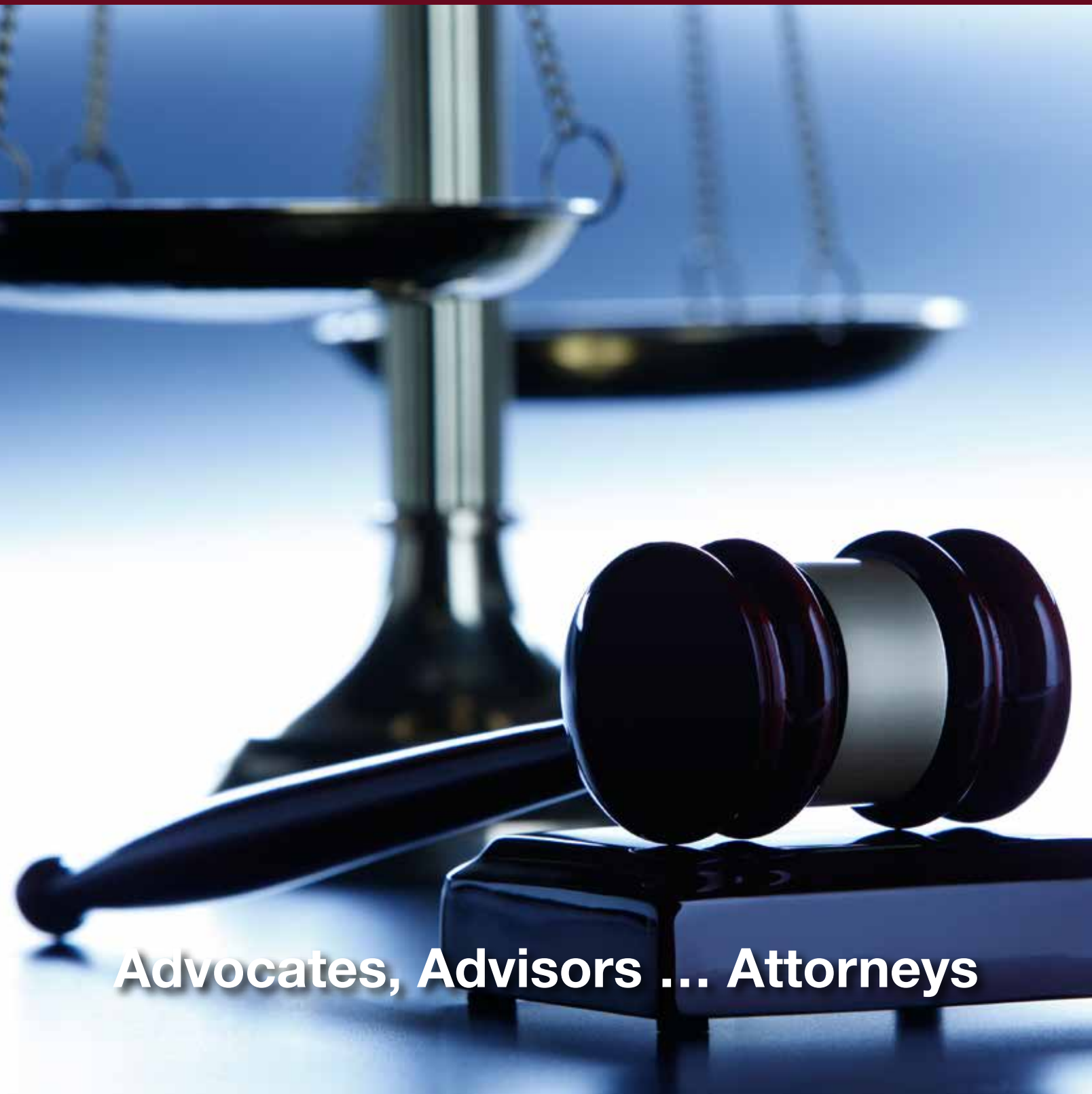


June 2015

TSOUTHERN IDINGS



Advocates, Advisors ... Attorneys

Those Who Persevere ... God Will Reward

This particular feature of the Southern Tidings showcases the tremendous ministry provided by the public affairs and religious liberty dimension of the Southern Union's work. A special appreciation must be extended to the battery of attorneys and judges who navigate our constituents through many legal challenges they face. I have an opportunity to introduce to our readership a brand new attorney whose faith has propelled her through a crucible of fire. Please be blessed by attorney Melissa Mears as she shares a significant piece of her journey. —RCS

There are some mountains in life that seem unscalable by our own human effort. These mountains will often bring you to your knees, with no place to turn but up. My mountain was the Florida Bar Examination.

The Bar exam is the standard by which a law graduate becomes an attorney eligible to practice law in a particular state. As the threshold to a legal career, this exam has long been the subject of great fear and folklore for law students and graduates alike. It was the most difficult obstacle I had ever encountered.

Only two weeks into my studies, I had already lost faith in my own abilities. I could give as much as I had to give; still, it would never be enough. I was studying between 14 and 20 hours each day. There was always one more lecture to watch, one more test to take, one more essay to write. Sleep was something I could no longer achieve when I wanted it, but would instead descend instantly and inevitably at the most inopportune moments — in a Publix parking lot in the middle of the day, or driving home from the law library at the crack of dawn.

Everyone who watched my spiral knew there was no way I could keep this pace. But, I have learned this trait of human beings: We sometimes push ourselves to the very ends of our strength before we decide to hand our worries over to God.

Two days before the exam, I came out of my final practice test with a failing score. I needed more than 15 points to pass — an almost impossible feat to accomplish in 48 hours.

My soul was discouraged and my body had given up. I could not physically force myself to complete the second half of the test. I laid face down on the cold floor and cried. I asked God why He had forsaken me. I asked Him why He would not reward my efforts — I had tried so hard for two months. How could He stand by and watch me fail? I remained this way for hours, repeating the same accusations over and over. “You said You would perfect that which concerns me, that You would give me peace, that no one would snatch me from Your hand. Yet here I am, and where are You?”

I was reminded that God often allows our failures so we will know unequivocally that our successes are by His grace only. By relying on my own strength, I had allowed the possibility of failure to permeate my reality. Now that almost all evidence pointed to an unfortunate outcome, my only choice was to believe in spite of what was visible. My mountain allowed me to cultivate the kind of faith that had no tangible substance or physical evidence, and, in return, God assured me of His presence in the best way possible. Six weeks later, I discovered that I had passed the Bar exam with points to spare.

When we find ourselves scaling life's mountains and failing despite our own relentless effort, it may serve us well to remember that it is always God's will for us to prosper. However, if we are so busy that He cannot command our attention by other means, He just might allow us to fall low enough that we have no alternative but to rely upon our faith in Him.

I learned one thing about stepping out in blind faith — what you see with your eyes will no longer matter. In this faith will still rest the hope that by reaching the limits of your power, God would show you the omnipotence of His.

I solicit your support for all of the legal men and women who serve the Southern Union church community. Let's sustain an attitude of prayer as they daily grapple with the public affairs and religious liberty issues that our constituents face. —RCS



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



Guest Editorial
Melissa Mears,
Attorney

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Advocates, Advisors...Attorneys

BY AMIREH AL-HADDAD

KANDICE JAMES

Sundown Vespers on the beach

A few years ago I answered the concern of a *Southern Tidings* reader regarding an advertisement in the back of the magazine. The member was worried that it was inappropriate for a lawyer to place an ad in the *Tidings* because Paul, in Romans 12:18-19, advises us to live in peace with one another and not seek vengeance. But, the context of the verse was out of place in that instance. There are times when we need the services of a good Christian lawyer, and indeed, the Church views our Adventist attorneys and law students as important members within our faith community.

There are a plethora of services an attorney brings to the table that no other professional can, and

many of these do not place you in an adversarial position, like adoptions or real estate closings, estate planning with wills and trusts, small business and corporate

our Adventist attorneys practice many different types of law, including maritime and admiralty, health, adoptions, intellectual property, and more. We have

...as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord.

Romans 12:18-19

Adventist attorneys who have served as elected state representatives and judges, and even those who have been appointed to the bench by the governor and the President of the United States.

The Southern Society of Adventist

work, as well as tax law issues, just to name a few. Additionally, some Adventist attorneys and law students choose a career in health-care law, in order to work for such organizations as Adventist Health System.

Here in the Southern Union,

Attorneys (SSAA) is an organization within the Southern Union which has the sole purpose of fostering relationships with those Adventist attorneys and with law students in the eight southeastern states. SSAA seeks to grow a network of these profession-



KANDICE JAMIES

Keynote speaker Richard Swenson, M.D., discusses "The Pace and Price of Modern Life."

als where relationships can be grown, socially and spiritually. The Church wants to provide

information and guidance, both spiritual and legal, to organization members concerning their

religious liberty needs. Active attorney members of SSAA are also committed to mentoring Adventist



KANDICE JAMIES

Rhythms of Grace provide special music at the annual retreat.

law students enrolled in law schools around the Union.

Reaching Adventist Attorneys

One of the most anticipated events of the year happens in September: the annual retreat. Attorneys from all over the Southern Union gather for a weekend of fellowship and spiritual renewal. For the last three years the retreat has offered free continuing legal education for attorneys who are members of the Society. This year the Society is holding its 38th annual retreat at Lake Lanier Islands in Georgia.

In addition to the annual retreat, the Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys also holds spring dinners in cities where larger populations of attorneys reside. And, when the occasion arises, referrals are made to Church members who specifically want to be represented by an Adventist attorney.

SSAA also mentors law students by providing a book stipend. This small stipend is for law students who are members in the Southern Union, and is available each year the student is enrolled in law school and submits an application. You can find the application for the stipend online at: www.southernunion.com/ssaa.

Are you an attorney practicing in the Southern Union? Sign up today for membership in the Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys. Visit www.southernunion.com/ssaa for a membership application form. ☞

Amireh Al-Haddad is the director of public affairs and religious liberty at the Southern Union Conference in Norcross, Georgia.



ANDREW HOLINESS

Vespers on the beach



KANDICE JAMES

Young and old enjoy the retreat.

God Provides in Mysterious Ways

BY LLOYD BABB



It was about 3:30 Monday afternoon, three days before Christmas, when I rode my bike to Publix to visit friends who work there. As a retiree, taking care of my ailing wife and not having a car, I looked forward to getting out of the house for a break and some much-needed exercise.

While there, one of my friends who cooks and presents store demonstrations and displays didn't look well. She explained she was in severe pain last night with an ulcer, and went to the emergency room. It was 4 a.m. when she left the hospital along with three prescriptions. She, like I, does not like to take drugs if it can be helped, but would prefer natural solutions if there are any.

I called Hoover's Market, which specializes in natural products, and talked to one of the consultants. After explaining the situation, I was told about an Aloe Vera product that has worked well for many people, and the cost was about \$18.

Here was my dilemma. It was two days before Social Security payday. My funds were low. And, how do I get to Hoover's since I don't have transportation other than my bike and it's too far for me to ride?

So here's what I was impressed to do. I returned home and transferred funds from my savings account to my checking account, believing God would provide. Little did I know that He had already taken care of it! I noticed my neighbor was at home, so I asked to use his car, and he gladly complied. I drove to Hoover's, purchased the product, and delivered it to my friend at Publix. Then I returned home just in time to prepare my wife's supper.

