

T Southern TIDINGS

NOVEMBER 2017



HOW DO PEOPLE SEE YOUR *Church?*

“HOW IS IT YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR NOTHING?”

GOD KNOWS NO LIMITS

WALKING THROUGH AN OPEN DOOR

CREATION KIDS' OUTREACH GOES TO WASHINGTON



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Miracle at Mt. Calvary

Webster defines a miracle as, “An extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs,” or “An extremely outstanding or unusual event, thing, or accomplishment.” Truly this is what took place at the Mt. Calvary Church in Huntsville, Alabama. It all began on September 2, 2017, when Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., and his lovely wife, Yolanda; his amazing daughter, Dawn; and song bird Kimberly Palmer-Blackwell converged on the city of Huntsville. It was truly amazing to see how the hand of God moved in three weeks. A team of individuals from the local church was mobilized to knock on doors and seek souls for the Kingdom of God. According to the Word of God, we are admonished to “go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled,” Luke 14:23. And, that is exactly what took place. Men and women, boys and girls, came, responding to the Gospel invitation to follow Jesus Christ.

The church members were amazed and spellbound as they watched new faces show up night after night. I personally overheard members of the church asking, “Where are these people coming from?” When I heard this, I could only think about the text in the Bible, John 6:44, which states, “No man or woman can come to Me, except the Father which hath sent Me draw him or her...” The truth of the matter is, we, the members, had an awesome privilege to witness the drawing power of God. I would like to state it this way: The God of the universe invites us to participate in soul winning, which is the greatest undertaking on planet Earth. It is so very exciting to have a front row VIP seat to watch and witness the miracle working power of an awesome Savior up close and personal.

There are some who think we need more seminars for church members to get along with each other. What I have experienced is, if you want the members to learn how to get along, you must do soul winning. It is called the law of ministry. Everything that God created ministers to some other form of life, and nothing lives to itself but the selfish heart of man. One of the reasons why some are so miserable is because they are living exclusively for themselves. This may explain the degree of infighting within the house of God. As we receive from God, we must be willing to share with others. This is what Mt. Calvary did in our public evangelistic endeavor. As a result, we experienced a miracle. We witnessed a mighty move of God. A true revival was experienced by the church. Every member was engaged. Ushers, deacons, security teams, and Bible workers came together in this effort.

In addition to having the president of our union, Dr. Smith, lead out in this amazing undertaking, we were blessed to have the Southern Union executive secretary, Elder Jim Davidson, and the treasurer, Elder Randy Robinson. Both conducted presentations that were outstanding. Elder Davidson shared CREATION Health seminars that taught us how to extend our lives and have a happier existence. Elder Robinson, in his Financial Freedom Seminar, provided helpful tips for being debt-free, living within our means, and being faithful stewards of God’s resources. Both seminars were liberating and powerful.

The Miracle at Mt. Calvary includes the addition of 100 precious souls to the Kingdom of God and to our congregation. Here at Mt. Calvary we must exclaim, “To God be the glory for the great things He has done!” I must say there are still many more souls who are coming for baptism because of the dynamic presentation of God’s Word. Each night, through powerful preaching, the Word of God was taught with clarity and precision. The sharing of God’s Word was relevant, rousing, and revealing. Each night when the appeal was made, souls came asking, “What must I do to be saved?” The three weeks of the **System for Survival in the 21st Century** evangelistic series was truly a blessing to the Mt. Calvary church family. We would like to say “Thank you” to the Southern Union administration.

Jesus is soon to come; however, before He comes, He said, “And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come,” Matthew 24:14. Come, Lord Jesus! 🙏

— Submitted with thanksgiving by Rupert Bushner Jr., D.Min., senior pastor at Mt. Calvary Church in Huntsville, Alabama.

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SOUTHERN TIDINGS | Volume 111
Number 11 | November 2017
Published monthly by the Southern Union.
Free to all members.
Periodical number: 507-0000
POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to
Southern Tidings
P.O. Box 923868
Norcross, GA 30010-3868
EMAIL: ldouce@southernunion.com



november 2017

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HOW DO PEOPLE SEE YOUR *Church?*

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN III

To most people who are aware of Adventists, we are known for Sabbath keeping, our health practices, and community service, among other things.

But, how do visitors view your congregation? What reputation does your church have in your town? What should your church be known for?

Jesus gave the answer to His disciples: “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another,” John 13:35. Adventist congregations and members should be known by their love.

Why is love the most important thing your church can be known for? Love gives saving power to your relationships and witness. Without a loving witness, we are nothing.

A paraphrase of Paul’s words makes it clear. A church that is deeply involved in helping the poor through Adventist Community Services (ACS) and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), keeps the Sabbath, and follows health principles ... but does not love ... has a message that is like sounding brass and clanging cymbals, and profits nothing.

As a Church, we must seek to be known by our love so our ministry can reveal the Father’s character, be relevant, and meet the needs of our members and communities.

Regardless of the perception the community has of your church, it can become known as a loving church that draws people to Christ. Here are six suggestions that can make your church a loving church:

PHOTO BY: LICCI ZEMLEDUCH

1. Love Everyone

Love sinners. Jesus loved everyone. Commenting on Jesus' ability to love sinners, Philip Yancey, an American Christian author, says, "Somehow Jesus had mastered the ability of loving people whose behavior He disapproved. That's a lesson the church has not been so good at learning." *What's So Amazing About Grace?* Participant's Guide. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000, page 22.

Sometimes in our effort to defend and proclaim God's law to sinners, we fail to reveal God's love to them. Jesus balanced law and love, and thus was able to attract people most churches shun or castigate. The outcasts, the poor, the criminals, the downtrodden, the prostitutes, and the homeless flocked to Jesus. When we learn to love as Christ did, we will attract the marginalized, and we will not be uncomfortable, fearful, or flee when they come.

Love immigrants. Sabbath keepers recognize that the fourth commandment reveals God cared for "the strangers (immigrants) in our gates." Leviticus says, "The stranger who dwells among you...you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." Love compels us to resist the mean political rhetoric and social pressures of society and embrace immigrants; caring for them as fellow brothers and sisters, remembering that we were immigrants.

2. Create a Loving Community Within the Congregation

You can feel a sense of community, a sense of connectedness, in loving congregations. You sense it from the parking lot attendants who assist you before you even enter the church. You see it in the broad smiles of the greeters and ushers in the lobby. You feel it when you sit down and the person next to you looks you in the eye, smiles, and welcomes you. They make you feel comfortable. You hear it from the pulpit in tone and sermonic content. And, after the service, you know you are accepted because members intentionally reach out to connect with you with genuine love.

Churches that are successful in creating this sense of community do the following:

a. They pray for the Holy Spirit to help them experience the fellowship present in the early church in their congregation (Acts 2:42-47).

b. They encourage every member to intentionally look for new faces every Sabbath. They smile, they welcome them, they seek to know them.

c. They personally invite guests to activities, and to be involved in the life of the Church. They watch to see if someone needs a hymnal, and they share. And, if someone does not have a prayer partner, they pray with him or her.

d. They send a thank-you card to every visitor on the first Monday after their visit. This card is followed up by a call from the pastor, or a church ambassador, who expresses joy over their visit and invites them to come again.

3. Connect With Your Community

Become an externally focused church. Externally focused churches know that their reason for existence is not to serve themselves, but to save and serve their community. Therefore, their plans, programs, and budgets are all community focused.

Rick Rusaw and Eric Swanson mention five aspects of an externally focused church:

- They are inwardly strong, but outwardly focused.
- They integrate good deeds and good news into the life of the church.
- They value their impact and influence in the community more than attendance.
- They seek to be salt, light, and leaven in the community.
- They see themselves as the "soul" of the community.
- They would be greatly missed by the community if they left.

(*The Externally Focused Church.* Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 2004, page 12.)

Know your neighbors. One pastor and

his church decided to meet every family within a half-mile radius of their church. They got out and introduced themselves to their neighbors with no effort to distribute tracts or even pray. They started out with one objective in mind — to make new friends.

As they met their neighbors, they listened to them, discovered their needs and aspirations. They then shaped the ministries of their church to meet the needs of the community. They opened a family life center where youth from all over the community could gather and play. They also helped the unemployed secure jobs. Now that church is thriving and is viewed as a church that cares for the community.

Connect with area pastors and congregations. When I went to the South Columbia Church in Columbia, Mississippi, there were less than 20 members in the church. The members told me they wanted to grow. We immediately began to connect with the area churches of all denominations. We scheduled special



PHOTO BY: LICCI ZEMLEDUCH



PHOTO BY: LICCI ZEMLEDUCH

events, such as “Family and Friends Day” and “Choir Day,” and invited the area pastors and churches to attend. These opportunities helped us make friendships that broke down the perception that Seventh-day Adventists are isolationists who think they are better than other churches. We then began to grow, and within two years, had more than 50 members in attendance.

How do you get started? Identify the needs and issues that your community is seeking solutions for. Then, discover the skills and resources in your congregation that can be marketed as solutions to the community’s needs.

When your church is seen as a place where the community can find help for their needs, the parent who is looking for help with their children will see possibilities in your Pathfinder and Adventurer programs. The couple that is looking for a small group where they can find wholesome fellowship and Bible study will look to you. The elderly person who no longer drives at night will be pleased to know that they can attend a weekly midday “Lunch and Learn” at your church. There they can study the Bible, listen to guest presentations from agencies that serve the aging, and get a free meal.

4. Partner with Community Organizations.

In one small church, we had two children in the congregation. I saw that the local Girl Scouts needed financial support and a place to meet. We offered the use of our church and supported them financially. Though we entered the relationship without seeking to proselytize, God blessed us to change the perception that the community had of us, and to baptize the county Girl Scout director.

To partner with organizations in your town, start by getting a directory of social service agencies from your local Chamber of Commerce. Find agencies your congregation can partner with, such as the Red Cross, Area Agencies on Aging, and food banks. Consider ways you can partner with these organizations by providing volunteers and resources, or serving on boards if invited. Through these partnerships, we demonstrate that we are community-minded, and are able to get involved in coalitions that can effect positive changes that one church could never do alone.

5. Begin a New Narrative of Love

Change your congregational narrative. Sometimes there is inconsistency between the church’s branding and the congregational narrative. The church slogan may say, “Loving Church,” but when you listen to the members and leaders of the church, you hear stories of hurt, jealousy, and negativity. This negative congregational narrative undermines the message the church is seeking to tell the community, and inhibits growth.

To change the narrative, schedule a forgiveness seminar to help your congregation discover how to heal and forgive. Then help them put their past behind, and reframe the vic-



PHOTO BY: LICCI ZEMLEDUCH

USEFUL RESOURCES

Books

Be Known for Something: Reconnect with Community by Revitalizing Your Church's Reputation. Mark MacDonald, Houston, TX: High Bridge Books, 2017.

The Externally Focused Church. Rick Rusaw and Eric Swanson, Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 2004.

Websites

Be Known for Something is a blog by Mark MacDonald that provides lots of tips that will help you establish your church's visibility in your community.

www.beknownforsomething.com

Be Known for Something: Discover Your Church Communication Thread

The Association of Religion Data Archive has information about your community and local churches that will help you understand and connect with your community.

www.thearda.com

tim stories into stories of victory. When hurt people in your community see the transformation in your church, they will come for healing and love.

Watch your online narrative. Sometimes the posts that we make on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, Twitter) can negatively affect the perception people have of your congregation.

Here is a quick suggestion for changing the character of your online narrative. Before making a post, consider the content and tone of your post. Use the Philippians 4:8 test. Is it true, noble, just, pure, lovely, and of good report? Also, pray, "Let the words of my mouth and the posts on my page, be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer."

6. Love Unconditionally

During a tour of Israel with an interdenominational group of 14 journalists in December of 2010, someone in the group saw the Adventist Church with the Adventist Community Service shield on the wall. She immediately turned to me and said, "Steven, you are Seventh-day Adventist. Your church is the one that

does service in the community as a way of proselytizing." I was embarrassed. But, sadly, this has too often been true. Churches that do not have a lifestyle of compassion will hold a kindness campaign just to prepare for an evangelistic meeting. Then, after the meeting is over, they withdraw within their walls. We must have a lifestyle of love without an agenda.

How do visitors view your congregation? What reputation does your church have in your town? What can you personally do to make your church be known as a loving church in your community?

We are counseled that, "If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be 100 conversions to the truth where now there is only one," *Testimonies to the Church*, vol. 9, page 189.

When your congregation is known by its love, your community will know that you are His followers and will glorify the Father, and they will be attracted to His Church. 📌

R. Steven Norman III is the Southern Union communication director and Southern Tidings editor.

“How is it you have SOMETHING FOR NOTHING?”

Christian Record Shares Audiobook Gift with Blinded Veterans

BY JERI LYN ROGGE

How prevalent is blindness among veterans? According to Vision-Aware, vision loss resulting from injuries sustained while in military service can occur from traumatic eye injury, penetrating wounds, and traumatic brain injury (TBI).¹ A recent news report included information about the rate of choroidal melanoma, a type of eye cancer, among those who served during the Vietnam War.² Additionally, as with many Americans, veterans are living longer and are susceptible to age-related eye diseases, such as macular degeneration, as well as diabetic retinopathy.

In response to this information and additional research, Christian Record Services, Inc., a ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America, collaborated with chaplains, educators, and other veterans to create a unique “thank you” gift — the inSight4Vets audiobook player. This resource contains encouraging and inspirational books with content of interest to blinded veterans, and portions of the Bible. Funding for the inSight4Vets players has been provided by generous donors and a grant from VersaCare, Inc.

Three Christian Record staff members took a half-dozen inSight4Vets samples to the Blinded Veterans Association Convention in August 2017, in Jacksonville, Florida, and made plans to demonstrate, take orders, and ship requested players to blinded veterans’ homes and Veterans Administration (VA) hospitals after the convention. The goal was to give 250 inSight4Vets players to veterans and Veterans Administration rehabilitation coordinators.

Coordinators from several VA hospitals visited the Christian Record booth



Calvin Follett (right), studio and library director at Christian Record Services, Inc., in Lincoln, Nebraska, demonstrates the inSight4Vets solar player to attendees at the Blinded Veterans Association Convention in Jacksonville, Florida.

and welcomed the idea of placing inSight4Vets players in hospital and resource rooms, and incorporating them in therapy programs. These coordinators helped Christian Record staff see bigger opportunities, not only for distribution, but also for offering other free Christian Record materials and programs to veterans, such as the audio lending library, Bibles, and summer and winter camps.

Between the blinded veterans and the VA coordinators, all 250 players were claimed by the second event day.

The majority of vendors at the convention were commercial businesses which hoped to entice VA coordinators to purchase resources for individual distribution or use at VA facilities. The attendees were surprised to encounter Christian Record’s booth that offered free services and programs.

“How is it you have something for nothing?” asked one WWII veteran.

When staff explained that donors and grants cover the cost of the inSight4Vets players, he pressed a bit. “What about that other stuff? The camps? The library books? They’re free, too?”

It was evident to the Christian Record staff that these men and women, who had sacrificed for their country, were hungry to receive God’s Word, and eager to tell their friends. Jack, a veteran, brought four friends to the booth. “You gotta see this!” he exclaimed. “I’m getting this player, and you’re gonna want it, too!”

Christian Record hopes the spiritual content and encouraging messages provided through the inSight4Vets player will introduce blinded veterans and their families to Jesus.

For opportunities to partner with Christian Record to provide inSight4Vets audiobook players to more blinded veterans, visit www.inSight4Vets.org.

¹ *Statistics on Vision Loss and the Military and Policy Implications*. Vision-Aware online. <http://www.visionaware.org/info/everyday-living/essential-skills/information-for-veterans-coping-with-vision-loss/statistics-on-vision-loss-and-the-military/1235>

² *VA records: Veterans 17 times more likely to develop rare eye cancer*. Steve Andrews, News Channel 8 online, September 4, 2017. <http://wfla.com/2017/09/04/va-records-veterans-17-times-more-likely-to-develop-rare-eye-cancer/>

Jeri Lyn Rogge is the communication director for Christian Record Services, Inc., in Lincoln, Nebraska.

God Knows NO LIMITS

BY STAN HAWLEY

In 2003, members of the Clermont Church in Florida, guided by their pastor, Jim King, stepped out in faith and bought a prime five-acre parcel of land just north of the city for \$300,000. The congregation outgrew their original facility, and had high hopes for outreach they could conduct from this new location.

For 13 years, church members saved and sacrificed to raise the money necessary to build. Finally, in 2016, they were near enough to the goal to sell their existing building, and lease it back on Sabbaths while they waited for construction of the new church.

