huntsville, AL	6:28	6:19	6:10	6:02	5:54	5:48
Jackson, MS	6:44	6:35	6:27	6:19	6:12	6:06
Louisville, KY	7:24	7:13	7:03	6:54	6:45	6:38
Memphis, TN	6:42	6:32	6:23	6:15	6:07	6:01
Miami, FL	7:06	6:59	6:52	6:46	6:40	6:36
Montgomery, AL	6:28	6:19	6:11	6:03	5:56	5:50
Nashville, TN	6:29	6:19	6:09	6:01	5:43	5:46
Orlando, FL	7:10	7:02	6:54	6:48	6:42	6:37
Wilmington, NC	6:54	6:45	6:36	6:28	6:20	6:14



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