As I turned into my street, I saw a black Cadillac in front of me. I pulled into my neighbor's parking space the same time the Cadillac pulled into my driveway. A woman from my Sabbath School class presented me with an envelope con-

taining a cash gift. Needless to say, I was overwhelmed.

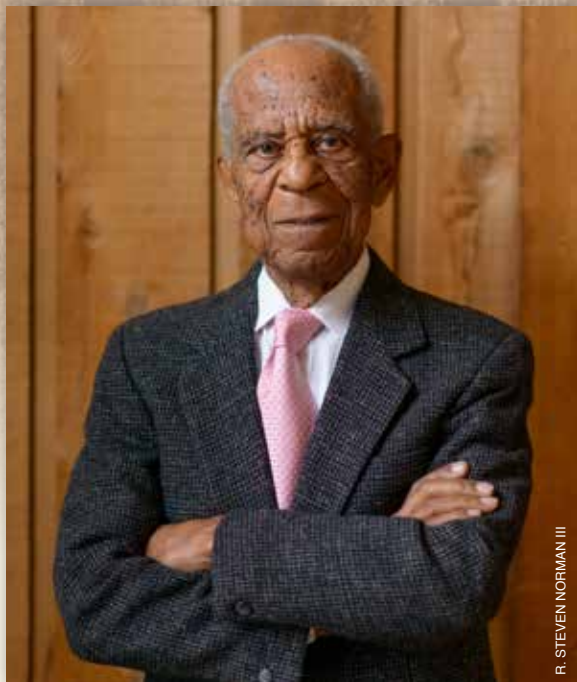
Do you see how God works? If I had not decided to ride my bike to the grocery store, and if I had spent more or less time somewhere, our paths would not have crossed at that exact moment. And, of course, I can now transfer the funds back into my savings with some left over. So you see, my Sabbath School class didn't just help a fellow classmate, but someone they didn't even know.

What an awesome God we serve! ✨

This feature is in a series of short bi-monthly stories featuring God's providence in our lives. If you have a 300-word stewardship story about how God has blessed you, and you would like to share it with the Southern Tidings readership, please email it to idouce@southernunion.com.



Lloyd Babb is a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, Florida. He loves to plant gardens and teach gardening.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Fred N. Crowe at 100 years old

The 100-year-old man I was about to meet is a legend. As the front door of his home opened, a small statured man stood with a gentle, humble demeanor. He is Elder Fred N. Crowe. Crowe is the last of the first administrators of the regional conferences which were formed between 1944 and 1947.

He is in good health, has a keen mind, still drives around town, and is active in his local church. A dedicated husband, he lovingly cares for his wife, Dorothy.

This humble and gracious gentleman is a living, breathing exponent of history who explains the circumstances surrounding the formation of regional conferences as the last living eyewitness.

Historic Service

Crowe graduated from Atlantic Union Conference in 1939 and became a colporteur in the Greater New York Conference. Later that year he was called to the Indiana Conference where he was asked to serve as pastor/evangelist for two churches in Marion and Muncie, and a company in Richmond.

Fred N. Crowe:

A Centenarian

Reflects on Regional Conferences, Longevity

BY MARVIN L. ALLISON SR.

These were turbulent times in the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the nation at large. When Crowe began his ministry, the nation was deeply segregated, and so was the world Church. Non-Whites were not given fair

assimilation into local conferences, had no voting power, job security, or administrative representation. During the 1944 Spring Council held at the Stephens Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, one of the agenda items was to address concerns that arose surrounding the death of Lucy Byard, a Black woman who died after being turned away from Washington Adventist Hospital. The Black leaders wanted the Church leaders to make a decision that would spell racial progress in the Church for the 17,000 Black members in the North American Division.

After much discussion about the best option, Elder J.J. Nethery, then president of the Lake Union, gave a strong speech in support of regional conferences. H.M. Blunden, secretary of the General Conference Publishing Department, then pointed to the success the Publishing Department was experiencing with Black leaders. With these two speeches, support coalesced and the recommendation for regional conferences was voted. The first regional conference was organized on September 26, 1944 in the Lake Union territory. It was the Lake Region Conference.

With the decision made, many expected and some predicted the newly formed 'colored' conference would fail within six months, and Blacks would return to the state conferences. The wider Adventist diaspora was also watching — some in anticipation of success and others of failure. But Crowe and many others knew that God's hand was in this movement, not just to benefit the Blacks in North America, but His world Church as well. "The Adventist work was flat-lining until the formation of regional conferences," Crowe notes, quoting Monte Sahlin, Adventist historian and researcher, "This action desegregated the Church, and did not segregate the Church," as some today claim. Until this action, the Church was segregated, even though we were in the same conferences. Black workers and members were systematically discriminated against. Crowe asserts that the organization of regional conferences was the "providence of God to heal a Church that was going down the wrong path."

Another benefit of regional conferences is that Blacks now had voting representatives at the various levels of the Church. Before regional conferences, Black members and workers had no voice or vote above their local churches. After regional conferences were formed, their presidents along with selected laymen and workers, represented them on committees of the Union Conferences, North American Division, and the General Confer-

ence. Consequently, by 1954 Blacks had elected officials at every level of the Church, and the ability to influence the formation of policy.

Just a Servant

You would think that a servant legend with such firm resolve and historical significance would “Crowe” — pardon the pun — about his accomplishments. Nothing would be more out of character with this servant of God. Concerning his “legendary” status, he is humble, and seeks no praise for his longevity or life’s work. “I am just glad that God allowed me to be a part of the greatest thing the Adventist Church ever did,” he intones.

For several hours, this unassuming retired pastor, treasurer, and Church administrator spoke of challenging events in the Church’s history of segregation. He fondly reflected on the men and women who were integrally tied to the work, injecting humorous stories and serious discussions and difficult struggles they faced. He was even able to laugh at events that some would find offensive today. Ironically, Crowe did not see the Church’s practice of segregation as wickedness; he saw it as a sickness, a sickness that only God could heal — and that God did heal.

As the fledgling Lake Region Conference prepared to begin its work, Crowe became its first secretary-treasurer, much against his will. Charles E. Galley, who had been elected to the position, was at the time teaching at Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in Huntsville, Alabama. When Galley could not begin his work for six months, Crowe was appointed acting treasurer, since he had studied religion and accounting while a student at Atlantic Union College. He had just been assigned a pastorate in Gary, Indiana, and desperately wanted to return to his church. “I made the brethren promise that once Galley arrived, I could go back to pastoring.”

But after five months, Galley informed J. Gershom Dasent, then Lake Region president, that he had decided to remain at Oakwood. Nethery suggested to Dasent that Crowe remain

secretary-treasurer since his work was exemplary. Charles Bradford, retired North American Division president, speaks fondly of Crowe and refers to him as “the dean of treasurers.”

After his service in the Lake Region Conference, Crowe pastored churches in Pueblo, Colorado; Kansas City, Kansas; and Riverside Chapel in Nashville, Tennessee, before be-

ond reason for his marvelous health and medication-free life. “Nothing that swims, crawls, eats, or flies has ever entered my system,” he notes with a smile. While not a vegan, he is a committed vegetarian since becoming an Adventist at age 12.

“I also believe everyone should have a merry heart, learn to laugh at themselves, and be happy about



Elder Crowe, former treasurer of the South Central Conference, listens as the late Elder Charles E. Dudley interviews James Herbert who built the Macie Herbert Memorial Church in Greenville, Alabama, in memory of his wife, and donated it to the South Central Conference. Dudley (left), James Herbert, Etta Dudley, and Fred Crowe.

ing elected to treasurer of the South Central Conference, a position he held from 1981 until he retired in 1993. Currently, he regularly attends First Church in Springfield, Tennessee, where he served as a local elder until a year or so ago.

God Preserves His Servant

Today, Crowe’s mental astuteness and health are remarkable as evidenced by his nuanced understanding of the current regional/state conference issue. When asked how he lived so long, he was quick to share reasons why. “The most important reason of all is the fifth commandment — the only commandment with a promise. God honored me,” he says emphatically, “for taking care of my mother and father when they were no longer able to care for themselves — just as the commandment has promised.”

But that’s not all. Crowe is a strong believer in the principles of health, and believes it to be the sec-

everything. Meanness and negativity is a great killer of life.” Crowe believes in a joy that is contagious. “It is not only just to have joy in your life, but bringing happiness to everybody is a main key as well. Smile at people,” he says smiling. “Help them to see joy and humor.” As he looks for the Lord’s return, Crowe’s prayer is that he will live to see Jesus’ appearance, but should he pass away, he has the assurance that all is well with his soul.

Crowe has been a Seventh-day Adventist for 88 years, and retired after more than 40 years of Church employment. It was an honor to spend a few hours listening to this legend of legends reflect on his life and the work of providential design. With a firm handshake and a friendly wave, Elder Crowe bade farewell.

Visit <http://www.scc-adventist.org/communication/> to hear excerpts from Elder Crowe’s interview. ☞



BRING IT DOWN!

Dropping weight and insulin in the diabetes fight

BY ELLEN TODOSICHUK

SUBMITTED BY ELLEN TODOSICHUK

Members of the Harrison Church in Tennessee held a Reversing Diabetes Seminar. They had about 35 people attend, and the group as a whole lost 60 pounds. One man was even able to come off insulin.

Diabetes is a disease of epidemic proportions that has touched the lives of many people in some way. There is a great need for education and support for those affected. The Harrison Church, in an effort to meet the needs of the community, hosted a six-week Reversing Diabetes Seminar from January 22 to February 26, 2015. The participants learned how changing their diet and lifestyles, while continuing with their doctor's support, will help reduce or even eliminate the need for medication, lower blood pressure, and produce weight loss. Each participant was required to have lab work, and their physicians were made aware of the program.

Each night, attendees learned about healthy eating, exercise, fiber, and water intake, along with facts and basic medical information concerning diabetes, insulin resistance, and how these affect the body.

There were 35 regular attendees at the Reversing Diabetes Seminar; 12 were Adventists and the rest were community members. The event was held at the local Ruritan Club, with two club members in attendance.

The attendees lost a group total of more than 60 pounds, and almost every participant experienced a significant drop in their blood pressure during the six-week period. One man even came off of his insulin. Evalu-

ations showed that two-thirds of the participants practiced the suggestions from the seminar, and although exercise seemed to be the weakest area, they were well on their way to meeting their goals in other areas. The goals included 45 grams of fiber, and eight glasses of water daily.

One challenge included reading the books provided and recipes, so each seminar included highlighting important points from the reading material, and providing printed recipes, along with nightly samples of delicious vegetarian meals.

The program coordinator, Joanne Wynne, has been involved in personal ministries for many years. She commented on this event as the highlight of her experience, "I was amazed to see how actively God's hand was evident in the execution of this event. Sometimes we would struggle with staffing issues, and the Lord would clearly step in and provide. For example, we have a lot of nurses in our church, but hardly any were able to help out. We were very concerned, and made this a matter of prayer. A few days later we received a call from a nurse practitioner from another church, who had just moved to this area and had been praying that the Lord would help her find a ministry. When she saw our ad, she said she knew this was it. She became a crucial

part of our program. I became encouraged and excited with her call, and went out that day to the last clinic to deliver a poster. There, I ended up talking with the health coach who taught the diabetes classes for two local clinics, and she wanted to attend herself, and ended up helping every night. The Lord truly provided for our nursing shortage. At other times, when staff would not be able to attend, something would happen to make up for it. I know the Lord was truly supporting this effort. He is still in the healing business."