For the next year, Ron Hoeffcker, Clermont pastor, and Buddy Rogers, church elder and son of a founding family in the church, dealt with pre-construction tasks and building plans. The church continued to raise funds and pray for God's guidance. One family donated \$50,000, which brought the total amount on hand to \$750,000. The plan was to build a 5,000-square-foot sanctuary with additional facilities being added later as money was available.

However, work didn't proceed according to plan. The state highway department determined that a deceleration lane might be needed — an unanticipated cost of more than \$100,000. Building plans and materials costs continued to escalate as time dragged on, and it seemed like the hurdles were growing increasingly problematic.

The congregation was at a difficult point, but God knows no limits.

It was tempting to be discouraged at times, but He continued to provide clear evidence of His guidance.

Another local congregation, Clermont First Baptist Church, had purchased 40 acres of property, and they were ready to begin construction of their new campus. However, no buyer had emerged for their current facilities, so they were unable to move forward. Their existing location of four build-



PHOTO BY: STAN HAWLEY

Clermont Church members dedicated their 400-seat auditorium on Sabbath, August 26, 2017, on a campus which includes an administration building, youth building, and gym.

ings totaling 40,000-square-feet included a 400-seat sanctuary, an administration building, a youth building, and a large gym.

Negotiations began between the two churches. When the final contracts were signed, the Baptist church agreed to take ownership of the five-acre parcel of land in exchange for a \$900,000 credit against the price of their facilities. They also signed a lease to share the property, and pay rent for the next three years while their new facilities were constructed.

Nearly 300 members and guests gathered to celebrate the dedication of the facilities on Sabbath, August 26, 2017. Florida Conference President Mike Cauley gave the dedication message. At the afternoon service public servants spoke, including the mayor, police chief, county commissioner, and a sheriff's officer. Several of them gave personal testimonies about God's leading in their own lives. The day concluded with a concert by southern gospel singer Larry Ford.

God humbled the congregation by showing He had bigger plans for them than they had for themselves. They were thinking small, while He was planning big! ●



PHOTO BY: STAN HAWLEY

Ron Hoeffcker, Clermont pastor, leads the congregation in the Sabbath School lesson on the day of their church dedication.

“God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning....”

Desire of Ages, page 224

Walking Through an OPEN DOOR

BY SAMUEL NGALA



Zomi attendees

All I can do is give God the glory as I listen to how two young adults, Kimpu and Lam Nu, were impressed to help start a church plant with only eight people. Now, three years later, it has grown to a Sabbath School attendance of 92, with 55 baptized members.

As I witnessed 55 people sign to be a charter member of the Bowling Green, Kentucky, Zomi Company, I praised God for using lay people and lay pastors to grow this church. Here is the story in their own words.

Led by a Lay Member

My name is Kimpu, and my wife is Lam Nu. I now serve as the head elder of the Bowling Green Zomi Company.

We left our home country of Myanmar (Burma), together with my sibling and parents, and were resettled as refugees by the United States government in Grand Rapids, Michigan. When we arrived we were warmly welcomed, encouraged, and supported by the pastor, his wife, and the church members of the Wyoming Church in Wyoming, Michigan.

In August of 2014, Lam Nu and I arrived in Bowling Green, Kentucky, to help Lam Nu's uncle with his small business. Here we found the Bowling Green Church.

Zomi is one of the languages spoken in Myanmar, and the Bowling Green Church provided a room for a Zomi Sabbath School class, which consisted of 10 to 20 Adventists. Within three months, our class had grown in attendance to between 30 and 40.

Zomi Preaching Service

With growth in Sabbath School class attendance and potential for more growth, we invited Pastor Lian Pau to be our lay leader and to have sermons in Zomi. It was almost a year after Pastor Pau left before another pastor was found. In March 2016, Pastor Khan Mang and his family moved to Bowling Green and Pastor Mang became our lay leader.

Prayers Answered

My name is Pastor Thang Khan Mang. My family and I came to Bowling Green so that I could work at a tent company. I work at the company full-time during

the week, and am the lay leader of the growing Zomi Company.

Growth has taken place because we care for one another, both our church members and those that are in our community. We help when people are in trouble. We help find jobs for those who have none. We help those that are in financial difficulty. We visit, pray for, and look after those in the hospital. We encourage and support those that have no support. God blesses our efforts and increases our congregation.

On June 20, 2017, the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference organized our group as the Bowling Green Zomi Company. We continue to celebrate what God has done through our English-speaking brothers and sisters of the Bowling Green Church, and through the dedication of Pastor Pau, my family, and all our Zomi Adventists here.

I pray that we continue to grow and to soon be recognized as a full-fledged church. The work has just started. May God keep us faithful until He comes. 🙏

CREATION Kids' Outreach GOES TO WASHINGTON

BY EULA WINSTON



Pictured are ministerial spouses of South Atlantic Conference, the Southern Union, and the North American Division.



Gwendolyn Harrell (left) pose with a family from the community.

August Two-0” became a rallying call for the planning team of the Children’s Health Fair. Early Sunday morning on “August Two-0,” August 20, 2017, the team of about 30 people from the Washington, Georgia, Church, coordinated by the former district pastor, Rebecca Davis, brought many families together at the Pope Conference Center in Washington.

The CREATION Kids’ Program was adapted, with the goal to introduce the eight principles of healthy living to children in grades K-8, and served about 50 community guests that day. Concurrent with the Health Fair, Winona Preston taught songs and children played small percussion instruments in a music center, and Jackie Brooks-Winston conducted a parenting class, which was well attended. Backpacks stuffed with back-to-school

supplies were given to the children.

Eight stations were set up: **C** (choice) — led by Shirley Johnson, using games and posters teaching the children to make wise choices; **R** (rest) — stressing early to bed and how children can take breaks, was done by Georgette Wright; **E** (environment) — headed by Taffiny Mills, with lots of flowers and dirt, and a small potted plant for each child to take with them; **A** (activity) — jumping, tumbling, leaping, and stretching were all done with the children by Stephanie Brown, a volunteer for the Health Fair from the community; **T** (trust in God) — with storytelling by Grace Crawford, including characters in costumes bringing the Bible to life; **I** (interpersonal relationships) — lingering at this station, the children sat in a semicircle with Equilla Wright, discussing bullying and how to

be there for family and friends; **O** (outlook) — Brenda Barber decorated her station to draw the children, and was found helping the young minds to click into positive thinking; and **N** (nutrition) — Gwendolyn Harrell and her team were ready for the children by offering nutritious snacks, smoothies, and fresh fruit for them to stuff into the apple green bags that they took to each station.

The event was made possible through an Evangelism Compassion Grant from the North American Division Ministerial Department (NAD), applied for by Ruth Mendinghall and Eula Winston of the South Atlantic Conference Clergy Spouses organization. Not only did NAD grant the funds, but Yolanda Smith of the Southern Union Conference and Donna Jackson of NAD lent their personal efforts to the project. ●

Physicians More Likely Assess Patients' Spiritual Needs with Education, Training

Research has long shown that people who are more religious and spiritual have better health and adapt more quickly to health problems compared to those who are less so. Now, the results of a year-long study of health care providers, including physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants across midwestern and southeastern states, indicate that a majority of providers are willing to assess the spiritual needs of patients, and that providers who receive training on how to appropriately engage patients on spirituality are twice as likely to regularly conduct spiritual assessments.

The study, called *Faith in Practice*, was conducted by Adventist Health System, one of the largest faith-based health care systems in the U.S., and Duke University's Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health. It was designed to examine the attitudes and practices of care providers as they relate to the integration of spirituality into patient care, while introducing practical strategies for the application of spiritual care in the outpatient setting.

"The study makes clear that physicians are willing to address the spiritual needs of patients, and that education and training programs can significantly increase the integration of spirituality in outpatient medical practices," said Harold G. Koenig, M.D., director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke University School of Medicine, and a leading researcher who has dedicated more than 30 years to studying the effects of spiritual and religious involvement on human health.

In all, 520 care providers from more than two dozen Adventist Health System facilities across Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Illinois took part in the study. Participants had varying faiths, and some had no religious affiliation whatsoever.

"The findings of this study show that spirituality is not only important to many



A study conducted by Adventist Health System and Duke University surveyed the experiences of 520 health care providers assessing patients' spiritual needs over a one-year period.

patients, but that providers also see patients' spiritual needs as an important aspect of their overall health, and are open to addressing those needs," said Terry Shaw, president/CEO for Adventist Health System. "I am proud that our organization is helping lead the way in this important aspect of care delivery; and, in doing so, we can better meet the needs of the patients we serve."

Some of the study's key findings include:

- Providers who received education and training were twice as likely to regularly conduct spiritual assessments in their patients.
- There were significant increases in how frequently providers prayed with patients, were willing to pray with patients, shared their faith with patients, and encouraged patients' own religious faith over the 12 months.
- Patient acceptance of and appreciation for the spiritual assessments increased over the span of the study.
- The frequency with which spiritual assessments were conducted increased among both religious and non-religious providers.


"Providing whole-person care, mind, body, and spirit, is at the core of our mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of

Christ," said Ted Hamilton, M.D., chief mission integration officer and senior vice president of mission and ministry for Adventist Health System. "Many patients would welcome a discussion about their spiritual needs with their physicians as part of their care, so providing the appropriate resources and support for doctors to meet this need is one way we can take better care of our patients."

Providers began the study by completing a survey to evaluate their attitudes and practices related to addressing the spiritual needs of patients in clinical practice, which was followed by an orientation that focused on identifying and addressing those needs. The survey was taken again one month after the orientation, and once more a year into the training program. During the study providers asked their patients three questions:

- Do you have a faith-based support system to help you in times of need?
- Do you have any religious beliefs that might influence your medical decisions?
- Do you have any other spiritual concerns that you would like someone to address?

If a patient had spiritual needs, they were documented in the electronic medical record. From there, those patients were assigned spiritual care coordinators who could help address concerns or connect patients with a chaplain for further support.

"Providers strive to honor and respect patients' values, beliefs, and preferences. This study opens the door to one approach that may help caregivers feel more comfortable assessing whether or not a patient would prefer spiritual support, and connecting them with the resources to receive that support in those cases," added Koenig. 

BY MARIO ROBERTS

DispatchHealth Wins Adventist Health System's Third Annual InnovationX Competition



DispatchHealth presented a solution to provide consumer-centric, on-demand care in the comfort of a patient's home.

DispatchHealth has won Adventist Health System's (AHS) third annual InnovationX competition. DispatchHealth presented an in-home care delivery platform and triage system designed to provide right-sized care while addressing the health care needs of the consumer and the access challenges of the at-risk patient.

"With so many amazing companies represented, we are honored to win the InnovationX competition," said Mark Prather, M.D., M.B.A., CEO for DispatchHealth. "Our solution aligns with Adventist Health System's imperatives to lower the cost and expand the network by delivering quality, convenient care in the home at an affordable cost."

DispatchHealth is a provider of mobile and virtual health care that works to create an integrated, convenient, high-touch care delivery solution that extends the capabilities of a patient's care team and provides definitive, quality care in the home while decreasing costs.

InnovationX, the health care indus-

try's premier innovation competition, is a "Shark Tank" style contest held during the 2017 National Council of Presidents Conference in Tampa, Fla. At the event, 20 start-up and mid-stage companies from across the U.S. pitched their ideas and solutions to address some of the top challenges in health care before a judging panel made up of health care executives for a chance to further develop their product and design a pilot with AHS.

"The exciting thing about this year's InnovationX is how we were able to align these companies with our imperatives and how their solutions move the needle," said David Banks, chief strategy officer for Adventist Health System. "We saw 20 amazing companies, and look forward to working with these companies in the near future."

Past InnovationX winners include Babyscripts in 2015, which delivered a platform to remotely monitor pregnancies, and Twistle in 2016, which delivered a process and quality improvement platform that engages patients with pro-

vider treatment plans to improve patient outcomes and consumer satisfaction.

Adventist Health System, one of the largest faith-based health care systems in the U.S., incorporates innovation and design thinking to continually improve and enhance care delivery. The organization has multiple innovation labs, and is currently constructing a new innovation center at its corporate campus to further advance this effort. Events like InnovationX give Adventist Health System the opportunity to explore new, innovative approaches to advance and elevate care for patients and communities.

"The future of health care will be defined by those who effectively apply the discipline of innovation and design," said Vickie White, vice president of marketing and innovation for Adventist Health System. "InnovationX is where Adventist Health System brings in companies ranging from the leading-edge start-ups to mid-sized companies to help us co-create the future of care for our consumers." ●

Adventist Health System Elects New Board Chairman



Gary Thurber is the new chairman of the Adventist Health System Board of Directors.

Gary Thurber was elected September 14, 2017, by the Board of Directors of Adventist Health System (AHS) to serve as chairman. Thurber, president of the Mid-America Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, replaces retiring chairman, Don Livesay.

“Don has been instrumental in shaping the direction of our company over the last decade, and we are so thankful for his leadership,” said Terry Shaw, president/CEO of Adventist Health System. “I look forward to working with Gary in his new capacity, as he

brings deep insight and experience that will help guide our organization forward.”

As union president, Thurber is responsible for articulating the mission and vision of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Mid-America. Thurber began in ministry as a teacher at Redwood Adventist Academy in the Northern California Conference. From there, he served as an associate pastor and assistant director of Northwest Ministries Training Center at the Kent Adventist Church in the Washington Conference.

He completed his bachelor’s degree at

Southern Adventist University, and earned his master’s degree in religion at Andrews University. Ordained in 1987, Thurber has served as a pastor in the Kansas-Nebraska, Florida, and Michigan conferences. He has also served as president of the Rocky Mountain, Indiana, and Northern New England conferences. Prior to coming to the Mid-America Union Conference, Thurber was executive secretary of the Lake Union Conference. Additionally, Thurber chairs the board of Union College, and works closely with its administration to ensure its success.

“I am honored to be elected to serve as the board chairman for Adventist Health System,” said Thurber. “I am thoroughly engaged in its mission of ‘Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ,’ and supportive of the committed leadership team that ensures the communities we serve are healthier because of our ministry.”

Thurber succeeds Don Livesay who has twice served as board chairman for Adventist Health System, and is president of the Lake Union Conference. Livesay retired last month.

“Serving Adventist Health System has been one of the finest experiences of my 43 years of ministry. I’ve been inspired to be a better leader by working with some of the most gifted, dedicated, and godly leaders in the Seventh-day Adventist Church at Adventist Health System,” said Livesay.

The Board of Directors for Adventist Health System consists of 64 members who are Seventh-day Adventist union officers, conference presidents from the AHS territory, appointed members of AHS corporate leadership, or appointed members-at-large from each union. These members serve either because of the Church position they hold or by other appointment. ❶

BY MARIO ROBERTS

A Legacy of Service: ADU Commemorates Milestone Anniversary with “25 for 25” Campaign

Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) celebrated its 25th anniversary with a special campaign dedicated to the mission and values of the University. The “25 for 25” campaign highlighted ADU’s commitment to excellence and service by helping its local communities.

“We were honored to serve the members of both the Orlando and Denver communities as a means of celebrating 25 years of making a difference in higher education,” said Kendra Van Houten, director of community engagement at ADU.

The campaign launched in August 2016 with ADU’s annual faculty and staff Service Day as part of the University’s Mission Week. ADU served Quest, Inc.’s Camp Thunderbird by assisting with a variety of needs on the grounds and inside the buildings at the camp. Throughout the following 12 months, ADU engaged in 25 service projects in the communities surrounding the Orlando and Denver campuses.

Service projects addressed different issues, from honoring first responders on the 9/11 National Day of Service, to hosting a week-long kindness challenge during Random Acts of Kindness Week, and hosting a food drive to benefit a local food bank.

The culmination of the campaign was August 30, 2017, for ADU’s annual Service Day. More than 265 employees served this year at Forest City, Fla., Spanish Church to help them renovate a new space, which they will use to serve those in need in the community. Floors were painted, fences were built, the church and office rooms were cleaned top to bottom, staff and faculty entertained the children at the



Anael Santos (left), Keisha Burrington, and Sagarika Sahu have some fun while painting walls at Forest City Spanish Church.



John Scarborough (left), Grayson Goodman, Ruben Martinez, Jacob Curtis, and Rudy Prado fill in potholes outside of Forest City Spanish Church.

church with music and games, and many more projects were completed.

“Since 2009, ADU has shared our talents, treasure, and time to serve organizations in our community. To see the work that was accomplished is truly an inspiration. It puts into action our calling and commitment to service — a Christ-like value at the core of who we are,” said Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D., president of ADU.

