

TIDINGS

APRIL 2016



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21ST CENTURY
OPPORTUNITIES

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Tampa Mount Calvary Church Opens New Free Clinic



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

We are excited to present to you a visionary leader, Patrick Vincent, D.Min., who is serving as the senior pastor of Mount Calvary Church in Tampa, Florida. Please notice how God inspires the planning, organization, and mission of this leader. May God inspire you through this portrait of innovation. - RCS

Sabbath, July 4, 2015, was a joyous occasion for the members of the Mount Calvary Church in Tampa as they celebrated the grand opening of the new Calvary Community Free Clinic. Featured on the program for the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Southeastern Conference officers, local church dignitaries, and elected city officials from across the greater Tampa Bay area.

VISION

The establishment of the clinic was the vision of Mount Calvary Church. We rallied together to embrace the vision with the mantra, "It takes teamwork to make the dream work." Community surveys indicated that within the inner-city service area of the clinic, 40 percent of the population is uninsured and 25 percent live below the poverty level.

To address the healthcare needs of the indigent population, the church purchased, renovated, and equipped a 6,000-square-foot former pharmacy to house the clinic. The clinic facility includes waiting and administrative areas, triage space, three examination rooms, doctors' offices, a nurses' station, a pharmacy, a vision center, and a community education classroom.

MISSION

The clinic is driven by a mission to provide free quality non-emergency healthcare to indigent residents. This classification includes the uninsured, unemployed, underprivileged, and underserved segments of the community. It is committed to serving anyone who cannot afford medical care, regardless of gender, age, religion, ethnicity or national origin, and charges no fee for any of its services.

OPERATION

The clinic staff, with the exception of the executive director, who oversees the daily operation, consists of a volunteer team of fully qualified physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, pharmacists, counselors, and social workers, as well as clerical, administrative, and support personnel who have a heart for helping and are willing to give back to the community. The clinic is open daily, Monday through Thursday, from noon to 9 p.m., and Friday, from 9 a.m. to noon. Church members partner with other professionals recruited from the community, each of whom donates a minimum of four hours per month in service to assist the clinic in offering the following patient services:

- Primary Medical Care
- Primary Vision Care
- Annual Physical Exams
- Daily Health Screenings
- Health Education Classes
- Nutritional Counseling
- Physical Fitness Programs
- Spiritual and Emotional Healing
- Preventative Healthcare
- Natural Healing Remedies
- Pharmacy Services

COMMISSION

The vision, mission, and operation of the clinic are ultimately geared toward the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Accordingly, Ellen White declares, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as One who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, follow Me," *Ministry of Healing*, page 141.

As the clinic continues to gain traction in the community, the demand for its services increases. It is estimated that the needs of more than 2,500 patients will be met during the first year of operation. Diligent follow-up efforts have led to the presence in the worship services of many to whom the members have ministered. God is using this uncommon method of evangelism to bring many souls out of darkness into this marvelous light.

Thank you for your prayerful support of the Mount Calvary Community Free Clinic. The ministry of this pastor and congregation have made an indelibly positive impact on the surrounding Tampa community. - RCS



Guest Editorial
Patrick Vincent, D.Min.

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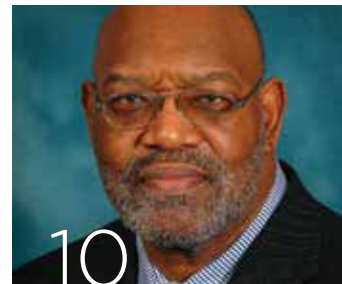
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COVER: Lithonia Adventist Academy, Lithonia, Georgia, students Ana Larraga (left), grade 3; Christoff Gordon, grade 4; and Aaliyah Sargeant, grade 6 were introduced to the basic anatomy and function of the mammalian heart and circulatory system of a cow's heart provided by the Bio-Bus Program at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.
Photo by R. Steven Norman III



Lithonia Adventist Academy, Lithonia, Georgia, students Cameron Jocelyn (left), grade K; Ana Larraga, grade 3; Aaliyah Sargeant, grade 6; and Christoff Gordon, grade 4, examine a cow's heart provided by the Bio-Bus Program at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

STEM

Matters

21st Century Opportunities

Technology is all around us in every aspect of life. We have smart phones, smart cars, smart TVs, and a variety of other smart devices. Now, more than ever before, it is imperative that students be successfully prepared for the age of new information in a highly technological society. With knowledge now recognized as the driver of productivity and economic growth, science and technology are becoming more and more important in the 21st century. Young people must be prepared to think deeply, and to think well, so that they have a chance to become innovators, educators, researchers, and leaders. These are the types of skills that students learn by studying science, technology, engineering, and math — subjects collectively known as STEM.

Global competitiveness is very closely tied to the high demand for individuals who have academic and occupational preparation

BY DIANE RUFF AND OLSON PERRY SR.



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III



Walker Memorial Academy students participate in the University of Florida's Lakewatch Program, Global Learning and Observations that Benefits the Environment (G.L.O.B.E.), and Highlands County Lakes Association, collecting water samples to determine quality control. Walker Memorial ranks first in Florida K-12 schools according to the number of data points contributed to the G.L.O.B.E. program.

in STEM fields. Careers in STEM fields are very important because, during the past 10 years, STEM jobs grew three times faster than non-STEM jobs. Non-STEM workers are more likely to face unemployment than those in STEM occupations. Those employed in STEM careers earn 26 percent more than those in non-STEM jobs. Less than one-third of non-STEM workers have college degrees when compared to more than two-thirds of STEM employees who have completed college programs. Individuals with degrees in STEM make more money regardless of whether they are employed in STEM jobs or not.

STEM proficient students are determined successful not only by what they know, but what they can do with what they know. Therefore, educators in the Southern Union are assuming active roles of meeting challenges of preparing students enrolled in Seventh-day

Adventist schools for future STEM careers.

Student teams at Sawgrass Adventist School (SAS) in the Florida Conference use critical thinking skills and engineering methods to build equipment that can measure the height of something too tall to reach. The data collected is applied, using geometric concepts to produce drawings and charts of plant life. Graphs are created with iPads to record progress and procedures of projects, and photographs taken to document and identify local plant life.

Students at SAS increase their learning through studies of south Florida wildlife characteristics, habitats, predators, prey, adaptations, and other survival skills. Students enjoy hands-on experiences of wild animals from the Sawgrass Nature Center, including an alligator, owl, turtles, bearded dragon, opossum, snakes, and other native wildlife.

Student-led projects such as creating a butterfly garden, bird feeders, and a bird bath station have afforded students the opportunity to closely observe the behaviors of God's creatures.

In August 2015, SAS became a National Wildlife Certified School. A sign proclaiming this honor is posted on a column at the school's entrance.

Students in the Southern Union are also involved in STEM competitive programs. Duluth Adventist Christian School in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference placed first in the past three years in the state contest, TEAMS

(Tests of Engineering, Aptitude, Math, and Science), at the University of Georgia's Driftmier Center. Math and science knowledge is applied to novel situations where hands-on design challenges are met. These state champions qualified for the nationals, but chose not to participate due to Sabbath competition.

A group of non-profit organizations led by the Mt. Sinai Education Committee collaborated with medical robotic companies, local universities, colleges, and high schools to conduct the first advanced STEM medical robotics fair at the state-of-art Nicholson Center in Celebration, Florida. This activity is the first of its kind to have students "operate" on synthetic LifeLike BioTissue models after spending a few hours practicing on the latest training simulators. Students experience rigorous hands-on and academic exposure to cutting edge robotic technology used in neuro-spine, urology, and other surgical procedures.

Lithonia Adventist Academy (LAA), South Atlantic Conference, partners with the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center (GEHC) and Bio-Bus from Georgia State's Department of Biology. Onsite and offsite exploratory programs that cover a wide range of topics, including STEM, are made available to students. Visits have included the opportunity for students to handle a cow's heart. In this module, students were introduced to the basic anatomy and function of the mammalian heart and circulatory system.

Other activities included a portable plane-



First place winners for overall high score in the state of Georgia, advancing them to the national level, the Duluth Adventist Christian School team chose not to participate in the nationals due to Sabbath competition.



Michaela Drake-Cambridge adjusts a robotic arm for a mock surgery at the STAR Symposium with fellow seventh- and eighth-grade students from Mt. Sinai Junior Academy.

tarium, which allowed parents and student to explore God’s universe on Family Science Night. Students have also joined with other community friends in developing solutions to current world and community problems. This bond has provided STEM opportunities such as the following: “Exploring the Relationship between People and Animals” — what might be possible when humans and animals help each other; “Trash Trek” — exploring solutions to managing trash disposal in industrialized nations; and “Inventions” — building or inventing items that demonstrate various scientific principles. LAA has received an award of recognition from GEHC as a STEM partner.

The Kentucky-Tennessee Education Department is partnering with a unique science and engineering program called Table Top Inventing, an inventor’s boot camp. 3D printers and Arduino circuit parts are used to teach the essence of what it means to be creative and inventive. Each boot camp offers a unique problem for the students to solve using skills they already know to understand computer programming, engineering, CAD, 3D printing, math, and science. Steve Kurti, professor of learning technology at Victor Valley College, expresses that “Table Top Inventing’s purpose is to inspire a generation of kids to be thinkers, explorers, innovators, and deep thinkers by helping them develop the knowledge, skills, and mindsets they need to become world changers.”

Daughter of Zion Junior Academy, South-eastern Conference, students are highly en-

gaged in research that will assist in producing innovative solutions to real life problems. Robotic demonstrations have been presented to the Delray Beach community leaders, who had never witnessed such an activity. The city of Delray Beach awarded students three new robotic kits from LEGO.

Through partnership with Oakwood University, Oakwood Elementary students in the South Central Conference use the University’s resources, such as models (human body, organ systems, skeletons, and insets), compound light microscopes, slides of prepared specimens, plants, animals undergoing development (chickens, frogs), glassware (beakers, graduated cylinders, funnels), small tools (tweezers, rulers), and photocopies. Through collaboration, Oakwood Academy students link their endeavors with students from the University in augmenting the STEM curriculum. Elementary students are also introduced to STEM field occupations.

Kissimmee Valley Archaeological and Historical Conservancy (KVAHC) has accepted the Honors Class of Archaeology at Walker Memorial Academy (WMA) in the Florida Conference, as members of its chapter since 1995. As members, the students have been mentored by several avocational and professional archaeologists to experience the analytical and inquisitive thought processes of the archaeologists. Students participate in all aspects of archaeology, including excavation, screening, bagging the artifacts, mapping in the features, working in the lab, and the paperwork — record level form and feature form.



Two boot camp participants from the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference discuss their invention and the next steps needed to complete it.

Research of the southeast Native Americans gives the students a look into that culture. Aspects of the research include the tools, pottery, houses, ceremonies, weapons, mounds, religion, and burials.

Each month, students at WMA canoe along a local lake, collecting water samples and benthic macro-invertebrates, and conducting a site survey. Samples are taken back to the lab for analysis, and reports are written and filed. Weather data is collected daily, and data is uplinked to the Global Learning and Observations that Benefits the Environment (G.L.O.B.E.) server. Water test data and atmospheric data are shared with scientists and policymakers from local to national levels. While conducting different types of water-quality analysis and using survey techniques, students follow established protocols to sanction quality control. After years of data collection from studies in hydrology and meteorology, WMA ranks first in the state of Florida of K-12 schools, according to the number of data points contributed to the G.L.O.B.E. program.

Science, engineering, and math continue to change the world just as many experience



Daughter of Zion Junior Academy students present a robotics demonstration facilitated by Michael Bornstein (left), a 17-year-old robotics instructor of Palm Beach State College, and Heather Barbuto, robotics research coach.



A Walker Memorial Academy student filters lake water to collect algae to determine the amount of chlorophyll “a” contained in the lake.



Sawgrass Adventist School became a National Wildlife Certified school in August 2015. This sign is posted on a column at the school’s entrance.

technology evolution. Students are invited to test their STEM knowledge at regional and national competitive levels. Southern Adventist University hosts the Southern Challenge, an annual tournament featuring LEGO robotics and research projects of students in grades 5-12. The Southern Challenge is a member of the Adventist Robotics League, a consortium of educators working in Seventh-day Adventist education that sponsor and promote classroom learning through robotics. The North American Division Robotics Challenge is the national tournament for the Adventist Robotics League. This activity will be held May 1, 2016, in Sacramento, California. Additionally, there are numerous national, non-Adventist STEM competitions.

While students are sharpening their skills, so are teachers in the Southern Union who participate in STEM and other professional development activities as they prepare students for STEM careers. Loma Linda University hosts its annual EXSEED (Excellence in STEM Experiential Education) Conference in June for Adventist educators across the North American Division. EXSEED is a new

partnership program designed to focus on the relationship between science, technology, engineering, and math education in Seventh-day Adventist K-12 schools. EXSEED partners with teachers, schools, organizations, colleges, and universities to support and empower K-12 educators in teaching STEM subjects within a mission-focused learning (MFL) environment. The Southern Union Conference also encourages teachers and students to place special emphasis on STEM by planning various STEM projects and programs annually in March, Southern Union Education Department’s STEM month.

While exposure to STEM and its future impact in the world is emphasized, it is a joy to constantly remind each student of the greatness of God — the Creator who made the whole world and everything that is in it. Although academics and spiritual principles are intertwined in the STEM curriculum, it is our mission to share with students the importance of preparing for careers here on Earth as well as for service to be continued in the new world. 🌐

The following websites provide more information about STEM and related activities:

www.esa.doc.gov/sites/default/files/stemfinallyjuly14_1.pdf

www.ed.gov/stem

www1.southern.edu/academics/academic-sites/computing/clubs.html

www.scienceoc.org/parents/student-competitions

<http://home.llu.edu/academics/academic-resources/educational-effectiveness/exseed>

FREEZE-TAG & JONAH

MIX AS FUSION MEETS REFUGEES

BY HEDREN JOHNSON

On an unusually warm, cloudy Sabbath afternoon in late February, a group from FUSION Atlanta caravanned about 11 miles northeast of Atlanta, Georgia, to a large refugee community.

Speaking about the church's first community involvement opportunity for 2016, Angela McPherson, the newly chosen outreach coordinator, said, "We just want to pour out God's love on these kids."

First attempts to engage the children were like trying to put kittens in a box. As soon as two or three gathered, something more interesting would happen, and they would run off into other directions. Someone suggested a game of freeze-tag to hold their attention.

After the young people showed they were masters at freeze-tag, everyone settled in for the story of Jonah, the reluctant prophet. Jason Churchwell shared an interactive version. Jason and his wife, Carrie, visit the kids here every first and

third Sabbath as a part of their larger vision to start a thrift store and community center.

At the time, Jonah seemed like a convenient story to tell. It's familiar.

Drawing on the sidewalk lots of ocean in blue, big, pink whales, or sea gulls with white would be easy. While munching on grapes and Goldfish crackers, the children may not have connected Jonah's situation with their own lives.



PHOTO BY: HEDREN JOHNSON

Children and volunteers draw Jonah and the whale as Fusion Church members reach out to refugees in Clarkston.



PHOTO BY: HEDREN JOHNSON

Members of the Fusion Church in Atlanta, Georgia, traveled to Clarkston one Sabbath afternoon to minister to refugee children.

Jonah was a refugee on the boat, in the big fish, and in Nineveh. He was seeking a place away from God. Many of the families in Clarkston, Georgia, are refugees too.

In the 1980s, this part of DeKalb County, Georgia, was designated by the U.S. State Department as an ideal resettlement community. Since then, some 60 different nationalities of people

have resettled in the area. Most recently, a group of Ethiopian citizens, escaping the influence of ISIS, have moved to the area.

When Jonah arrived on the shores of Nineveh, he only had the clothes on his back. Many refugee families struggle to establish a new life. Sometimes, all the resources available are used just to cover the basics for shelter and food. Anything else is a special treat.

It turned out to be a perfect place to spend a Sabbath afternoon. A young girl who had as much chalk on her hands and face as she did on the concrete, asked, "Will you be back next Saturday?"

NASHVILLE LEADERSHIP GROUP ASKS, “WHO ARE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS?”

BY JULIET SANTOS

In recent years, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been associated with presidential candidates, healthy lifestyle, Blue Zones, longevity, Saturday Sabbath observance, and more. The members knew that one day people would ask, “Who are Seventh-day Adventists?”

A Nashville, Tennessee, leadership training forum requested to meet with the Nashville First Church pastor, Melvin Santos, not alone, but with 50 other people from an array of local businesses and churches.