Following the six-week seminar, participants were invited to a four-week cooking school, March 5-26. Well attended, with 20 regular attendees, these classes helped solidify their understanding of the basics of healthy eating — no sugar, no fats, increasing fiber, whole grains, and plant-based foods.

The attendees were invited to check any further interests they might have in future events offered by the Harrison Church. Several upcoming events received interest, and the overall response was gratefulness and enthusiasm.

Two of the nurses purchased the DVDs so they can work with their communities.

Contact the Conference office for information on how you can bring this ministry to your area. Ask for health ministries, 800-567-1844. ☯

Half Hour Drive, Whole Other World

Southern Adventist University staff and students make downtown Chattanooga one of their mission fields.

BY LUCAS PATTERSON

Loren Hall, senior biology major at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, helps a customer during the Street Store community service event in downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Collegedale is one of the fastest-growing cities in Tennessee. But for now, Southern's hometown remains a respite from the traffic and troubles of a more urban environment. Being so close to Chattanooga has its benefits, though, especially when it comes to training future leaders for service work involving the homeless or other disadvantaged people. Within minutes, volunteer groups from the University are able to immerse themselves in a world far removed from the serenity of student life on a conservative, Christian campus nestled amid 1,300 acres of private, wooded land.

The contrast can be life-changing, and Dora Desamour, Christian Service Program director for Southern, appreciates having such a strong tool at her disposal for engaging students.

"Chattanooga provides our young people the chance to address needs not always witnessed in the suburbs," Desamour said.

Street Store

For its 22nd annual Community Service Day in January, Southern took approximately 1,000 students and staff off campus to volunteer. Several of those set up shop on sidewalks in Chattanooga, building a temporary "Street Store" for the homeless outside of the Salvation Army's downtown

headquarters. More than 750 pieces of clothing donated by the campus community hung neatly from cardboard hangers on fences as students rushed back and forth helping customers find exactly what they needed. The experience was designed to provide clothing for the homeless while giving them the chance to decide for themselves what they wanted instead of blindly accepting handouts. So along with shirts and shoes, they were given dignity and hope. Two hundred to 300 visitors came through that day for an unusual shopping experience.

"I approached two men and, without thinking about it, asked if they needed help looking for something," said Natalie Herrera, junior social work major. "We had a great conversation. They thanked me for coming up to them without showing any fear, and told me how other young women will see them on the street and cross to the other side to avoid them. This left quite an impression on me!"

Salvation Army staff noticed the generous spirit of Southern students as well. Kimberly George, marketing and development director for the nonprofit, said the enthusiasm — and even the age — of these volunteers made an impact that morning.

"Our clients typically don't get much



More than 50 pairs of shoes were among the items donated by Southern's students and staff for the Street Store.

one-on-one interaction with young people, and they felt loved as a result," George said. "The Southern students were so passionate! They understand what it means to serve and share the love of Jesus through their hands and feet."

Servant Leaders

In the 2010-2011 academic year, Southern established its Christian Service Program, making service-learning (volunteer work that uses academic training) and community service a part of the general education requirement. In a four-year college career, students will complete 39 hours of service work, at a minimum. This is similar in scope to programs increasingly found at secular universities as well. Though the concept of mandatory volunteering may sound odd at first, it is intended to help students become servant leaders in their churches, communities, and families.

"I want our students to leave this institution with more than a career," Desamour said. "The service requirement is no different from other ways we teach and train our students. In order to encourage 'the pursuit of a life of service,' as Southern's mission statement says, we must first provide them with the necessary tools." ❖

Jellico Community Hospital to Change Ownership

After being managed by Adventist Health System for 40 years, Jellico Community Hospital will transition to join Community Hospital Corporation (CHC) on May 1, 2015. In February, Adventist Health System, Jellico Community Hospital, and the City of Jellico finalized a new relationship with CHC of Plano, Tex., to lease and operate the hospital. CHC also negotiated a new long-term lease of the hospital facility from the City of Jellico.

Under the agreements, Jellico Community Hospital in Jellico, Tenn., as well as the hospital's CarePlus Center in Williamsburg,



Jellico Community Hospital in Jellico, Tenn.

Ky., will become a part of the CHC organization. CHC and AHS have been working collaboratively to ensure a smooth transition.

"We have been proud to serve the community of

Jellico for 40 years, but the financial pressures and hardship of managing a small community hospital without the partnership and resources of a larger system within the region are no longer sustainable," said Don Jernigan, AHS president/CEO. "We are pleased that CHC will embrace and further our mission in this community."

CHC owns, manages, and provides support to 20

community hospitals nationwide, which becomes 21 hospitals with Jellico Community Hospital. CHC has also entered into a clinical affiliation agreement with Baptist Health, headquartered in Louisville, Ky., which creates opportunity for local collaboration on clinical and program development. CHC and Baptist Health already collaborate for long-term acute care through ContinueCARE Hospital at Baptist Health Corbin, located 30 miles north of Jellico.

—BY MELANIE LAWHORN

Ten Hospitals Recognized as Top Performers in Quality, Safety

Ten Adventist Health System facilities were recently recognized for excellence



in patient quality and safety during the annual Chief Medical Officer and Chief Nursing Officer Retreat, April 28-30, 2015, in Sarasota, Fla. "As an organization, one of our top goals is for each of our hospitals to rank nationally at the top quartile or higher for quality and safety," said Loran Hauck,

M.D., senior vice president of the office of clinical effectiveness, and chief medical officer for Adventist Health System. "The teams at these facilities are leading the way, and we were honored to recognize them for the quality care that

they consistently provide to patients."

The top performers of 2014 — selected based on clinical data results — received awards in the following categories. Awards that indicate small versus large hospital are based on less than or greater than 150 beds.

- Evidence-Based Nursing Care (IPOCs) – Florida Hospital DeLand
- Management of Sepsis in the Emergency Department – Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel
- ICU Glycemic Management – Florida Hospital Waterman
- Patient Safety Culture (Top Performers) – Manchester Memorial Hospital (Small Hospital) and Florida Hospital Fish Memorial (Large Hospital)
- Patient Safety Culture (Most Improved) – Park Ridge Health
- Value-Based Purchasing (Patient Experience, Quality, Safety) – Gordon Hospital (Small Hospital) and Adventist Hinsdale Hospital (Large Hospital)

- Best Overall Infection Prevention – Florida Hospital Wesley Chapel (Small Hospital) and Metroplex Adventist Hospital (Large Hospital)

"Each of these awards was achieved through a combination of teamwork, attention to detail, and best-practice utilization," said Judy Blair, senior vice president of the office of clinical effectiveness, and chief clinical officer for Adventist Health System. "They are a testament to the commitment of teams across our system to deliver compassionate, high-quality care that reflects our mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ."

—BY RAINEY TURLINGTON

University of Health Sciences Student Presents Nursing Bill to Florida Senator



Jessica Tiegs (far left) is pictured with fellow ADU nursing students at Advocacy Days.

Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) first-term nursing student Jessica Tiegs had the opportunity to present Bill 1342: Nurse Staffing Committees to Florida Senator Darren Soto at the Florida Nurses Association's Advocacy Days in Tallahassee.

The bill, if approved, will create nurse staffing committees in hospitals composed of at least 51 percent of nurses. This will allow nurses to be actively involved in staffing plans, including RN experience, patient complexity, and review of adverse

incidents in connection to staffing.

"Senator Soto listened to Tiegs' presentation and immediately called in his aid to pull up the bill, and sponsor it," explains Frank Harris, ADU president of the Student Nursing Association.

The bill is currently moving forward in the Senate, and has garnered more support due to Tiegs' influential

presentation.

"It was such a magical moment for me. I can't believe that I, a first-term nursing student, was capable of making such an impact. I knew from that moment that you can make

is part of ADU's mission, and that is exactly what she and the entire ADU Student Nursing Association strives to do.

"I could not be more proud of our ADU nursing students who worked beside FNA lobbyists to present this bill, and create positive change in healthcare," states the chair of ADU's Nursing Department, Jan Preston, Ph.D.

The ADU Student Nursing Association provides educational resources, leadership opportunities, and career guidance for nursing students of Adventist University of

Health Sciences. The organization gives students the chance to get involved early on, and to begin creating change even before entering into their career.

The ADU Student Nursing Association is now one of the largest chapters in the state of Florida, and ADU is the only

University with two students serving on the State Board of Directors.

—BY MEGHAN BRESCHER



ADU nursing student Jessica Tiegs presents a bill to Florida Senator Darren Soto.

a difference, even as a student," explains Jessica Tiegs.

Making a difference

Carolina Adventurers Learn How to be Missionaries



REBECCA CARPENTER

pastors, teachers, boat captains, airplane



REBECCA CARPENTER

More than 830 Carolina Adventurers and staff marched in a parade at Nosoca Pines Ranch dressed as doctors, dentists, nurses,



REBECCA CARPENTER

pilots, builders, and every other profession associated with missionary service. They were there to celebrate Adventurer Fun Day on Sunday, April 5, 2015.

The challenge for each Adventurer was to learn and experience as many things as they could in one day about the purpose and life of someone in full-time

missionary service.

The featured guest presenter, Ryan Ashlock, pastor of the Charlotte, N.C., University Church, detailed the adaptation and orientation that missionaries must do when serving in foreign territories. His stories from Thailand were definitely a “wow” moment for every child.

Adventurer clubs moved through seven rotations, which included medical relief and emergency, construction and development, and translation in both verbal and written documents. Each Adventurer rode a horse, made a craft, and took a tour of the camp in a hay wagon. Missionaries also take furloughs, which was represented by the explo-

ration of a large inflatable maze.

Each club brought a special box of presents to be sent to the Alaskan Mission.

In preparation for completing the requirements for the Fun Day Award, clubs have been contacting and corresponding with active missionaries around the world.

The closing ceremony featured a challenge to be a missionary for Jesus. The theme song, “Be a Missionary,” was composed by a Carolina pastor, Isaac Vallejo, and performed by the Hickory Spanish Adventurer Club.

The 2016 Adventurer Fun Day theme will be “Back to the Future with Jesus!”

—BY STANLEY KNIGHT

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“Be Encouraged, Be Empowered, Be Equipped”



COURTNEY HEROD

Dozens of elders gathered at Nosoca Pines Ranch the last weekend of March to “Be Encouraged, Be Empowered, Be Equipped.”

Dennis Ross, retired ministerial director of the Southern Union, provided the encouragement and empowerment. He challenged the elders and their spouses to take an inward look at their spiritual relationship with God, and an outward look at the needs of their fellow man.

The equipping came from one of two track options.

Track 1: The Elders Certification Course (Module 3), with a focus on preparing elders to deliver God’s Message to God’s people through “the foolishness of preaching.”

Ralph Ringer, Southern Union director of evangelism and church growth, led one group of elders in the steps of preparing and presenting a sermon — from prayerful submission to finding resources, from

discovering the message of Scripture to applying God’s truths to current life.

Jeff Conken, an elder from the Pittsboro, N.C., Church, commented, “The knowledge that I gained from the seminars on preaching will enable me to better minister to our members with my sermons.”

Track 2: Understanding the Church and harnessing the power of laity and pastor united in mission.

Carolina Conference President Leslie Louis explained the power of combining forces: “We can do more together.”

Nelson Fernandez Jr., pastor, presented ways elders can work better with their pastor, specifically when their pastor has two or more churches.