During this 25th year anniversary, ADU volunteered 13,000 hours through the “25 for 25” campaign. 📍

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Mills River Member Uses Business, Dental Skills in Peru

For years he had been awaiting this opportunity. Jeremy Holt, a sophomore business administration and pre-dental major at Southern Adventist University (SAU), was going to be a dental-work missionary for eight months with Amor Ministries (AM) in Pucallpa, Peru. He had been involved with local missions through his home church in Mills River, N.C., and had gone overseas on weeklong mission trips. Still, nothing could prepare him for what he saw as his plane touched down on the runway in Peru.

The squatters' community stretched for miles. Poverty-stricken people with nowhere else to live had constructed makeshift shanties in hopes that squatters' law would award them the land title if they lived there long enough. However, keeping possession of a shanty is not easy since someone must be there constantly to guard it. This translates into one less person who can work and provide income for the family. On top of it all, the lack of both potable water and an organized sewage system means that waterborne illnesses are simply part of daily life.

Upon arrival Holt was eager to find out how he could help, but he was in for a surprise. It wasn't dental workers that AM needed most. "They had recently lost one of their administrators and needed someone with business skills to help them get reorganized," he recalls. "It's funny. I thought I was going to Peru to develop new skills, when actually God wanted me to serve others with the ones I already had."

Holt put his two semesters of accounting into practice, logging AM's finances and helping them switch from an unwieldy spreadsheet to QuickBooks. The same organizational skills that helped him navigate an intense class schedule and homework load also enabled him to plan dental and medical clinics, health seminars, and Bible studies.

The majority of medical ailments addressed by the clinic stemmed from poor water conditions. Many people suffered from parasites, dehydration, headaches, and kidney problems. Most of the squatters drank a lot of soft drinks and did not brush their teeth. Consequently, cavities were the primary problem treated at the dental clinic, and Holt and his coworkers spent one day a week extracting teeth from the time the clinic opened until it closed in the afternoon.

Holt is now back at SAU, and is slated to graduate in 2018. After dental school, he hopes one day to go overseas as a missionary dentist. "My time in Peru was



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Jeremy Holt works on a peruvian patient's teeth in the Amor Ministries clinic.

difficult but so rewarding," he shares. "We worked to meet the physical needs of the people and then their spiritual ones, following the example of Jesus' ministry. I can hardly wait to do something like that again." 📍

BY ANGELA BAERG

One-Room Schools Plan to Thrive in 2017-2018 School Year



PHOTO BY: TIFFANY BRYANT

Misty Stein works with students on their reading skills.

During this past school year, the Carolina Conference opened three new schools: Blue Ridge Adventist Christian School in Waynesville, N.C.; Cornerstone Adventist Academy in Charlotte, N.C.; and Salisbury Adventist School in Salisbury, N.C. Each is a one-room school with a single teacher instructing all the students. The youth in each school are excited about the upcoming school year, and look forward to learning more as they progress through their educational experience.

Blue Ridge Adventist Christian School (BRACS) started with six students in first, third, fourth, and seventh grades. Under the guidance of their head teacher, Sue Dasher, the students enjoyed themselves and became like a family with God at the head. Throughout the year, they went on multiple field trips, including visits to an apple orchard, a bison farm, and a mechanic's garage. They also hosted several guest speakers who taught them how to cook, discussed the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program, and explained the importance of dental health. At

their Christmas program, they raised money to support the families who suffered loss during the fire in Gatlinburg, Tenn., in late 2016. Next school year, BRACS is expecting eight to 10 students. They look forward to using exercise balls as chairs in the classroom, and using memory verse charts to track their progress.

Salisbury Adventist School had a great year, although there were challenges. Head teacher Misty Stein was confronted with the struggles that accompany re-opening a school. After being closed for six years, the school building needed to be cleaned and reorganized. After overcoming this challenge with grace, the school thrived with God's blessing, beginning the year with 14 students and ending with 19. Throughout the year, there were still several obstacles to hurdle, but God brought the little school through. As Stein gears up for next year, she is restructuring her program and planning to implement The Leader in Me program in her classroom, which helps children become more effective, goal oriented, and successful.

Cornerstone Adventist Academy (CAA) is also preparing for another exciting school year. Head teacher Sandra Greenleaf had 20 students in her classroom during this past school year. This was an incredible blessing from God, as this is the maximum number of students a single-teacher school can enroll. The students at CAA enjoyed getting to know each other through games and activities. A variety-show Christmas program was put on for the community, and a science fair was held in the spring. As this one-room school looks forward to next year, their parent church, Charlotte University City, is planning to build a family life center, which will provide classrooms, storage, and a gymnasium for the school.

As a new school year begins, it is important to keep all the students in prayer as they prepare to lead the church into a new era. Remember the teachers and administrators as they instruct the children, and teach them more about Jesus. 🙏

BY ABBY KING

Family Mission Trip Answers 12-year Prayer Request



Family mission trip members from Spring Meadows Church in Sanford, Fla., help build a new five-classroom school in San Pedro, Dominican Republic.

Spring Meadows Church in Sanford, Fla., held a family mission trip to San Pedro de Marcoris in the Dominican Republic from July 16-23, 2017. Under the direction of Luis and Christine Batista, 20 adults and 14 children joined together to build a new school.

Christina Batista shares her story.

A year before, my husband and I were asked to plan a family mission trip. We began to pray for a couple of months about where to go. Eventually, we received an e-mail saying there was a school in San Pedro, Dominican Republic, in need of help. The government was going to shut the current school down, because it was in such disrepair. Later, we learned people prayed for 12 years to have someone come to help them.

God began blessing this trip from the



Excited children in San Pedro attend Vacation Bible School led by members of the family mission trip from Spring Meadows Church.

very beginning by enabling us to secure lodging. When I explained to the manager of a beach resort why we were coming, he let us stay at his resort for as little as \$8 per person per night. What a miracle!

In addition to building a five-room school, which enabled 60 more students to attend, we were involved in outreach ministries:

- **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** was held each day. In order to limit the number to 200, children were given a band to wear. The church still seemed overly packed. After a night or two, we realized bands were passed through the gate so friends

could also attend VBS.

- An **eye clinic** opened each morning with more than 50 people waiting for exams. We read more than 400 prescriptions for adults and children, and 400 pairs of glasses were given out. In fact, they ran out of glasses and had to go into town to buy more.

As a first-time trip leader, I was nervous to bring a large group to a different country, but I was also nervous because I wanted them to have a life-changing experience. Team members worked hard to make the trip a success, including the 14 children who were phenomenal. We were humbled at the joy we felt building

the school and reaching out to the community. This experience will live in our hearts forever.

The next family mission trip is scheduled for 2020. Spring Meadows Church has conducted more than 50 mission trips. We are blessed to have traditional, high school, young adult, and family mission trips available for our church members. 🙏

BY CHRISTINA BATISTA

Robert and Alyce Boggess Celebrate 60 Years of Marriage

Robert Boggess and Alyce Baxter were married at the Boggess family farm in Carrollton, Ohio, on August 8, 1957. They met at his uncle's farm at threshing time. Robert was part of the threshing crew, and Alyce, who was friends with his dad's cousin, helped with meals.

Robert received a Ph.D. degree from McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, Ill. Prior degrees included a B.A. from Washington Missionary College (Washington Adventist University), Takoma Park, Md., and an M.A. from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich.

The Boggesses served the Lord together in ministry in many areas and places, including church pastor in Michigan, Iowa, and Florida; ministerial director/evangelism in Upper Columbia Conference; ministerial director/evangelism in Minnesota Conference; ministerial director of New Jersey Conference; president of New Jersey Conference; and ministerial director of Washington Conference.



Robert and Alyce Boggess

Alyce spent many years working as a registered nurse for a variety of organizations. In addition, she also worked as an

administrative assistant for several conference administrators.

After serving as Miami Temple pastor, Robert became pastor of Spring Meadows Church, and continues to serve as associate pastor in his retirement. He has shepherded the church building program from its inception at the Sanford, Fla., campus, and continues this work toward completion. During the August 5, 2017, church service, Orlando Lopez, pastor, paid tribute to their marriage and their years of service: "Robert and Alyce have spent the years of their ministry praising God and sharing Jesus with so many throughout all these years together."

Their family includes three sons, Bob (Joy) Boggess, Dave (Cindy) Boggess, and Tom (Alisha) Boggess; one daughter, MariAnne (Cody) Burns; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. 🙏

BY DAVE BOGGESS

Four Receive Passing the Torch Scholarships



PHOTO BY: TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Kevin Kossick (left), education vice president, congratulates Passing the Torch Scholarship recipients Vanessa Hernandez (left), Brianna Fernandez, Melany Candelaria, and Bethany Shipley, in the Education Department at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn.

In 2014 the Georgia-Cumberland Conference Education Department intentionally made a decision to invest in education majors. They hoped to motivate and encourage home grown members in

their education calling, and help alleviate the shortage of teachers created by retiring baby boomers. Passing the Torch was their answer, a scholarship given only to Georgia-Cumberland education majors

at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn. “The Passing the Torch scholarship is a confirmation to me that God has placed me where He can use me the most,” says Bethany Shipley, senior education major. Melany Candelaria, senior education major, says Passing the Torch affirms her choice. “God is watching over me. It has been harder for me than most to stay in school, but I know that God is by my side.” “The value I found in ministry and missions is linked directly to my attending an Adventist school. Now as a future teacher, I desire to give back to the Adventist system that gave me so much,” says Vanessa Hernandez, senior education major.

Brianna Fernandez, senior education major, is thrilled, adding, “It means a lot to me to receive this scholarship. It shows me that I’ve worked hard, and I was able to achieve something wonderful.”

“We have hired five of the possible 10 candidates over three years,” says Kevin Kossick, vice president for education. “I anticipate hiring all four of this year’s candidates.”

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Augusta Hispanic Ministers to Irma Escapees

The Augusta, Ga., Hispanic Church members were blessed to open their doors to church members and guests fleeing the devastation from Hurricane Irma.

The first families arrived Thursday evening, September 7, 2017, with a steady flow continuing until Sunday, September 10. Families came from Brunswick and Savannah, Ga., and Hardeeville and Bluffton, S.C., with a total of 125 people staying in the gym and church.

For the second consecutive year, God worked miracles by touching the hearts of people in their community. Many called, offering to help with food and water; most were not aware of the Adventist Church before this emergency.

Many guests sought shelter. Among

them was a group from Venezuela who came straight to the Augusta Hispanic Church after being evacuated from Miami International Airport. They had never been to an Adventist church, and were impressed and grateful for the hospitality.

On Sabbath, many refugees arrived and were touched by the Holy Spirit. The members feel it was a privilege to share the precious Adventist message with the refugees, and give them hope in the soon coming of Jesus Christ.

Many went home, taking food and water to help with shortages, on September 12.

Special acknowledgment is given to Gabriel Johnson, pastor of the Augusta First Church, and his congregation for support; the Ebenezer Church; and Mi-

guel Tirado in the Latin American Ministries department.



SUBMITTED BY: ALDO ESPINOZA

Members of the Augusta, Ga., Hispanic Church helped house and feed many who were fleeing from Hurricane Irma this past September.

BY ALDO ESPINOZA

Lives Transformed by Men's Ministries



SUBMITTED BY: MARTY MILLER

SUBMITTED BY: MARTY MILLER

During the men's retreat at Cohutta Springs Conference Center, men enjoyed inspirational music, challenging messages, delicious food, outdoor activities, and even a car show featuring restoration. The theme was "Broken Beauty," centering on how God transforms lives from brokenness into something of priceless beauty.

The men's retreat featured a car show that showcased outstanding frame-off restoration. Men's lives are being transformed through men's ministry.

During 2017, men's ministry events and the number of small groups within the Georgia-Cumberland Conference has grown dramatically through visionary leadership and God's blessing. Men's lives are being transformed, marriages are being saved, and the church is being strengthened.

The first Men's Leadership Summit took place June 3, 2017, during Collegedale Camp Meeting at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn. The meeting was held in Thatcher Hall Chapel (ironically, the women's dormitory). Marty Miller cast a vision for men's ministry, and gave a report from the first-year partnership with Blueprint for Men. A panel of five men's ministry leaders, Tom Pyke, Edymar Penagos, Jim Aumack, Dale Salter, and Grant Graves, shared testimonies of men's changed lives through men's ministry.

The clear message from the summit was that ordinary men become extraordinary men of God through the transformation that occurs from being part of a

men's small group.

The Chainsaws and Butter Knives Men's Rally took place August 26, 2017, at the Collegedale, Tenn., Community Church. The focus is, whether men feel as sharp and as powerful as a chainsaw, or as weak and dull as a butter knife, all men need other godly men to get sharper ... just as "iron sharpens iron," Proverbs 27:17.

The rally started with a song service led by Matt Spears, and inspirational testimonies by Jordan Madrigal, Jason Leirs, Brian Ringer, and Jim Luke. The men transitioned outside to the pavilion for a pancake supper and fellowship. The evening finale was a high energy lumberjack contest that involved cross-cut saws and splitting mauls.

Winners of the lumberjack contest were awarded laser engraved Swedish steel axes and blisters. And, the immense wall of stacked firewood was used at the Collegedale Academy Senior Survival.

After a year hiatus, the men's retreat returned to Cohutta Springs, September

15-17, 2017. The theme of the retreat was "Broken Beauty," which centers on God's miraculous ability to transform men's lives from apparent brokenness into something of priceless beauty. During the weekend, the men enjoyed inspirational music, challenging messages, delicious food, outdoor activities, and even a car show featuring restoration. The main speaker for the retreat was Jim Moon, Collegedale Church pastor. Two powerful testimonies were shared by young men, Alex Carillo from Texas and Michael McDuffie from New York. A wide range of breakout sessions were offered. In the first car show, Mike Scheineman's 1968 Dodge Travco from Kerrville, Tex., and Brent Mann's 1959 Chevy Impala from Duluth, Ga., featured outstanding frame-off restorations. Men are already talking about next year, and are gearing up to start small groups back at their home churches. 📌

BY MARTY MILLER

Bass Memorial Church Has Food Pantry Outreach

In 2011, Bob and Theresa Southard attended a meeting regarding food pantries. The Bass Memorial Church felt a need to try to meet some of the needs of the immediate community. Bob, Theresa, Tom, and Marquis Feese; Floyd Brown; and Rex and Janice Sistrunk worked to get a small elders' room fixed up to house the pantry. A wall was moved, and they decided to open the fourth Sunday of the month to help provide food to cover three to four days at the end of the month, when households often lack money and food. Each month between 170 and 275 families were served. As requirements have changed, they currently serve about 130 families a month.

The USDA defines food security as access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. The defining characteristic of food insecurity is that, at times during the year, the food intake of household members is reduced, and their normal eating patterns are disrupted because the household lacks money and other resources for food.

Additionally, there are a lot of people who fall through the cracks. They are not eligible for food stamps, or they are only allotted a few dollars a month. Some of them do not have transportation. Many of the clients are elderly, or have cancer or other terminal illnesses.

USA Today, August 2014, did an article on Food Pantries in America: “‘The results are alarming,’ says Bob Aiken, chief executive officer of Feeding America. ‘It means that people in America have to make trade-offs. They have to pick between buying food for their children or paying for utilities, rent, and medicine.’ One in seven Americans — 46 million people — rely on food pantries and meal service programs to feed themselves and their families, the study found.

“Hunger exists in literally every coun-



About 4,000 pounds of food is distributed every month.



Students from Bass Memorial Academy assist with food distribution.



Regular supporters of the food pantry ministry include Janice Sistrunk (left), Rex Sistrunk, Floyd Brown, and Evelyn Brown.

ty in America,’ Aiken says. ‘It’s an urban problem, it’s a suburban problem, and it’s a rural problem.’”

Thirty-four percent of Mississippi children live in poverty. Many elderly people are also in dire straits. The rural areas are stricken. Lamar County has approximately 7,903 persons living in poverty. Parents may be working, but their salaries are often too low to provide everything a family needs. Many families run out of food and money before the month ends. By providing food to keep the family going for a few extra days at the end of the month, Bass Memorial members are helping to build the families, who in turn help build better communities.

The Bass Memorial Church Food Pantry has 400 registered families, and serves an average of 4,000 pounds of food each month. There are eight to 10 new families who register each month to receive emergency food resources. Beneficiaries include unemployed, underemployed, victims of domestic abuse, elderly, homeless, persons with health challenges, and individuals experiencing disaster and tragedy.

A food pantry is a labor of love. It takes people working together and being non-judgmental. The Bass Memorial Church is blessed with sincere volunteers from the church and students from Bass Memorial Academy, who work hard in planning, ordering, trucking, and more — all in order to be the hands and feet of Christ in their community.