A PowerPoint presentation that included information from WhoAreAdventists.org,

health and vitality, so all can better hear God’s voice and do His work, was shared. Emphasis was given on Bible-based beliefs that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. As such, all endeavor to incorporate NEWSTART in their daily lives. The myth was dispelled that all Adventists are vegetarians. Short video clips were shown of centenarians who volunteer at nursing homes, and of a 95-year-old physician performing cardiothoracic surgery twice a week in Loma Linda, California.

Battle Creek Sanitarium, corn flakes, Harvey Kellogg, Ellen G. White, and other

Sunday?” Santos simply replied, “Sabbath was never changed by God.”

The participants were asked to complete a registration card which was used for a drawing. The 10 winners were excited to receive a vegan cookbook.

Lastly, Santos prayed a prayer of blessing for all of them. He asked God to bless their leadership in the community, businesses, families, and to give them good health and happiness. As they were leaving, smiling faces thanked First Church members for helping them to get a glimpse of who Adventists are.



The attendees were very interested in the information given at the presentation.



Melvin Santos, First Church pastor, greets community leaders.

the 18-million-plus racially diverse membership, the 206 countries the denomination operates and serve in, the number of higher learning centers/schools, hospitals, nursing homes, dispensaries, and more. Those attending viewed a video explaining the Seventh-day Adventist organizational structure. Information was shared about contributions to society through Adventist Community Services Center, ADRA, religious liberty, and missionary work globally.

The quest for a better relationship with God and a lifestyle consistent with good

founders and elements of Adventist history were discussed. An explanation was given of what the Great Disappointment in 1844 was really about, as well as the commonalities with other Christians. Excerpts of what CNN, Oprah, Dr. Oz, National Geographic, and others are saying about Seventh-day Adventists were shown. The contribution to society from longevity lifestyle, baboon heart transplants, and proton laser therapy for prostate cancer were shared.

During the question and answer period, it was asked, “Why do you worship on Saturday when everyone else worships on

Regardless of their background, everyone seemed to enjoy learning about Seventh-day Adventists. The media photographer was the last to leave, and beamed about how much he enjoyed learning about Adventists. Overall the experience was exhilarating for the members.

To help other Seventh-day Adventist churches prepare for community guests, Nashville First Church is willing to share the simple PowerPoint presentation that can be customized for their use. To request the PowerPoint, contact Mel Santos at msantos@kyn.net. 📍

JUST WHO HE WAS...

BY APRIL STAFFORD-ROLLE AND DEBRAH WRIGHT STAFFORD

Randolph (“Randy”) Poten Stafford was born August 27, 1946, in Hamlet, North Carolina. He was the second child of Ellwood and Loretta Stafford. He was an additional blessing to the couple, following their first child, Annette. His mother later married Clarence Roary, and they had two additional sons, James and John Roary. The family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where Loretta accepted the Adventist message along with her children.

Stafford’s entrance into ministerial work was as a tent master for William Scales, pastor, where he was known to preach to the chairs after the nightly meetings.

In 1965, he entered Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in Huntsville, Alabama, as a behavioral science major, but the Lord had other plans for this aspiring man of God. He did not complete his matriculation at Oakwood, but later finished his education at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. He received a master’s in behavioral science and doctorates in humane letters and divinity.

In 1969, he used his educational background to work with youth as the director of the Health Horizons Program, under the direction of Harold Wright. His college friend, Debrah Wright, also worked in the Health Horizons Program. As they became closer friends, he asked her to be his girlfriend. They dated for two short weeks before he asked her to marry him. Three months later, they were married on August 31, 1969. To this union was born Randolph II and April. His family was extended when April married Jonathan Rolle, and they had two children, Ashley and Jonathan II.

Stafford never lost his desire to become a pastor, and in November 1969 the opportunity presented itself. He was invited to Nashville, Tennessee, to preach, and his sermon was entitled “Mag Elle.”



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

A tape of the sermon was sent to the late Charles Dudley, then president of South Central Conference in Nashville. After hearing the sermon, Dudley gave Stafford a call to pastor in one of the Mississippi districts. During his early ministry, he remained a community activist, working with youth, the NAACP, SCLC, and the Urban League. During his second year of ministry, he baptized more than 100 people, and was named “Pastor of the Year.” Each successive year he was known as the “Century Man,” for baptizing more than 100 souls. Three years after entering the ministry, he was ordained.

In addition to South Central Conference, he pastored in Lake Region in Chicago, Illinois; Central States in Kansas City, Kansas; and Allegheny East in Boyertown, Pennsylvania. He also held departmental positions, which included AY director in Southwest Region in Dallas, Texas.

In 1983 Stafford was called to be the ministerial director for the East African Union in Nairobi, Kenya. In 1985, while conducting a three-week evangelistic campaign in Kisii, Kenya, he baptized more than 3,000 souls. He was known in Kisii as “Nyakundi,” a name given to him by the late pastor, Ogeto. The name is from the Mwabogoko clan in Kisii for

a person who is tall, well built, and with some power. He was blessed to return to Kisii in November 2015 for the 30-year anniversary. He was pleased to learn that as a result of the meeting in 1985, the Kisii Central Church was started, which later produced more than 10 churches.

In 1986, he was called to the Eastern Africa Division to be the director of church growth, under the direction of then president, Bekele Heye.

After returning to the United States, he worked as an independent evangelist until accepting a call from Alvin Kibble, former president of Allegheny East Conference. In 1995, he was called back to South Central Conference, where he served as assistant to the president for public evangelism, and pastored churches until he retired in August 2012. He pastored more than 31 churches throughout the United States, and baptized more than 25,000 people during his 42 years of ministry.

He spent his last days traveling with his wife, visiting his children, grandchildren, and his fellow-retired friends. He continued to mentor young pastors and served on boards, which included the Breath of Life Ministries.

One of his favorite verses was, “Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it,” Isaiah 58:14. Anyone who knew him can attest that God fulfilled this in his life.

He fell asleep in Jesus on February 4, 2016. He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife of 46 years, Debrah Wright Stafford; two children, Randolph P. Stafford II and April (Jay) Rolle; two grandchildren, Ashley Rolle and Jonathan Rolle II; one brother, John (Kay) Roary; nieces and nephews; and a host of adopted daughters and sons in the ministry. ❶

Addie Lee Myrick Retires with Legacy of Dedicated Service



PHOTO BY: JACQUE CHANDLER

Pictured are Addie Lee Myrick (left); Sharon Lewis, Conference education superintendent; and Dana Edmond, Conference president.

Addie Lee Myrick was honored at her retirement celebration on January 10, 2016. It was not difficult to acknowledge and join in the celebration for this special occasion. Myrick has an established record of 35 years of remarkable leadership at the Bethany Seventh-day Adventist Church Day Care Center in Montgomery, Ala. It was not by chance that she assumed directorship in August 1980, following the transfer of Samuel J. Jackson and his wife.

Under her leadership, the Center experienced growth in enrollment and staff performance. Myrick held high expectations for the entire staff.

The Center was originally located in the fellowship hall of Bethany Church. In 1993, a grand opening and dedication of the new Center occurred under the leadership of Roy Patterson, pastor, and Bennie Smith, elder, in a joint effort to accomplish this goal.

A strong, productive parent/teacher study group was organized. With the effort of this group and other resources, the mortgage of \$42,900 was paid off in 1998. As the efforts continued, the property behind the new building was purchased for a fenced-in playground, and paid for by the Center.

At the height of enrollment, there were 156 children. Three facilities were used to house the enrollment. Center 1 had six classes housed in the current facility, Center 2 had six classes housed in the fellowship hall, and Center 3 had two classes housed in the Bethany Christian Academy (BCA) building.

The Center provided funds to supplement the operation of BCA. A structured academic program was initiated with the appropriate curriculum materials for each age group.

Under the leadership of the parent/teacher study group, activities were organized to

promote growth and profit. Some of the results included the following:

1. An annual king and queen contest that provided funds for various projects, and provided participants for the Thanksgiving parade.
2. Purchase of a 22-passenger bus for use by the Center.
3. Purchase of large playground equipment items.
4. Computers for a computer station for Center 1.

Strong leadership and a goal for excellence have motivated the Center to develop a strong teaching staff, maintain high scores in the food program, and maintain Alabama state licensing. Bethany thanks Addie Lee Myrick for her years of dedicated service. 📌

BY DORTHY SANDERS

Carolina Holds Pathfinder Bible Experience

The Carolina Conference Pathfinder Bible Experience, formerly known as the Bible Bowl, was larger this year than in the past. Fourteen teams competed and displayed their understanding of the book of Exodus.

To prepare for this event, teams combed through Scripture and the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary* for the minute details that could separate them from the other teams. Their level of knowledge would make some seminary scholars feel inferior. It was amazing how much they learned.

This Conference-wide event was hosted at the Charlotte Sharon Church in Charlotte, N.C., and was filled to capacity with not only the competing teams, but their supportive families, friends, and other club members cheering them on.

The entire competition consisted of 90 detailed questions about the book of Exodus, split into two sections. The event lasted more than three and a half hours. Three teams — Arden, Charlotte Sharon Team A, and Spartanburg— made first place, and will compete against other conferences at



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

The three first-place teams (from left): Arden, Charlotte Sharon Team A, and Spartanburg.

the Southern Union level two weeks later in Calhoun, Ga., on the campus of Georgia-Cumberland Academy.

Spurred on for 2017 Bible Experience, teams are already starting to study, not just one or two books of the Bible, but four books in

the New Testament. Just imagine if everyone studied to the extent that they do, what could be accomplished in spreading the Gospel! 🙌

BY COURTNEY HEROD

“Hands On” Children’s Ministries Workshop Held

An old song says, “I believe that children are our future...” Children are the future of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and it is the adult members’ job to help them fall in love with their Lord and Savior daily. This is why it’s so important to learn to present Christ in fun, different ways to engage the children. In marketing terms, they say to know your target audience, and tailor your message to them. Kathy Russell, director of children’s ministries for the Carolina Conference, and her team have done just that in developing new ways to engage young people in the



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Evelyn Omana (left), retired former women’s and children’s ministries director at the Inter-American Division, and Kathy Russell explain the new “VBX” (Vacation Bible Experience) program.

Gospel message.

At the Charlotte Spanish Church, on Sunday, February 21, 2016, Russell and her team held a workshop for children’s ministries leaders. The theme was “Hands On,” and they divided the attendees into groups that rotated through three breakout sessions to get the leaders personally involved in the activities. Before the rotations they met

together, and the Mount Pisgah Academy’s Creative Ministries team demonstrated the use of puppets to connect with the children.

Catering to both English and Spanish languages, there were two identical workshops back to back, breaking only for lunch — the morning training session in English, and the afternoon session in Spanish or translated into Spanish — with a total of

140 attendees. Each of those in attendance were passionate about retaining young people in the Church. Satan will do what he can to separate them from the Church. The attending members desired to not be a tool for him to use, but to be an instrument of Jesus to accomplish His goal. 📌

BY COURTNEY HEROD

Carolina Exceeds Church Planting Goals

Five years ago at the 2011 Carolina Conference Constituency Meeting, it was voted to move forward with a faith goal of planting 30 to 50 new churches for the 2011-2015 quinquennium. By December 17, 2015, the 30th new church plant was approved! This explosive growth is principally attributed to forward-thinking pastors and dedicated lay leaders. All church plants follow a lay-led model, and the pastor serves as the trainer, equipper, and evangelist.

Additionally, the Conference leadership team goal of 50 steps for 2011-2015 was reached and exceeded with a total of 51! Every time a new status is voted — group, company, or church status — it counts as one step.

The Conference has never done nor tried anything like this, but they give glory to God that it happened!

Leslie D. Louis, Carolina Conference president, shared the following:

“Nearly 54 years ago, on September 12, 1962, President John F. Kennedy was making a speech at Rice University in support of the space program. Some may remember these words: ‘But why, some say, the moon? Why choose this as our goal? And they may well ask why climb the highest mountain. Why, 35 years ago, fly the Atlantic? Why does Rice play Texas? We choose to go to the moon. We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

because they are easy, but because they are hard...’

“We savor the fact that the task God has entrusted to the Carolina Conference is certainly not an easy task. It is hard work indeed! I thank God for the leadership of Brad Cauley, Carolina church planting director; the amazing dedication of the church planting committee under the gifted chairmanship of Gary Moyer, Carolina vice president for administration/secretariat; and the pastors and church members who have caught the vision of expanding God’s end-time message.

“During the past five years, much has been done to fine-tune the standards of spiritual and organizational accountability in the establishment of groups, com-

panies, and churches.

“‘Success in any line demands a definite aim. He who would achieve true success in life must keep steadily in view the aim worthy of his endeavor... The heaven-appointed purpose of giving the gospel to the world in this generation is the noblest that can appeal to any human being. It opens a field of effort to everyone whose heart Christ has touched,’ *Education*, page 262.

“In harmony with this counsel of God’s ordained messenger, a new, ambitious faith goal has been set for the coming quinquennium (2016-2020):

- TO PRAY AND COMMIT to a FAITH GOAL of raising at least 20 new church plants in South Carolina and 40 in North Carolina.

- TO PRAY and COMMIT to a FAITH GOAL of 90 TOTAL steps in congregational status (groups, companies, churches).

“The Great Commission implicitly includes church planting (teaching, baptizing, and discipling all nations — Matthew 28:18-20). It is Carolina’s dream and purpose to march forward, fully recognizing that the task is not an easy one, that all will have to work together — emboldened by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to reach the hearts and homes of every community in North and South Carolina.” 📌

BY BRAD CAULEY

Lake County Area Churches Gather for Unified Experience



PHOTO BY: CINDY DIAN

An estimated 370 people from 11 different congregations gathered for a special Vespers program at Mount Dora Church on February 20, 2016. The event emphasized various church ministries, and how members can work together for mission.

Eleven central Florida congregations from Florida Conference and Southeastern Conference united at Mount Dora Church on February 20, 2016, for a special Vespers program. The program's emphasis was on various church ministries, and how they can all work together to reach their community.

Robert Putt, Umatilla pastor; Robert Nickell, Florida Hospital Waterman senior chaplain; Tom Baker, Mount Dora pastor; Carolyn Lewis, Mount Dora secretary; and Keitha Hatcher, Southeastern Conference secretary, along with a number of energetic volunteers, worked together to organize this historic event.

"Our goal was to create awareness of what other Adventist churches and entities in our area are doing, so we can all work together," Putt said. "If we wouldn't care about what church gets the credit, we could be more impactful to our community as a whole rather than separately."

More than 370 people came together for the program which included Charles Hauga-brooks, Vespers speaker and singer, and special music by some of the churches and organizations represented. Florida Conference

representative Carmen Rodriguez, executive secretary, and Southeastern Conference representative Dolphy Cross, director of family, health, and religious liberty departments, also addressed the congregation with enthusiastic greetings from their conference presidents, Mike Cauley and Hubert Morel.

The churches that joined the program included Bethanie Haitian, Emmanuel Out-



reach Mission, Lady Lake, Leesburg, Leesburg Spanish, Mount Pleasant, Mount Dora, North Lake, Plymouth-Sorrento, Sorrento Spanish, and Umatilla. Gateway Christian School was also represented by the school choir, and hosted an open house following the event. Additionally, Florida Hospital Waterman showed its support by contributing to the program.

"Every encounter that occurs between

our team and our community is a reflection of our mission — who we are as a hospital and who we are as a church," said Waterman CEO David Ottati. "The hospital is essentially a window into our church, and we need to make sure both the hospital and the churches work closely together to achieve our mission."

Local Adventist ministries set up exhibits showing opportunities for ministry: WGTT (With God's Truth Today) FM 91.5 radio station, Life Changing Ministries Thrift Store, It Is Written, The Connection Helpline, CREATION Health, and Adventist Motorcycle Ministry. Umatilla and Sorrento churches also showcased literature outreach they conduct at Eustis Farmers Market and Renniger's Flea Market, respectively.

"The framework for the event was really trust, belonging, and hope," Nickell said. "This event helped us establish trust with each other. We get a sense of belonging when we support each other in our ministries. This in turn gives us a hope for our future in the community." ●

BY CINDY DIAN

Florida Conference Workers Ordained, Commissioned in 2015

DONNA G. BURSKE
January 23, 2015 — Commissioned



Donna Burske
Winter Park Memorial Hospital — Senior Chaplain

As a child of missionaries, Donna Burske grew up in Vietnam and the Philippines. A call to ministry during academy was renewed years later. For eight years, she has served as senior chaplain at Winter Park Memorial Hospital. Burske has two children: Kristin, a cardiac nurse and assistant nurse manager at Florida Hospital Orlando; and Justin and his wife, Heather, who have three children.