Carlton Robinson, head elder, Columbia, S.C., First Church, noted that Fernandez “cautioned elders to have realistic expectations of pastors, and maintain clear lines of communica-

tion to head off misunderstandings.”

Ivan Blake, pastor, presented the transformational power of the Gospel and what it does in the life of an individual. Specifically, he demonstrated how to share it simply and clearly.

Haskell Williams, Carolina Conference ministerial director, shared a study of the Gifts of the Spirit from Scripture, detailing how God releases the energy of His Holy Spirit to make us effective disciples. It is not only important to discover the gift which God has bestowed on everyone, but also to become involved in a ministry that engages your gift with others and their gifts.

Glen Altermatt, Carolina Conference associate ministerial director, explored the “Life-Cycle of the Church.” Being aware of the stages of maturity in a congregation can prolong its vitality and fruitfulness. He shared that every church has a “birth,” and

a “death.” Once a church begins that downward cycle, only one event will save it — rebirth through a new vision. “The Value of Vision” was the subject of his second seminar.

Delegates expressed their excitement about next year’s retreat. They can’t wait to put their new knowledge into practice in their home churches.

Robinson summed it up in this way, “Elders’ Retreat is an opportunity to get a fresh perspective on ministry, and learn by sharing in the experiences and challenges of fellow elders. I’m thankful that the Carolina Conference provides this experience.”

—BY GLEN ALTERMATT AND HASKELL WILLIAMS



COURTNEY HEROD

Friends Become Family at Florida Living



Florida Living Retirement Community family Walter and Linda DeLeon (left), Don Weatherall, and John Kossick enjoy visiting together.

Known as a place where friends become family, Florida Living Retirement Community (FLRC), Apopka, Fla., is celebrating 50 years of service. The combined dreams of visionaries Arthur Guenther, D.D.S., and Kenneth Wright of an affordable facility for retired church workers and lay members were realized on September 12, 1965.

Early residents lived in orange grove fragrance. However, freezes and expanded apartment construction removed the citrus trees. The campus grew rapidly; yet, it didn't emerge as high-rise retirement lodging.

Whether residents reside in a one- or two-bedroom apartment, a garden efficiency, or one of the

four campus houses, all are considered family. Utilities, van transportation to local stores, trash pickup, lawn care, and maintenance are part of FLRC's provisions. Vegetarian meals are served by ticket purchase.

A traditional Adventist church service is held in Fritsche Hall for residents and members from the community. There are also

more than 50 Adventist churches within a 15-mile radius for members to visit and enjoy. "We found a little Heaven on Earth with a wonderful church family who are loving, kind, and considerate," says former educator Don Weatherall.

Forest Lake Academy's ASSIST program provides students to freely help residents with small household tasks or just keep residents company with a generation connection.

Residents anticipate the 50th anniversary celebration scheduled for Sunday, September 13, 2 p.m., at Fritsche Hall, followed by refreshments at the House of Guenther Dining Hall on campus. Those who plan to attend the 50th celebration should notify the FLRC administrator Nancy Pleasants at 407-862-2646. More information about FLRC is at floralivingretirement.com or on Facebook.

—BY BETTY KOSSICK



The beautiful Florida Living Retirement Community campus has 95 dwellings that can accommodate up to 200 residents.

Kossicks Celebrate 65th Anniversary

John Kossick and Betty Kasper were married April 23, 1950, in Akron First Church, Ohio, after meeting at a bus stop one year earlier to the day. After 65 years, John says, "Betty is the jewel God gave me. Her smile is the best part of the day."

John served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in Alaska with the Fire Rescue Squad, and then became an electrician. In 1976, he left commercial electrical work and joined Kettering Medical Center, Ohio. He spent 18 years working as an electrician and/or a foreman with the specialty of troubleshooting at Adventist hospitals: White Memorial Medical Center, Los Angeles, Calif.; Shawnee Mission



John and Betty Kossick

Medical Center, Shawnee Mission, Kans.; and back to Kettering Medical Center until retirement.

Betty pursued many artistic positions such as sign

painting, window trimming, and furniture design. She served as a Bible worker and many office positions while she became a prolific writer. She has been

published in more than 70 books and authored two; plus, approximately 800 poems carrying her byline.

The Kossicks make their home at Florida Living Retirement Community in Apopka, Fla., where she is the press writer. Their door is always welcome to old and new friends. As one friend stated, "To know them is to love them."

John is a deacon and Betty is the press writer for Florida Living Church. "Johnny is the priest of our home," says Betty. "I especially appreciate his prayers."

The Kossick family includes son Kevin, daughter Stephanie Moore, five grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

Porters Celebrate 65th Anniversary

Ernest and Patricia Porter celebrated their 65th anniversary on June 4, 2014. Ernest and the former Patricia Lein were married at Trinity Union Methodist Church in Providence, R.I.

Ernest began working with the Highway Department in Rhode Island while serving as a volunteer fireman for 15 years. He was employed as a hospital orderly, and then in law enforcement at many stores in Massachusetts and Florida. His last position before retirement was a nursing home security guard at Brentwood Health Center, Lecanto, Fla.



Patricia and Ernest Porter

Following many years as a homemaker, Patricia became a licensed practi-

cal nurse in Florida, and worked for the nursing home at Brentwood

Health Center and Cypress Creek Juvenile Detention Center in Lecanto.

The Porters became Adventist church members in 1956 while living in Providence. They are now members of Inverness Church in Florida.

Their family consists of four sons, Ray, Tom, Ernest Jr., and Daniel; five daughters, Deborah, Sandra, Judith, Susan, and Christine; 24 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. Their daughter, Deborah, passed away in 1964; and Tom, a Vietnam veteran, passed away in 2009.

Collegedale Church Group takes Mission Trip to Cuba



SUBMITTED BY WOLF JEDAMSKI

Wolf Jedamski, administrator and pastor of Global Missions for the Collegedale Church in Tenn., hugs a newly baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Cuba. The spring mission trip included two Southern Adventist University students, one student from Collegedale Adventist Middle School, one student from Collegedale Academy, and eight adults.

Wolf Jedamski, administrator and pastor of Global Missions for the Collegedale Church in Tenn., shared his response to a mission trip that he and his church family recently took to Cuba, March 3-16, 2015.

I was afraid the Caribbean Sea was too cold for our eight baptismal candidates, especially for our sweet grandma who had just taken her stand for Christ. But, as she said over and over again while awaiting her turn, “muy contento,” I realized that “very happy/satisfied” was also our Collegedale Church mission team’s heart cry that final Sabbath as we celebrated an eventful God-led trip to Cuba during spring break.

From their very first invitation, God had stepped into the planning process and gave numerous revelations of His leading. When the invitation came from the Trinidad Church members for us to come and do a reaping series of meetings for their church and one for their church plant in the nearby town of Casilda, another mission trip was already planned during the suggested dates.

The Collegedale Church agreed to pay the moving expenses, a year’s rent, and a salary stipend for a Bible worker to move to Casilda, but stressed that the members would not be able to come. The question then was, what to do

when the word comes back that the church members are fasting and praying that God would “part the Red Sea” and make it possible?

The week that news arrived, literally everyone who was signed up for the other trip backed out, and those plans had to be scraped. Cuba was a go!

“Grandma,” by the way, was one of the first two members to be baptized into that new house church.

The answers to prayer simply continued throughout the trip. Several airline personnel told the group that they could not take the two electronic pianos they were donating, but then without discussion or argument, loaded them onto

the baggage conveyors. The Cuban customs agents looked right past those two huge boxes and didn’t even see them. Bibles that were shipped a year ago arrived Friday morning, so during every meeting attendees were given their own personal Bible. After numerous proactive friendship overtures from several of the team members, a Santería witch doctor came to the last meeting asking for a Bible for himself. Numerous decisions were made for Christ and for baptism — most of them involving huge personal issues that had to be overcome often through prayer.

These answers to prayers — even more than preaching at two sets of adult meetings, more than providing special music, more than planning and leading in two very successful children’s meetings, even more than making new friends within those two Cuban towns — strengthened the group’s faith, and humbled them to know God would use them to help provide those answers, and to assist in fulfilling His Great Commission. They also were “muy contento!”

A huge thanks go to the members who supported this mission with their prayers and donations. The mission group could not have done this without the overall church family’s support.

—BY WOLF JEDAMSKI

North Knoxville Members Make Losing Weight Fun

“Wow! It seems like a lot of people are losing weight!” my daughter remarked after returning to church at North Knoxville from school.

Looking around the meeting room, she named five people whose weight loss had become noticeable. Her statement marked a turning point in the culture of the church, enabling many to talk about obesity.

The health ministries team was led by Kathy Reid, also known as “Blowin-in-the-Wind Cattail.” Each participant received a trail name, a tradition in the distance hiking community symbolic of a healthier new identity. She began discussing how to actively support those in church and community who desired to reach a healthier weight. The result was a simple program

meeting monthly from August to December 2014, and later extended through March 2015, with a three-pronged emphasis on diet, exercise, and group support.

Each meeting included brief lectures by Ed Reid (Eager Beaver) and Illabelle Lee (Circling Coyote) on nutrition or topics related to the struggles and obstacles faced by participants, two 12-minute low-impact exercise sessions expertly led by Rick Dunifer (Running Bear) and Tammy



Members of the North Knoxville, Tenn., Church got busy losing weight in a creative way. They established a health program that emphasized diet, exercise, and group support.

Beachy (Galloping Horse), and a group activity.

At subsequent meetings, accumulated miles were reported and charted on a map of the 2,663-mile Pacific Crest Trail, the 2,189-mile Appalachian Trail, and the 900-mile Mountains-to-Seas Trail from Clingman’s Dome in the Smokies to the Outer Banks of North Carolina —

with 143 miles left over: a total of nearly 6,000 miles!

Some established new routines, including daily physical activity. Some employed grandchildren or dogs as coaching assistants. Some learned to change eating habits. And yes, they lost pounds.

—BY ILLABELLE LEE

Fannin County “God In Shoes” Gains Bible Students



SUBMITTED BY ANGIE LEDFORD

Nothing beats a day of relaxation. The Fannin County women’s ministries and community services recently offered a God In Shoes event, and now are holding Bible studies with 10 women.

The Fannin County, Ga., Church women’s ministries and community services held their second God In Shoes Spa Day on February

up women who came to the community services each week. The members wanted to have a special day to uplift these women

and share God’s love.

They provided an Italian buffet lunch, nail massage and nail care, facials, and massages; and this year they added a hair stylist, crafts, and a “Fun Foto” station. The photo provided the women with a keepsake of their special day.

Keeping with the idea to somehow “take our friendship to another level,” they added a brief survey for each woman to complete as she received her gift bag. The survey asked several questions about the spa day experience. It ended

by asking if they had prayer requests and if they would like a visit from the pastor or elders, and if they would like to receive Bible studies.

The response was incredible. Ten women asked to receive Bible studies. Please pray for this team and each of these women as they begin their studies.

If your church would like to have some type of outreach to the community, call the women’s ministries office at the Conference to coordinate your own God In Shoes event.

—BY ANGIE LEDFORD

Health and Happiness Seminar Uplifts Minds, Bodies

Always “elongate before you activate,” stressed Jill Hudson, occupational therapist, as she demonstrated proper stretching techniques to participants at the Health and Happiness Seminar in March 2015, at University Parkway Church in Pensacola, Fla. Following a stretching program can increase your flexibility as well as your overall fitness, according to Hudson. In addition to stretching exercises for the head and neck, the body core, and the upper and lower extremities, the four-week program included devotionals centered on trust in God, natural lifestyle cooking, and fun physical activities.