“Let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of other,” Philippians 2:3, 4 (paraphrased). 🕊

BY VALYNDA BAILEY

Olive Branch Offers CREATION Health

During April and May, the Olive Branch, Miss., Church hosted a CREATION Health Seminar at the local Methodist Hospital. The CREATION Health Seminar encompasses God’s eight principles of living life to the fullest: Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook, and Nutrition. When Cary Fry, pastor, presented the idea to Methodist Hospital’s Jennifer Garrott, congregational health leader, and Joseph Reneger, chaplain, both were excited to have a presentation of this nature presented at their hospital.

Each evening different professionals in their fields were brought in to educate the audience on the various aspects of CREATION health. Neuropsychologist Brandon Baughman, Ph.D., started the first night’s presentation on the power of Choice.

OB-GYN and family practitioner Carl Pean II, M.D., presented on the body’s essential need for Rest. Pean stressed the importance of proper rest by focusing on the amount of sleep one gets at night, as well as taking that special day of rest God designed for at creation — the Sabbath.

Fry presented on improving one’s Environment with simple suggestions like bringing color and playful sounds into your environment — for example, the sounds of rus-



Cary Fry, pastor, shares about the power of one’s environment with the audience.

ting wind dancing through the trees. NASA studies have shown that living, green, and flowering plants remove several toxic chemicals from the air in building interiors.

Physical therapist Jason Hall presented on the importance of Activity and regular exercise. Hall stressed to the audience that any physical movement was better than no movement at all, and this is also true with brain health. Reading, doing puzzles, or even learning a new language keep the brain sharp.

Makeba Garrison, chaplain, pre-

sented on Interpersonal Relationships. He discussed that although social support is probably one of the least focused areas in health, it is one of the most powerful influences.

Mary Karen Dixon, hospital nutritionist, presented on Nutrition and how fruits and vegetables that God made are the best foods to eat. She enforced this by telling the audience the closer the food is to the ground, the better it is for you. 🍎

BY THERESA COLE, LPN

Families Enjoy Evening Together at Hoover Christian School

Family Art Night — Come One, Come All!” This was the notice to Hoover Christian School (HCS) parents and Birmingham First Church members. Beth Jeffers, Hoover Christian School’s art teacher, approached HCS administration last spring asking to have a Family Art Night for parents and their children. With excitement, HCS scheduled this no-charge evening — parents and their children participating in a family night out creating art pieces — for the 2017-2018 school year. The school was thrilled to be able to offer an electronic-free family night option to families of the school and the church.

Many Birmingham First members, and

parents, aunts, uncles, and grandparents from HCS and met with the children to enjoy an evening together on Wednesday, September 6, 2017. Jeffers had five art projects for families, from creating art with marbles and paint, and drawing family portraits in frames that had been painted on a table, to print art and more. HCS faculty and Student Association officers helped give guidance and direction at each of the tables. HCS Student Association also offered pizza and soft drinks so the night could be a complete “family night out.”

As families walked out the door, the most often-heard question was, “When are we going to do this again?” 🍕



Charley and his mom enjoy their time together at the special evening program.

BY LORI ABBOTT

Delegates Affirm Conference Leadership



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Reelected Conference administrators and their spouses include Steve and Doreen Rose, Malinda and Steve Haley, and Cassandra and Aaron McNulty.

“Living the Mission” was the theme that characterized the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference 32nd Regular Constituency Session held at the Madison Campus Church on September 10, 2017.

Steven L. Haley, M.Div., was unanimously reelected president, a position which he has served since 2009. In the Constituency Report he stated, “The Seventh-day Adventist Church was called by God for a specific mission. As described in the Three Angels’ Message, it is not only a message that warns of judgment and calls us to loyal obedience, but it is also an invitation of grace ... I believe it is time for us to LIVE that message — that mission — in Kentucky-Tennessee.”

Steve A. Rose Sr., who joined the administrative team in 2012, was reelected as executive secretary, with the title changed

to vice president of administration.

Aaron M. McNulty, recently became treasurer and was elected to serve as the vice president of finance. He last served as under-treasurer of the Michigan Conference.

All other department directors and associates were elected/reelected as follows: Stephen Bralley, superintendent of education; Rocky Davis, publishing director; David Hartman, ministerial director; Silke Hubbard, trust services director; Gail McKenzie, women’s ministries director; Barrett Mikkelsen, information technology director; Nelson Silva, associate youth director; Greg Taylor, youth director; Doug Thompson, manager, Nourish Christian Marketplace; and Pam Williams, associate superintendent of education. This group of dedicated directors and conference personnel are

committed to partnering with all the churches, pastors, teachers, and most importantly, the dedicated lay members for completing the mission God has invited all to fulfill.

Before Haley’s concluding encouragement to fulfill the Gospel Commission by “Living the Mission,” the 534 attending delegates were given the opportunity to submit questions and dialogue with department directors and associates on the future of mission and ministry in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

God’s blessing and presence was evident. Many delegates who have attended past conference constituency meetings remarked that this one seemed to be the most worshipful, engaging, and productive session that they had ever attended. 📌

BY STEVE A. ROSE SR.

Decherd Church Members Trust God's Plan

The sanctuary of the Decherd, Tenn., Church has a history that goes back to 1856, when the plot was donated so that a place of public worship could be built. Over the years, the structure was destroyed twice, and after the second rebuild it became a television repair shop. However, in the early '80s, God brought it back to be a place of worship for the Decherd congregation.

By 2012 the sanctuary was falling apart: the roof needed work; one wall was buckling, which threatened the stability of the structure; and the floor was sagging. Something needed to be done, but it was challenging for a church with only eight active members. The only options were to decide on simply tearing down the building or doing a complete renovation. Much discussion and prayer took place, reports from engineers were reviewed, and quotes were discussed. In the end it was decided to renovate the old sanctuary to keep its historic façade.

Since there were only eight active members in the church, a loan wasn't the answer. They decided to trust God to provide the finances needed to complete the renovations. Many were the challenges faced during the renovation process, including the death of Jay Prall who spearheaded the project. Yet, in His time, God answered prayers by providing the necessary funds and help from vendors and members of the three churches in the district.

The much anticipated grand reopening of Decherd Church was finally celebrated on Sabbath, September 16, 2017, and as of that date, approximately \$212,000 has been paid on the work, but without any debt. How was this possible? It was possible because there are no impossibilities for a mighty God. The members of Decherd Church praise God for what He has done, knowing that He must have a plan for the members. 🙏

BY NELSON MERCADO



Decherd, Tenn., Church new sanctuary

ACSC Ministers at Tennessee State Fair



Dean Flint (seated) and George Carpenter

The 2017 Tennessee State Fair has come and gone. But, many people have a greater understanding of Jesus because God blessed the Adventist Community Service Center booth, which is sponsored by the Nashville area Adventist churches.

Otto Hirsh, a 97-year-old member of the Ridgetop,

Tenn., Church, works diligently throughout the year to provide challenging handmade wooden cross puzzles to be used at the booth. These puzzles were a great conversation starters with those who walked by the booth.

Those passing by the booth were asked if they liked puzzles, and were offered the chance to complete the cross puzzle. As they started playing with the puzzle, a conversation would begin. As the conversation flowed, information about the 403 Center, an ACS center, would be given. There was an explanation that the 403 Center was a thrift store, and also offered help to those in need.

Visitors often asked why bad

things happen to good people, about health, or about all the disasters that are happening. GLOW tracts were available when such subjects were discussed. Hundreds of cross puzzles were given out, along with Christian literature concerning subjects pertaining to today.

During slow times, those tending the booth got to know many of the other vendors. One vendor took about 45 minutes to talk about religious things. Another vendor helped by sending people to the booth.

The organizers thank Hirsh and the supporters for their help and prayers. 🙏

BY GEORGE CARPENTER
AND DEAN FLINT

EXSEED and STREAMS: 2017 Words of the Year for Decatur Adventist Junior Academy

Decatur Adventist Junior Academy (DAJA), Stone Mountain, Ga., is bursting at the seams! Ninety-six students walked the red carpet into their classrooms on the first day of school. This was a substantial increase in enrollment from last school year. DAJA also welcomed two new faculty members this year, Tonisha Jackson, grades 3-4 teacher, and Giselle Fields, grades 7-8 teacher.



DAJA's staff include Felicia Barnard (seated, front row), grades 1-2 teacher; Yvette Cooper, principal; Tonisha Jackson, grades 3-4 teacher; Kim Ellis (standing, back row), resource teacher; Winsome Hupp, kindergarten teacher; Gisele Fields, grades 7-8 teacher; and April Nixon, grades 5-6 teacher.

In preparation for this school year, the teachers at DAJA spent part of the summer learning new teaching models. They traveled to Loma Linda, Calif., to take part in the Excellence in STEM Experiential Education (EXSEED) program. EXSEED focuses on innovation and collaboration to enhance STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) education in Adventist K-12 schools. "Many times, I attend a conference and get excited about new information I have learned, but the excitement doesn't always pass to the faculty. With EXSEED, everyone is excited because we all experienced it," says Yvette Cooper, DAJA principal.

Last year, DAJA began to teach project based learning (PBL) and opened its first STEM lab. With the help of several volunteers from Decatur, Ga., Church, students won second place in the first Lego League Robotics Competition at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn. DAJA also welcomed Southern Adventist University students to witness their PBL

project on the harmful effects of oil spills in the environment. Because of the training teachers received in the EXSEED program, Cooper expanded the school's vision from science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM), to science, technology, religion, engineering, arts, math, and service (STREAMS). This incorporates everything that Christian education should be.

DAJA students will be working on four PBL projects this year. Students will collaborate, research, and come up with innovative ideas to solve problems like pollution. Last year the projects mainly focused on older students. This year older students will work with younger students, fostering peer learning and leadership skills. "Last year we also found that students who struggled in traditional classroom environments thrived during the PBL projects," Cooper says.

STREAMS learning and PBL projects are academic programs that make DAJA

exceptional, and enhance the sense of purpose. For example, the R, for religion, in STREAMS will focus on showing students how to build a personal relationship with God, not just learning the facts to pass Bible class. The S, for service, helps ensure that service projects aren't seen as mere extracurricular options. Students will also take part in choir, flag chore, athletics (basketball and flag football), chess, and band.

"Christian education is evangelism, and we have just started a 180-day revival," stated Cooper to the congregation at Decatur Church. As the faculty, staff, and students begin this immense evangelistic series, the members stand in support financially and through prayer and volunteering. Please join with the church and school in prayer for the success of the students and families of Decatur Adventist Junior Academy. 🕊

BY AKUA COLLEY

Pathfinders Watch Solar Eclipse with Conference President

Gethsemane Cougars Pathfinders Club journeyed to River Oaks Campground in Orangeburg, S.C., from Raleigh,

N.C., to view a once-in-a-lifetime event, the solar eclipse. Master Guide Ariel Fisher researched and discovered that Orangeburg was

in the direct path of the eclipse, so she quickly coordinated the trip.

Pathfinders Lauryn Fisher (TLT), Ethan



Tyrone Fisher (center), Gethsemane Pathfinder director, stands with the staff and Pathfinders from his club to the right; on his left are Oakwood University Pathfinder alumni from Florida; and to the far left are Lori and Larry Fullard, River Oaks Campground maintenance supervisor.

Fisher, Justin Kelly, Jamaal Kelly, and Yanni-Taylor Shaw, along with Pathfinder staff Tyrone Fisher, Maria Gabriel, and Ayana Joseph, participated in this miracle of God. The Cou-

gars left Raleigh on Sunday afternoon, August 20, 2017, to beat traffic and arrive at the campground that evening.

The next morning they received an invitation from William Winston, South Atlantic president, to watch the phenomenon with him. They brought camping chairs, sleeping cots, blankets, and plenty of solar glasses to watch the eclipse. They were joined later by Oakwood University Pathfinder alumni from Florida, who came to witness the event, and the gathering turned into a mini block party at the president's house.

The eclipse started just after 1 p.m., and then the biggest cloud blocked the sun for the longest time. Everyone was worried about missing the eclipse, so a few prayers were shared, and then cloud passed. At exactly 2:43 p.m. EST, everyone witnessed the total solar eclipse! It was

like closing the window blinds, and it got dark quickly. The streetlights came on, birds stopped singing, and the insects started chirping. Everyone looked to the sky and saw a circle of white light shining so bright, but leaving the Earth so dark. The miracle lasted about two minutes and 30 seconds. Everyone exhaled with a smile on their face because they knew not many were able to witness this, and they might never have this opportunity again.

There was a 100-mile traffic jam on the way back to North Carolina, so the group took a detour on the back roads for the last three hours of the trip. All thanked God for the opportunity to witness the phenomenon, and for providing safe traveling mercies. 🙏

BY TYRONE FISHER

Abney Chapel Conducts “Live Together, Screen Together” Community Health Event

The Health Ministries Department at Abney Chapel Church in Fayetteville, N.C., in collaboration with the North Carolina Cancer Prevention and Control Branch, hosted the “Live Together, Screen Together” Community Health Event at the College Lakes Recreation Center in Fayetteville on June 25, 2017. During a four-hour period, approximately 250 individuals were offered basic health and wellness check-ups and consultations, cancer prevention and management classes, and diabetes screenings.

Members from Abney Chapel turned out in great numbers to support this event. Various ministries of Abney Chapel set up booths to demonstrate the types of ministries available, and to provide practical, ministerial support to the community. Everyone worked together to make this event an immense success.

Private space was provided for the prayer ministries team for the sole purpose of pray-



Blood pressure and blood screenings were given to many, and the screenings represented the theme, “Live Together, Screen Together.”



Richard Berry (left), M.D., North Carolina eastern district health ministries leader; Jean Adeyeye; Birtie Harris; Ann Mason, Tony Daniels, M.D.; Joan Daniels; and Gary G. Walker, Abney Chapel health ministries leader

ing with anyone desiring prayer. Abney's pantry ministry was on hand to distribute food commodities and clothing to families in need. The safety ministry provided education to community members about

household safety and child public safety. Pathfinders were in full uniform to direct attendees to various stations, and to introduce the featured speakers. The BAT (Blood Alcohol Test) mobile from the North Car-

olina Division of Public Health was parked nearby to give demonstrations on how officers test for drunk or impaired drivers, and to provide education on how to avoid and prevent alcohol and tobacco use. Other ministries from Abney providing support were disabilities, photography, religious liberty, children's, media, communication, and personal/ SWAT (Soul Winning Action Team). Finally, the deacons of Abney endured sweltering heat to secure the parking lot, and to assist with other parking issues.

Community-based ministries include

Praying for Our Children, Better Health, and All About Fitness. The North Division of Public Health was represented by the Cancer Prevention and Control Branch, the Early Intervention Branch, the Immunization Branch, the Blood Alcohol Testing Branch, and the Women's Health Branch. Other church health ministries supporting this event included Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C., and Southern Pines, N.C., Church.

This event proved to be a wonderful collaboration between community-based and

state and church ministries working together to improve the health of the community. Feedback from the exit surveys were extremely positive. The efforts of Abney Chapel and the North Carolina Cancer Prevention and Control Branch were a blessing to a community in need. Abney Chapel will continue to be a beacon of hope in Fayetteville and surrounding communities. 📍

BY GARY G. WALKER, MS, HEALTH MINISTRIES LEADER

South Atlantic Holds First Drum Camp

Using Drum Ministry to Glorify the Lord" was the theme for the first South Atlantic's Drum Camp, with many more to come. This new event was held during the weekend of August 18-20, 2017, and was hosted at Gethsemane Church in Raleigh, N.C.

Gethsemane Cougars Pathfinder Club participated in Florida Conference's Drum Camp in December 2016. Tyrone Fisher, Pathfinder director, took a truckload of Pathfinders and percussion equipment to Pine Lake Retreat in Groveland, Fla. Pathfinders who attended include Lauryn Fisher (TLT), MeDora Saint Louis (TLT), Kabelo Saint Louis (TLT), and Jamaal Kelly. They were overwhelmed to see more than 50 drum corps learning and building their skills to play for the Lord. They watched and learned from Darrell Edwards, drum ministry leader.

The goal was not to reinvent the wheel, but to do what is working successfully, and to implement it in the South Atlantic Conference. Working with Kirkland O'Neil, they were able to get Gregory Carmichael, drum ministry leader and author of the *North American Division Drum Ministry Manual*. They were also successful in recruiting Duane Pettus, drum ministry leader from Charlotte, N.C., to help lead the inaugural event.