“I’ve become just about every sort of servant there is in my attempts to lead those I meet into a God-saved life. I don’t know about you, but I’m running hard for the finish line. I’m giving it everything I’ve got.”

NATHANIEL A. MADRID
September 12, 2015 — Ordained



Nathaniel and Silzie Madrid
Kress Memorial Church — Senior Pastor

“Nathan” Madrid was first impressed by the Gospel at age 12 while listening to a sermon. In August 2003, he had a reconversion experience when God saved him from potential death at the hands of a street gang. Soon after this, Madrid had a powerful dream in which he saw the entire weight of his sins slowly descend upon him. He desperately prayed, “Lord Jesus, save me!” In an instant, the weight was lifted and his breath returned.

After this, he began immersing himself in the Bible. He began studies in theology, and worked as a colporteur, did Bible work, and trained in evangelism.

GERVON GARCÍA MARSH
September 19, 2015 — Ordained



Gervon Marsh
Miami Temple Church — Associate Pastor

Born in Jamaica to Adventist parents, Gervon was raised in a home where principles of service for others, love for others, and dedication to God were highly esteemed. He became actively involved as youth choir director, Adventist Youth leader, youth evangelist, and junior counselor. His integral involvement in evangelism and youth ministry led many to have a saving relationship with Jesus over the years.

After working as a pastor in North Jamaica Conference, he joined Florida Conference, where he pastored in Homestead and ministered at Maranatha, Margate, and Palm Springs churches. He married Peter-gay Yanique Stobbs in December 2015.

JONATHAN J. MARTIN
August 22, 2015 — Ordained



Jonathan, Josiah, Railyn, and Raisel Martin
Markham Woods Church — Associate Pastor

Jonathan Martin was born in California and grew up in the suburbs of Boston, Mass. He is a fourth-generation Adventist. When he was 15 years old, he was asked to preach a short sermon for a church program. This was the first of many sermons he preached in the Southern New England area until he graduated from Greater Boston Academy.

Martin has continued to be sensitive to God’s calling, and has discovered that his giftedness and pastoral calling is well-suited for youth ministry. He hopes to serve Jesus by working with young people, and helping them discover an active relationship with their Savior.

FRANK L. RUNNELS
November 30, 2015 — Ordained



Frank, Odette, and Shana Runnels
Florida Conference — Vice President for Education

In 2008, Frank Runnels became administrative superintendent for education before serving as superintendent in 2011. Vice president was added to his responsibilities in 2014. He has served as a grades 7-8 teacher, boys’ dean, academy history teacher, evangelist, missionary, and businessman. Runnels has conducted evangelistic campaigns in different parts of the world, and has seen the Spirit bring many souls to the Savior. His passion is for kids and kingdom growth, and his hope is that everyone can come to know and love Jesus.

Frank and Odette Runnels have four grown children: Jelain, Frankie, Shana, and Chantel, who is married to Christopher Bates; and three grandchildren.

Oasis Offers Students Bible Retreat, Identity

The Oasis High School retreat was packed this year. Matt Durante, associate pastor of Bowman Hills Church in Cleveland, Tenn., spoke to the 159 students who attend either public high school or home school in grades 9-12. There were also 51 sponsors, 35 college students from Southern Adventist University and other public universities, and praise musicians.

The theme was “Finding Your Identity in Christ.”

“A weekend like this reminds me how much I love small groups,” said Ben Curet, a Southern student.

Emily Miranda, a homeschool student from the Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, Tenn., said, “Another thing I liked was Matt Durante’s talks; his interesting stories captures your attention, and his topic (identity) was very well picked in an age where teenagers seem to be nothing but walking identity crises sometimes. It’s a problem I struggle with sub/unconsciously, and it’s nice to be able to relax about it. God defines who you are, so look to Him for the answers, and stop trying to be someone you aren’t just to fit in. I also enjoyed my small-group leaders. They worked together well, and were funny to listen to. In the small-groups everyone was pretty quiet, but we still had a good time. The personal experiences they shared were helpful.”

Another cool thing at Oasis was presented by Emily Long. She plans to start a magazine by and about youth (ages 13-19) called 71.5, based on Psalms 71.5. While the project is in its infancy, Long said God gave her the idea when she was 17. Her goal is to get kids excited about evangelism in a fresh, new way. She was able to sign up about 30 students at Oasis, and plans to



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

Oasis High School Retreat saw an increase in almost 60 students this past February at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp in Crandall, Ga. Each year the Youth Department offers the Oasis Bible retreat for students who do not attend Seventh-day Adventist schools. Weekend speaker Matt Durante is pictured below.



PHOTO BY: DON KEELE JR.

produce two issues this year.

The weekend also included ice breakers with Chris James, where mattress surfing was involved; smalls groups, with a special track for the sponsors; a Sabbath afternoon hike, including a wild insane hike; and hayrides and a bonfire.

“This weekend is a great time with students wanting to return, even after they graduate,” says Don Keele, Jr., associate youth ministries director/young adults. “We are thrilled by the increase of students and by the entire weekend. The praise and worship was just great.”

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Park Avenue Church Reaches Out in Prayer

The Park Avenue Church in Valdosta, Ga., participated in the January “10 Days of Prayer,” and found it to be a wonderful experience. As a culminating event for this particular emphasis on prayer, Park Avenue Church decided to hold a movie night and show “War Room.”

Everyone brought snacks, and the church provided pizza. The group who attended had not seen the movie. The movie itself was an excellent reminder of the realness, effectiveness, and powerfulness of prayer. Many do not spend the time in earnest prayer that would bring powerful results.

After the rave reviews of the first showing in January, the church members scheduled to show “War Room” again on February 20. This time they heavily pro-

moted it in the community. They advertised in the newspaper, on the radio, on their Facebook page, via church signage, and with a flyer — doubling the attendance of the first showing. God brought in many community guests, spouses, and friends. Again at the end, there was applause for the power and wonder of God, and what He does when people pray.

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land,” 2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV.

Park Avenue Church wants to be known in the community as a loving, friendly, Bible-based church, and considers the question, “If our church disappeared, would the community miss us?” Movie night is



PHOTO BY: CHANA WATERS

The Park Avenue Church in Valdosta, Ga., reached out to the community to share the movie, War Room.

the first of more opportunities to impact the community and let them know who they are, and what they are about. ●

BY CHANA WATERSO

Children’s Ministries Grows Leaders

Isaiah 54:13 says, “All your children will be taught by the Lord, and great will be their peace.”

Teaching children is a high calling that the Conference Junior/Children’s Ministries Department takes very seriously.

Each year a Children’s Ministries Convention is offered to train Sabbath School leaders, those who work with Vacation Bible School, and many other children programs. This year’s event took place February 12-14, at Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, Ga., with 170 in attendance.

One unique aspect to the weekend was that children preached. On Sabbath, 13-year-old Rebecca James from Fayette Church in Fayetteville, Ga., presented the sermon on health from the story of Daniel. She says she has always wanted to preach, and her mom encouraged



PHOTO BY: TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Rebecca James, a 13-year-old church member from Fayette Church in Fayetteville, Ga., preached the Sabbath sermon at the Children’s Ministries Convention in Crandall, Ga.

it. She works with the Youth for Truth program, and recently went to Guatemala to present an evangelism series with her family and friends. Preaching “helps you be able to tell someone about Jesus’ love so you can know and you can feel like you made a difference in their lives,” says James. She advises friends or others her age, “You can do anything through Christ who strengthens you.”

The weekend training was themed “Look to Me,” and included workshops on “How to Empower our Child Preachers,” “How to Teach Passionately,” “GraceLink,” “Prayer and the Christian Leader,” “Relating to Special Needs Children & Families,” “Teaching Children Stewardship,” and many others. ●

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Athens Church Members Reach Others Through Discover Bible School Outreach



Athens Discover Bible School graduates

When Sandra Murren was baptized, February 6, 2016, at the Athens, Ala., Church, she became the fifth member to join as a direct result of the church's Discover Bible School outreach ministry.

Murren's journey to Adventism began when she received a card in the mail offering free Bible study guides. After finishing the Bible study, she was invited to Athens Church for a graduation ceremony. Before long, Murren expressed her desire for baptism. Her first hurdle involved Sabbath employment. She was a full-time employee at Walmart, and had a tenure of nearly 20 years. Jay Roserio, pastor, provided Murren with a letter legitimizing her request. She was overjoyed when her supervisor responded by not only giving her Saturdays off, but Fridays as well.

Each Bible student has a unique story. Ralph McGee was the first student to accept Bible truth in 2008 shortly after the local Bible school began. Until he took

the course, he couldn't understand why Christians kept Sunday. McGee is now the head deacon, a position he has held for several years, and beginning this fiscal year, he became an elder.

Michelle Poteete was desperate; unless she made a lifestyle change, she knew that her days were numbered. Then Jesus entered her life. When she received the Discover Bible School card, she was ready to learn what His will was for her life. When she received an additional card suggesting that she share it with a friend, she gave it to her sister-in-law, Melissa Dillon. They both continued to study, and after completing the first course they attended a graduation ceremony at Athens Church. When Dillon entered the sanctuary, she remembered that as a young child she had attended Vacation Bible School at this same church. Poteete and Dillon were both baptized in 2013.

Deborah Gallagher completed the Discover Bible Course in the spring of 2015

and joined shortly after.

In January, Robert Elliott became the latest graduate to receive his diploma. Elliott has an amazing story of divine intervention. When his life bottomed out, he was desperate for some way out of bondage. He sent two cards to the Voice of Prophecy, but never heard back. But, God never gave up on him. One day he saw an acquaintance throwing a Discover Bible card in the trash and asked if he could have it. The address was local, lessons were sent, and he began studies immediately. The lessons came at just the right time. He has started on his second course and attends church when he can.

With a small congregation between 40 to 50 active members, the Athens Church has used various means of outreach ministry, but the Discover Bible School remains one of the most effective. ●

BY SANDRA PRICE

New Ranger Family at Alamisco

Todd Ward is the new ranger for Camp Alamisco in Dadeville, Ala. He was born in Kansas City, Mo., but lived much of his life in Indiana. His father was a doctor who loved farming, and Ward grew up on the farm.

Shelley (Blehm) Ward, his wife, is also working at Alamisco. Her responsibilities include managing the scheduling, cooking, and cleaning. She was born in Baytown, Tex. Her best childhood memories were spent on her grandfather's farm in Oklahoma, and at the beach in Destin, Fla., where she would go for extended trips with her mother.

Both Wards graduated from Chisholm Trail Academy in Keene, Tex. As a child, she attended summer camp every year, mostly at Camp Yorktown Bay in Mountain Pine, Ark. He worked all four years of high school at



Camp Yorktown Bay.

She went to college at Southwestern Adventist College (now University) in Keene, Tex., and he attended Weimar Institute in Weimar, Calif., for a semester, before continuing his college education at Southwestern Adventist College.

In 1989, they were married in Keene. They have four children: Allison (22), Aar-

on (18), Austin (15), and Alex (6).

The Wards have been self-employed for most of their professional lives. They have been involved in youth ministry together for more than 10 years, mostly through Pathfinders. Ward has been involved in ministry through lay pastoring in churches, as well as speaking at retreats and events for youth and adults. He is passionate about the art and value of storytelling, and loves to talk about Jesus.

He says, "We love, more than anything else, to serve. We believe that the life best lived is a life that is extended to bless others. The only legacy we will leave is the presence of people living to bless others as a direct result of our lives blessing them." ❶

BY REBECCA GRICE

Floyd and Evelyn Brown Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary

Sixty years of marriage for Floyd and Evelyn Brown of Purvis, Miss., was celebrated on Sunday, September 13, 2015. A reception was held that afternoon for family and friends at Bass Memorial Church in Lumberton, Miss.

The Browns were married in Florence, Miss., in 1955. After attending services with his wife at the local church, and studying with Halle Crowson, pastor, Floyd Brown was baptized into the faith. He eventually began working for the Church as a literature evangelist.

They moved to Bass Memorial Academy (BMA) in 1969 when he accepted an invitation to work at the Academy part time in the Maintenance Department, and to run the school's pallet construction business where students were employed.

Through the years, he worked for BMA in several capacities. He eventually became head of the Maintenance Department for BMA, and worked for a total of 29 years.

Although Evelyn Brown was never employed by Bass Academy, she was a stable presence at the Academy and church, and hosted countless students in their home through the years. She also devoted her life tirelessly to her family. The Browns have five children, Edith, Patricia, Henry, Paul, and Clifton; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Floyd Brown officially retired in 1999 after 30 years of service, but the couple still travel to places as far away as Michigan and New York to volunteer their time and expertise with church projects. They also volunteer at their home church with their church's food pantry, disaster relief,



and church building. He is still called on for his in-depth knowledge of physical plant workings at BMA (he knows where all the pipes are buried). Floyd and Evelyn Brown have used their lives as a living sermon for so many. ❶

BY HENRY BROWN

Couples Enjoy Getaway in Paradise

Two words that might entice any married couple are getaway and paradise! And, that is exactly what happened on February 13, 2016, when 42 couples found themselves sitting in the event center at Paradise Ranch in Springfield, Tenn.

Surrounded by all the beauty nature can provide, this diverse group, including African Americans, Filipinos, Hispanics, and even a couple from Russia, attended the first ever Couples' Getaway in Paradise.

The one-day event included presentations on personality, including a test to determine each individual's temperament. The fun began when men's brains were compared to waffles, and women's to spaghetti. Interspersed within each session were videos and cartoons depicting the funny ways life can be seen as a couple.

A Bible study in Genesis and Ruth generated a discussion on the constraints couples face in sharing a devotional life together. Each session included table talk,



which was a roundtable discussion, and also knee-to-knee time for each couple.

The day ended with a special communion as love notes, written on red paper hearts, were hung on the cross which had been hand crafted by Mel Brass, one of the attendees. At the close of the getaway,

Valentine cards were written and exchanged as the couples gathered around the cross for a final song and prayer. The overwhelming response was, "We need to do this again!"

BY GAIL MCKENZIE

Highland Academy Spreads the Word

The great commission gives the command to go out and spread the word of God's great love for mankind. Highland Academy (HA) has done just that again this school year by sending the entire student body in small groups to 17 churches within the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

Highland calls these events "Spread the Word" weekends. All HA students divide into groups with faculty sponsors, and disperse to various churches throughout the Conference to present the entire church service.

Students "Spread the Word" by sharing God's love through speaking, singing,



Billy Anderson speaks at the Pulaski, Tenn., Church.

praying, telling the children's story, performing special music, and by giving personal testimonies. They are often nervous beforehand, but end up feeling so blessed. For some, this is the first time to preach or give a personal testimony to a congregation. Senior student Kirsten Campbell said, "I have never given a sermon before. I wasn't sure what to expect, but it

went well. I really grew and was blessed through this process."

The Pulaski Church immediately responded to the student's presentation and wrote the following, "Thank you for including the Pulaski Church in the special service The young people provided a wonderful, meaningful service, and are invited back any time."

These weekends have been such a wonderful experience ever since HA started the program last year. Highland will continue next school year with the "Spread the Word" weekends. Pray for the students as they prepare again for God to use them in a mighty way! 🙏

BY AMY CIRIGLIANO

Decherd Members Engage in Season of Giving

The fourth quarter of every calendar year is prime time for every organization that relies on charitable giving. Mailboxes are full of compelling advertising pieces for everything from three-legged horses to children with the saddest faces you have ever seen. Even some churches have become quite adept at the year-end plea for cash to support their own operations.

But, Decherd Church, which touts itself as different by design, had another strategy. It would be a season of giving to their community and global needs. During 2015, Decherd had established sister-church relationships with small congregations in Ama, Papua New Guinea, and Cerro Campana, Panama.

The Ama Church is pastored by David and Edie Hicks, Adventist Frontier missionaries. While Decherd Church provides monthly funding for the Hicks and has published a songbook in the Tok Pisin language for the congregation, there was a need for Bibles to support the exploding Adventist population. More than 300 people of the May River Region joined the Church in 2015, 10 of whom were from the village of Ama. Decherd was able to transfer US\$480 to church leaders in Papua New Guinea to purchase 24 Bibles for the members of the Ama Church.

Earlier in 2015, a brand new One-day Church had been erected in Cerro Campana, Panama, through a partnership with Maranatha Volunteers International, students and staff from Georgia-Cumberland



Members prepare Christmas bags to distribute to the community.

Academy, a father/daughter team from Decherd Church, and a cash donation of \$4,500 for the steel structure and roof. However, the project had come together so quickly that the church's concrete floor had not been poured prior to the erection of the building. Decherd members vowed to raise \$2,000 to transform the sanctuary floor from dirt to concrete. By the end of 2015, 55 percent of that goal had been accomplished.