Recently widowed, Sharon Brim said she enjoyed the program and found it very beneficial. “I suffer from a bad hip, and the stretching exercises relieve the pain.” Before signing up for the seminar, she had been

studying the Seventh-day Adventist message online. She noted that she had been

Coordinator Ann Griffin said the health committee wanted the community and

the games, participating in the stretching exercises, and interacting with each other. Each



Jeff Crain, pastor of the University Parkway Church in Pensacola, Fla., presents a brief devotional on trusting God at the Health and Happiness Seminar.



Edith Beans (right) and Janelle Wixwat prepare vegan recipes from the Natural Lifestyle Cooking book by Earnestine Finley.



Jill Hudson, occupational therapist, demonstrates proper stretching techniques with the help of Joey Crain.



Participants who attended the REFIT® classes

following a plant-based diet for six years and enjoyed the sample recipes.

Longtime vegan advocate, Edith Beans, prepared recipes from “Natural Lifestyle Cooking” by Earnestine Finley as she discussed the benefits of plant-based foods. Participants sampled the results, which included oat burgers, baked lentils, a cashew holiday loaf, and apple-nut bars.

particularly young adult family members to benefit from an uplifting program. “I attended Loma Linda University School of Nursing, the mission statement of which is ‘To Make Man Whole.’ I feel we included all of these in our program: physical care of our body nutritionally, mental-intellectual growth through the information presented in the classes, social-playing of

learned about healthy meal choices, and made their own vegan oatmeal waffles, green smoothies, bread, and healthy sandwiches,” said Kristin Pettibone, a mother who helped coordinate the program. She noted that mothers of picky eaters were particularly excited that their children found something they enjoyed that was also healthy.

“The kids

“In addition to the

stretching exercises, the adults enjoyed the optional fun recreational activities, which included kickball, basketball, and walking,” noted Griffin. One of the adult fun physical activities was a REFIT® class, an

aerobics workout to Christian music. Some 40 to 50, most not Adventist, attend the REFIT® classes, which are held once a week in the church gym.

The response from the community has been very

positive, said Griffin. Several attendees indicated an interest in a follow-up “Natural Lifestyle” cooking class. Crain feels that the health seminar “was great for adults and children. We learned how to eat healthy, new

stretching exercises, and we even got to play! God blessed in a mighty way, for one of the visitors is taking Bible studies to learn more of His ways. I can’t wait to do this again.”

—BY GLENDA HASS

Mangum Elected to Serve as Conference Executive Secretary



James Mangum is the newly elected Gulf States executive secretary.

The Gulf States Conference executive committee voted James Mangum, pastor, to serve as Conference executive secretary on May 6, 2015. The Gulf States family welcomes Mangum to his newly elected position.

Mangum has been working in the ministry for 20 years. He started his journey as an evangelist

with Amazing Facts before accepting a call to the pastoral ministry. He served as a pastor to more than 14 churches in Missouri, New York, and Florida. In 2008, he officially accepted a call to be the youth director at Gulf States.

For the last seven years, he has worked at the Conference as youth and camp director. In addition to his pastoral ministry, he has done missionary work

in Brazil, Russia, Ukraine, India, and Zambia. He graduated from Andrews University with a master’s degree in 2010. Mangum is married to Tania Mangum, RN, from Brazil. They have two children, Priscila, 18, and Lucas, 9. Currently, they live in Montgomery, Ala.

—BY NILTON GARCIA

Couple Graduates Together, Prepares for Marriage



David Sigamani (left), Gulf States Conference publishing director, poses with Steven Sigamani, Valerie Hernandez, Binu Sigamani, and Priya Sigamani after the Commencement ceremony at the Chattanooga Convention Center in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Steven Sigamani, and his fiancé, Valerie Hernandez, both graduated with a B.A. degree in theology on May 10, 2015, from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn. The next chapter in their lives is their wedding this summer before they go to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., and pursue master degrees, and then they will be new members of the Florida Conference team. The Conference welcomes Sigamani and Hernandez!

—BY NILTON GARCIA

Conference Churches Hold Festival of Faith Convocation



Members of eight local congregations came together for the Festival of Faith in Louisville, Ky.

Approximately 350 people from eight churches came together for the second Louisville area Festival of Faith on March 27 and 28, 2015, hosted by the Pewee Valley Church. The convocation was a beautiful blending of believers of different ages, nationalities, and languages, with all parts of the service available in English, Spanish, Korean, and Karen/Burmese to accommodate members of the attending congregations.

Songs of praise perme-

ated the event with rousing congregational hymns, and heart-warming special music that showcased the variety of cultures and ages, and drew everyone together as one body in Christ.

Students from Highland Academy added two very special touches to the weekend: the beautiful sounds of the Highland Academy Bells during the Sabbath morning and afternoon programs, and the Highland Academy Gymnix performance after sunset.

The theme for this

special weekend, “Forgive to Live,” struck a chord in the hearts of all, for who has not sometime suffered deep hurt, and had to deal with the natural inclination to harbor anger, bitterness, and resentment?

The Festival’s main speaker, Dick Tibbits, Ph.D., has worked in the field of behavioral and spiritual health for more than 30 years, and has assisted tens of thousands of people in achieving a better life through the healing power of forgiveness.

Foundational to his message were the words of Jesus: “Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,” and “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

In his three messages, Tibbits not only made a compelling case for forgiveness, but also provided practical steps in how to forgive.

Some even came to the Festival of Faith with hurts so deep they didn’t think they could ever forgive, but went away with a transformed attitude and the tools to let go of the blame



The Karen/Burmese youth wore their native dress as they shared special music during the afternoon program.

and anger, bask in God’s grace and forgiveness in their own lives, and go forward able to forgive others.

—BY SANDY POWELL

Generation of Youth for Christ Members Meet with Conference Officials



Steve Haley, president of Kentucky-Tennessee Conference; Natasha Neblett, president of GYC; her brother, Joshua Neblett; and Ken Wetmore, Conference youth director

Generation of Youth for Christ (GYC) president, Natasha Neblett, and her brother, Joshua, visited with Steve Haley, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference president, and Ken Wetmore, Kentucky-Tennessee youth director, to discuss the upcoming annual GYC event which

will be held in Louisville, Ky., January 2016. They also discussed providing an opportunity for GYC pre-event attendees, as many as 100 youth, to engage in a witnessing/seed-planting activity before the actual conference convenes.

—BY DENISE POPE

Decherd Members Help Build New Sanctuary in Central America



The steel structure begins to take shape with the help of students from Georgia-Cumberland Academy.

Members of the Cerro Campana Church in Panama are now worshipping in a newly constructed sanctuary, thanks to an international partnership that included the Decherd Church members.

“In early 2013, the church began to raise \$4,500 to provide a One-Day Church for an international congregation,” explains Jay Prall, church business administrator.

church on the same weekend that Decherd members completed renovations and moved back into their historic sanctuary.

“But God had different plans,” acknowledges Prall.

As construction costs were mounting at Decherd Church, the vision of helping an international congregation remained a high priority. Church members set a goal of having 50 percent

Mean-while, the church also began a major renovation of its own sanctuary. The goal was to complete fundraising for the international

of the One-Day Church funding in place by the end 2014. Much to their surprise, full funding was completed in February 2015. Soon they would understand why.

Students from Georgia-Cumberland Academy and a parent from Decherd Church were scheduled to build two churches in Panama during spring break. But, just a month prior to their departure, school administrators learned that funding had only been generated for construction of one church, not two.

Suddenly it became clear why Decherd’s One-Day Church funding had come together so quickly. The money was needed in Panama.

With just days to spare, all the pieces of this international partnership came together. The Cerro Campana Church was built, and Decherd gained a new sister church. Now members of both congregations are praying that God will



Less than two weeks after groundbreaking, the new Cerro Campana, Panama, Church is ready for occupancy.

resource the \$40,000 that Decherd needs to complete its \$150,000 project, and remain debt-free.

—BY JAY PRALL

ACS Center Holds Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon



Adventist Community Service Center volunteers

The volunteers from the Adventist Community Services (ACS) Center in Madison, Tenn., were treated to an appreciation luncheon on February 27, 2015. Approximately 40 volunteers

enjoyed the excellent food and the opportunity to socialize with one another.

Director Dean

Flint gave words of welcome to all, and introduced Steve Rose, executive secretary of Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, who shared words of encouragement for the volunteers.

Ann and David Bell were given the Volunteers of the Year Award. Ann Bell is the head cashier in the store, and David Bell is the program manager. They serve many extra hours in addition to their regular schedule.

David Hincy, past chairman of the ACS Board, received an Award of Appreciation. Hincy served during the years of transition from a small storefront location to the current 17,000-square-foot facility.

Retta Robinson, who

always has a smile and cheery attitude, was given a Certificate of Appreciation. She has now retired from volunteer work.

Bob Korzyniowski, current chairman of the ACS Board, closed the gathering with a thank you to the men and women who have provided many hours of service.

The ACS Center is sponsored and supported by Bordeaux, Boulevard, Hendersonville, Madison Campus, and Nashville First churches.

Berean Honors Richard Mouzon with Black History Award



Richard Mouzon, Ph.D., was one of the honorees for the Black History Achievement Award on Sabbath, February 28, 2015, at Berean Church in Atlanta, Ga. His siblings and family surround him.

Richard Mouzon, Ph.D., was one of the honorees for the Black History Achievement Award on Sabbath, February 28, 2015, at Berean Church in Atlanta, Ga. This honor was well-deserved by the godly man, who, in spite of the challenges and obstacles he's faced, has persevered.

Mouzon is the youngest of seven children born to the late Hector and Thelma Mouzon, who were active members in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Mouzon was educated at Oakwood Elementary School, South Lancaster Academy, and Atlantic Union College.

While on a road trip to North Carolina Central College, he fell asleep at the wheel of his car and had a horrific accident. He suffered a broken neck and severed spine, paralyzing him from the neck down. Daunted by the accident, but not

broken in spirit, he enrolled in Georgia State College (now Georgia State University) two years later. Fellow students helped him write notes, transcribe, and type assignments. As a result, he received four degrees — a B.A. in sociology in 1971, an M.Ed. in counseling and psychological services in 1973, an M.A. in psychology in 1980, and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 1985.

Mouzon's first job was as a rehabilitation counselor for the Georgia Department of Human Resources Division, but there was a problem. There were no public transportation services for disabled individuals at the time, but he persevered. Through a raffle at Georgia State University, Mouzon raised \$4,000 to purchase a Chevrolet van equipped with an elevated roof and Maxon lift — the first public transportation for the dis-

abled in the state.

The late Warren Banfield, director of human resources at the North American Division in Silver Spring, Md., and longtime friend of Mouzon, approached him in 1978 and asked what the



Rosemary Grabam (right) presents the South Atlantic Conference Disabilities Ministries Lillie Award to Richard Mouzon, Ph.D.

Church could do to help. Through conversations with Banfield, and continued work with Rosa T. Banks, Ed.D., — who replaced Banfield in 1989 and developed the Commission for People

with Disabilities — the ministry for people with disabilities was approved in 1995 at the General Conference in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

Mouzon currently operates a successful psychology practice where he provides diagnostic and therapeutic services to individuals and couples in the Atlanta area. He is a member of the American Psychological Association, the Georgia Psychological Association (Fellow), The Association of Black Psychologists, and the National Mental Health Association of Georgia. He has also traveled out of the country advocating for people with disabilities.