The goal for the South Atlantic drum ministry was to learn several cadences to demonstrate unity, and to learn proper commands, so that the drummers can pre-



Nehemiah Mabry teaches drum skills to South Atlantic and Carolina Pathfinders.

pare for the International Pathfinder Camporee in 2019 in Oshkosh, Wisc. Once the Facebook announcement was posted for Gethsemane Cougar Pathfinders, clubs from across North Carolina and Georgia signed up. Pathfinders from South Atlantic drum corps include Gethsemane, Immanuel Temple, Praise Tab, Charlotte Trinity, Charlotte Berean, Decatur, and Ebenezer French. Two drum corps from the Carolina Conference were also welcomed — Charlotte Sharon and Raleigh.

The Cougars are glad to report more than 60 Pathfinders learned how to use His drums to glorify Him, and learn discipline



Jeanelle Posy teaches new drum skills at Raleigh Church's ARC Center.

and obedience in the drum ministry. Several drum leaders were recruited to work one-on-one with the Pathfinders. There were rookies to veterans who were having a great time and learning new skills.

Using drum ministry with youth ministry is one of the best programs to keep youth in the Church, as well as to keep them involved in the Church. The goal is to teach the Pathfinders to use percussion instruments for the Lord, which has a greater reward, rather than using them for the hip-hop industry. All left with a goal to bring the Pathfinders together more often to practice and fellowship.

Special thanks is given to the Gethsemane and Raleigh churches for providing their facilities, as well as to volunteers Lawrence Davis, Austin Davis, Jeanelle Posy, Nehemiah Mabry, and 2018 Drum Camp Ministry leader Robert Parker. 📍

BY TYRONE FISHER

Southern Students Take Action Following Hurricanes



David Smith (left), president of Southern Adventist University, and his wife, Cherie, greet students during a student-organized hurricane relief fundraiser.

In the aftermath of multiple destructive storms this fall, Southern Adventist University's students, employees, and community members came together to make a difference.

One group of students hosted a community fundraiser on September 17, 2017, to support hurricane clean-up efforts. By the end of the day, they had raised more than \$3,500, which they donated to the Samaritan Center, a local Adventist nonprofit, to help the devastated regions.

"My housemate and I saw a picture of elderly people in a nursing home up to their waists in water, and that's when we realized we had to do something," said Alexandra Martin, senior nursing major, "so we thought we should do a bake sale, and a couple weeks later it turned into this."

In addition to the bake sale — with goodies contributed by students, employees, and community members — the fundraiser included a student-designed T-shirt for sale, live music, and a blood drive. The event turned out larger than she expected.

"I was really excited," Martin said. "We had way more baked goods than we ever anticipated, but it turned out really well."

Additionally, students from the School of Journalism and Communication spon-

sored an on-campus bake sale. Since a member of the "Public Relations Campaign" class was from Houston, Tex., and her home church was damaged by the storms, that class spearheaded the effort. With an original goal of \$250, the fundraiser brought in approximately \$600.

"We set aside the syllabus and focused on putting together a small campaign," said Kaitlin Colon, senior public relations major. "Students were extremely generous, and most people added a donation on top of their purchase! As a class, we are so thankful and happy that we had the opportunity to help out."

Southern's Chemistry Department also wanted to do its part. "I thought about how our department could be involved, and decided that sunscreen is a good example of using chemistry to solve problems," said Brent Hamstra, Ph.D., chair of the Chemistry Department. "There are many people working down there in the sun, and we don't want any long-term skin problems."

As a result, the department held a sunscreen drive in which they raised dozens of bottles of sunscreen to send to the affected areas.

In terms of long-term help, the Campus Ministries Department is planning short mission trips to areas devastated by the

hurricanes. There are currently four trips slated for the Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring, and summer breaks.

"We have a very compassionate student body," said Melissa Moore, uQuest Missions director. "The high level of student interest and the mindset of wanting to help wherever and do whatever we can, inspired the creation of these trips. It's a part of Southern's mission for students to live a life of service."

Southern also extended the offer of free lodging to 15 families displaced by Hurricane Irma. The evacuees included alumni, as well as families of students, staff, and community members; in total, they were given more than 70 nights at various properties across campus.

"I was blessed by the experience of being able to gift this to evacuees," said Barb Edens, director for strategic planning, who oversees guest lodging. "I am also blessed to work at a University that says 'this is the least we can do.'"

In a letter to the school, evacuees Josette and David Swartz thanked the University for its hospitality.

"We had to evacuate from Miami due to Hurricane Irma, and suffered some damage to our property. We can now use the money we saved to pay for some of the repairs," Josette wrote. "Thank you, thank you!"



As one way to raise funds in support of hurricane clean-up efforts, Casey Goldring (left), sophomore elementary education major, designed a T-shirt to sell.

BY TIERRA HAYES

Regional Conference Communication Directors Meet at Oakwood University

One of Oakwood’s values, collaboration, was exemplified when five of the nine regional conference communication directors convened for the first Regional Conference Communication Summit. Goals of the Summit were to ...

1. Collaborate with the regional conference partners to share goals and visions of Oakwood University;
2. Create stronger partnerships and effective communication lines; and
3. Collaborate in telling the regional story, which includes the Oakwood story.

Along with the staff of the Integrated Marketing & Public Relations Department, which also includes the Oakwood University Broadcast Network, attendees included LaTasha Hewitt, Allegheny East Conference; Paul Young,

Lake Region Conference; Jenean Lendor, Northeastern Conference; Christopher Thompson, Southeastern Conference; and Brittany Winkfield, Central States Conference.

Classroom visits with student interactions, open discussions on challenges and successes, sharing of missions of regional work, and how to focus on the future were some of the takeaways from the summit. There is a need to “recommunicate” and collaborate better, not only to the local conference constituents, but together to advance the regional mission that helps all. The group has plans shortly to include all of the regional partners who communicate directly with the success of the regional conferences. 📍

BY KENN DIXON



Regional conferences communication directors, Christopher Thompson (left), D.Min., Brittany Winkfield, Jenean Lendor, Paul Young, and LaTasha Hewitt; and Oakwood University director of integrated marketing and public relations, Kenn Dixon

School of Business Welcomes INROADS, New Leaf Digital

During departmental chapel on September 14, 2017, freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and a few seniors gathered in the McKee Business & Technology Auditorium to hear a presentation by Calvin Littlejohn, southeast program manager for INROADS, and Toni Eberhart, executive director for New Leaf Digital.

Students and faculty listened attentively as Andrew Taylor, United Student Movement president, began the program with a brief presentation about trusting God not only during times of hardship, but trusting Him wholeheartedly.

Littlejohn then talked briefly about the lack of diversity shown in corporate America, and related INROADS’

mission, “to develop and place talented minority youth in business and industry, and prepare them for corporate and community leadership,” to his discussion. He encouraged each student to have a plan, and be committed to whatever tasks they have at hand.

Eberhart introduced Co-Working Night, which is held every Wednesday at

an off-campus location, to the students at the School of Business. This innovative weekly conference joins people from all backgrounds to network and brainstorm any business ideas they may have. This provides a great opportunity for Oakwood University students who intend to follow a path into entrepreneurship.

The School of Business' first departmental chapel was one of enthusiasm, as like-minded students joined together not only because of their love for the field business in all its forms, but because of their love for God. Business students are looking forward to a successful academic year as they continue to put "God First" as they go through the semester. 📌

BY GENAE DARVILLE



A mini fashion show was held to promote how aspiring business professionals can "Dress for Success." Models include Andrew Taylor (left), Genae Darville, Toni-Kay Watson Grant, and Darius Woods.

Dykes-Rivers Lecture Series Presents Alvin Chea

Oakwood University's Department of Communication hosted award-winning vocalist and author Alvin "Vinnie" Chea for the Dykes-Rivers Lecture Series on September 14, 2017. An Oakwood alumnus, Chea is possibly best known as the bass vocalist in the Grammy-award winning group Take 6, and is a published author. However, during the interview with moderator/co-host David Person, Chea described what he has learned during an additional career as a voiceover artist.

The Dykes-Rivers Lecture Series is named for James Dykes Sr. and Ted Rivers, pioneers in communication at Oakwood. 📌



James Dykes Jr. (left), Linda Anderson, Alvin Chea, Victoria Joiner, David Person, and Ted Rivers enjoy a WOCG radio reunion moment after the Dykes-Rivers Lecture Series at Oakwood University.

Restored Order Cycling Team Promotes Peace, Combats Gun Violence



David Peay and Mark Brown cycle their way to the next pit stop. Peay and Brown rode more than 1,000 miles from the District of Columbia to Florida.



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

Peay and Brown field questions for a local news interview. The riders spoke to several news outlets along their journey.



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

PHOTO BY: NOEL GRANT

Brown and Peay pose with South Carolina State Representative and clergyman Kenneth Hodges in Beaufort, S.C. Hodges shared area history and pledged support to Restored Order's mission.

There is a war being waged in the streets of urban communities across the United States. On both sides are countless American youth who are armed with illegal guns obtained by any number of underhanded, backroom deals on the black market. Recently, Southeastern pastors and laypeople took to the streets to fight back — not with guns and bullets, but rather with a message of hope, wholeness, peace, and love. For 1,353 miles and 40 days, and with one mission, the Restored Order cycling team mounted their bicycles to promote peace and combat gun violence.

With a bicycle ride from the Seventh-day Adventist World Headquarters in Silver Spring, Md., to Goulds Park in Miami, Fla., this unique band sought to raise awareness, raise funds to support programs

that are designed to stop the violence, and save the children. Prompted by the death of NFL star and Southeastern Conference member Sean Taylor, who was killed when a teenager invaded his home in 2008, David Peay, Conference community services director, determined to help save the lives of young people on both sides of the gun barrel, whose lives are destroyed at the moment the gun fires.

Peay and Mark Brown, D.Min., Conference health ministries director, rode about 50 to 70 miles each day, with a safety and health vehicle following close behind. Stopping each night to rest, they shared the love of Jesus and their message of peace and nonviolence in cities, large and small, all along the east coast. They spoke with several local media outlets and commu-

nity leaders about their journey to enlist support for their cause. At various places along the ride, other riders met and joined them for a portion of the trip.

Recently while resting in Daytona Beach, the news began to circulate that Hurricane Irma was sure to make landfall in south Florida; the Restored Order team shifted gears, switched their cycling suits for disaster response shirts, and began to plan strategy. They plan to complete the ride as soon as disaster relief efforts are complete. Yet, their goal has not changed: they are on a mission of saving lives, whether it be from gun violence or a category five hurricane. 🕊

BY CHRISTOPHER C. THOMPSON

Student MagaBook Ministry Reaches 40,000



PHOTO BY: RACHEL COBAS

Pictured are Henry Jimenez (left), Carlos Sanchez, Jochy Garcia, Leandro Jimenez, Yuleysi Estrella, Maria Gomez, Rachel Cobas, Doreli Saldana, Rodolfo Portes, Victor Maldonado, Julius Twums, and Erytc Heredia.

The 2017 MagaBook team at Southeastern Conference is relentlessly committed to mission-driven ministry. With two leaders and nine students in the Miami, Fla., area, the group distributed more than 3,500 books by the grace of God, and solicited \$40,611.18 in donations, apportioning \$20,305.59 in scholarships.

The team of students contacted more than

42,000 people in Miami, and prayed with more than 4,000 individuals. Their mission-driven approach led to invitations from churches to lead their church services, including Adventist Youth Ministry programs where the students shared their personal testimonies to encourage local members.

One student, Victor Maldonado, prayed with a woman that recently suffered a

stroke and couldn't speak. However, during his prayer, she began to speak. Another student, Henry Jimenez, persuaded a business owner through his acts of kindness toward the owner's customers. Earlier, the business owner had been rude to Jimenez, but changed his attitude and became more receptive.

Two students even joined the team with the encouragement of their husbands who had been literature evangelists. The men wanted their wives to share in the ministry because they felt it would change their outlook on the work of saving souls. And, that's exactly what it did. Each student expressed how the summer ministry initiative transformed their lives, and how blessed they were to be part of God's mission as literature evangelists. 📖

BY ERYTC HEREDIA AND THEUS YOUNG

Sinai Haitian Church Honors Law Enforcement

The Sinai Haitian Church in Plantation, Fla., held their first Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on May 6, 2017. The members expressed gratitude for the vital role that law enforcement and emergency first responders play in their community. Invited guests from various jurisdictions and agencies were in attendance. Each honoree received a plaque and an engraved glass award on behalf of their respective agencies. The honorees present included Al Hubrig, Rick Hodgson, Bert Garcia, and Eric Cieza-Aguilar, Broward County sheriff's deputies; Seymour Council III, Plantation Police sergeant; Octavus Cummings and Nadine Aurelus, correctional probation senior officers; Evens Perjuste, Air Force officer; Ismael Estimon, Florida state trooper; and Kery Alce, Army veteran officer.

Senior Pastor Johnson Cesar's powerful sermon emphasized that law enforcers are authorities appointed by God, and they too will have to give an account for their actions. Addressing the congregation, Cesar encouraged everyone to "seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God."

After lunch five children from Sinai's Children's Ministry were accompanied to the Plantation Police Station. There, Lieutenant Ryan discussed the various specialized units within the police department, including arsenal, Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT Team), and crisis intervention. At the end, the children handed out gift bags with personalized thank you cards as a token of their appreciation toward these officers.

The Sabbath ended with an Adventist Youth panel discussion entitled, "Law &

Order: Jesus Edition." The panel of law enforcement officers tackled questions ranging from conduct when pulled over by authorities, to their own individual deciding factors in choosing their career path. 📖



PHOTO BY: GUYLANDE DORMEUS

Sinai children and chaperone toured their local Plantation Police Station and distributed tokens of appreciation.

BY GUYLANDE DORMEUS



ALVEY, ELEONORE MIRIAM, 78, born Feb. 19, 1939 in Cologne, Germany, died June 19, 2017 in Ft. Pierce, FL. She was a member of the Midport Church in Port Saint Lucie, FL.

Her early years were spent living under the regime of Nazi Germany. Elder Franz Hazel gave Eleonore's mother Bible studies, and she accepted the Adventist message and was baptized along with Eleonore.

In 1961, Eleonore's entire family immigrated to the United States. Her brother joined the United States Army, and was stationed 30 miles from where the family used to live. Eleonore went back to Germany to be close to her brother and while there she met a United States Air Force airman named Bill Alvey. They were soon married and had two children, Mirna and Mark, who are now deceased.

When Bill was sent to Viet Nam, Eleonore stayed with her brother Ron on Long Island, NY. Her influence led Ron and his family and her brother Richard and his family to join the Adventist Church.

When her husband, Bill, returned from Viet Nam, he was also baptized.

From 1980 to 1997, she worked for the Greater New York Conference as a colporteur and as a receptionist in the Conference office.

Bill and Eleonore then moved to Florida, where she worked with friends in real estate management. She retired in 2007. Her real love was the colporteur work, which she continued in her retirement and during the complications with her illness, but now she was giving the books away instead of selling them. She gave books to her health care staff accompanied with a mini Bible study. Only eternity will reveal how many lives were touched by the witnessing and dedication of Eleonore Miriam Alvey. Her greatest joy and love was for Jesus.

She is survived by her husband, Bill Alvey. A service was conducted in her memory at the Midport Church.

BERNET, PAUL A., 89, born Jan. 17, 1928 in Pennsylvania as the youngest of 12 children, and died July 12, 2017 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka.

He was a veteran, an ordained minister, and a tireless witness for Jesus. He began his denominational work as a literature evangelist. Promoted to conference publishing secretary, he worked in New York, Ohio, Virginia, and Pennsylvania before accepting the position of union publishing secretary in Dallas, TX. He filled this same position in the Atlantic Union Conference in South Lancaster, MA, before retiring after 14 years.

After moving to Florida, he worked as a chaplain at Florida Hospital Altamonte for 15 years, and at Florida Living Nursing Home for five years. His lifelong passion was helping those in need.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Marian (Steely) Bernet; three daughters: Linda (Mike) Hausinger, Joyce (Tim) Hoatson, and Deborah (Ralph) Gifford III; seven grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

His memorial service was held Aug. 5, 2017 at the Newcomer Chapel in Longwood, FL. The service was conducted by his family, and included recordings of his mom singing and of Paul giving a tribute at his dad's funeral. His internment was held the following day at Highland Memorial Cemetery in Apopka.