Decherd has also had a long tradition of providing holiday baskets to the community. A week before Christmas, gift bags with spiritual and seasonal items accompanied by "God bless you!" personal greetings were delivered to 50 families

surrounding the church. The day also included Decherd's members writing a short message and signing their names to nearly 200 Christmas cards which were delivered to residents of area nursing homes, skilled care facilities, and memory care institutions.

"Even though we are still in the midst of much-needed renovations to our historic sanctuary, we must never forget that it's not just about our own needs," exclaims Cynthia Stovall. "God is more interested in seeing how we show His love in practical ways to our own community and our world." 🙏

BY JAY PRALL

Ephesus Plans Evening of Renewal, Regeneration, Rededication

Excitement filled the air at the Castle Hayne Baptist Church Family Life Center on December 19, 2015. More than 125 women from varied denominations were greeted with a Red Carpet experience! Complete with a chauffeured limousine, arrival on the red carpet, photographer, a catered dinner, live entertainment, and so much more, truly it would prove to be an evening to be enjoyed by all who attended the Inaugural “Ladies’ Time Together Gala.”

From start to finish, the entire evening was devoted to making the women feel extra special. The decorations were beautifully themed for queens and princesses! Females ages 2 to 90 years old attended. Each woman received her own “carriage” favor with a treat inside, and each woman’s personalized place card was attached to her own “glass slipper.” The color scheme was pink and silver, and all attending had a chance to get all “dolled up” and be treated like royalty. After all, are they not the daughters of the King of Kings?

Along with the women from Ephesus Church in Wilmington, N.C., the evening was enjoyed and embraced by women from African Methodist Episcopal, Southern Baptist, Missionary Baptist, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, and other area churches, including non-denominational.

During 2015, the women of Ephesus Church met several times for lunch and Bible study after divine worship. It was a time for sisters in Christ to spend time



with one another, glean from the Word, and to relax as Christian women together. This time together was to share, learn, and discuss from a woman’s perspective what speaks to her heart. It was so refreshing and rewarding. In an atmosphere that is not rigidly-structured or time-dictated as a worship service, there was freedom to ask questions and not be hurried. Being able to delve into discussions and interactions has proven to be beneficial and empowering for the women. Women’s ministries leader Jerri Holliday and assistant women’s ministries leader Xylia Sparks-Davis co-facilitated the teaching and meal preparation during the year. It was suggested that

something special be done at the end of the year, and the gala was planned.

The extra special culmination of the evening was the “Renewal of Vows to Christ” ceremony. After all the women renewed their vows to Christ and rededicated their lives to Him and His service, everyone enjoyed a reception, complete with bridal cake and sherbet frappé punch. Before the women departed for the evening, old friendships were rekindled and new ones were formed. Excitement is already building for December 2016. 📍

BY JOHN DAVIS

Decatur Church Holds “AMAZING RACE”

Decatur Church Adventist Youth Society (DAYS) has had its own version of the AMAZING RACE reality series for the past two years. While the

television series pitted teams against each other on a trek around the world, Decatur Church AMAZING RACE challenged teams in a trek around the city of Decatur,

Ga. In preparation for the 2015 race, participants were given a study guide that included selective books of the Bible, and a copy of the Daniel and Revelation and Secrets of



Bible Prophecy books. Teams competed in a series of challenges on a biblical scavenger hunt throughout the city. There were six tasks and six challenges based on clues from the study guide that had to be met to finish the race. The only way to decode the clues was through an understanding of Bible Prophecy. As each challenge was completed, teams were given new challenges and new locations to reach.

Since most of the “warfare” in life is fought outside of church walls, organizers thought the cityscape would provide plenty of distractions and challenges for the race. “Angels” (adult chaperones) were assigned to watch over each team at every step to keep participants safe throughout the city, and to keep a watchful eye. Participants learned that while life’s experiences may not be what we choose, allowing God

to lead is the best strategy for any race.

After the race, teams reflected on life lessons learned. An impacting lesson from this race was the necessity of Bible study and understanding Bible prophecy, which was the theme of the 2015 race. As one participant observed, had they all studied, the race would not have been as challenging. That’s a lesson for all. The most important lesson learned, however, was that while they may run the race, only those who endure to the end receive the prize (1 Corinthians 9:24; Matthew 24:13). For the past two years, teams that completed the most challenges received Brewster’s Ice Cream gift cards. Teams are forming now for the 2016 AMAZING RACE, which will focus on the Creation theme. 📌

BY KAREN WOOTEN AND
RODERICA MORRIS

Google Visits Berean Christian Junior Academy

Imagine being able to travel to London, South Africa, Jerusalem, Venezuela, or Australia without the hassle of expensive airplane tickets, crowded airports, or hotel fees. Better yet, what if you could take your entire family to see the moon, the Amazon rainforest, or the Great Pyramids of Egypt at absolutely no cost? This may sound too good to be true, but it is not far-fetched. Google, one of the leading technology companies in the world, has created a new program called The Google Pioneers Expedition Program, which allows students and teachers to experience a 3D virtual tour to all of these beautiful places and more.

Six representatives from Google came to visit 15 classrooms at Berean Christian Junior Academy (BCJA) in Atlanta, Ga., on February 3, 2016, after receiving an invitation through the school’s year-round STEM/STEAM enrichment program, the Enrichment through Science, Mathematics, Athletics, and Research Training



(ESMART) Academy. BCJA served as a beta-test school for Google’s new Expeditions App coming out later this year. Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy and Atlanta Adventist International School students were also participants in this exciting event.

The 30-minute expeditions began with an introductory lesson about the expeditions program. The classroom teacher was briefly trained on how to lead the expedition using an iPad. Then the students

put on the Google cardboard glasses and began their journeys. Some classes went on 10 expeditions in one sitting. At the end of the session, Google representatives conducted a wrap-up session with the students in order to receive insightful feedback from them. The student commentary will ultimately help Google improve the app prior to its release.

Extraordinary opportunities like the Google Pioneers Expedition Program allow students to gain exposure to unique, innovative instructional practices that engage and excite them. One seventh-grade student, Khalid Lawrence, stated, “I wish school was like this all year long!” Fortunately, schools that participate as beta-testers will be allowed to access the expeditions program prior to it being released later this year. 📌

BY ALINA MITCHELL

Ambassadors Win USCAA Basketball Championship

Spring Break at Oakwood University ended on a celebratory note after the 2015-2016 men's basketball team won the USCAA Division I Championship on March 5. This is the third championship the men's basketball team has won since joining the USCAA in 2008, making Oakwood the first college or university in Alabama to win three championships.

During this past basketball season, the Ambassadors fought long and hard, which eventually led them to the week-long tournament in Uniontown, Pa. After winning against Florida National in the quarter-final and Rochester College in the semi-final, the Ambassadors won the national championship game against its Alabama rival, Concordia College. The final score was 80-65.

The win reflects the determination and commitment exhibited by the team. Coach Simon Jacob knew there was something different about this group of players because they genuinely bought into the "God First!" principle that was emphasized during practice. "They gave up individual issues that they needed to give up in order to truly be-



PHOTO BY: ANTHONY CHORNES II

come a team. Lifestyle changes were made. They committed to discipline and the things they needed to do to win the championship," shared Jacob.

Brandon Daniel (#15) is ending his senior year on a high note after being crowned the Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the tournament. "It feels amazing. It's my senior year, and I was able to win the championship and get MVP ... it's amazing and unbelievable," explained Daniel.

Daniel was not the only player recognized throughout the weekend. Juwane Damon (#23) was one of 23 student athletes awarded a place on the National All-Aca-

demic team for having a GPA of 3.5 or higher. Ryan Williams was named the USCAA Slam Dunk Contest winner. And Ronnie Abrams was named to the All-Tournament Team.

The team received a warm welcome home as they were greeted by fellow students when they arrived on campus Sunday night, March 6. A rally was held on Monday afternoon, and broadcast on Facebook Live, showcasing how proud the Oakwood family was of the Ambassadors. 📌

BY NAOMI COGGS, STUDENT WRITER

Oakwood University Participates in shot@life Summit

During the 2016 spring break, students of the Oakwood University shot@life club — Victoria Ellington-Perrier, Jada Reedus, Elyse Greene, Karis Arnold, Samuel Parkins, Jefferline Dorvil, Amara Hendricks, Chelese Moore, and their club sponsor, Onesimus Otieno, Ph.D., — attended the shot@life 2016 Summit in Washington D.C.

The organization shot@life is a United Nations Foundation organization that advocates for global childhood vaccines. The campaign focuses on four major vaccine-preventable illnesses (measles, pneumonia, rotavirus, and polio) by brainstorming on innovative ways to raise

awareness, especially among lawmakers and businesses that drive global policy on vaccine development, funding, and access. In partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), The U.S. Department of State, The U.S. Agency of International Development (USAID), The United Nations' World Health Organization (WHO), and the United Nations Children Education Fund (UNICEF), shot@life has a direct impact on global access to vaccines especially through the cold-chain, a process ensuring that vaccines are kept at a reliably cool temperature to keep them viable.

During the summit, participants were equipped for meetings on Capitol Hill with legislators. The Oakwood team eloquently discussed global vaccine funding issues, noting that the 1.5 million annual deaths of children under five can be prevented. Every dollar spent on vaccination has a 16-fold return in health benefits. The OU shot@life club has represented Oakwood University and ADRA International at the Summit for three consecutive years, and continues to have on-campus activities throughout the school year. 📌

BY CHELESE MOORE, STUDENT WRITER

Pastors, Chaplains Selfless Service Recognized as Community Involvement Encouraged



The Oakwood University Alumni Association Greater Orlando Chapter (OUAA-GOC) has successfully initiated several activities that have led to many participants and increased membership — one of which has been the Pastors and Chaplains Appreciation Dinner, which focuses on the pastors and chaplains fellowshiping with their peers and families. It has become a time to recognize and appreciate special achievements and sacrifices that have previously gone unnoticed.

This recognition was thought up by Eric Moore, M.D., medical director of Vitas and Oakwood Alumni Class of 1985. Roscoe Howard, D.Min., vice president of mission and development at Adventist Health System, along with Jeff Williamson, Ph.D., spokesperson for Orange County Sheriff's Office and Oakwood Alumni Class of 1985, who is also a member of the Association, was instrumental in bringing the concept to life. The Greater Orlando Chapter has also reached out to and increased the membership and involvement of the Latino community who

are alumni and love Oakwood as well.

Daniel DonCarlos Smith has been the OUAA-GOC president in the Southeastern Conference for the past three years. He is a graduate of Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., but is a proud, strong advocate of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., and Christian education. This is understandable since he has a strong Oakwood heritage of alumni — his grandmother, Carrie V. Smith, and his father, Philip D. Smith, attended Oakwood, and a host of other relatives have taught or attended Oakwood.

Smith's leadership has increased membership, financial giving, and involvement of individuals who live in the Southeastern Conference territory. He also has increased community and corporate involvement in the Greater Orlando area as well. Some of the major donors of various projects for OUAA-GOC are Florida Hospital, Adventist Health System, and Walmart Corp.

The Greater Orlando Chapter has been able to assist students in attending and graduating from Oakwood through these

various corporate partners. This has been a great witnessing tool to share with others regarding students obtaining a great Christian education. Smith believes that for each student who receives some kind of financial assistance, they should be willing to assist in whatever service possible to give back to the community or the Association. This is why during all of the events and activities that the Association implements, many of the volunteers who assist in these programs and activities are students or former students who have been assisted by the Alumni Association.

The OUAA-GOC conducts many activities throughout the year, including the annual Oakwood Celebration Week in September with a concert, picnic, and 5k; the annual Christmas Dinner in December; and a Dinner of Excellence which takes place in February. The chapter members and officers are all committed to Oakwood and Christian education, and never hesitate to step up to the plate in service or giving of their time. ●

BY DANIEL SMITH

Academic Summer Camps Offer Immersion Experience for High School Students

This summer Southern will host six academic camps that bring high school students to the University for an opportunity to explore or sharpen their vocational focus before even starting college. Each three-day camp includes a spiritual component as well, modeling for students how Adventist education facilitates the marriage of career and calling.

The School of Journalism and Communication held Christian Media Camp for the past two years, and students from across the southeast and beyond came to learn about photography, blogging, new media, and more. Other academic departments witnessed its success, and this year there will also be summer camps in chemistry, computing, English, modern languages, and math/physics.

“Our favorite part of the journalism camp every year is seeing high school students awoken to new ways they can use their gifts for God’s glory,” said assistant



Participants from Southern’s 2015 Christian Media Camp

professor Kendra Stanton-Lee.

Gone is the traditional image of high school students spending their summer lounging by the pool. Today’s youth — and the parents who often help pay for college — remain open to the idea of spending this coveted time “off” in more constructive ways. But, all fun is not lost! During the hours between academic activities and curfew, Southern staff will supervise a variety of recreation activities, both

on and off campus.

All camps except journalism (May 23-25) are being held July 25-27. Registration is \$100 for local students (or out-of-town students staying with friends and family in the area), and \$150 for those requiring overnight accommodation in one of Southern’s apartment buildings reserved exclusively for camp participants. All food, materials, and activity expenses are included in registration.

For students coming to camp from beyond the greater Chattanooga, Tenn., area, vans will provide complimentary transportation both to and from Southern at centralized pick-up locations in Atlanta, Knoxville, and Nashville. Specific details about each camp’s topic, lodging details, and related forms may be found at www.southern.edu/camps. For more information, call 423-236-2581. 📞

BY LUCAS PATTERSON

Social Work Students Assist Family Justice Center

Southern’s School of Social Work is collaborating with the Family Justice Center (FJC) in Chattanooga, Tenn., to provide research and technical assistance for both the FJC and local police. The arrangement allows students to apply academic theory in real-world situations both for their own benefit, and for that of the families they are serving.

“Southern is a leader in social work research, and we are excited to partner with them,” said Andy Berke, mayor.

Southern manages a student-learning

clinic for the FJC that provides free social services/counseling services to clients, families, and groups. Students will also have the opportunity to learn in an extensive interdisciplinary internship program that prepares future professionals for working in law enforcement, social services, healthcare, and city government. Though her work with FJC has proved challenging at times, senior social work major Melissa Rodas believes this unique opportunity stretches and strengthens students’ skills.

“I’m using what I learned in the classroom to serve survivors of domestic violence and other abuse,” Rodas said. “Because of this setting, I’m able to already see the importance of social workers and our core values.”

Southern offers both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work. To learn more, visit www.southern.edu/social-work. 📞

BY SHEANN BRANDON

Woman Crochets Hundreds of Hats for Newborns

TO SPREAD AWARENESS FOR HEART DISEASE, CONGENITAL HEART DEFECTS



Over the last three months, Jo Marks has crocheted nearly 300 pint-sized red hats — the perfect amount to outfit each baby delivered throughout February at the Dr. P. Phillips Baby Place at Winter Park Memorial Hospital.

With every hat she donates, Marks hopes to raise awareness of two important issues, heart disease and congenital heart defects.

“Typically people think heart disease just affects old people, but it affects babies too,” Marks said.

Marks was inspired by the American Heart Association’s (AHA) “Little Hats,

Big Hearts” initiative, which promotes awareness for heart disease and congenital defects by donating crocheted hats to newborns. According to the AHA, heart disease is the number one killer of Americans, and congenital heart defects are the most common type of birth defect in the country.

“We’re delighted to see the donation of so many hats, which will help raise awareness that congenital heart defects affect one in 100 babies,” said Meagan Mills, communications director, Greater Orlando American Heart Association. “Illustrating that heart disease comes in many shapes and sizes — it’s a wonderful way to kick

off American Heart Month just a few days away.”

Marks got started on the hats in November, and on average crocheted six a day. She delivered 280 of her hats to Winter Park Memorial Hospital just in time for American Heart Month.

“We are so thankful for Jo, and honored that we can help share this important message at the Baby Place,” said Vickie Smith, Birth Experience designer at Winter Park Memorial Hospital. ●

BY SAMANTHA KEARNS O’LENICK

Primera Campaña en la Filial de Red Springs



Asistentes a la campaña

Con enorme expectativa los miembros de la filial Red Springs, de la iglesia de Raeford, NC, organizaron su primera campaña evangélica. Fue maravilloso ver cómo noche a noche más de 14 nuevos asistentes y 33 amigos e interesados, llegaban con el deseo de recibir la Palabra de Vida de labios de la conferenciante Estheysi Elias Solis, quien vino desde Brasil a dar inicio al programa de siembra, cultivo y cosecha. El lema fue “Contemplando

la Cruz de Cristo”. El evento se llevó a cabo en las instalaciones de un auditorio en la ciudad de Red Springs, NC, del 14 al 20 de Febrero.