Mouzon also received the South Atlantic Conference Disabilities Ministries Lillie Award for making a

difference in the lives of people with disabilities. His siblings and family proudly stood with him as he received a standing ovation.

—BY ROSEMARY GRAHAM

Russell Lee Fields Sr. Celebrates his 90th Birthday



Russell Lee Fields Sr. celebrated his 90th birthday with family and friends.

in Columbus, Ohio. The family formed a choir to present special music, and the group Unfailing Faith, composed of three of Fields' granddaughters who are sisters, also performed. The birthday luncheon was held at the South Atlantic River Oaks Convention Center in Orangeburg, S.C., to accommodate the family, many local and out-of-town friends, and his church family.

Fields' wife of 17 years, Georgia Fields, and six of his children were able to attend the celebration, including Russell Lee Fields Jr. and his wife, Delores; Tina Terry and her husband, Glenn; Mary Rivers; Ransom Fields; Januwoina Nixon and her husband, John Sr.;

and Kenneth Fields and his wife, Audrey. His son, James Fields and his wife, Michelle, were not able to attend the celebration; and his son, Ryan Fields, was not able to attend. Also in attendance were 13 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, three grandsons-in-law, three granddaughters-in-law, his daughter-in-law Irisene Fields-Douce, and several cousins.

At the conclusion of the AYS program, Fields shared his gratitude and closing remarks, and stated that he "hopes and pray by God's grace, and if time should last, that the Lord will allow him to live to see his 100th birthday."

—BY IRISENE FIELDS-DOUCE

Russell Lee Fields Sr. celebrated his 90th birthday on April 14, 2015. His children and grandchildren met several times in Atlanta, Ga., to plan all the Sabbath celebrations for April 18, at Fields' home church, Christ is the Answer Church in Orangeburg, S.C.

The church members and Michael Miller, pastor, graciously allowed the Fields family to lead out in the Sabbath services. The sermon was given by Fields' oldest son, Russell Lee Fields Jr., retired pastor from the Allegheny West Conference



Seated at the birthday luncheon are Delores Fields (left), Russell L. Fields Jr., Russell L. Fields Sr., and his wife, Georgia Fields.

PAUL D. NIXON

Mt. Calvary Members Portray “Love in Action”



Homeless camp in Triana, Ala.

Have you ever had so much prepared food with pans of rice, vegetables, and vegetarian meats that you did not know what to do with it? That’s the situation Mt Calvary Church in Huntsville, Ala., faced after a typical Sabbath lunch. One Sabbath a young woman suggested that the extra food be taken to the homeless. With trays of warm food, plates, knives, forks, and napkins in hand, this began Mt. Calvary’s Feeding Program.

Currently the members feed five encampments, and the number of homeless served range from 30 to 35. In the months of January and February, it was difficult to feed the homeless due to frigid temperatures. In spite

of the cold, meals were still delivered to the encampments. The hot soups and hot chocolate provided were greatly appreciated.

The feeding program is supported through the generosity of church members. They have embraced the initiative, but there is only so much they can do. However, they are mindful of the verse in Scripture, “I was hungry and you fed me.” Mt Calvary feels compelled to provide relief for the homeless, and are committed to continue their program.

—BY JULIET ROCK



One resident is grateful for the hot meal during the cold temperatures.

Five Jackson Churches Conduct “Season of Service”

Five churches in the Jackson, Miss., area came together in a spirit of brotherhood on the weekend of March 7-8, 2015, to be of service to their community in an outreach project called “Season of Service.” The Berean, College Drive, Latino, New Heights, and South Jackson churches exemplified Matthew 25:35, “For I was hungered, and ye gave Me meat...” Verse 40 says, “...Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto ME.” The example of Jesus was followed as He first mingled with the people, met their needs, and then shared the Good News of the Gospel with them.

The initial outreach was “Sharing a Meal in Poindexter Park,” in which members

spent the morning and part of the afternoon of Sabbath, March 7, sharing physical and spiritual food with people in the park, many who were homeless. In addition to songs, prayers, and sermonettes, the members met, talked, shared, and prayed one-on-one with individuals.

Sabbath afternoon saw member-volunteers gather at an inner city apartment complex to serve the families. Leah Crosby and Anne Gray, leaders in the service project, had met previously with the apartment complex management. They developed a rapport, and established a date and time for the outreach project, “Christmas in March.” Invitations were given to each of the 100 apartments in the complex, inviting children from five to 10 years old. Colorful T-

shirts bearing the logo “Season of Service” were available for the 30 volunteers. The children arrived in eager anticipation of what was to come. A fun and spirit-filled program was planned with songs, activities, Bible and nature stories, and crafts centered on the theme “Gratefulness or Thankfulness.” At the conclusion of the activities, each child was given their “Christmas present,” which contained a large colorful storybook, *The Prince of Peace* (one of the series from Champions of Faith Bible story coloring books), crayons, a Bible story sticker book, a toy, and a snack. Wide smiles and “thank-yous” expressed the joy each child felt as they left.

As a result of the outreach, the apartment complex manager and her

assistant are taking Bible studies, and some parents have expressed an interest.

Two of the local television stations came and gave excellent coverage of the event, which gave opportunity for the community to learn of the caring, sharing, and preparing spirit exemplified by the Adventist churches.

In addition to all the activities on Sunday, March 8, other Season of Service projects include “Keep Jackson Beautiful,” beautification of Battlefield Park; “Honoring Those Who Serve,” showing gratitude to public servants (firemen, policemen, and emergency medical technicians); and “Whitfield Hospital Visitation,” showing love to those who are mentally challenged and their caregivers.

—BY ANNE GRAY

South Central Holds Annual Prayer Summit

Pentecost was experienced at the South Central Conference annual Prayer Summit, March 13-15, 2015. It was held at the Shocco Springs Baptist Conference Center in Talladega, Ala.,

with the theme “Righteousness by Faith II” — a spin-off from last year’s theme. The facilitators, Metard Salomon, pastor, from the Maritime Conference in Canada, and Phillip Willis,

D.Min., of the Lake Region Conference, were presenters last year, but they did not finish their subjects; hence, part two this year.

Once again both

men gave dynamic presentations on righteousness by faith, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and being ready for the second coming of Christ. All were blessed by good music, testimonies, and prayers. The highlight came on Sunday morning, when the attendees were admonished to claim Luke 11:13 to ask for the Holy Spirit. Everyone prayed for Him, and He showed up. People were touched by the presence of God, and did not leave the same as they arrived.

There were visitors from the South Atlantic Confer-

ence, as well as special guests Ruth and Don Jacobsen from the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists. A special award was given to Mary and George Patton, prayer coordinators from First Church in Huntsville, Ala., for “Excellence in Prayer Ministries” in 2014.

The final Prayer Summit for this quinquennium will be March 18-20, 2016. The theme is “The Deeper Life – Baptism of the Holy Spirit.” You don’t want to miss the experience!

—BY ROY RUGLESS



Prayer is the focal point.

Oakwood University Holds Graduation Exercises

Oakwood University hosted its 2015 graduation exercises on May 8-9,

at the Von Braun Civic Center in Huntsville, Ala. Guest speakers include

Michael Polite, associate chaplain of Faith Development at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich.;

William Winston, president of the South Atlantic Conference in Decatur, Ga.; and Andrew Hugine Jr., Ph.D., president of Alabama Agricultural Mechanical University in Normal, Ala.

Statistics for Class of 2015:

Male graduates – 135
 Female graduates – 223
 Total graduates – 358

There were also five guests who participated in Oakwood's graduation services because of their university's graduations taking place on the Sabbath.

The administration of Oakwood conferred three master's degrees, 29 dietetic intern certificates, and 326 bachelor's degrees. The major with the highest graduates was biology (33 total).

The three highest grade point averages in the traditional program were Jonté Hunter, 3.97; Leandra Joseph, 3.95; and Kaleem Burton, 3.94. The four highest grade point average in the adult and continuing education LEAP program were Shannon Lallemand, 4.0; Ivan Allston and Chaya Miller, 3.98; and Beverly Cox, 3.94.

Countries represented by the graduates included Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bermuda, Canada, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, England, United Kingdom, France, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Poland, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States, Virgin Islands, and British Virgin Islands.

To view more pictures from Oakwood's graduation, please visit www.flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity

—BY GEORGE JOHNSON JR.



Dakota White, finance major, enthusiastically waves to her family and friends during the Commencement ceremony.



Matt Hammond, information technology major, is one of Oakwood's LEAP program graduates.



Leslie Pollard (left), Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood University, walks with Andrew Hugine Jr., Ph.D., president of Alabama Agricultural Mechanical University in Normal, Ala., after the Commencement ceremony.

CAPTURED MOMENTS PHOTOGRAPHY

President Gordon Bietz Announces Plan to Retire in 2016

Gordon Bietz, D.Min., announced on April 21, 2015, to the Southern Adventist University Board of Trustees that he plans to retire at the end of the 2015-2016 year, his 19th as president of the Collegedale, Tenn., campus.

“In a sense, there is never a right time to transition away from a place you love this much, because there is always more you’ve dreamt of accomplishing,” Bietz said. “But, I want to leave at a time when the University is in a strong position for new leadership.”

He shared the news with 350 of Southern’s employees on April 22 during a Town Hall luncheon, and was met with a lengthy standing ovation after his tearful announcement. Following the meeting, faculty and staff lingered to process what just happened and were quick to offer comments of appreciation.

“We’ve known that we had too good a president to keep forever,” said Lisa Diller, Ph.D., professor and chair for the History and Political Studies Department.

Under Bietz’s guidance, both enrollment and the University’s budget have doubled. Nearly \$80 million in construction projects were completed during his tenure to accommodate that growth, including Southern Village apartment complex; Hulsey Wellness Center; and Florida Hospital Hall, home to the School of Nursing.

Plans are underway for a \$28 million student center, and Bietz said he would like to witness the groundbreaking on that project before his retirement.

Academics were also strengthened during the current presidency, as evidenced by accreditations for Southern’s professional schools and 13 consecutive years of a Top Tier ranking by U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Colleges” guide. The Graduate Studies program, in particular, has seen tremendous growth. In 1997 there were just a handful of graduate classes, and today the University offers 13 master’s degrees and a doctorate.

“I’ve had a bird’s-eye view of the man who has given decades of his life in professional and Christian leadership,” said Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the Southern Union and Board of Trustees chairman for Southern Adventist University. “He has showcased honesty, sensitivity, responsible scholarship, careful governance, and a large heart for every student who passed through the halls of Southern during his administration. He will be missed.”

Servant Leader

Before becoming Southern’s president, Bietz pastored the Collegedale Church of Seventh-day Adventists and served as president of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference as

well. His passion for nurturing holistic spiritual development comes naturally and was instrumental in the creation of Southern’s service-learning program that connects academic curriculum with volunteer work in the community. Bietz models this attitude of servant leadership in many ways, including tenure as a board member for a variety of Chattanooga institutions.

Reflecting on his time at Southern, Bietz summarizes the driving force behind so many years of commitment to the thousands of students who have come to the campus seeking personal and spiritual growth.

“When students ask me for advice, I have just three words: love your neighbor,” Bietz said. “I don’t think we have even begun to grasp the depth of those words and put them into practical application. If we loved as Jesus loved, and sought what was best for others rather than ourselves, we could truly change the world!”