ERHARD, BARBARA EARLE (TISDALE), 89, born March 20, 1928, died July 3, 2017 in Collegedale, TN. She was the daughter of Mildred Helen (Fisher) Tisdale and Iris (Chill) Tisdale in Indiana. She was by her husband's side as he pastored churches in Michigan and Oklahoma, and John was a chaplain at Hinsdale Hospital in Hinsdale, IL, and at Florida Hospital in Orlando, FL. Barbara worked as a secretary at Hinsdale Hospital and at Florida Hospital in the Volunteer Department, and was a long-time volunteer at Forest Lake Church Thrift Shop during their 39 years in Apopka, FL. They moved to Collegedale, TN, in 2015 to be near their three daughters and lived in Garden Plaza of Greenbriar Cove.



She is survived by her husband of almost 69 years, Elder John Peter Erhard; the beloved mother of five children: Linda (Allen) Snyder, Susan (Victor) Vosen, Debra Johnson, Mark (Lisa) Erhard, and Paul Erhard; 12 grandchildren: Brian (Amy) Snyder, Jeffrey (Shana) Snyder, Brook (Gregory) Johnson, Casey (Michael) Kepner, Janelle (Brian) Desmond, Deren Stocks, Joshua (Rebecca) Erhard, Zachary Erhard, Clayton Erhard, Christian Erhard, Natalie Erhard, and Isabelle Erhard; and 13 great-grandchildren: Ethan Snyder, Camden Snyder, Peyton Snyder, Preston Snyder, Tyler Rawson, Alyssa Rawson, Ava Johnson, Adalyn Johnson, Logan Kepner, Brayden Desmond, and Emily Desmond.

MASTRAPA, ARTURO A., 74, born April 13, 1943 in Victoria de las Tunas, Cuba, died July 8, 2017 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka for 45 years.

During the Cuban revolution, he arrived penniless in New York in 1963. He lived with relatives while he learned English. He married Nancy Sales in June of 1965.

Arturo's career in health care spanned 51 years. He began work in the Adventist Health System on Sept. 26, 1966 in the maintenance department of Tennessee Christian Medical Center. In 1970, he began working at Florida Hospital in the technology department. He continued working for the Adventist Health System as a senior product specialist until his death.

While he loved to travel, shop, and eat out, his mission was to serve others. He was involved at his church as a deacon and Pathfinder leader. He participated in multiple mission trips.

Arturo had a double lung transplant in June 2004 and again in July 2004, and his family considers the years since as a special gift.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Nancy; one son, Mark (Tracey) Mastrapa of Apopka; one daughter, Kristy Mastrapa of Apopka; one daughter-in-law, Jennifer Mastrapa; one sister, Addys Mastrapa Sanchez; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Stacey Mastrapa.

The service was conducted by Bill Crofton at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was at the Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.



NORMAN JR., RICHARD S., born July 7, 1925 in Muskogee, OK, to Richard Steven and Annie Mae (Huddleston) Norman Sr., died April 27, 2017 in Huntsville, AL.

He graduated from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in 1949 and earned an MBA degree from Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, AL, in 1974. He taught church school in the South-west Region, South Central, and South Atlantic Conferences. Later Richard became the bookkeeper and office manager at Phillips Memorial Hospital (now Guardian Care Nursing & Rehabilitation Center) in Orlando, FL. In 1962, he was called to Oakwood College where he served as accountant, and then business manager at Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital in Nashville, TN. However, he returned to Oakwood College as accountant on April 1, 1968. During this tenure, he held such positions as chief accountant, comptroller, and financial analyst. He was an adjunct professor at the Rainsville campus of Alabama A&M University for 10 years. In the mid-1980s, he left his office position and taught in the Business Department where he remained until he retired in 1990.

He hosted a program on WOCG, served as treasurer for the Oakwood National Alumni Association, bookkeeper for Oakwood Academy, and manager of the Oakwood College Federal Credit Union from 1985 through Dec. 15, 1993. After moving to Florida, he served as an auditor for the Southeastern Conference until 1998, and for the South Atlantic Conference until he retired a second time at the age of 86.

Richard contributed articles to the Oakwood Magazine, Adventist Review, Southern Tidings, Speakin' Out News, and the Huntsville Times. During the last nearly 10 years of his life, he distributed daily inspirational emails to more than 400 people on his email list.

Richard was married to his first wife, Mabel Rollins, on Dec. 23, 1948 until Mabel died on Feb. 6, 1998. He later married Katie Settle Green who passed in 2012.

He is survived by his seven children: R. Steven (Elaine) Norman III, Joy (Robert) Cavins, Vernon (Margaret) Norman, Audrey Norman, K. David Norman, Myrala (Pierre) Omeler, and Myron (Riche') Norman; 15 grandchildren: Ayodele (William) Branch, David (Carley) Cavins, Anthony Cavins, Gianna (Debleaire) Snell, R. Steven (Lenora) Norman IV, Audrey Ann (Stuart) Holmes, Charis McLarty, Marven (Kirsty) Norman, Alven Norman, Vernee' Norman, Jessica (Ricky) Pierre, Petrice (Chester) Wideman, Leandro Omeler, Marissa Norman, and Mariah Norman; 13 great-grandchildren: Jordan and Alanna McLarty, Nathan Cavins, Michael, Mathew, Katriel, Zuriel, and Daniel Branch, Layla and Maya Cavins, Jadon, Brooke, and Braydon Snell; two brothers: Robert (Evelyn) Norman and Stanley (Beverly) Norman; many nephews; nieces; cousins, including the Dulans, Whites, and Huddlestons; and friends. He also had several surrogate children: Michael Hubbard, Gail Jones, Joseph Okike, Arnold Zaki Oyoyo (deceased), and Linda Jackson. Richard was preceded in death by twin sons: Steven and Stanley; his first wife, Mabel Rollins Norman; his second wife, Katie Settle Green Norman; and three siblings: Maxine Norman, Harold Norman, and Gladys Guidry.



REID, MICHAEL GEORGE (affectionately known as Steve), 61, born Aug. 13, 1956 in Milk River, Jamaica, died May 3, 2017 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was the pastor and a member of the Sunrise Church in Lauderhill, FL.

After graduation from West Indies College (now Northern Caribbean University) in 1980, he started out at the St. John's Circuit of Churches in Spanish Town for a year. During his pursuit of his childhood dream of becoming a minister, Michael met Carol Rainford of Spanish Town, and they were married in 1983.

From 1981 to 1986, he served the 13 churches that made up the Porus and Mandeville Circuit of Churches. During his tenure, Pastor Reid demonstrated great skill in church planting, church management, unifying congregations, resolving conflicts, and winning new souls. He was ordained on Aug. 10, 1985.

Michael and Carol left a thriving pastorate in Jamaica, and migrated to the United States to start a new phase of their lives. He rounded his skills in social work via the Covenant House in the Social Services Department in Lauderhill, FL. He continued to minister to his neighborhood, and brought hope to countless individuals.

Seven years after migrating to the United States, the Lord opened an opportunity for him to serve at Pen-Mar Church (now Saving Grace) from 1993 to 1998, where he assisted the church in acquiring more than eight acres of land for church development. In the spring of 1998, he became the pastor of All Nations Church in St. Petersburg, FL. His emphasis here was on people involvement. He planted a new church – Jerusalem. In 2008, the North Port Church was added to his care. In 2011, he became the pastor of Sunrise Church. During this time, he sought to improve himself educationally, and was enrolled in the seminary pursuing a doctorate in ministry degree (D.Min.), focusing on intergenerational tension. In the last few months of his life, he hosted a crusade at his church and 17 people were baptized.

Pastor Reid will be remembered by his congregants as a humble, level-headed, praying man who always knew all his members by name.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Carol; and two sons: Andrew (Thessicar) Reid, and Mark Reid.

ABBOTT II, DR. KENNETH HARVEY, 80, born May 28, 1937 in Upland, CA, died June 25, 2017. He was born to the late Kenneth H. Abbott, M.D., and Mariann Donnelly and delivered by his grandfather, Frank Abbott, M.D. He spent his early years in Rochester, MN, where his father was trained as a neurosurgeon at the Mayo Clinic and Worthington, OH, where his father set up practice. He attended college at Pacific Union College in Angwin, CA, where he studied pre-med. He married Josephine Garrard on Aug. 27, 1959. Ken graduated from medical school in 1963 at the College of Medical Evangelists, now known as Loma Linda University and School of Medicine, and took his residency at Providence Hospital in Seattle, WA. His plans for a residency at the Mayo Clinic were interrupted by the draft for the Vietnam War. He joined the Air Force in 1964 and went on to become a flight surgeon during which time he successfully completed his boards in diagnostic and therapeutic radiology at M.D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, TX. While stationed at Tachikawa Air Force Base in Japan, Dr. Abbott held the position of Chief of Radiology. He held the same position while stationed at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, FL. Dr. Abbott received an honorable discharge holding the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, though he was offered the rank of full Colonel as enticement to remain. He served

his country for 13 years. He went on to practice radiology in California, Kentucky, and Tennessee. While in California, he held a position as an associate professor at Loma Linda University School of Medicine. He last practiced at the Imaging Center in Murfreesboro, TN, where he retired in 2004. In retirement, he was an elder in the McMinnville, TN, Church. His hobbies included photography, and he was awarded the title of Master Photographer in the Cookeville Camera Club. He loved birds—watching and feeding them—as well as watching sunsets, appreciating his garden and trees, and taking walks. But above all, he loved his God and his large, four-generation family. Following a brief hospital stay, he passed away peacefully at his residence, surrounded by loved ones. He is survived by his wife, Josephine; and his children and their spouses: Kenneth Harvey Abbott III and Tamara Abbott of Seattle, WA; Debi Abbott Rockwell and Leyn Rockwell of McMinnville, TN; Darlene Abbott Ortner and Jere Ortner of Santa Rosa, CA; Dr. Renee Abbott Salansky and Greg Salansky of Morristown, TN; and Dr. Mark James Bolton and Karen Ruzak Bolton of Albany, OH; 12 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; numerous children and grandchildren by choice; one brother and sister-in-law, James Abbott, D.D.S., and Lori Abbott of Santa Rosa, CA; one sister and brother-in-law, Dr. Julie Abbott League and

Gary League of Murrieta, CA; several nieces; and nephews. A memorial service was held on July 1, 2017, at the McMinnville Church.

BABBITT, WESTON E., 90, born Nov. 17, 1926 in Brainard, MN, died June 5, 2017. He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Carolyn Lavern Babbitt, who died Nov. 14, 2014. Weston attended Andrews University from 1952-1958. He worked in Adventist education for 30 years—12 years in school administration and 18 years as a teacher. He served in Dunlap, TN; Gobles, MI; Philadelphia, PA; and finished his career in Collegedale, TN. Upon retirement, Weston went into literature ministry and served God in that capacity from then on, dedicated to local and global evangelism, and helping others. Weston and Carolyn are survived by three children: daughter, Dr. Cynthia Babbitt Howard Dowdy Herlong of Cary, NC, and her three daughters: Kristina, Laura, and Stephanie; son and disabled veteran, Vernon L. Babbitt; and son, Weston E. Babbitt II CMD of Collegedale, TN, and his three children: Brittany, Brandon, and Bryce. Both Weston and Carolyn rest in Collegedale Memorial Park Cemetery awaiting Christ's second coming.

BISHOP JR., DR. WILBER A., 88, born Jan. 10, 1929 in Aberdeen, MS, died at his residence in Fairmount, GA, on June 15, 2017.

He was the son of Wilber A. Bishop Sr. and Helen Williams Bishop. He graduated from Collegedale Academy in 1947. After attending Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University), he was married to Pattie Miller in 1956, and received his doctorate degree in Dentistry from Loma Linda University in 1959. Through the years, he had dental practices in San Bernardino, CA, Fresno, CA, Summerville, GA, and Calhoun, GA, retiring in 1998. He was a member of the Calhoun, GA, Church. He and Pattie participated in many short-term mission trips with Maranatha Volunteers International until her death in 2013. He is survived by his son, David (Carla) Bishop; his daughter, Beth (Doug) Barrow; his brother, Dr. Joe Bishop; his sister, Lecta Johnson; and four grandchildren: Zack Barrow, Morgan Barrow, Diana Bishop, and Carson Bishop.

CHURCHILL, NORMAGENE (GENE) HUNT, 88, born Oct. 19, 1928 in North Branch, MI, died June 19, 2017 in Monroe, MI, after an extended illness. Normagene was born to the late Howard and Blanche (Warren) Hunt. She was a graduate of North Branch Johnsonville High School. Upon graduation from high school and after attending summer classes at Emmanuel Missionary College, Gene was hired to teach elementary school in the Michigan Conference schools, where she was honored as a National Honor Society awardee of Seventh-day Adventists. During her college years, she taught church school in Petoskey, Iron Mountain, Wilson, and Escanaba. She was not only a dedicated teacher to her students, but also provided transportation for several of the students. Even after she stopped teaching, she would ensure students could go to church school by providing transportation. This became a regular part of her ministry to children. On Sept. 4, 1949, Normagene married Byron Churchill in Lapeer, MI. After their marriage, they both worked at Simplicity Patterns, where Normagene was instrumental in helping the company expand their business by starting a second shift of workers. Because of her efforts, more than 30 other students received employment. This student employment on second shift at Simplicity Patterns continued for more than 40 years. During the time at EMC and the years following, Normagene returned to teaching. Her teaching appointments included the House of David in Benton Harbor, the Oakland County public school system, Hylandale Academy SDA Church School in Wisconsin, and the Kalkaska public schools. In 1966, By-

ron and Gene started a branch Sabbath School in their home in Kalkaska, MI. Eventually the group became so large that they needed a church building. So Byron and Gene led out in a church building program. They did much of the construction work themselves, including hauling stones, roofing, etc. Their success with building up a new congregation led to her husband being asked to consider a full-time position as a minister. Normagene was the quintessential pastor's wife, a delightful hostess, and a willing helpmeet. Her love and compassion touched lives for Jesus not only in Michigan, but also in Iowa, Missouri, and Montana. Her husband says, "Without Gene, my ministry could never have been as successful. It took both of us, a real team effort between the Holy Spirit, Gene, and me." Normagene loved children and eventually her home was blessed with a son and a daughter. In 1958, they adopted Garry, and in 1963, they adopted Vonnie Jo. What a joy it was for her to watch her children grow and develop. Soon her life took on a round of transporting her own children as well as others to school, working all day, assisting her husband with Bible studies in the evenings, and helping implement church events on weekends. The years flew by. On Oct. 1, 1990, Byron retired from full-time ministry. In October of 2001, after a season of retirement, Normagene and Byron were asked to assist in planting a church in the Jamestown, TN, area. Again, Gene gladly stepped up to the call, supporting her husband, and touching more lives for Jesus. In April of 2003, Byron and Gene moved back to Michigan to live near their beloved family. They set up housekeeping in Montrose, MI, where they enjoyed entertaining family and friends until health issues prevented them from continuing. During the last years of her life, Gene was tenderly cared for by her family members. Normagene will be fondly remembered for her deep love for her family, her talents as a peacemaker, and her kind and gentle ways. Normagene was preceded in death by her parents, Howard and Blanche Hunt; five siblings: Virgil, Alton, Russell, Wilbur, and Vernon; as well as two precious grandchildren, Cassandra and Jennifer. She is survived by her husband of 67 years, Byron; her dear sister, Edith Peterson of Coeur d'Alene, ID; one son, Garwin, and his wife, Tawnya, of Grayling, MI; one daughter, Vonnie Jo, and her husband, James Acre, of Monroe, MI; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; several nieces; nephews; and a host of friends.

CALLOWAY, BETTY CRANE, died May 6, 2017 in the Hendersonville, N.C., area. She was a member of the Hendersonville Church. She was an RN who was very active in her church. She was involved with women's ministries, and worked for many years with young people. She loved music and people. She is survived by her husband Oral; three sons: Randall Calloway of Hendersonville, Kenneth Calloway of Rogers City, MI, and Richard (Mary) Calloway of Hendersonville; and one brother, Donald (Dianna) Crane of Maryland.

DAHLBERG, SYLVIA C., 79, born July 1, 1937 in Spartanburg, SC, died March 27, 2017 in her home in Collegedale, TN. She was the daughter of the late Modell Blease and Phairey Catherine Mullinax. Sylvia was a true pastor's wife, opening her home and her heart to so many people. She always loved to share with others her most precious Friend, Jesus. She especially loved her family, and they always knew she was uplifting them in earnest prayer daily. She also served many years in the medical field, but especially enjoyed her years in the Washington Adventist Hospital's emergency room. She loved to send cards (Hallmark with miss her) to encourage and affirm others in this life's journey. Her greatest desire was for everyone to be ready for Jesus' soon return. God loves you, and so did she. She loved to read the Bible every day. Some of her favorite Bible verses were Psalms 91 and 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18. Her joy and sweetness will be missed. Remember Revelations 14:13. She is survived by her deeply loved brother, David; and dear sister-in-law, Martha; two daughters: Ellene Hunt and Nancy Coggins; one son, Tony Dahlberg; 11 beautiful grandchildren; nine precious great-grandchildren; many other relatives; and friends. She was preceded in death by her dear husband, Pastor Tor Dahlberg; and her beloved brother and sister, Buddy and Mary. A memorial service was held April 11, 2017 at the Collegedale Community Church in Ooltewah, TN.