Los asistentes eran desafiados cada noche a poner sus vidas en las manos de Dios, y a consagrar sus corazones contemplando a diario la cruz de Cristo. Todos los mensajes eran Cristo-céntricos.

Por supuesto, quienes también se vieron beneficiados por este evento fueron los miembros de la

filial, quienes salieron animados a seguir trabajando en el crecimiento de la obra de Dios, por medio del testimonio personal en su vida diaria, los estudios bíblicos, y los grupos pequeños.

Que Dios continúe fortaleciendo esta naciente congregación, resultado del trabajo incansable de la iglesia de Raeford. 🙏

BY ELIAS SANDOVAL,
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Fiesta de la Dadivosidad en West Palm Beach

Durante los últimos 8 años la iglesia de West Palm Beach y el Ministerio H.A.C.E.R han llevado a cabo un evento llamado “Feast Of Giving” (Fiesta de la Dadivosidad) previo a la celebración del día de acción de gracias. Allí se entregan gratuitamente canastas de alimentos a familias necesitadas de la comunidad. El evento ha crecido, y su impacto ha alcanzado a miles de personas. La motivación del mismo es el deseo de servir. Hace 2 años se entregaron 500 canastas. Cada una tenía provisiones suficientes para alimentar a 6 personas. En estos últimos 2 años, el número de canastas llegó a 1000. Aparte de los alimentos, este año se entregaron tarjetas de regalo por valor de diez dólares, obsequio de un supermercado local. La iglesia celebra el haber podido compartir las bendiciones de Dios con otros. Se calcula que unas 3690 personas fueron beneficiadas con esta obra de amor en la última jornada.

En esta ocasión se contó con el auspicio de la oficina del sheriff del condado de Palm Beach, quienes apoyaron durante el evento ayudando en la entrega de regalos e información a las familias. También estuvieron presentes representantes de otras iglesias del área como la de



El evento en sus diferentes etapas

habla inglesa de West Palm Beach, las hispanas de Lake Worth y North Wood, congregaciones de otras denominaciones, y vecinos voluntarios.

El programa se inició a las 7:00 pm. En el recibidor de la iglesia se instalaron 2 estaciones de información: una de la oficina del sheriff, y otra de la iglesia, en las que además de informar se regalaban revistas, libros, y otros materiales. Antes de la entrega de canastas se llevó a cabo

un corto servicio bilingüe de cantos y agradecimiento a Dios. El capitán Michael Kishner, director de relaciones comunitarias de la oficina de sheriff, habló a los asistentes acerca de las razones para dar gracias a Dios. Se terminó con un corto devocional a cargo del pastor Harold Altamirano. Luego, en poco más de una hora, todas las canastas fueron repartidas gracias al trabajo de los 90 voluntarios y de los conquistadores, que fue rápido y preciso. El noticiario del canal de televisión Azteca América y el de NNPTV cubrieron la jornada. La emisora cristiana Universo 1420 transmitió desde el predio de la iglesia.

A la culminación del evento se ofreció una cena de cortesía a cargo de la familia Forbes. A la misma asistieron los voluntarios y personas que no tenían dónde pasar el día de acción de gracias.

Gloria a Dios porque su nombre pudo ser dado a conocer a miles, y su amor fue compartido con cientos que necesitaban. “Servir es evangelizar.” Dijo Cristo por medio de sus actos cuando estuvo en esta tierra. 🙏

ALLAN MACHADO, DIRECTOR
DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

F.I.E.L Comienzo del Nuevo Año Lectivo

Con una matrícula de entre 750 y 800 alumnos, el Instituto de Evangelismo Laico F.I.E.L, ya dio comienzo al año lectivo 2016. Las clases se presentarán en diferentes fechas en 11 áreas del territorio de la asociación. Cada área contará con la participación de alumnos de varias iglesias.

Si bien la inscripción está técnicamente cerrada, el número oficial de alumnos no es definitivo, debido a que todavía se

están recibiendo llamados de personas que escuchando el testimonio de los estudiantes, están pidiendo matricularse. Este año se sumó el grupo de Tallahassee que es el más aislado del territorio, y a quienes se unieron los alumnos de Jasper. Una vez que se creía que todo estaba ya establecido y organizado, se recibió una agradable sorpresa cuando la iglesia del territorio de Georgia Cumberland, Cairo, decidió inscribirse en

las clases debido a la cercanía geográfica con Tallahassee. Como consecuencia, Jasper y Tallahassee que aparentemente estarían aislados del resto, pasaron a ser un grupo fuerte y entusiasta.

El programa de estudios para el 2016 se divide de la siguiente forma:

A. Materias a presentarse en el aula

1. Métodos de evangelismo de la iglesia primitiva.

2. Desarrollo de la teología adventista

Los exámenes serán vía Internet, y estarán basados en la lectura de los libros Los Hechos de los Apóstoles de Elena White, y ¿Quiénes son los Adventistas? de Nancy Weber de Vyhmeister

B. Video Clase

Evangelismo personal. Consta de 10 videos

C. Clase práctica de evangelismo

Se desarrollará en la iglesia local y estará a cargo del pastor. El entrenamiento se concentrará en el trabajo de parejas misioneras y grupos pequeños. Constituirá la preparación para la campaña pública



Grupo del área de la Bahía en la clase del pastor Idalberto Torres

que se llevará a cabo en octubre. La participación en la misma será un requisito de graduación, y otorgará crédito. ①

ROLANDO DE LOS RÍOS,
DIRECTOR DE F.I.E.L

Tesoros en el Cielo

Miguel llegó de Cuba en el año 2012. Tenía el sueño de alcanzar estabilidad financiera, y las cosas indispensables de las que muchas veces se vio privado en su tierra natal. Se sintió muy feliz cuando consiguió su primer trabajo en el que le pagaban 12 dólares por hora. No obstante, al poco tiempo se dio cuenta de que ese dinero era escaso para lograr su independencia. Necesitaba un vehículo, y el pago del mismo más el seguro, le consumían gran parte de su sueldo.

Al llegar decidió asistir a la iglesia Atlanta Primera. Inmediatamente se vio envuelto en diversas actividades, y estaba entusiasmado con los planes misioneros en los que estaba colaborando. Un grupo de hermanos ofrecieron su hogar para organizar una casa culto, y Miguel se comprometió a participar.

Muy pronto tuvo la alegría de recibir una nueva oferta de trabajo. Su sueldo sería incrementado a 19 dólares por hora. Esto implicaba un porcentaje de aumento importante. El trabajo requería mudarse a otro estado. La persona que se lo había ofrecido, había acordado llevarle los



Miguel, Beatriz, su esposa, su suegra, y una de sus hijas

formularios que debía llenar un sábado, luego de la puesta del sol.

Esa tarde, Miguel había participado de una reunión con el pastor y un grupo de personas. Estuvieron trazando planes para un proyecto misionero. Antes de saber de su nuevo trabajo, Miguel se había

comprometido con dicho proyecto, y estaba entusiasmado. Ahora, el tener que mudarse a otro estado implicaría que no podría prestar su ayuda.

Cuando al finalizar las reuniones se vio frente a los formularios de trabajo, sintió tristeza de dejar todo atrás. Comenzó a

alinear sus prioridades y a tener dudas respecto a su nueva posición. No obstante, debía tomar una decisión. Si bien él necesitaba el dinero que le habían ofrecido, en su mente resonaba la historia del pueblo de Israel en tiempos del profeta Hageo. Ellos se preocupaban por tener bienes materiales, mientras la casa de Dios estaba desierta. El Señor los exhortó a colaborar en la construcción del templo. Les recordó que la plata y el oro son de Él, y les dijo que no temieran, que Él sería fiel al pacto que había hecho con ellos al salir de Egipto, y su Espíritu los acompañaría. (Hageo 1

y 2). Mientras observaba los formularios, pensaba que probablemente encontraría otras oportunidades para ayudar en otra iglesia, pero sentía que él ya se había comprometido, y la iglesia contaba con él. No quería echarse atrás. Finalmente, decidió dejar que Dios se hiciera cargo de su situación financiera. Agradeció la oportunidad que se le había presentado, pero sin ninguna duda o remordimiento, rechazó la oferta de trabajo.

Muy poco tiempo después, Miguel tuvo otro ofrecimiento. Esta vez con un sueldo mayor a 19 dólares por hora, y sin tener

que mudarse a otro estado. Para él fue una muestra de la gran bondad que Dios tiene para con sus hijos. Como si esto fuese poco, en un año el salario le fue aumentado 3 veces. En ocasión de cada aumento, él donó la primicia del dinero para la terminación de la construcción del templo.

Miguel y su esposa Beatriz no dudan que cada vez que dan su tiempo y dinero a la causa de Dios, es como prestarle a Él, o como depositar en el banco celestial, cuyo Dueño devuelve con grandes intereses. 📌

MARIEL LOMBARDI, EDITORA

Nueva Congregación en Ellijay, Distrito de Mableton



Pastor Urdaneta haciendo un llamado durante la ceremonia de inauguración

El sábado 6 de febrero la iglesia de Canton, GA, vio el nacimiento de su primera hija en la ciudad de Ellijay, GA.

El pastor Richard Urdaneta, director del distrito, consagró al núcleo inicial de miembros conformado por unas 35 personas para iniciar su marcha de conquista en la

ciudad de Ellijay. En el programa se respiró entusiasmo.

Esta congregación ha sido organizada de tal manera que cada miembro tiene responsabilidades en alguno de los diferentes ministerios de la iglesia. El principal objetivo es por la gracia de Dios cumplir con la misión de testificar y predicar las buenas nuevas de

salvación a la comunidad hispana de esta localidad.

Unamos nuestras oraciones para que esta obra se haga prosperar en beneficio de las almas que radican en la zona. 📌

RICHARD URDANETA,
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Gratitud por las Bendiciones Recibidas en el 2015



Bautismos durante una de las campañas llevadas a cabo

El departamento hispano comenzó el 2016 con entusiasmo. El recuerdo de las bendiciones recibidas el año anterior, es motivación para continuar la tarea en el año que acaba de comenzar.

En el mes de febrero, 203 líderes de escuela sabática, grupos pequeños y actividad misionera, recibieron entrenamiento a cargo de pastores que se llegaron de la División Norteamericana para impartir seminarios. Esto redundó en un trabajo concienzudo en las iglesias, que se hizo notar en los planes que se llevaron a cabo durante el año.

En el mes de abril, 400 mujeres del territorio tuvieron el privilegio de escuchar oradores de experiencia, quienes en un retiro espiritual impartieron temas relacionados con la vida de la mujer cristiana.

Durante el esfuerzo de evangelismo

de siembra y cosecha “Compartiendo la Esperanza” que se llevó a cabo entre los meses de febrero y agosto, 265 almas entregaron sus vidas a Cristo. Los laicos y pastores locales estuvieron unidos en un trabajo incansable, que más allá de los resultados de bautismo, fueron de gran bendición para la vida espiritual de cada uno de ellos.

En agosto, más de 1000 personas se hicieron presentes en el campamento familiar anual. Los seis oradores invitados tocaron temas de hogar y familia, y el resultado del evento fue no sólo de familias fortalecidas en Cristo, sino también de 69 bautismos.

En noviembre, 162 hombres se dieron cita en el retiro que la asociación organiza cada año para ellos. La experiencia fue

motivadora, y todos regresaron a sus hogares con nuevas metas de crecimiento espiritual.

En diciembre se llevó a cabo una reunión de la que participaron pastores y líderes de iglesias locales, en la que se agradeció a Dios por las victorias del 2015, y se trazaron los planes a ponerse en práctica en el 2016.

Sí, Dios es grande. Él bendice a su iglesia cuando ésta está comprometida en la ganancia de almas. Los nuevos conversos son un recordatorio constante de Su deseo por salvar a esta humanidad caída, y un incentivo para seguir trabajando en la vida espiritual personal, para así estar preparados para guiar a otros al Reino de los Cielos. 🕊

NILTON GARCÍA, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Grupos Pequeños y Esperanza 2016



Participantes de grupos pequeños

El sábado 16 de enero, el Ministerio Hispano de la asociación Gulf States llevó a cabo su primera convención de grupos pequeños en el Garrett Coliseum de Montgomery, AL. El evento dio comienzo a la iniciativa “Grupos Pequeños + Esperanza 2016.” Se contó con la asistencia de más de 1,250 personas entre laicos, pastores, y administradores de la Asociación y Unión.

El presidente pastor D. Livermore tuvo a su cargo el sermón de consagración y los bautismos, primicias los 600 nuevos discípulos que las iglesias hispanas se propusieron traer para el reino de los cielos.

El pastor James Mangum, Secretario Ejecutivo de la asociación, junto a los directores del Ministerio Hispano de Southern

Union y la Asociación, pastores Jorge Mayer y Nilton García respectivamente, y el cuerpo pastoral, llevaron a cabo la ceremonia de iniciación de los grupos pequeños, haciendo entrega del certificado de nacimiento de los mismos.

Esta iniciativa comenzó en la reunión de evaluación y planificación que los pastores tuvieron, liderados por Nilton García. Dave Livermore se hizo presente para saludar al grupo, y los desafió a trabajar para traer 600 nuevas almas para el reino de Dios en el año 2016. Este reto motivó al equipo, quienes decidieron abocarse a la meta por medio del trabajo de los grupos pequeños y las parejas misioneras. De inmediato se reunieron con los ancianos de las iglesias, y se propusieron

crear 104 grupos pequeños, y 312 parejas misioneras. El plan consiste en que cada pareja misionera traiga un mínimo de dos personas para Jesús: uno por cada miembro de la pareja. El lema es: “De dos en dos unidos para salvar a un pecador.”

El Ministerio Hispano en la persona del pastor Nilton García, agradece inmensamente al cuerpo pastoral hispano de la asociación, a la secretaria Sarita, a los administradores en la persona del pastor Dave Livermore, a los ancianos, a los líderes de grupos pequeños y parejas misioneras, y a la hermandad hispana en general. ●

NILTON GARCÍA Y JORGE RICHARDSON

Trabajo de los Guías Mayores

El Ministerio Hispano de la asociación desea agradecer a los jóvenes por el incansable ministerio de Guías Mayores. Su trabajo silencioso con los más pequeños así como con los jovencitos, sirve de guía en esta etapa definitiva de sus vidas, en las que están buscando el rumbo que van a seguir. La meta es guiarlos en el camino de la verdad y la vida, y gracias a su perseverancia y dedicación, muchas almas tiernas se entregaron a Jesús por medio del bautismo.

Dios siga bendiciendo su ministerio. ●

ARMANDO DE LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



Grupo de Conquistadores con los Guías Mayores

Ceremonia de Homenaje a los Bomberos y Preparación para Esfuerzo Evangélico en Durham

Las asociaciones de Carolina y South Atlantic se unieron en una ceremonia de reconocimiento a los bomberos de la ciudad de Durham, que tuvo lugar el 19 de diciembre. La misma fue parte de la celebración de la culminación de los 40 días de servicio. El pastor Paulino organizó el programa que consistió de cantos, testimonios y reportes sobre el trabajo

de preparación del terreno para las conferencias que ambas asociaciones tuvieron del 19-26 de marzo a cargo del pastor Roger Hernández, director ministerial de la Unión del Sur. 📍



Pastor Poloche entregando placa de reconocimiento a los representantes del cuerpo de bomberos de Durham

EFRAÍN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO

Corazón, Talentos y Tiempo para Dios

Durante 36 años Gabriel fue un hombre dedicado a su trabajo, pero desgraciadamente también a la bebida. Desde los 12 años acostumbraba a beber alcohol junto con sus amistades. Gozaba de un trabajo estable, una buena esposa, Yolanda, y tres hermosos hijos, todos fieles a Dios. Durante esos años penosos, su familia no cesó de orar por la transformación de Gabriel.

Hace algunos meses, una de sus hijas ya adulta, lo invitó a pasar un tiempo en Carolina del Norte para conocer a sus nietos y estar en familia. Coincidentemente, la asociación había organizado el retiro de varones anual a realizarse en esos días. Gabriel fue invitado a participar, y para sorpresa de la familia aceptó la invitación. Ese fin de semana, su vida dio un giro de 360 grados. El evento tenía su énfasis en la mayordomía y la entrega diaria de nuestros dones a Cristo. Se mostró como cada cosa que recibimos, sea material, intelectual, física, etc., tiene un propósito de servicio, y nos ha sido prestada para que la utilicemos de acuerdo a los planes de Dios.