The Board of Trust-



Gordon Bietz, D.Min., president of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., used an April 22, 2015, Town Hall meeting to share with employees his plan to retire in May 2016.

ees has assigned a committee to the nationwide search for Southern’s next president, and expects that process to be completed before Bietz retires in 2016. And while campus employees have confidence that God will guide the process for finding a new leader, that doesn’t mean this isn’t a somber moment.

“It’s bittersweet, because Dr. Bietz is a hero for all of us, faculty as well as students,” said Andy Nash, Ph.D., professor in the School of Journalism and Communication. “He represents what’s right about this school and our Adventist denomination.”

—BY LUCAS PATTERSON

Obituaries



BENWAY, Harvard Miller, 88, born Aug. 3, 1926 to Clarence and Stella (Miller) Benway in Hollywood, CA, died May 10, 2015 in Gainesville, FL.

He was a direct descendant of Adventist forefather William Miller, and the proud owner of one of Miller's personal Bibles. At age of 25, he enrolled at Wildwood Medical Missionary Institute in Wildwood, GA, where he met Alma R. Mote. They married in 1953. At Pine Forest Academy in Mississippi, he served as dean of boys, and later worked at Glendale Adventist Hospital, Loma Linda Foods, and McKee Baking Company. A lifelong Adventist, he served as an ordained elder, an ingathering leader, and a Bible evangelist. Blessed with a kind and gentle spirit, he was cherished by his family and friends. He leaves behind a legacy of true Christian service and a deep and abiding love for his Savior.

He is survived by his wife, Alma R. (Mote); son, Bruce R., and his wife, Sangita Jindal of Montclair, N.J.; two daughters: Marla A. (Darryl) McKinney of Gainesville, and Ellen M. McCracken of Portland, OR; and three grandchildren: Laura

McCracken, and Seth and Kyle McKinney.

GIBBONS, Jack Eugene, 83, born Feb. 4, 1932 in LaGrange, KY, died March 17, 2015 in Cleburne, TX. He was a member of the Crest Memorial Church in Orlando, FL. He grew up in Pensacola, FL, and graduated from Pine Forest Academy in Chunky, MS. While attending Madison College in Madison, TN, for two years, he was drafted into the United States Army.

After serving his time, he returned to Madison and completed his Bachelor of Science degree in nursing in 1958. During that time he was listed in Who's Who of American Colleges and Universities. He met and married Nancy Fields in 1956. Upon graduation, he and Nancy were called by the Seventh-day Adventist denomination to serve as missionaries in Brazil, South America, as Captain of the Luziero IV on the Amazon River for three years after which they were transferred to Belem, Brazil, to serve in the Belem Hospital. Upon returning to the United States, Jack was asked to serve as director of nurses and chaplains at the Avon Park Hospital in Avon Park, FL. During this time he was recruited by the U.S. Army with the rank of Captain. He and his family traveled extensively for the military and he obtained a Master's degree as a nurse practitioner, family counselor, and therapist at Ohio State University. He retired from the U.S. Army with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. After retirement, he taught at the Southwestern University School of Nursing.



He is survived by his wife, Nancy Gibbons, of Keene, TX; two sons: Timothy Gibbons of Jacksonville, FL, and Bob (Jan) Gibbons of Plano, TX; one daughter, Nancy (Doug) Stewart of Hamburg, PA; seven grandchildren: Gene (Katrina) Stewart; Jim (Cheyenne) Stewart; Jeremiah Gibbons, Heather Gibbons, Zac Gibbons, Carson Gibbons, and Meredith Gibbons; two great-grandchildren: Logan and Conner Stewart; two sisters: Jo Ann Jones and Elsie Worthen of Hendersonville, N.C.; many nieces; and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Elsie (Davis) and Jacob Eugene Gibbons; and one sister, Louise Christian.



GREEN, Vernon George, 93, born April 30, 1921 in Oklahoma City, OK, died Feb. 28, 2015 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 12 years.

He worked for the Church for 31 years, and retired while working in the Florida Conference.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Peggy; one son, Gary (Donna) of Birmingham, AL; two daughters: Lydia Green of Longwood, FL, and Terri Smith of Oviedo, FL; six grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

The memorial service was conducted by Pastors Lewis Hendershott, Lester Pratt, and Floyd Powell at the Forest Lake Church. Interment was in the Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

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APISON HOUSE FOR SALE about 5 miles to SAU. 2 years new, craftsman style home with 4 bed, 2 baths & tons of upgrades. \$284,900. Chattanooga all brick duplex about 6 miles to SAU. Both sides have 2 bed, 1 bath, it was totally renovated in 2011 including new kitchens with maple cabinets, all new windows and tons more! \$99,900. Both are tenant occupied. Great investment property. Call Sue Vosen-Crye-Leike Realtors 423-238-5547 or cell 423-774-1029. [6]

ARE YOU LOOKING for that perfect place in the country? Look no more. Beautiful building lots on the Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee. Views, water, hardwoods, pond and end of the road privacy. Go to www.kismetkennel.com/countryland for pictures, plat, and prices, or call Jeff at 301-992-7472. [6]

SALE – 16'x18' mobile home, excellent condition! 10 minutes from Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Clinic. Call Dorothy at 706-820-1807. [6, 7]

3 ACRE LOT FOR SALE – 3 gently sloping wooded acres in beautiful western North Carolina. Less than 1 mile from Fletcher SDA church, academy, elementary school, health food store, retirement center, and Park Ridge Adventist Hospital. Several other Adventist churches within a few miles. Perfect site to build your dream house and raise a family or retire in a peaceful Adventist community. Only \$99,900.00. 207-747-4255. [6]

FOR RENT to Adventist woman house guest: 2nd floor room with a porch on beautiful Choctawhatchee Bay in NW Florida. View of Destin across the bay and 15 minutes to the Emerald Coast beaches. \$600/month for the bedroom. Call 423-883-7662. [6, 7]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY has an immediate opening for a full-time nurse educator to serve as **Chair for Nursing Department**. Doctoral degree required with three years of university/college teaching experience. Must have an unencumbered Texas nursing license. Send cover letter and current CV to Dr. Amy Rosenthal at arosenal@swau.edu. [6-8]

THE ADVANCEMENT OFFICE at Southwestern Adventist University seeks full time **Director of Alumni Relations**. Focus areas include alumni events, engagement strategy, volunteer coordination and fundraising, includes some travel. Bachelor's degree and two years relevant experience required. Submit cover letter and current CV/resume to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu. [6, 7]

Advertisements

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Advancement office seeks full-time **Vice President**. Responsibilities center primarily in development in addition to PR/Marketing & Alumni. Minimum bachelor's degree and 2 years advancement experience required, master's degree preferred. Submit cover letter and CV/resume to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu. [6-8]

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY (OU) is seeking a full-time faculty in the **Allied Health Department** who holds a DPD in physical therapy and current or eligible for PT Licensure in Alabama. Interested persons must submit application, resume, cover letter, teaching philosophy, statement of research interest, three recommendation letters and copy of degree(s)/transcript(s) to HR. For more information visit <http://www.oakwood.edu/campus-services/human-resources> or call 256-726-7274. [6-9]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a **Principal for Andrews Academy** who will be responsible to lead and to ensure that the school fulfills its mission and goals. A preferred qualified person should have an experience as a secondary school principal, a secondary school teacher and/or a doctoral degree. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/staff_salary#job_1 [6]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a **faculty for the Leadership Department** who will teach graduate level courses related to Educational Administration and Leadership, and to serve on doctoral dissertation committees. A preferred qualified person should have a doctorate in education, leadership or related field, plus a record of excellence in teaching at the graduate level. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_8 and https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_9 [6]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a faculty for Public Health/Nutrition/Wellness who will be the **Director for the Internship Program of Nutrition and Dietetics**. A preferred qualified person should be a registered dietitian with a master's degree. Clinical & teaching experience desired. For more information and to apply, visit https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/show/faculty#job_15 [6]

DO YOU LOVE TO TALK ABOUT JESUS? Why not talk about Jesus where His name isn't known? Consider going as an Adventist Frontier Missions Tentmaker. Reach the unreached through your skilled profession! Find a good salaried job and serve Jesus! For more information go to: www.GoTential.org [6]

OPPORTUNITIES to teach and guide potential young missionaries in a rural setting close to Dayton, TN. Look at us online: www.laurelbrook.org while you are obtaining an application to be our science, math, Bible teacher or a Boy's Dean. Call 423-775-3339 or email info@laurelbrook.org for more information to arrange a visit. [6]

RECRUITING MEDLEVEL PROVIDERS (NP/PA) for a new Rural Health Clinic/Urgent Care in Weimar, CA. Opportunities are available to specialize in a

number of medical fields. Our urgent needs are Mental Health, Pain Management, Outpatient Surgery and Emergency Medicine. Contact Randy at 530-296-4417 or r61@me.com. [6]

MISSION PILOTS AND OTHER MISSIONARIES are urgently needed. Do you have a desire to share Jesus with others, to live in another country and learn a different culture? Adventist World Aviation is expanding into other parts of the world and urgently needs pilots, A&P mechanics, project managers, Bible workers and medical personnel. Pilots must have instrument ratings, commercial ratings and high performance ratings. Mail your resume to Adventist World Aviation, PO Box 444, Sullivan, WI 53178-0444, or email to projects@flyawa.org. [6]

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

ATTENTION: Hymns Alive owners – Remastered. New Hymns Alive on 24 CD's. Short introductions, shorter chord to end stanzas, and more. Call for upgrade price. Every hymn in the SDA Hymnal, organ, piano accompaniment music. \$259.00 & \$16 S&H. 1-800-354-9667. www.35hymns.com [6]

MISCELLANEOUS

AdventistSingles.org FREE 14-DAY TRIAL! Join thousands of Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, profiles, match notifications! Adventist owners since 1993. Visit www.elliotttylan.com for the Undercover Angels series of novels for Christian teens that build on Biblical principles and encourage integrity. Great Sabbath reading and gifts! [6]

RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist [6-12]

RELOCATING FROM ONE STATE TO ANOTHER? The move counselors at Stevens Van Lines can help! With special pricing for all Adventist families, and recommended by the General Conference for over 15 years, quality is inherent. Call the Clergy Move Center direct for a no cost or obligation estimate at 800-248-8313 or contact us at www.stevensworldwide.com/sda [6-8]

BUTLER CREEK HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER – Prevention and recovery from lifestyle disease amidst the beauty of nature. Cost: \$975. Diabetes reversal, permanent weight loss, overcoming depression. June 14-26, 2015 & July 5-17, 2015. Register online or call: 931-213-1329. www.butlercreekhealth.org [6]

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER 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 1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.com [6-5]

PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR? Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills,

brochures, signs, banners and mailing services? Call free, 800-274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit www.hopesource.com. You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Hamblin's HOPE delivers on time! [6]

AUTHORS of cookbooks, health books, children's chapter and picture books, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. Find our new titles at your local ABC or www.TeachServices.com, used SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com [6-4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, 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/graduatestudies [6-5]

CONVENIENT ON-CAMPUS GUEST LODGING at Southern Adventist University. Lovely 2 bed, 1 bath apartments, some equipped with kitchens. Available year round. Call 423-236-7000 or email guestlodging@southern.edu [6-11]

GREAT MEETING SPACE FOR CONFERENCING at Southern Adventist University. Detailed, thorough one-stop-planning for successful events. Call 423-236-2555 or visit www.southern.edu/conferenceservices. [6-11]