HASS, RICHARD WARREN, 85, born Sept. 30, 1932 in Scranton, PA, died April 26, 2017 in Hendersonville, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church. Richard graduated from Columbia Union College with a major in chemistry and a minor in mathematics. He worked at Glendale Adventist Hospital in California. While there, in 1957, he married Betty Tumlinson. They were married for 60 years. He enjoyed working with electronics, and was a Ham radio operator. They also lived in Par-

adise, CA, and Puerto Rico where he served as head of the lab department at Belle Vista Hospital. He earned an M.Div. degree from Andrews University. He served as a pastor in Dodge Center, MN, Prairie du Chien, WI, and in Pennsylvania. He lived at Fletcher Park Inn, Hendersonville, NC, for a short while before passing. He is survived by wife, Betty Haas, of Hendersonville; one daughter, Judith Haas (Marvyn) Brauer of Leister NC; one son, Richard Warren (Gail) Haas Jr. of Pittsburgh, PA; four grandchildren; and one brother, Charles Haas of Riverside, OH.

JOHNSON JR., WILLIAM EARL, 92, born May 21, 1924, died April 22, 2017. Earl was born to the late Margaret Ellen Morris Johnson and William E. Johnson Sr., in Deming, NM. His father died soon after his birth. His mother later married Raymond Johnson, first cousin of Earl's father. One younger brother died at birth. Another brother, Raymond Glenn, completed the family. The family relocated to Terre Haute, IN, in time for Earl to begin first grade. He graduated high school from Gerstmeyer Tech. in 1943. His deployment to the US Army immediately followed. Before boarding the train for Camp Atterbury in south central Indiana, he tossed his large collection of marbles down the street for the neighborhood children. Earl served his country during WWII as a radio technician. He was personally present at the infamous "Battle of the Bulge." He earned several military honors including two Bronze Stars. Upon his honorable discharge from the military, he returned to Terre Haute, IN. He worked for several local companies and in Indianapolis. Being a single man, his cousin Delores Morris Lovejoy thought he needed a suitable companion. Playing cupid, she set him up on a date with her friend, the lovely Patricia, and off they all went in his pretty red Chevy convertible. Earl and Patricia were married on March 20, 1954 in Terre Haute, IN. They were blessed with their family of four children, two boys and two girls. While residing in Terre Haute, Earl attended evangelistic meetings at the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He was baptized by Pastor Ward. Earl wanted to provide a Christian life for his family away from the city. He moved his family from their remodeled, modern home on Dean Avenue, and he and Pat purchased a small farm complete with a barn, an old two-story farmhouse, pump for water, and an outhouse. To some in the family it was a lark, others not so much. They planted fruit trees, a large garden, and sugarcane. The farm included a flock of sheep

that seemed to always birth lambs in the dead of winter, a cow, and banty chickens. In 1966, cousins Dale and Delores Lovejoy encouraged the family to relocate to Collegedale, TN, where Earl could secure a position with McKee Bakery who was expanding their Debbie Cake line. A semi with a large picture of "Little Debbie" moved the family to Collegedale. Patricia began working for Southern Missionary College, and was also the first official crossing guard with the Collegedale Police Department. Earl was involved in the building of Plant #2 at McKee Bakery. When the plant was ready, he was given a choice of where he wanted to work. Earl chose Line 2, the Nutty Bar line. He helped setup that line and kept it running as a mechanic for 24 years. Working beside him were friends. When Earl retired in 1990, the mechanically operated Nutty Bar line was also retired and became computerized. During his tenure at McKee Bakery, Earl and Pat purchased 10 acres of rough and rocky land behind Collegedale. Earl cleared the land, literally crushing boulders and rocks with his sledgehammer, and digging out a foundation. With his own hands, he designed a blue print according to Pat's wishes and built the house. Although they would move into the house in 1979, he continued his hard work, always striving to improve and maintain the property. Following retirement, Earl and Patricia enjoyed trips to visit family and their children in Indiana and Florida. More than anything, Earl loved the quiet life of being at home on the 10 acres, working at some project, be it large or small, until his death. Earl was a member of the Collegedale Church from 1966 until his death. When he could no longer attend church, he enjoyed watching Sabbath services on 3 Angels Broadcasting (3ABN). In fact, he had done just that and eaten his breakfast on Sabbath, April 22, before he became ill and passed away. More than anything, he loved his God and his family. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Pat Johnson; two sons: Lester (Cindy) Johnson and William "Bill" E. (Danielle) Johnson III; two daughters: Donna "Dee" (Jerry) Shelton and Elizabeth "Beth" (Ryan) Glick; seven grandchildren: Patricia Shelton Dacosta, Sean Shelton, Leslie Johnson, Daniel and Cameron Johnson, and Austin and Sydney Glick; four great-grandchildren: Jerry Janesko, Kari Janesko, Johnathan Steele, and Skyler Shelton. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Glenn Johnson; and his grandson, Loren Johnson. A funeral service was held on April 27, 2017 in the funeral home chapel. Burial followed at Collegedale

Memorial Park with military honors.

LEWIS, VERA VERONICA, 95, of Lillington, NC, born Nov. 23, 1921, died Jan. 21, 2017 at her residence. She was the first of four children born to the late Jackson Lee and Rhoda Eames. She spent her early years in the small district of Albert Town, Trelawny, Jamaica West Indies. She married Alfred Lewis on Dec. 31, 1952; he preceded her in death on Dec. 7, 1973. Two children were born to this union: one son, Lyndale, and one daughter, Norma, who preceded her in death on Nov. 13, 2013. She migrated to the United States on April 13, 1978 to live with her son and daughter-in-law: Lyndale and Iris, and grandchildren. Vera dedicated her life to taking care of and supporting her immediate and extended families, and those she adopted as her own. She was affectionally called Vera Gal, China Gal, and Old Lady#1 by her family, which always put a smile on her face. She moved to Lillington, NC, on July 16, 2014 with her son and daughter-in-law, and nephew-in-law, at the urging of her granddaughter, Annette. Vera was able to go back to church, and she officially took her stand on profession of faith to be a member of the Lighthouse Church in Fuquay-Varina on Sept. 6, 2014. Vera was a woman of great faith and a prayer warrior. You could always depend on her for a word of encouragement. She was a positive person who always saw the glass as half full instead of half empty. Everyone who came in contact with her loved her gentle spirit. She is survived by her son, Lyndale; daughter-in-law, Iris; one granddaughter, Annette; five grandsons: Denton, Conrad, Andrew, Mark, and Lyndale II; two great-granddaughters; two great-grandsons; a host of other relatives; friends; and her church family. A Celebration of Life Service was held Feb. 5, 2017.

MCARTHUR, JOHN P. (J.P.), 93, born Aug. 8, 1923 in Megargel, AL, died May 14, 2017 in Pensacola, FL. A long-time member of the University Parkway Church in Pensacola, where he served as a deacon. J. P. enjoyed socializing with everyone and was a great joke teller. He worked for 30 years as a Commercial HVAC technician at NAS Pensacola. A fan of country-western music, he played the guitar, and at one time had his own band. J. P. was a decorated U.S. Army veteran, and saw active combat in Italy. He served in battles in Rome-Arno, north Apennines, and the Po Valley, where he earned the purple heart. He is survived by two sons: Jim (Linda) Moore of Sarasota, FL, and Dennis McArthur; three

grandchildren: Lee Moore of Baltimore, MD, Chad (Adrienne) Harbour, M.D., of Spokane, WA, and Kristel Harbour of Sacramento, CA; six great-grandchildren; two siblings: Carl (Catherine “Sue”) McArthur and Sophia (Phillip “Skip”) Lehrfeld of Riverton, UT; many nieces; nephews; and friends. He was preceded in death by his cherished wife, Geraldine; one daughter, Sandra Harbour; one grandson, Brandon Harbour; his parents; and three brothers: Curtis McArthur, Raymond McArthur, and Jimmy McArthur. A funeral service was held at Faith Chapel Funeral Home in Pensacola with Carl McArthur and Chaplain Richard Harbour (USN Retired) officiating. Burial followed at Barrancas National Cemetery.

MOULTON, DOLORES “DOLLIE” ROLLS, 75, born in 1942 in Jackson, TN, died April 28, 2017 at Life Care Center of Crossville, TN, where she had been a resident since August 2016. She’d been a resident of Meister Hills, TN, since 2010. Dollie grew up in Sarasota, FL, and went to Forest Lake Academy (FLA) from 1956-1960. After graduating from Southern Missionary College, Dollie returned to FLA as a teacher. There she met her future husband, Harold Moulton, at a band concert. They fell in love and married exactly six months later. Their 49 years together took them around the country doing various types of work. Dollie was known for her love of music and her talent in playing the piano, saxophone, organ, harmonica, and ukulele, among other things—as well as singing. Through the years, she sang solos, duets, trios, and in small groups and choirs. She also had a love of languages—speaking and teaching German and Spanish. She taught students of many different grade levels in her career. She is survived by her husband, Harold; and her four younger siblings. A memorial service was held June 15, 2017 at the Meister Hills Memorial Church in Deer Lodge, TN.

NORTON, BONNIE ROBERTS GRUNDY, 70, died from Alzheimer’s disease on March 13, 2017 in Dalton, GA. Bonnie completed the eighth grade at M.J. Ryan School in Lafayette, PA, attended Bradford (PA) Senior High School, and graduated in 1964 from Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, PA. She enjoyed traveling and living around the world—such as in Taiwan, Thailand, Germany, and Japan—and working/volunteering for numerous non-profit organizations, including the United Way, Boys & Girls Club, various churches and church organizations,

and Southern Adventist University. She was a member of the Collegedale Church. She is survived by her husband of five years, Ken Norton Sr.; two sons: Chad (Amy) Grundy of Charlotte, NC, and Marc (Meagan) Grundy of Ooltewah, TN; five grandchildren: Ashley, Gabriella, Allison, Chad Jr., and Hayden Grundy; one sister, Darla Wickham of Ormond Beach, FL; two brothers: Rod Roberts of New Albany, IN, and Bryan Roberts of Cyclone, PA; two stepchildren: Ken (Julie) Norton Jr. and Cindy (Phil) Dawson; four step-grandchildren: Brooke and Brad Firestone, Ken Norton III, and Michelle Norton; many nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 34 years in 2004, Carl Grundy; her father, Clair Roberts in 2007; her mother, Jean Swartz Roberts in 2011; and two brothers: Clair Lewis Roberts in 1995, and John Roberts in 2004. A memorial service was held at the Collegedale Church on April 8, 2017.

PRITCHARD, HAZEL, 92, born Aug. 11, 1924, died, June 6, 2017 in Morganton, NC. She was a member of the Morganton Church. She is survived by one daughter, Diane (James) Benson; one son, Richard W. Pritchard; one granddaughter, Roxanna (David) Dobson; four great-grandchildren: Luke, Joshua, Seth, and Tesla. She was preceded in death by five brothers: Rufus (Clema) Rich, Fletch (Alpha) Rich, Wood (Durlene) Rich, Tilman (Anne) Rich, and Floyd Rich; and two sisters: Florence (Woodrow) Williams and Curley (Dock) Epley.

REGAL JR., ERVIN KENNETH, 85, born Sept. 3, 1931 in Oconto Falls, WI, died March 23, 2017 in Chattanooga, TN. Ken married his wife, Sue, in 1950 while at Emmanuel Missionary College (Andrews University). They lived in Orlando, FL, from 1959 to 2010. They were active members of Orlando Central Adventist Church and Forest Lake Adventist Church. An aerospace engineer at Martin-Marietta for 13 years, Ken worked to design military hardware such as the Pershing missile system. He founded Alpha Manufacturing Inc. (AMI) in Orlando in the early 1980s, and operated it for almost 30 years. Alpha was a metal fabrication business, designing and building industrial kitchens and custom metal products for companies such as Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, Sunbelt Hospital Systems, Marriott Hotels, and Otis Elevator. AMI specialized for many years in building stainless steel toll booths for roads such as the Florida Turnpike and toll

projects at Chesapeake Bay Bridge, Buffalo and Fort Erie Bridge, Santa Rosa Bridge, Skyway Bridge, and the Cross Island Parkway. He contributed his engineering talents to church and school building projects, notably the cafeteria at Camp Kulaqua, and the youth building at Forest Lake Church. He and Sue also owned and operated Regal Mobile Home Park. They retired to Apison, TN, in 2010 to be closer to family. He was preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Sue McPeck Regal; and one brother, Owen Regal. He is survived by his second wife, Ivy Brooks; and his four children: Ruth Regal of Montebello, VA, Connie (Gary) Walls of Apison, TN, David Regal of Orlando, FL, and Renee (Terry) Scott of Knoxville, TN; seven grandchildren: Richard (Shelly) Walls of northern Virginia, Heather (Jason) Ruffner of Greenville, TN, Ryan (Melissa) Walls of Salt Lake City, UT, Pieter (Caitlyn) Leffers of Portland, OR, Richie Rayburn of McDonald, TN, Robert Rayburn of Collegedale, TN, and Ryan Rayburn of Collegedale, TN; six great-grandchildren: Kaley Walls of Virginia, Connor Walls of Virginia, Zada Ruffner of Tennessee, Ethan Walls of Virginia, Miles Ruffner of Tennessee, and Declan Walls of Virginia; five siblings: Ardella Regal Wall of Sturgeon Bay, WI, Bill Regal of Chattanooga, TN, Neva Regal of Indianapolis, IN, Dave Regal of Berrien Springs, MI, and Austin Regal of Apopka, FL. A funeral service was held on March 26, 2017 at the Collegedale Church. Burial followed at Collegedale Memorial Park.

SCHAFFER, MARIE, 92, born on Sept. 5, 1924, died April 21, 2017 in Michigan. She was a member of the New Port Richey, FL, Church for 31 years. She is survived by one daughter, Connie Hendricks of Michigan. The service was conducted by Pastor William Webb at the New Port Richey Church. Interment was at the VA Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

SCHERMERHORN, RUTH A., 84, born Dec. 6, 1932 in Madrid, Spain, died April 10, 2017 in Orange City, FL. She was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka, FL. She is survived by two sons: Robert (Bob) Andersohn of Longwood, FL, and Bruce Andersohn of Houston, TX; one daughter, Linda Andersohn of Altamonte Springs, FL; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor James King at the Florida Living Church.

SILVA, OPAL, 93, born Feb. 6, 1924, died April 5, 2017 in Greeneville, TN. She worked with the General Conference investment of-

fice for many years and for the Inter-American Division treasury department for many years before that. She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond Caldwell, who served as General Conference auditing service associate director. She is survived by her second husband, Vernon Silva, of Greenville, TN; two stepsons; one brother; and three sisters. She will be remembered and missed by many friends and family members.


SOWDER, LOUISE “SISSY” (SOARDS), 88, born Nov. 24, 1928, died April 24, 2017. Louise was a member of the Shelbyville, KY, Church. People said that Louise was the sweetest person you would ever meet. She lost her mother at the age of four, and was baptized in the 1950s. She loved to sing and was the song leader at her church for several years. She loved to read her Bible and other spiritual books. She also loved the outdoors and taking care of animals. Her last home was a new home and even there, in her 80s, she continued to do things like crawling under the house to close the vents to get it ready for winter. Louise was predeceased by her husband, John Sowder; and her parents, Luther and Nannie (Cullins) Soards. She is

survived by one daughter, Vivian (Donnie) Childress of Louisville, KY; one son, Kerwin Raisor of Eminence, KY; one sister, Betty Wilson of New Castle, KY; three grandchildren: Bryan and Tood Riasor and Tassy Smith; six great-grandchildren: Zachary, Rachel, Raven, and Zane Raisor, and Hayli and Justin Smith; and five great-great-grandchildren.

TRACE, IAN E., 80, born May 27, 1937 in Watford, England, died Aug. 31, 2017 in Hendersonville, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church. Dr. Trace served in the army and was a graduate of Harvard Medical School. He was employed with Park Ridge Hospital from 1975 until 1999. He also worked with the Transylvania County Hospital and the Charles George V.A. Medical Center. Dr. Trace began his own practice in 2000, Hendersonville Imaging Center, which he operated until 2014. He is survived by his children: Todd (Lisa) Trace of Hendersonville; Craig (Renee) of Hendersonville; Tami (Mike) Summey of Hendersonville; 10 grandchildren; numerous nieces; and nephews.