El sábado de mañana cuando el predicador extendía la invitación de comenzar a vivir una nueva vida en Cristo, Gabriel sintió por



Gabriel y su esposa Yolanda luego del bautismo

primera vez el deseo de entregarse a Dios. Luego de tantos años de oración por parte de su esposa e hijos, se veían los frutos del trabajo silencioso del Espíritu Santo. Dos semanas más tarde, se encontraba sellando su vida a través del santo bautismo en la iglesia de Smithfield, NC.

A partir de ese momento se notó un gran cambio. Gabriel había decidido caminar tomado de la mano de Dios, siguiendo la senda que Él le mostrara. Su estilo de alimentación dio un giro importante, gracias a los temas que escuchó sobre la bendición de comenzar un régimen vegetariano. Por supuesto el alcohol salió de su vida. En lo material, hizo un pacto con Dios de fidelidad en la devolución de



Gabriel en el momento de su bautismo

los diezmos y las ofrendas. Ahora Gabriel goza de mejor salud, el dinero le rinde más, su tiempo y sus talentos los ha dedicado a Dios, y experimenta la paz y el gozo productos del Espíritu reinando en la vida.

Debido a su testimonio en el vecindario el trabajo, y entre sus amigos y familiares, Gabriel está impactando muchos corazones. Actualmente sirve como diácono en su iglesia local predicando, visitando, apoyando, y edificando para la obra de Dios. Junto a su esposa, tres hijos y nietos, se goza en la esperanza bienaventurada y se preparan para estar juntos en la tierra nueva. 📍

ISMAEL URIBE, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Estudiantes de Southern Como Misioneros en Clínica del Perú

Ubicado en el Cuenca Amazónica del este de Perú, el Proyecto AMOR (Embajadores Médicos de Alcance y Rescate) ofrece servicios enfocados en el área espiritual, la educación infantil, y atención médica, quirúrgica y dental para las personas que viven en la ciudad de Pucallpa. La Universidad Adventista Southern ha creado allí un ambiente muy propicio que ofrece experiencias transformadoras que ayudan a los estudiantes a descubrir el llamado que Dios tiene para cada uno de ellos.

En los últimos años más de 50 estudiantes misioneros de corto plazo (SMs) han pasado sus vacaciones de primavera sirviendo en Pucallpa. Además, más de 20 SMs de tiempo completo se han comprometido a quedarse durante todo el año escolar para involucrarse en la cultura y el espíritu del Proyecto AMOR.

“La participación de estos estudiantes en las iglesias misioneras mantiene a estas congregaciones activas,” dijo Ron Hawkins, presidente de Ministerios AMOR. “Vemos que la asistencia baja cuando los SMs regresan a casa en el verano. Recientemente se establecieron tres iglesias en Pucallpa, fruto del trabajo de nuestros SMs.” Los estudiantes frecuentemente se sienten tan motivados por sus experiencias de ultramar en Proyectos AMOR, que hacen planes de volver.

Samya Sawalha, estudiante del último año de la carrera de enfermería, llegó a Proyectos AMOR por primera vez en el 2015 como estudiante misionera, y se quedó durante nueve meses. Su experiencia en práctica médica ayudando en cirugías y haciendo procedimientos simples por su cuenta, aumentó su confianza y compasión, y fue tan positiva, que regresó durante las vacaciones de primavera de este año como líder del viaje que tuvo una duración de 10 días. “Quiero continuar las relaciones y el trabajo que empecé,” dijo Sawalha. “Algunos de los estudiantes nunca han



Estudiante de Southern de biología Krista Bonney, izquierda, ha venido a Proyectos AMOR tres veces, atraída por la clínica y por su habilidad de usar la medicina para llevar almas a Dios.



Después de servir en Proyectos AMOR como una estudiante misionera en el 2015, Samya Sawalha, derecha, regresa durante las vacaciones de primavera para “continuar las relaciones y el trabajo que empezó.”

experimentado ninguna labor misionera hasta que viajan a estos lugares. Esto cambia sus vidas. Es emocionante dirigir un nuevo grupo de personas en algo que se ha convertido en mi pasión.”

Krista Bonney, estudiante de biología, empezó su conexión con Proyectos AMOR y tuvo una experiencia positiva durante las vacaciones de primavera de 2014 y 2015. Por ello decidió regresar para quedarse todo el año escolar 2015-2016. Ella disfruta participando en presentaciones sobre salud, y se siente motivada al ver cómo las clínicas construyen relaciones que dan lugar a estudios bíblicos. En sólo una campaña de reavivamiento, pudo con gozo ver más de 60 bautismos en su distrito, 12 de los cuales fueron frutos de la campaña en la que colaboró. Nunca va a olvidar el momento en el que una señora a quien ella dio estudios bíblicos, tomó la decisión de bautizarse. “Yo creo que Proyectos AMOR está teniendo un gran impacto en la comunidad,” dijo Bonney. “El tiempo

que pasé aquí ha abierto mis ojos a la gran necesidad que existe a nuestro alrededor, y a la realidad de que Dios me puede utilizar aún a mí. Me hace feliz vivir una vida de servicio; mi meta es convertirme en una médica misionera de largo plazo. Yo puedo y voy hacer todo lo que esté de mi parte por Cristo, quien me fortalece.”

Cientos de estudiantes de Southern participan en viajes misioneros de corto plazo a Sudamérica y el Caribe cada año, y aproximadamente 75 SMs de tiempo completo van a diferentes lugares alrededor del mundo. Además, el Centro de Recursos para la Evangelización patrocina viajes al extranjero durante el verano, en los que los estudiantes dirigen seminarios bíblicos.

Southern se ha comprometido a usar estas oportunidades de trabajo misionero como herramientas de crecimiento personal para los estudiantes, y para el crecimiento del Reino de Dios. ●

ÁNGELA BAERG, EDITORA



JONES, ERIC A., 88, born Feb. 24, 1927, died Aug. 22, 2015. He was the son of G. Eric and Myrtle Jones, and brother of Lorne, Gerald, and Orville. He was born in Mussoorie, India, where his parents were missionaries. Three months later, his family came to the United States, where his father served for nine years on the faculty of what is now Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, MD, and then for 12 years at Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, MA.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, and served in Italy. He received an honorable discharge on Nov. 10, 1946. He began working at the Review & Herald Publishing Association in Hagerstown, MD, in 1950 as a linotype operator. He later worked in the production office, and then as the List Room supervisor, and then moved to the Computer Center in 1968.

He retired from the Review & Herald Publishing Association in 1993 after 42 years of service. He and the Sines family were instrumental in starting the Mountaintop Seventh-day Adventist Church in Oakland, MD. The church was dedicated on July 18, 1970. He served as the lay pastor of the church until a full-time pastor was hired. Although born to Canadian parents, he never lived in Canada. He became a

United States citizen on July 22, 1983. He moved to Collegedale, TN, in July 2011.

He is survived by his fiancé, Juanita Stinchfield of Collegedale, TN; sister-in-law, Joyce Jones, of California; and nieces and nephews: Patricia Jones, Peter Jones, Dwight Jones, DeAnn Dunn, Diane Stewart, Donald Jones, and Marble Jones.

NIELSEN, LOUIS CHRISTIAN, 91, born July 21, 1924 in Copenhagen, Denmark, died Feb. 11, 2016 at his home in Candler, NC. He was raised on a farm and was the oldest of seven boys. He attended the Danish Adventist High School, Vejle fjord, where he worked his way through school and graduated in 1943. While attending a summer camp to learn about literature evangelism, a young girl, Ruth Thoger, caught his eye. On May 6, 1946, they were married in Stockholm, Sweden, and spent their first year of married life canvassing. The following year he returned to Denmark to fulfill his mandatory military service as a medic. Soon he was holding evangelistic meetings and was assigned a church. In 1952, to fulfill a dream, he immigrated to the United States and earned a B.A. in theology from Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University Theological Seminary) in Berrien Springs, MI, and a M.Div. degree from the seminary in Takoma Park, MD, where he was ordained. After much prayer, he decided to fulfill another dream, and in 1958 he became a missionary to West Africa. He served as a pastor and Bible teacher in Ghana and Nigeria. During this time he started a ministerial training school in Ghana so that the nationals could minister to their own people, and he baptized many into the Church. He then



added the role of secondary school principal to his duties in Liberia and Sierra Leone. He was active in school development projects, curriculum and facility enhancement, and began campus industries so students could pay their way. He returned to Andrews University in 1965 so that his wife and four young children could receive an American education. During the next 12 years, while working as a science teacher, he earned a master's degree in education and biology, and a doctor of ministry degree from Andrews University. In 1977, he accepted a call to return to Denmark and served as pastor of several churches, chaplain of the Skodsborg Sanitarium, and Bible teacher at the Skodsborg Physical Therapy School. In 1981, he returned to Africa where he built and established a mission school in Gambia, serving as principal and pastor. He later was called to Uganda as academic dean at Bugema College. In 1994, he and Ruth moved back to the United States and retired in Candler, NC. He served briefly as interim principal at Asheville-Pisgah Church School, and was active in the Mt. Pisgah Academy Church as a Sabbath School and Pathfinder teacher. His hobbies included developing a five acre animal farm for his grandchildren and the youth of the church, travel, genealogy, collecting of beetles, fossils, rocks/minerals, stamps, and books. His life and career was defined by his love for God, family, and church. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Ruth Nielsen; four children: Jan Nielsen of Savannah, GA, Anita Grandy of Candler, NC, Arne Nielsen of Silver Spring, MD, and Frank Nielsen of Seattle, WA; two brothers in Denmark: Ib Nielsen and Bent Nielsen; 10 grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.



READ, CHARLES EDWIN, 92, born Aug. 6, 1923 in Washington, D.C., died Dec. 10, 2015. He was the son of the late Roland and Alvirta Read. He was a veteran of WWII, and served in the Army from 1943 to 1946. After his military service, he received his Bachelor of Science degree from Union College in Lincoln, NE, and his Master of Science degree from Indiana University. He was a business education teacher for 36 years. He taught at several colleges and then changed to teaching secondary education at Collegedale Academy in Collegedale, TN, from 1970 until his retirement in 1986. During the years, he enjoyed seeing his former students who still lived in the Chattanooga area.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many, and a longtime member of the Collegedale Church. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marilyn. He is survived by his four children: C. Brent (Lana) Read, Brenda (Richard) Thornton, Lisa (Gordon) Cavin, and Tricia (Tim) Burgess; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

KOSIER, LORIENE, 83, born Feb. 29, 1932 to the late Lavoyah (Bud) and Lubelia Dauphin Cook, died Sept. 5, 2015 at Doctors Memorial Hospital in Bonifay, FL, after a 12-year battle with multiple myeloma. She was the 10th child born to the Washington County couple. She was a 1949 graduate of Vernon High School where she was involved in extra-curricular activities; especially drama. After being employed locally as office manager/bookkeeper at Washington County Hospital, and working for her brother, Loren Cook, Washington County clerk of court, she also worked for Dr. O. A. Holzer, a general practitioner who soon moved his practice to Melbourne, FL. She agreed to move to Melbourne to work for him. During her stay there, she met her future husband, Merrill Kosier, an aeronautical engineer working in the Missile Testing Facilities at Cape Canaveral, FL. Their 54-year marriage ended with his death in 2008. Through the years, his work with the missile program took them to numerous cities beyond Melbourne including Baltimore, MD; Alamogordo, NM; and Greensboro, NC. She earned her associate of arts degree from Broward Jr. College, and continued to work in office management/bookkeeping in medical establishments until she started her own personnel consulting firm, Kosier Careers, Inc. After retirement, the Kosiers returned to live near her childhood home south of Bonifay in Washington County, the site of her family's turpentine still and a grist mill during the 1920s and 30s. They became actively involved in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Their first community activity was assisting the American Red Cross with refugees from Hurricane Opal. She was actively involved with The American Cancer Society's Holmes County Chapter, helping to raise money for research to find a cure for cancer through the Walk-a-Thon and The Relay for Life. As a 27-year breast cancer survivor, in 2003 she was diagnosed with multiple myeloma. She and her husband, who battled Alzheimer's disease, became intimately associated with Doctors Memorial Hospital in Bonifay before her treatment began at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, FL. She served as a board member at the Doctors Memorial Foundation until her illness forced her to resign. She is survived by four daughters: Gail (Paul) Neuharth of Naples, FL, Wendy (Bryan) Hall of Greensboro, NC, Merrilyn (James Kinoshita) Kosier of Chicago, IL, and Michelle Mauch; one granddaughter, Greta Este Mauch of St. Petersburg, FL; one sister, Lillian Patterson (Earl) Barber; and one brother, Lansing Cook; numerous nieces; and nephews. The family is grateful for the privilege of having this extraordinary role model for a mother.

They rejoice that her love and example will always be a part of them. They would like to thank the relatives, community, and the church family who have taken such good care of their parents through the years. Their example of christianity in action will live on in the hearts of the Kosier girls and their spouses. A celebration of her life was held at Bonifay First Baptist Church on Sabbath, Sept. 5, at 3 p.m., with her pastor, Elder Mel Eisele, giving the eulogy. Peel Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

MOENKHAUS, CHARLENE BETTY, 72, born March 6, 1943 in Indianapolis, IN, died Nov. 6, 2015 in a hospital in Beaumont, TX. She was the daughter of the late Charles and Ruby Harris. She graduated from Indiana Academy in 1960 and later attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN. On Nov. 8, 1962, she married Wayne W. Moenkhaus in Phoenix, AZ, and then obtained her certification as a medical assistant. She was a homemaker, foster mother of more than 100 children, Pathfinder Master Guide, member of several lapidary societies, and loved all of God's creation. She had a passion for rocks and seashells, Native American culture, and she loved to read. She was a member of the Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, TN. The children include: Wayne W. II, Renee, Timothy, and Kristie, later adopted Mikell, Rose, Erika, A.J., Mike, and Jynifer. She is survived by her children: Wayne and Melissa Moenkhaus of Paoli, IN and their children: Heidi and Chris Peel and daughter Ivanya, and Karie Moenkhaus of Collegedale; Johanna Moenkhaus and Katelyn Moenkhaus of Paoli, IN; Renee and Daniel Recchia and their children: Jaelyn and Justin Galbraith, and daughter Olivia, and Philip and Molly Recchia, and Marc Recchia of Collegedale, TN; and adopted children: Heather Recchia of TN, and Hanna Recchia of FL, and Nickolas Recchia of TN; Kristie and Michael Stacey of College Station, TX, and their children: Brianne and Jeffery Parker of Woodville, TX, Ashleigh Stacey and daughter MacKenzie of College Station, TX; and Megan and Alan Fontenot and children: Bentley and Madelaine, and Aureanna Stacey of Woodville; Mikell and Monica Moenkhaus and their son Michael of San Antonio, TX; Rose and Jesse Nash and their children: Jesslyn of Anacoco, LA, and Solomon Gwin and Seth Gwin of IN; Erika Moenkhaus, Jynifer Moenkhaus and son, Kaden Robinson; and A.J. Moenkhaus and Mike Moenkhaus of Woodville; three brothers: Marion Quilter of Indianapolis, IN, Jim and June Quilter of WA, and Daryl Neville of Indianapolis; two sisters-in-

law: Mary Quilter of Indianapolis and Jeannie Quilter of FL; numerous nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by an infant son, Timmy; her husband, Wayne; her parents; and two brothers: Gene and Harvey Quilter.

STEINKRAUS, LOIS LARKIN, 84, born Sept. 9, 1931, died Sept. 11, 2015. She was a loving wife whose proudest life work was doting on her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all who called her "Mema." She had a steadfast relationship with her Savior and Lord, and trusted in His grace to reunite her one day with all her loved ones who passed on before her. She attended Grace Church in Knoxville, TN. She was an affectionate and spirited woman who was loved by many. She is survived by her husband of 29 years, John Charles Steinkraus; two daughters: Donna Williams of Leicester, NC, and Debbie Brown of Birmingham, AL; one son, Ted Brown II of Hudson, FL; one sister Ruth Creamer of Hudson, FL; two sister-cousins: Louise Fankhause of Silver Springs, MD, and Thelma Wallof Jacksonville, FL; 22 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents: Irene Moseley and Switzer Larkin of Jacksonville, FL; one sister Bertha Gray of St. Augustine, FL; and one sister-cousin Helen Soule of Orlando, FL. A celebration of her life was held Sept. 17, 2015 at Atchley Funeral Home in Seymour, TN, with Pastor David Brass officiating.