DEMAND IS HIGH for managers of skilled nursing facilities and senior care centers. Southern Adventist University's degree in long term care administration is available on campus or online. Enjoy being a licensed professional and a leader in the business of caring. Visit Southern.edu/business, call 1-800-Southern or email lta@southern.edu for information. [6, 7]

ADVENTIST ISRAEL TOUR—Join Jim Gilley, Danny Shelton, and the 3ABN team for an unforgettable Bible Enrichment Tour. Fantastic buffets, fellowship, and guides. Affordable. Two departure dates—November 15-23 or November 18-29, 2015. Contact Jennifer at Maranatha Tours—602-788-8864, or Jill at 3ABN—618-627-4651. [6-9]

IN GRADES 9-12? Looking for a rural, peaceful setting? Want to be a missionary? Want to learn a vocational trade? Want a diploma so you can go to college? Want to take college courses while you are in high school? Like miniature horses? Like fresh strawberries and fresh vegetables? Look at us online: www.laurelbrook.org while you are obtaining an application to join our student body. Call 423-775-3339 or email info@laurelbrook.org for more information to arrange a visit. [6]

BLACK HILLS SCHOOL OF MASSAGE classes begin July 6. Complete 600-hour course in just 5.5 months. MBLEX eligible. Room and board available. Space limited apply now. Contact message@bhhec.org or 605-255-4101. [6]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MADISON COLLEGE ALUMNI

ASSOCIATION wants to include any graduates, attendees, or friends who may not already be on its mailing list to receive the quarterly newsletter and any other communications. Please write to: P.O. Box 1735, Madison, TN 37116, or send your contact information by email to: madisoncollegealumni@gmail.com.

"Ye Olde" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY

REUNION – June 5-7. For alumni and classmates of 1965 and earlier, at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, MI. Honor classes: 1935, '45, '55, and '65. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. For further information, contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181, or visit <http://www.glaa.net/>.

FAIRVIEW CHURCH 25th ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATION – June 13. Fairview, NC. Join us for worship, dinner, and an afternoon program. Details: 828-628-4819.

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY IN FRANCE

(Campus Adventiste du Salève). Collonges alumni and friends, will you be in San Antonio, TX, during the GC session

in July 2015? The "Campus adventiste du Salève" delegates invite you to an alumni dinner meeting on Friday, July 10, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the HILTON - Palacio del rio, next to the Convention Center, to reunite old friends and reminisce about "the good old times!" in Collonges. It will be great to have you there. Tell your friends! A bientôt!

HERITAGE HOUSE OPEN HOUSE – July 16

(100 years after the day Ellen White died). 100 Academy Road, Madison, TN. Diaries of a visit the late Lida Funk Scott made to Elmshaven shortly before Mrs. White died, and letters between her and W.C. (Willie) White regarding the death, will be on display from 3 to 7 p.m.

THE LAYMAN FOUNDATION, founded by the late Lida Funk Scott, will commemorate this anniversary with a symposium on Ellen White and the South at the Collegedale Church – July 18 at 4 p.m.

OAK PARK ACADEMY ALUMNI

WEEKEND – Sept. 18, 19. All alumni and former faculty and staff are invited to this special reunion weekend. 2015 Honor Classes: 1940, '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80. Details: 402-312-7368 or allaynemartsching@gmail.com.

ATLANTA BELVEDERE 50th

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – Oct. 2, 3. Decatur, GA. All are invited to the special communion program on Friday at 7 p.m., First Service on Sabbath morning at 9 a.m., Sabbath School at 10 a.m., Divine Worship at 11:15 a.m., Sabbath lunch, and an afternoon program. Details: 404-299-1359.

SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY/DAKOTA

ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND – Oct. 2, 3. Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND. Come renew your friendships. Honor classes: '41, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '01, '06, '11. Details: 701-258-9000, x 236, or visit: <http://bit.ly/DAA-AlumWkend15>

SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST

COMMUNICATORS 2015 Annual Convention – Oct. 15-17. Washington, D.C. **SAVE THE DATE!** Join Seventh-day Adventist communication professionals and university students from all around for training, networking, and spiritual renewal opportunities. Additional details: www.adventistcommunicator.org

FOR LEASE: 3,000 Sq. Ft.



Office opportunity for medical/dental clinic or counseling center in northeast metro Nashville. Just off I-65 next to the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference office. Five miles from church, elementary school, and academy. Ideal location in heavy traffic area. All just minutes from Nashville's medical facilities. Located on Conference Dr. in Goodlettsville, TN. Negotiable lease. Contact Steve Rose 615-859-1391

Do you have a **heart** for **ministry** and **experience** in **development/fundraising**? Then the **Voice of Prophecy** wants to hear from you!

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18 hospitals committed to sharing God's love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.

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Adventist Health

Events Calendar

Carolina

Carolina Teachers' Convention – July 31-Aug. 6. MPA.

Young Adults ROCK – Aug. 7-9. Raleigh Church.

Welcome to the Family – Aug 14-16. NPR.

Adventurer and Pathfinder Leadership Convention – Aug 21-23. NPR.

Hispanic Camp Meeting – Sept. 4-6. NPR.

Sabbath School Workshops – Sept. 4-6 NPR.

Carolina Youth Rally – Sept. 18, 19. MPA.

Men's Ministries Retreat – Sept. 25-27. NPR.

Florida

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

Youth/Pathfinder/Adventurer Events – Visit us online or call 407-644-5000, x2421.

<http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/youth/>

<http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/pathfinders/events/>

<http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/adventurers/events/>

Singles' Ministries events and mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more.

<http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/childrenandfamily/events/>, esalzmann@cfl.rr.com, 407-521-4751, or 407-721-3036.

A Better Choice / Florida Adventist Book Center – Altamonte Springs: 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

Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

June 28. East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Brooksville, Homosassa, Spring Hill, New Port Richey, Clearwater, St. Petersburg.

July 5. Silver Springs Shores, Ocala, Cross City, Perry, Tallahassee.

July 6. Belleview, North Lake, Lady Lake, Inverness.

July 12. Lauderhill, Plantation, Sunrise. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)

July 19. Daytona Beach, New Smyrna Beach, Titusville,

Pompano Beach, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Fort Lauderdale.

July 20. Margate, Boynton Beach, Victory in Port St. Lucie. (Southeastern Conference: Ephesus West Palm Beach.)

July 26. Cocoa, Fort Pierce, Midport, West Palm Beach First. (Southeastern Conference: Palm Bay, Port St. Lucie First.)

Aug. 2. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

Aug. 7-9. Ministerial Leadership Summit at Bonaventure Resort & Spa in Weston.

SONscreen | Ignite—Film Workshop – Aug. 1-2. Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 351 S. State Road 434, Altamonte Springs.

This weekend workshop is a networking and learning opportunity for Christian filmmakers who desire to use film for ministry. Presenters include *Old Fashioned* producer Nathan Nazario and writer/director Rik Swartzwelder, True Health TV lead editor Stephen Majors, *The Prodigal* producer Jeremy Rowland, Florida Hospital Church worship director Tami Cinquemani, and freelance filmmaker Stanley Pomianowski. Cost: \$35. Details: <http://www.floridaconference.com/sonscreenignite/>

Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics

July 25. Fort Myers Spanish.

Aug. 22. Fort Lauderdale Spanish.

Aug. 29. Margate.

Sept. 12. Cooper City.

Nov. 7. Avon Park.

Georgia-Cumberland

3 Point Play Ministries

June 15-18. McMinnville, TN, Church.

June 22-25. Hixson, TN, Church.

June 29-July 2. The Well Church, Chattanooga, TN.

July 6-9. Cairo, GA.

July 13-16. Greeneville, TN, Church.

July 20-23. Douglas, GA, Church.

Personal Ministries Rally – June 20. Cohutta, GA, Church.

Stewardship Emphasis Sabbath – June 20. Mountain City, TN, Church.

Will Seminar – June 20-21. Cedar Ridge Church,

Georgetown, TN.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camps in Crandall, GA

June 21-28. RAD Horse Trip; Paintball Camp III; Wakeboard Camp; CIT Camp; and Adventure Camp (June 21-26).

June 28-July 5. Tween Camp; Ultimate RAD Camp; Fit for Life II (June 29-July 19); and WIT Camp.

July 5-12. Teen I, Rock Solid I; Basketball Camp; Rock Solid Basketball Camp; Whitewater/Kayak Camp; Gym-Masters Camp; Gym-Masters DAY Camp; and WIT Camp.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp – July 12-19. Teen II; Rock Solid II; Golf Camp II; Soccer Camp; and Wakeboard Camp II.

Day of Prayer and Fasting – July 3.

Most events require pre-registration at registration.gccsda.com.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Board of Education – April 23. Conference Office.

Hispanic Camp Meeting – June 5-6. Highland Academy.

Ministers' Meeting – July 26-29. Indian Creek Camp.

Conference Executive Committee – July 21. Sept. 15. Conference Office.

Hispanic Youth Retreat – July 30-Aug. 2. Indian Creek Camp.

50+ Camp – Aug. 4-9. Indian Creek Camp.

Leadership Convention – Aug. 28-30. Indian Creek Camp.

Young Women's Retreat – Sept. 11-13. Indian Creek Camp.

Women's Retreat I – Sept. 25-27. Indian Creek Camp.

Conference Pathfinder Camporee – Oct. 1-3. Salt Lick Campgrounds.

Women's Retreat II – Oct. 2-4. Indian Creek Camp.

Hispanic Women's Retreat –

Oct. 9-11. Indian Creek Camp.
Men's Ministries Retreat – Oct. 23-25. Indian Creek Camp.

South Central

No Summer Camps for 2015.

Southeastern

No Camp Meetings for 2015.

Southern Adventist University

SALT Evangelism Training – June 17-21. The Summer SALT program covers the basics of personal and public evangelism, the evangelism cycle, and tools for outreach in your local church and community. Designed for busy people looking for intense evangelism training. For more information visit southern.edu/salt.

SmartStart Begins – July 27. New students at Southern can earn 3 credit hours for free during the summer (a savings of more than \$1,800). To learn more, visit southern.edu/smartstart.

Southern Union

Southern Union Campus Catalyst Training – Aug. 21-23. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp. Crandall, GA.

Sunset

	June 5	June 12	June 19	June 26	July 3	July 10
Atlanta, GA	8:45	8:49	8:51	8:52	8:52	8:51
Charleston, SC	8:25	8:28	8:31	8:32	8:32	8:31
Charlotte, NC	8:35	8:38	8:41	8:42	8:42	8:40
Collegedale, TN	8:52	8:55	8:58	8:59	8:59	8:57
Huntsville, AL	7:57	8:00	8:02	8:04	8:03	8:02
Jackson, MS	8:05	8:08	8:10	8:12	8:12	8:10
Louisville, KY	9:03	9:07	9:09	9:10	9:10	9:08
Memphis, TN	8:11	8:15	8:17	8:18	8:18	8:16
Miami, FL	8:10	8:13	8:15	8:16	8:16	8:16
Montgomery, AL	7:49	7:53	7:55	7:56	7:56	7:55
Nashville, TN	8:01	8:05	8:07	8:08	8:08	8:06
Orlando, FL	8:20	8:23	8:26	8:27	8:27	8:26
Wilmington, NC	8:21	8:24	8:26	8:28	8:28	8:26

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