ZACHARIAS, BETTYLOU JONES, 83, died Oct. 28, 2013 at Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge, TN. She was a housewife and the mother of six adopted children. She attended Meister Hill Memorial Church in Deer Lodge, TN, where she was a deaconess, taught kindergarten and cradle roll classes for more than 40 years, and was involved in prison ministries. She also drove the school bus for several years, and was a charter member of the Duluth, GA, Church. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Calvin E. Zacharias; six children: Mickey Zacharias of Lenesa, KS, Teresa Green of Arlington, TX, Timmy Zacharias of Platte City, MO, Jamie Zacharias of Walton, FL, Sherrie Lynn Zacharias of Cumming, GA, and Jimmy Zacharias of Dawsonville, GA; 16 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; eight great-great grandchildren; and two sisters: Judy Davis and Fern Benifield of Dequeen, AK. The funeral service was held Nov. 2, 2013 at the Meister Memorial Church with Pastor Phil Colburn officiating. The graveside service was held Sunday, Nov. 3, in the Meister Memorial Cemetery. 🕯

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WEST NC COUNTRY RENTAL: 828-863-2149.

N SAND MOUNTAIN, GA - App. 3 county acres, 540 foot road frontage along Porter Road. SDA church and K-10 grade school 2 miles. SDA university 45 minutes. 25 minutes to Chattanooga, TN. 2 level home, 2,300 sq. ft. with 4 bed, 2 bath and full basement. \$175,000. For more information, call 931-316-6180. [4-7]

SALE: Large 193-acre campus. Offices, classrooms, cafeteria, chapel, gym, boys' dorm, girls' dorm heated with free gas, 4-bay shop, some staff housing and garden grounds. Well-water system, sewage plant. Private, 20 acres flat land, surrounded by beautiful wooded hills. Nearby great shopping. \$650,000. 304-782-3628. Salem, WV. [4, 5]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **professor in Counseling Education:** to teach graduate/undergraduate courses, provide advisement/clinical supervision. Requirements: doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision from a CACRE P accredited program or doctorate in clinical/counseling psychology from an APA-accredited program and have work as full-time faculty in a counselor education program for one year before July 1, 2013. Licensed/eligible for licensure in Tennessee and two years' practicing clinical mental health or PK-12 school counseling. Must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, the teachings and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and an SDA church member in regular standing. *Send cover letter and CV (include teaching philosophy, research interest, unofficial university transcripts, and three reference letters) to Dr. Ileana Freeman: ileanaf@southern.edu; 423-236-2960.* [4, 5]

PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM: Southern Adventist University is starting a new program to educate aspiring Physical Therapy Assistants, with the first class to begin in August 2017. The initial task for the Program Director will be to set up a program and facilities in harmony with the standards set out by Commissions on Accreditation in physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) and seeking accreditation from CAPTE. The Program Director will function both as a leader of the program and professor. Additional responsibilities include: develop curriculum framework and instructional materials, advising of students, evaluation of students and administration of selection process, and compile materials for CAPTE accreditation program. Qualifications: Graduate degree in physical therapy with current TN license or eligibility as a PT or PTA. Minimum 5 years of clinical and teaching experience in a CAPTE accredited program, with experience in administration in a variety of teaching areas (academic, clinical, in-service, continuing ed, community ed). Must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, the teachings and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and an SDA church member in regular standing. *Submit cover letter including statement of teaching philosophy and research interest, curriculum vita, and unofficial transcripts (showing the physical therapy education) to Dr. Volker Henning, Associate VP for Academic Administration, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370 Collegedale, TN 37315, henning@southern.edu, 423-236-2912.* [4, 5]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **vegetarian culinary arts professor** to teach vegetarian culinary arts classes, advise students and participate in service to the university/community. Master's degree in culinary arts/nutrition or related field required, experience in culinary arts (restaurant, education, culinary business owner), and chef training/certification(s) desired. *Send cover letter, curriculum vitae, and statement of teaching philosophy and three references to: Dr. Robert Bengel, Dean for School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, rcbengel@southern.edu, 423-236-2855.* [4, 5]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Development Officer/Grant Writer.** Responsibilities include grant writing, donor relations, event coordination and data entry. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills are essential. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree with strong consideration given to those with experiences in grant writing and donor relations. *Submit cover letter and CV/resume to: sgrady@swau.edu* [4]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks qualified and visionary professional to serve the **Department of Music as Director of Keyboard & Theory Studies.** Responsibilities include teaching keyboard, theory and church music classes. Ideal candidate will possess a doctoral degree, be an accomplished performer, and have professional experience as a church musician. *Send CV and cover letter to Mr. Jonathan Wall at jwall@swau.edu* [4]

MATH & PHYSICAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT at **Southwestern Adventist University** is seeking a highly motivated individual to teach a combination of statistics, upper-level mathematics and/or general physics. Doctoral degree preferred; master's degree considered. *Send CV and copy of transcripts to Dr. Amy Rosenthal, arosenthal@swau.edu* [4, 5]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks qualified professional to serve the Department of Music as **Director of Orchestral Studies.** Responsibilities include teaching keyboard, theory and church music classes. Preferred candidate will hold a doctoral degree, be an accomplished string performer, and have professional experience as a conductor. *Send CV and cover letter to Mr. Jonathan Wall at jwall@swau.edu* [4, 5]

UNION COLLEGE seeks committed Adventist **Social Work Program Director** effective January 2017. Essential qualifications include an MSW (relevant doctorate preferred), and two years' professional social work experience. Successful teaching also valued. *Email letter of interest and C.V. to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development, dwhite@ucollege.edu* [4, 5]

GRIGGS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY seeks **Director of K-8 Program.** This position serves as the Director for the Griggs International Academy (GIA) K-8 program. The person in this position will supervise teachers, coach parents, support NAD elementary schools. Addressing K-8 curriculum will be a key element in this position. The qualifications needed for this position include elementary teacher certification (denominational certification required/state certification preferred). The candidate should have a Master's degree related to education. *For more information and to apply visit <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/948>* [4]

GRIGGS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY seeks **Director of Student Services.** This position provides a variety of student services that will include supporting student's needs, communications, academic support, and student retention. The candidate should have a related degree and experience in an educational environment. Education: Master's degree is preferred. *<https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/949>* [4]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks **Provost.** The provost is the second officer of the University who also serves as the Chief Academic Officer and reports to the President. The combined primary functions of the Provost serve to ensure that relevant university activities contribute to the fulfillment of the University's mission. As Chief Academic Officer, the Provost carries broad responsibility for the University's academic programs, goals and excellence. In the absence of the President, the Provost also serves as Chief Executive Officer. Qualifications include, but are not limited to: PhD or other doctoral level qualification, successful track record of leadership in higher education administration, preferably in North America. For more information or to apply visit: <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/983> [4]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks **Asst/Assoc/Full Professor of Social Work.** This full-time faculty position will teach graduate-level clinical practice courses, with particular expertise in advanced assessment/diagnosis, marriage and family therapy, evidence-based practices, and treatment of adult mental disorders. Responsibilities include teaching BSW and MSW courses, conducting research, and providing academic advising and service to the department, University, and surrounding community. Other responsibilities include recruiting students, participating on committees, conducting site visits at internship sites, and participating in student activities. For more information and to apply visit: <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/970> [4]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks **Assistant or Associate Professor of Maternal-Child Nursing (OB).** Full-time position who will be responsible for teaching OB or maternal/child theory and clinical nursing, along with other applicable nursing courses to make a full-time position. Qualifications include, but are not limited to: BS in Nursing, Doctorate or Masters in Nursing, At least 2 years current work

experience in Maternal-Child or OB nursing, and formal teaching experience is preferred. For more information or to apply visit: <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/973> [4]

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY, located in the beautiful foothills of Tennessee, is in need of teachers for the coming year. Positions available are: history, science, chemistry, math, and IT person. *If you are able to fill any of these positions and have a heart for youth, please contact Rich Sutton: 423-664-5343 or 114 Campus Drive, Dayton, TN 37321 or president@laurelbrook.org* [4, 5]

PHYSICIANS, NURSE PRACTITIONERS, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS: Wildwood Lifestyle Center has openings for missionary minded medical practitioners with a passion for lifestyle medicine. Valid USA license required. Stipend provided. *If you sense the Lord calling you to come and help, full-time or part-time, please contact the Administrator at 423-315-3737 or administrator@wildwoodhealth.org* [4, 5]

DENTIST POSITION available in the quaint town of Blue Ridge, GA, in a twelve operator, five hygienist, general dental office servicing the tri-state region of GA, TN, and NC. Full or part-time options available. See www.blueridgedentistry.com. For more information, please call 706-633-3648, or email rahold@tds.net [4-6]

POSITION AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY: Interim maintenance worker/builder/plant supervisor for volunteer mission-build events at beautiful mountain campus, Blue Ridge, Georgia. Must be experienced builder, able to work with volunteer groups. Housing, utilities and negotiated stipend provided. *Contact Dr. Sunith Das at 304-782-3628.* [4]

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

LOLO HARRIS Gospel music recording artist, "Sharing the Gospel through song." CD's and Contact Info: www.LoLoHarris.com or call 937-545-8227 or write PO Box 492124, Atlanta, GA 30349. LoLo is currently accepting ministry requests for concerts, evangelism, AYS, retreats, conventions, and more for 2016 and 2017. [4-6]

SCRIPTURALLY ACCURATE CALENDAR runs spring to spring. Years based on observation of Israel's barley crop. Months based on computed projection of first possible observation of Israel's crescent moon after conjunction. Invaluable tool for supporting 7th day Sabbath and other SDA truths: nullifies Sunday sacredness, proves 31AD Friday crucifixion is possible, resolves hypocrisy of a "sola scriptura" church using a calendar of Roman Catholic tradition, explains how our 1844 pioneers came up with the Day of Atonement date (Oct. 22) that was a whole month later than Jewish calendar date (Sept. 23), refutes

lunar Sabbath position, helps stem ecumenical draw of Roman Catholic calendar, and more. *Call Scott: 404-509-8338, torahisgoodnews@gmail.com.* [4]

MISCELLANEOUS

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* [4-12]

VICTORIOUS LIVING, BUTLER CREEK HEALTH CENTER - A live-in lifestyle change program for those seeking victory over depression, stress, eating disorders, and addictions. Our 30-day program includes hydrotherapy treatments, counseling, cooking classes, an exercise plan, health education classes focusing on developing will power, and much more. Cost: \$3800. *Phone: 931-213-1329. www.butlercreekhealth.org* [4]

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.wildwood-health.com* [4, 5]

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 [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* [4, 5]

CONVENIENT ON-CAMPUS GUEST LODGING at Southern Adventist University. Comfortable 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartments, some with equipped kitchens. Available year round. *Call 423-236-7000 or email guestlodging@southern.edu* [4, 5]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Conference Services And Events. Detailed, thorough, one-stop-planning for meeting space and successful events. Call 423-236-2491 or visit www.southern.edu/conferenceservices [4, 5]

NEW ONLINE GRADUATE DEGREE in Media Ministry at Walla Walla University. Concentrations available in media/cinema and web/interactive media. *To apply, visit apply.wallawalla.edu or call 800-541-8900.* [4-7]

MICHIGAN ADVENTIST PIONEER TOUR - June 17-26. Visit Lovetts Grove, Heritage Village, Old Sanitarium, Greenville, Ostego, Wright, Michigan, Morning Star building site, White archives and Horn Archaeological Museum at Andrews and many other areas. *423-802-9617, tarriegeiger@gmail.com* [4, 5]

NEW PRE-K THROUGH 12 GRADE ADVENTIST DAY SCHOOL - Tri-City Christian Academy continues its rich 60-year history with a new \$6 million campus. Located in the vibrant Piedmont Triad of North Carolina, consistently rated as one of the best places to live in the US and surrounded by 12 Adventist Churches. *Visit www.buildingforeternity.com & www.tcasda.org for more information.* [4-6]

DOWNLOAD FREE SERMONS FROM AudioVerse.org! Access thousands of free SDA sermons, audio Bibles, Spirit of Prophecy audiobooks, and messages from your favorite annual conferences. (ASI, GYC, etc.) Also available in Spanish, German, French, and Chinese. *Download the iOS & Android app.* [4]

PARENTS: If you are looking for an affordable, well-rounded education for your youth, we invite you to check out Laurelbrook Academy. We are very mission oriented and highly motivated to teach the youth not only to be academically sound but also to be skilled in hands-on classes in preparation for mission work. *Please contact Rich Sutton: 423-664-5343 or 114 Campus Dr., Dayton, TN 37321, or president@laurelbrook.org* [4-6]

BLACK HILLS SCHOOL OF MASSAGE will begin our next 600 hour state recognized program on May 16. Experience the beautiful Black Hills while preparing for the MBLE national certification exam. *Visit our website, www.bhhec.org/school-of-massage, and our Facebook page to get more info or call 605-255-4101.* [4]

DESIRE MORE IMPACT from your short-term mission efforts? Southern Adventist University's Global Community Development Program is hosting a Transforming & Education Ambassadors for Mission and Service Forum, July 14-16, 2016. Congregations across North America will discuss improvements on short-term mission impacts for sustainable difference making. *For registration and information, contact: mgcd@southern.edu or 423-236-2070.* [4]



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MISSION: MARANATHA!

Sharing the Gospel Through Service

April 16, 2016
10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

You're invited to a special missions Sabbath with Maranatha Volunteers International



Admission is free
ICCM Theatre & Event Center
6425 Lee Hwy, Chattanooga, TN
www.maranatha.org/chattanooga



SUNSET

	APR. 1	APR. 8	APR. 15	APR. 22	APR. 29
ATLANTA, GA	7:59	8:04	8:09	8:14	8:20
CHARLESTON, SC	7:40	7:45	7:50	7:55	8:00
CHARLOTTE, NC	7:45	7:51	7:31	7:37	8:08
COLLEGE DALE, TN	8:03	8:09	8:14	8:20	8:26
HUNTSVILLE, AL	7:08	7:13	7:19	7:25	7:30
JACKSON, MS	7:21	7:26	7:31	7:36	7:41
LOUISVILLE, KY	8:07	8:13	8:20	8:27	8:33
MEMPHIS, TN	7:22	7:28	7:33	7:39	7:45
MIAMI, FL	7:38	7:41	7:44	7:48	7:51
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:05	7:10	7:15	7:20	7:25
NASHVILLE, TN	7:10	7:15	7:21	7:27	7:33
ORLANDO, FL	7:44	7:48	7:52	7:56	8:00
WILMINGTON, NC	7:33	7:38	7:44	7:49	7:55

Legal Notices

The Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd regular constituency session of the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday, April 10, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. The Organizing Committee will meet there on Sunday morning at 8:00 A.M. This constituency session is called for the purpose of electing its officers, its departmental directors, and the members of the Executive Committee for the next quinquennial term of five years. This meeting will also transact any other business that is warranted by the constitution of the Executive Committee. Each church is entitled to one (1) delegate for the church and one additional delegate for every 30 members or major fraction thereof. For the Organizing Committee, each church is entitled to one representative.

David O. Livermore, President
James Mangum, Executive Secretary
Brian Danese, Treasurer

The Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd regular constituency session of the Gulf States Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, is called to meet at the Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday, April 10, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. The delegates of the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will serve as the constituents of the corporation.

David O. Livermore, President
James Mangum, Executive Secretary
Brian Danese, Treasurer

Legal Notice

11th Regular Session of the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 11th regular session of the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at Camp Hawthorne, located at 1771 US Highway 20 E, Hawthorne, Florida 32640, on Sunday, May 29, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. The Organizing Committee will meet on Saturday night, May 28, 2016, at 8:00 p.m. (sunset). This constituency session is called for the purpose of electing officers and for transacting any other business as may properly come before the membership. Each church in the conference is entitled to one (1) delegate for the church and one (1) additional delegate for each 50 members or major fraction thereof. For the Organizing Committee, each church is entitled to one (1) delegate for the church and one (1) additional delegate for each 500 members or major fraction thereof.

Hubert J. Morel Jr., President
Gregory O. Mack, Executive Secretary
Gwendolyn T. Parker, CFO

11th Regular Session of the Southeastern Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 11th regular session of the Southeastern Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, is called to meet at Camp Hawthorne, located at 1771 US Highway 20 E, Hawthorne, Florida 32640, on Sunday, May 29, 2016. The delegates to the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the constituency of the corporation.

Hubert J. Morel Jr., President
Gregory O. Mack, Executive Secretary
Gwendolyn T. Parker, CFO

ANNOUNCEMENTS

122ND ANNUAL FLORIDA CAMP MEETING - April 7-10. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Restore the Vision, Restore the Mission. Featured speaker: John Bradshaw. Details and online registration for meals and accommodations: www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting.

STEVE GREEN CONCERT - April 9. Dalton Church will host Steve Green in concert on Sabbath evening at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to this free event. Please join us as we close the Sabbath with worship to God in musical praise.

MARANATHA VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL EVENT - April 16. Everyone is invited to a special Sabbath program in Chattanooga, TN, featuring stories from the mission field and info on how you can get involved with Maranatha. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the ICCM Theatre & Event Center. Free admission. 916-774-7700 or www.maranatha.org/missionmaranatha

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SELECT (touring) CHOIR - April 21-24. If you sang in a Walla Walla College/University select (touring) choir, you are invited to

attend the 50-Year Choral Reunion, featuring the Lickey years through the present, during WWC/WWU Homecoming. For details/registration, access wallawalla.edu/touring choir, [Facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic](https://www.facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic), music @wallawalla.edu or 1-509-527-2561.

LA SIERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEEND - April 22, 23. LSA Campus. Please update your mailing address and contact info at JNelson@lsak12.com, 951-351-1445, x244. Honor classes: 1956, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '06, and pre-50 classes. Details: www.lsak12.com.

DAYTONA BEACH CHURCH INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL - April 24, 12:30-3:00 p.m. 100% of proceeds will benefit Indigo Christian Academy. Come sample food from Germany to Indonesia. Admission is free! 401 N. Williamson Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL.

BROADVIEW ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION/BVA ALUMNI WEEEND - April 30 and May 1. North Aurora Church, North Aurora, IL. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars. Honor classes: 1946, '56, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '06. There will be Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, Church, lunch, and an afternoon

music program. For communication purposes, WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS-ES. Send it to Dale Rollins, drollins0233@gmail.com, or call 630-232-9034. Check out the BVA website for details.

"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION - June 3-5. For alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy in Cedar Lake, MI. Honor classes: 1936, '46, '56, '66. Details are forthcoming by postal service. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit <http://www.glaa.net/>.

NORTH CAROLINA SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES FEDERATION - Sept. 30-Oct. 2. "God on the Mountain is God in the Valley Retreat." Lake Junaluska Resort, Lake Junaluska, N.C. Hands on workshops for home remedies, music, and great fellowship. Contact Joyce Crawford, 828-298-5436 or Barbara Grier, 704-396-6680 for an application.

FLETCHER ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - Oct. 7-9. FA Campus. Please update your contact information at agibbs@fletcheracademy.com, 828-209-6704. Honor classes: 1941, '46, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01, '06, '11. Details at: www.fletcheracademy.com.



Never Too Young

We had just returned home to Orlando from a family reunion in Colorado. Our oldest son, his wife, and our granddaughter, Eva, were returning home to Kansas when they were involved in a terrible accident. We immediately flew back. We found our son and daughter-in-law in Neuro ICU. Eva fared a little better and was able to be discharged within a few days.

Imagine our distress when we learned that because we did not have proper authorization, the hospital would be forced to place our beautiful granddaughter in foster care. Providentially, there were no foster homes available for an infant. A few days later, our son was cleared by the neurologist to legally give consent for Eva to come with us.

Parents, you are never too young to have your estate documents in order.

▶ To get your estate documents in order, contact your local conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services representative today. Tomorrow may be too late.

Carolina
Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200

Florida
Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland
Mitch Hazekamp (706) 629-7951

Gulf States
David Sigamani (334) 272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee
Silke Hubbard (615) 859-1391

Oakwood University
Lewis Jones (256) 726-7000

South Atlantic
Lawrence Hamilton (404) 792-0535

South Central
Michael Harpe (615) 226-6500

Southeastern
(352) 735-3142

Southern Adventist University
Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818



SUSDAGift.org

CAROLINA

ADVENTURER FUN DAY – April 10. NPR.

LE SPRING CAMPOUT – April 15-17. Morrow Mountain State Park, Albemarle, NC.

MPA ALUMNI WEEKEND – April 15-17. MPA.

PATHFINDER COUNCIL – April 22, 23. NPR.

JUNIOR PATHFINDER FIELD DAY – April 24. NPR.

MPA ACADEMY DAYS – April 29-May 1. MPA.

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING – May 6-8. NPR.

ELDERS' CERTIFICATION TRAINING – May 13, 14. Kernersville Church.

CHURCH PLANTING/CHURCH GROWTH RALLY – May 13, 14. Charleston Church.

MPA GRADUATION WEEKEND – May 20-22. MPA.

MAGABOOK PROGRAM – May 29-Aug 2. Columbia, SC.

SHAREHIM CAROLINA MISSION TRIP – June 15-30. Peru.

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE – www.floridaconference.com/calendar/YOUTH/PATHFINDER/ADVENTUREREVENTS – Visit us online or call 407-644-5000 x2421.

www.floridaconference.com/iym/youth/
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SINGLES' MINISTRIES EVENTS AND MAILING LIST INFORMATION. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. www.floridaconference.com/iym/childrenandfamily/events/, djmiller4000@gmail.com, or 407-703-3050.

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FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE
Resumes in the summer.

REUNION SABBATH FOR FORMER CHICAGO MEMBERS – May 7. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Bear Lake Methodist Church, 1010

Bear Lake Road, Apopka. Supported by Midport Church. Details: 407-810-4943.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

PATHFINDER CAMPOREE – April 14-17. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

HISPANIC COUPLES' RETREAT – April 15-17. Winshape Retreat Center, Rome, GA.

PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE (DIVISION LEVEL) – April 15.

CROSS CONNECT – April 15. Monthly young adult ministry to learn church leadership skills. Atlanta Korean Church, GA.

HISPANIC YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND MAKEOVER – April 22-24. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

GCA CAMERATA HOME CONCERT – April 23. Calhoun, GA.

HEALTH RALLIES PRESENTED BY E.W. DEMPSEY ON LATEST SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
April 23. Habersham Church, Mount Airy, GA.
April 30. Meister Memorial Church, Deer Lodge, TN.

WILL CLINICS WITH LES SPEER
April 25. All Nations Church, GA.
May 1. Knoxville Grace Church and Knoxville First Church, TN.
May 2. Lenoir City Church, TN.
May 3. Tellico Plains Church, TN.
May 4. Knoxville North Church, TN.
May 15. Atlanta North Church, GA.

GOD IN SHOES – April 29. Pikeville Church, TN.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – May 5. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

HISPANIC SINGLES' RETREAT – May 6-8. Cohutta Spring Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

GCA GYMNASTICS HOME SHOW – May 7. Calhoun, GA.

ADVENTURER FAMILY FUN WEEKEND – May 13-15. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

HISPANIC PASTORS' MEETING – May 18.

Some events require pre-registration; details at registration.gccsda.com.

GULF STATES

BMA ALUMNI WEEKEND – April 1-3.

CONSTITUENCY MEETING – April 10.

EDUCATION OUTDOOR SCHOOL – April 11-15. Camp Alamisco.

GSC CYCLE RIDE – April 17. Camp Alamisco.

BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY DAYS – April 22-24.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT – April 22-24. Camp Alamisco.

ADVENTURER FUN WEEKEND – April 29-May 1.

NORTH AND CENTRAL AL PATHFINDER INVESTITURE – May 7.

BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY GRADUATION – May 13, 14.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

MINISTERIAL SPOUSES' RETREAT – April 1-3. Indian Creek Camp.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – April 7. Conference Office.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER DAY – April 10. Springfield, TN.

TEACHERS' STUDY GROUP – April 14-15. Conference Office.

SEEDS CONFERENCE – April 15-17. Indian Creek Camp.

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – May 10. July 19. Conference Office.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD – May 12. Highland Academy.

MADISON ACADEMY GRADUATION – May 21. 8:30 p.m. Madison Academy.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY GRADUATION – May 22. 10 a.m. Highland Academy.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT – April 10. Southern's Wind Symphony will perform a free concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. It may also be viewed live online at southern.edu/streaming. Details: 423-236-2880.

CHAMBER CHOIR CONCERT – April 17. Southern's I Cantori choir, comprised of students with advanced vocal experience, will perform a free concert at 7:30 p.m. in Ackerman Auditorium. Details: 423-236-2880.

SUMMER CLASSES BEGIN – May 9. Numerous online courses are available for both undergraduate and graduate curriculums. Prospective students must apply and be accepted before registering. Sign up for classes by visiting www.southern.edu/register.

SOUTHERN UNION

SOUTHERN UNION PATHFINDER CAMPOREE – Oct. 12-15. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL.

CAMP MEETINGS 2016 SCHEDULE

CAROLINA

Portions of Camp Meeting will be viewable at www.carolinasda.org/camp-meeting
 Hispanic.....May 6-8.....Nosoca Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC
 English.....May 29-June 4.....Theme: *All of me in Response to all of Him*
Lake Junaluska, NC
 Speaker Sunday-Wednesday: *Roger Hernandez*
 Speaker Thursday-Sabbath: *Derek Morris*
 Eastern Carolina.....Oct. 22.....Greenville North Church, Greenville, NC
 Speaker: *Des Cummings*

FLORIDA

Florida Camp Meeting is held in the spring. Archived sermon video is posted to floridaconference.com/campmeeting
 English.....April 7-10.....Theme: *Restore the Vision, Restore the Mission*
Camp Kulaqua, FL
 Speaker: *John Bradshaw*
 Spanish.....April 15-17.....Theme: *Sirviendo a tu comunidad • a tu iglesia*
Camp Kulaqua, FL
 Speaker: *Elizabeth Talbot*

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Korean.....May 20, 21.....Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA
 Speakers: *Kwangsoo Park (Korean), and Jeffrey Rosario (English)*
 Collegedale.....June 1-4.....Theme: *Marching to Zion*
Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN
 Speaker: *Shawn Boonstra*
 Olde Time.....June 9-11.....Theme: *Marching to Zion*
Meister Memorial Church, Deer Lodge, TN
 Speaker: *Fred Fuller*
 Northeast Tennessee.....Sept. 23, 24.....Theme: *Marching to Zion*
The Oaks, Greeneville, TN
 Speaker: *Roy Gane*
 HispanicNov. 4-6.....Theme: *Somos del Señor (We Are the Lord's)*
Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA
 Southern Deaf.....Aug. 10-14.....Theme: *God's Remnant Church*
Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA

Speaker: *Paul Kelly*

South Georgia.....Nov. 14.....Theme: *Marching to Zion*
South Georgia Blitz
 Speakers: *Conference staff will be preaching at numerous south Georgia churches.*

GULF STATES

May 19-22.....Camp Pitch
 May 20-28.....Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS
 Speaker 1st Sabbath: *John Bradshaw*
 Speaker Sunday-Thursday: *Ty Gibson*
 Speaker 2nd Sabbath: *Mike Tucker*

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

English.....May 27-June 4.....Theme: *Knowing the Time!*.....Highland Academy, Portland, TN
 Speakers: *Barry Black, John Bradshaw, Steve Haley, John Lomacang, Neil Nedley, and Melvin Santos*
 Hispanic.....June 10, 11.....Highland Academy, Portland, TN

SOUTH ATLANTIC

June 9-18.....River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC

SOUTH CENTRAL

Theme: *At the Cross*
 LatinoMay 26-29.....Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL
 Korean & Haitian.....June 10-18.....Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL
 English.....June 10-18.....Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL
 Friday Keynote Speaker: *Carlton Byrd*
 Speaker 1st Sabbath: *Wintley Phipps Sr.*
 Speaker 2nd Sabbath: *Dana C. Edmond*

SOUTHEASTERN

English-Adult/Main Pavilion.....June 16-25.....Theme: *Keepers of the Flame*.....Hawthorne, FL
 Speaker 1st Sabbath: *Marcus Harris*
 Speaker 2nd Sabbath: *Calvin Watkins*
 Youth Pavilion.....June 16-25.....Hawthorne, FL
 Haitian-Adult/Main Pavilion.....June 29-July 2.....Hawthorne, FL

SUMMER CAMPS 2016 SCHEDULE

CAROLINA

Nosoca Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC
 [Register online at www.nosoca.org]

Traditional Camps

Adventure (ages 7-11)June 19-26
 Junior Camp (ages 10-13)June 26-July 3
 Teen (ages 13-16)July 3-10

Specialty Camps

Horse Camp Trip to Virginia (ages 14-17)May 29-June 3
 SIT Camp (ages 16-17)June 12-24
 Water Sports Camp (ages 13-16)June 19-26
 Horsemanship I Camp (ages 12-16)June 19-26
 Horsemanship II Camp (ages 13-16)June 26-July 3
 Water Sports Camp (ages 13-16)June 19-26
 Sports Camp (ages 13-16)June 26-July 3
 Family Camp (all ages)July 11-15

FLORIDA

Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL
 [Details: www.campkulaqua.com]

Cub Camp (ages 7-9)June 5-12
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12)June 5-12
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17)June 5-12
 Horsemanship Specialty Camp (ages 11-14)June 5-12
 Cub Camp (ages 7-9)June 12-19
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12)June 12-19
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17)June 12-19
 Horsemanship Specialty Camp (ages 11-14)June 12-19
 Cub Camp (ages 7-9)June 19-26
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12)June 19-26
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17)June 19-26
 Horsemanship Specialty Camp (ages 11-14)June 19-26

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Cohutta Springs Adventist Center, Crandall, GA
 [Details: www.cs-yc.com]

Camp Staff TrainingJune 2-11
 Junior I (ages 10-12)June 12-19
 Golf Camp I (ages 13-17)June 12-19
 Paintball I (ages 13-17)June 12-19
 Fit for Life I (ages 10-13)June 12-26
 W.I.T. Camp (ages 15+)June 12-July 17
 (Offered every week except June 26-July 3)
 Junior II (ages 10-12)June 19-26
 Ultimate RAD Camp (ages 13-17)June 19-26
 Paintball Camp II (ages 13-17)June 19-26
 SIT Camp (ages 15+)June 19-26
 Adventure Camp (ages 7-9)June 26-July 1
 RAD Horse Trip (ages 13-17)June 26-July 3
 Paintball Camp III (ages 13-17)June 26-July 3
 Wakeboard Camp I (ages 13-17)June 26-July 3
 C.I.T. Camp (ages 15+)June 26-July 3
 Fit for Life II (ages 13-17)June 26-July 17
 Teen I (ages 13-17)July 3-10
 Rock Solid Teen I (ages 16-18)July 3-10
 Basketball Camp (ages 13-17)July 3-10
 Whitewater/Kayak Camp (ages 13-17)July 3-10
 Gym-Masters Camp (ages 13-17)July 3-10
 Gym-Masters DAY Camp (ages 7-17)July 4- 8
 Teen II (ages 13-17)July 10-17
 Rock Solid Teen II (ages 16-18)July 10-17
 Golf Camp II (ages 13-17)July 10-17
 Soccer Camp (ages 13-17)July 10-17
 Wakeboard Camp II (ages 13-17)July 10-17
 Surf Camp (ages 13-17)July 17-24
 Family Camp (all ages)July 19-24

GULF STATES

Camp Alamisco, Dadeville, AL
 [Details: www.Alamisco.org]
 Staff WeekMay 29-June 5
 Adventure Camp (ages 7-10)June 5-12
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12)June 12-19
 Teen Camp (ages 13-16)June 19-26
 Health Camp Porch Creek Native AmericansJune 26-July 1
 Family Camp (all ages)July 4-10
 Family Weekend CampJuly 7-10
 Young Adult CampJuly 14-17

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

Indian Creek Camp, Liberty, TN
 Staff-in-Training (ages 16, 17)June 5-12
 Junior Camp I (ages 8-12)June 12-19
 Junior Camp II (8-12)June 19-26
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17)June 26-July 3
 Family Camp I (all ages)July 5-10
 Middle Family Camp (all ages)July 10-17
 Family Camp II (all ages)July 17-24
 Lifeguarding Camp (ages 15-18)July 24-29

SOUTH ATLANTIC

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

SOUTH CENTRAL

Camp Thunderbird, Chattanooga, TN
 Camp Reaching Out (ages 6-15)July 3-10
 Extreme Team Camp (ages 8-16)July 10-17
 Ultimate Sports Camp (ages 8-16)July 10-17

SOUTHEASTERN

Southeastern Conference Campground, Hawthorne, FL
 Junior/Summer CampJuly 10-23

Four-Year Scholarships

Freshman Academic Scholarship

**\$8,000 to
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awarded over four years
based on GPA and
ACT score

Freshman Leadership Scholarship

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awarded over four years
for students from most
Southern Union states

Freshman Lightbearer Scholarship

\$8,000

awarded over four years
for students who graduated
from a non-Adventist high
school or homeschool after
attending for at least
two years



Did you know that Southern's scholarships can benefit freshmen for up to **four years** when students maintain a 3.0 GPA?

For complete details about Southern's scholarships and other financial aid, call 1.800.SOUTHERN or visit southern.edu/scholarships.



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