VERA CRUZ, EDITH DELOIS (LOIS), 79, born March 7, 1937 in Somerset, KY, died Feb. 1, 2017 at her home in Hendersonville,

NC, with her family at her bedside. She was an active member of the Mills River, NC, Church, where she served as song leader, Sabbath School superintendent, co-director of CHIP, and in other capacities. She also enjoyed singing in a trio with her two daughters. She assisted her husband at Kahili Adventist School on his native island of Kauai, HI, and in operating a home for developmentally disabled adults in Hendersonville, NC. She was a retired RN with most of her career serving as hospital nursing supervisor. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Stanley Vera Cruz; three children: Valen (Malinda) Vera Cruz, Kathie (Josef) Ludwig, and Shari (Bobby) Stepp; 12 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and numerous other family members. She was preceded in death by her parents: Leonard and Clessie (Rogers) Bray of Somerset, KY; sister Betty Sermersheim; and brother-in-law George Sermersheim of Hendersonville, NC. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Ralph Henderson at the Mills River Church. She will always be remembered for her caring concern for others, her fervent prayer life, and her many appeals to her family, church family, and friends to prepare for the Lord's soon return.



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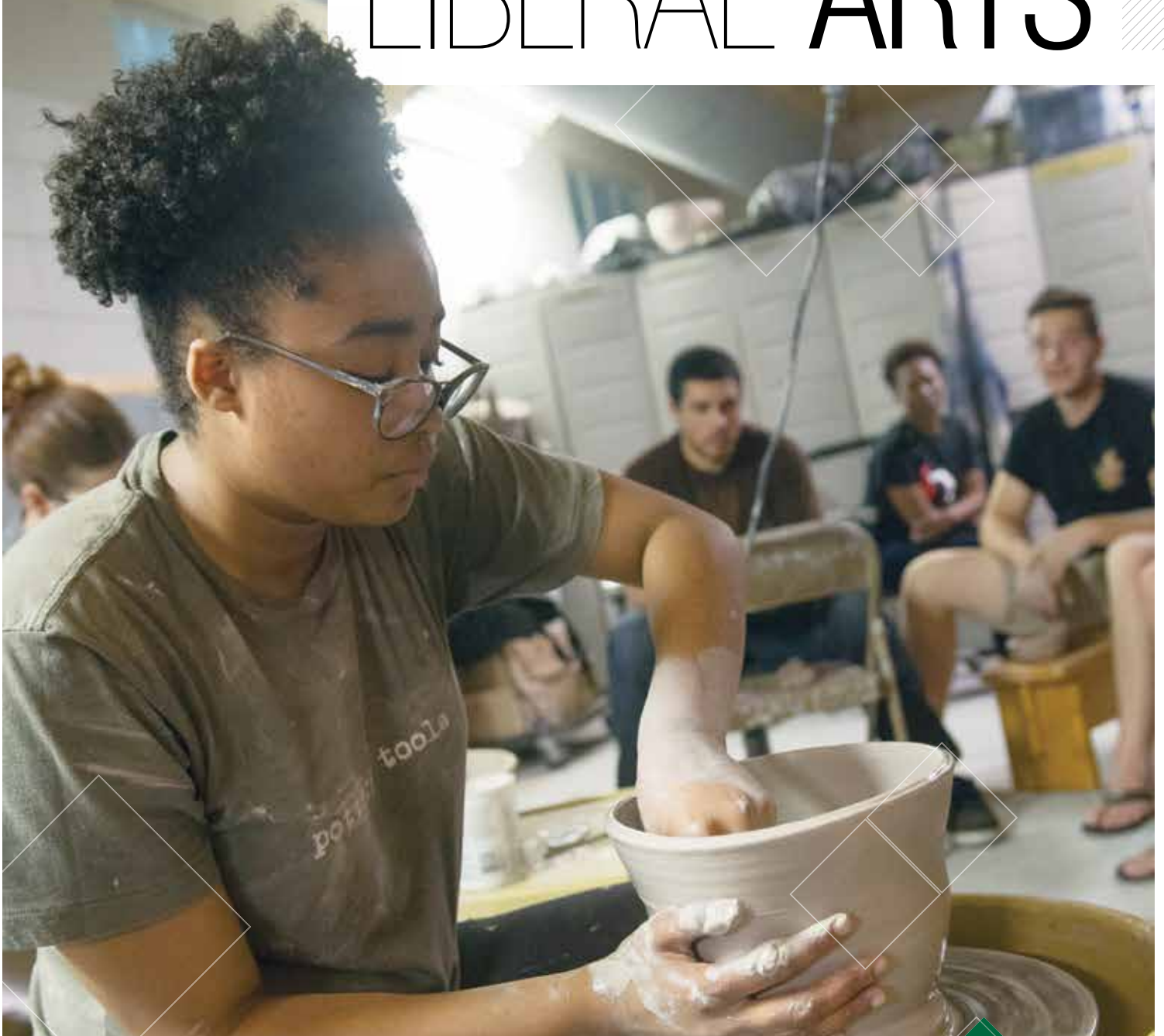
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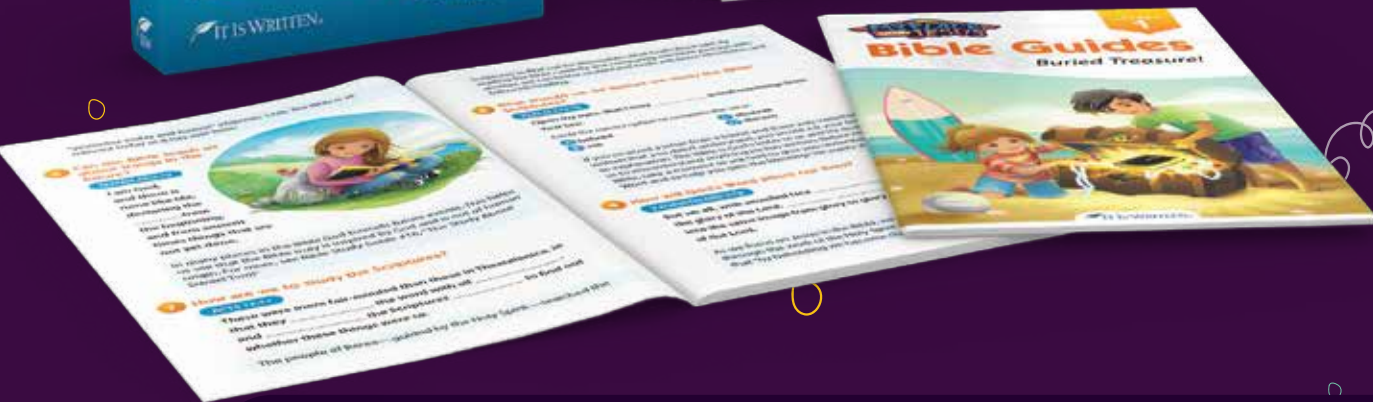
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COLLEGEDALE COMMUNITY LIVING - Retired and wanting to downsize? Family owned and operated, Grindstone Estates is a sizeable but quiet mobile-home "land-lease" community located in Collegedale, TN, 1.3 miles from the SAU campus. Tucked away at the foot of Grindstone Mountain, these privately-owned homes are easily accessible to desired services. We still have space for your home! Phone 423-396-2886. [11]

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a part-time professor and a full-time professor for the **History and Political Studies Department** (starting June 1, 2017) to teach American history, develop courses, advise/mentor students, engage in service activities, and sustain a research and professional growth agenda. Must be able to teach courses in Atlantic history, topics in African history, and African-American and or Latin American pop culture; with a combination of expertise and strong knowledge in at least one of the two regional/cultural areas. PhD in History preferred. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to Dr. Mark Peach, peach@southern.edu and Dr. Robert Young, ryoung@southern.edu, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. [11]

SOUTHERN'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY seeks full time professor to teach undergraduate **methods courses and teacher education courses**, as well as teach graduate level education courses. Also responsible for: academic advising, serve on university, department, and Teacher Education Program committees, and engage in activities of the department, including research and scholarly activities. Requirements: earned doctorate in education or related field, committed to Christian higher education and the integration of faith and learning, experience with online learning, mathematics background and successful teaching in public and church school preferable. Send cover letter, CV, statement of philosophy of Christian education, and three references: Dr. John McCoy, Dean - School of Education and Psychology, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315 or via email: jmccoy@southern.edu [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for **Associate Vice President for Academic Administration**. This leadership role provides direction for academic strategic planning, curriculum development, instructional methods, grading practices, admission standards, registration procedures, and graduation requirements. Additional responsibilities include: providing oversight to Institutional Research and Online Learning; chairing/or serving on committees; approving exceptions to academic policies and serving as liaison for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) and the Adventist Accrediting Association (AAA); facilitating the administrative processing of program review; and serving as the administrative liaison to first-year experience, the honors program, and all extension programs. Qualifications: Earned doctoral degree with at least five years of successful, full-time teaching experience in higher education; the ability to effectively chair meetings and lead groups; strong verbal and written communication- which includes writing accurate technical reports; and professional tact and skill to interact with students, parents, faculty members, and administration. To apply: Send letter of application, CV, and three references via US Mail or email Dr. Robert Young, Senior VP for Academic Administration, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, ryoung@southern.edu. For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Professor for its School of Journalism and Communication** to teach undergraduate courses and advise in journalism, with a focus in print, broadcast, or new media. Master's Degree required, doctorate is preferred; with five years of professional experience and three years of teaching experience. To apply: Send CV via US Mail or email to Dr. Rachel Williams-Smith, Dean for School of Journalism and Communication, PO BOX 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, rwilliamssmith@southern.edu. For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY'S Chemistry Department seeks full-time faculty with expertise in organic chemistry, biochemistry, and/or chemical education, effective June 1, 2018. Responsibilities include courses for non-majors, chemistry for nursing and allied health majors, and organic chemistry labs. Additional responsibilities will be assigned depending on the qualifications and interests. Will be expected to substantially contribute to the development of the department's undergraduate research program by engaging students in lines of research that complement the research interests of the current faculty. Qualifications: Master's or doctoral degree (Ph.D. preferred) in areas of organic chemistry, biochemistry, and/or chemical education is required, with demonstrated knowledge and experience in applying best practices for teaching chemistry at the undergraduate level, and a commitment to teaching from a Biblical foundation. *Send cover letter, CV, statement of teaching philosophy, brief description of research interests, and three references to Dr. Brent Hamstra, Chair of Chemistry Department, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN or email: bhamstra@southern.edu.* For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks Director of Clinical Education (DCE) for its Physical Therapist Assistant Program. The DCE holds a full-time faculty appointment and has administrative, academic, service, and scholarship responsibilities consistent with the mission and philosophy of Southern Adventist University. This individual demonstrates competence in clinical education, teaching, and curriculum development. In addition, the DCE's primary responsibilities are to plan, coordinate, facilitate, administer, and monitor activities on behalf of the academic program and in coordination with academic and clinical faculty. Minimum Qualifications: Must be a physical therapist (Master's or higher preferred) or a PT Assistant (Bachelor's required in a related field, Master's preferred); hold or be eligible for Tennessee state licensure; 3 years of clinical experience as a physical therapist assistant or physical therapist; 2 years of clinical teaching and/or clinical coordination experience; and strong communication, organization, interpersonal, problem-solving, and counseling skills. Must also be able to meet the faculty requirements as stated in the Standards and Required Elements for PTA programs. Preferred: teaching experience in a physical therapist academic program or equivalent coursework; active in clinical practice and professional activities; and an earned status as an APTA Credentialed Clinical Instructor. *Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three references to Dr. Christopher Stewart: cbstewart@southern.edu, or to PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315 Att: Dr. Christopher Stewart.* Position will be posted until filled. For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [11]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time, **Junior Accountant** to independently perform assigned accounting functions. Responsibilities include: preparing and maintaining monthly and quarterly reconciliations, conducting monthly credit card audits, preparing business tax returns and census forms, and data entries in various operating systems. Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in Accounting with a combination of demonstrated experience in the field, a high degree of integrity and confidentiality, customer service oriented, and ability to manage time and assignments proactively and in a team setting. *Send resume to the Human Resources Department: akmaitland@southern.edu or to HR, Southern Adventist University PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37363.* For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is hiring! To see the list of available positions, *go to jobs.wallawalla.edu* [11, 12]

PUC is seeking a candidate for **Facilities Associate Director** in our Facilities Management Department. Preference for experience in planning, budgeting, maintenance of college facilities, in addition to strong leadership/interpersonal skills/team leader. Responsibilities in roads, building safety, HVAC, water distribution/treatment, general building maintenance, compliance for hazardous materials, etc. *For more information or to apply, please call 707 965-6231 or visit <http://puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>* [11, 12]

PUC is seeking full time positions in our Facilities Management Department. Looking for positions of **Tradesman Supervisor-Painter, and Tradesman 1- Carpenter.** Preference is for training and applied experience in trade areas of general painting, and carpentry. For Painter, experience in color/finish/application/etc. For Carpenter, experience in cabinet making/floor coverings/installation/etc. For both, able to be team player, handle multiple projects. *For more information or to apply, please call 707-965-6231 or visit <http://puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>* [11, 12]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking an **online adjunct professor/s** to teach part-time courses in newly organized **Senior Living Management Certificate** program through the Department of Business. *Submit cover letter and current CV/resume to denise.rivera@swau.edu.* Candidates must have industry-specific (Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care) knowledge and/or experience and a minimum of a master's degree in a related field. Preference given with prior teaching experience. [11-1]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is looking for a **full-time English professor** with a Ph.D. Candidates with a degree in any literature or writing specialty will be considered. *Send a CV to Dr. Judy Myers Laue, Chair, Department of English, Southwestern Adventist University, 100 W. Hillcrest Street, Keene TX 76059 or lauej@swau.edu* [11-1]

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CAROLINA

- Carolina Youth Rally** – Nov. 3-5. MPA.
- Ministerial Spouses Retreat** – Nov. 3-5. NPR.
- Pathfinder Low County Campout** – Nov. 3-5. Camp Kinard, 6053 Two Notch Rd, Batesburg-Leesville, SC 29070.
- Prayer Conference** – Dec. 1, 2. Morganton Church. Prayer Conference – “Come to the Altar.” A weekend of prayer and praise, Dec. 1, 2017, Friday evening. December 2, 2017, Sabbath morning services and afternoon seminars. MEALS: Lunch and supper will be provided on Sabbath. LOCATION: Morganton Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2187 Jamestown Road, Morganton, NC, 28655. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ron C. Smith, President of the Southern Union.
- Carolina Evangelism Impact** – Jan. 25-28. Crown Reef Beach Resort Hotel, Myrtle Beach, SC. Register at www.carolinasda.org.

FLORIDA

- Complete calendar online** – floridaconference.com/events
- A Better Choice / Florida Adventist Book Center** – Altamonte Springs: national toll-free number, 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222). Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: floridaconference.com/abc or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com
- Hope for Hurting Hearts Retreat** – Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd St., High Springs. An educational retreat for those who’ve been sexually abused as children, providing educational support for survivors of sexual abuse. This retreat is confidential, anonymous, and private. Speaker: Annie Pérez, Ph.D. Cost: \$125, all-inclusive. Nov. 2-5. English-language. Details: floridaconference.com/events/hope-hurting-hearts-retreat-english
- Nov. 9-12. Spanish-language. Details: floridaconference.com/events/esperanza-para-corazones-dolidos
- Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule** – Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a location as scheduled below. Orders must be made by phone or email before 5:30 p.m. on the Thursday before a scheduled Sunday delivery.
- Dec. 3. Midport, West Palm Beach First, Boynton Beach, Margate. (Southeastern Conference: Port Saint Lucie, West Palm Beach Ephesus.)
- Dec. 10. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.

- Dec. 17. Pompano Beach, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Sunrise, Plantation. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)
- Wilderness Survival Camp** – Dec. 1-3. Highland Hammock State Park, 5931 Hammock Road, Sebring. Sleep in tents with no electricity, learn survival skills, and be in the outdoors with God, friends, and family. Cost: \$35. Details: floridaconference.com/events/wilderness-survival
- Train the Trainer** – Dec. 3. Florida Conference, 351 S. State Road 434, Altamonte Springs. This event purposes to train 1-3 delegates from each church to provide abuse prevention seminars to their members. Cost: \$10, includes lunch. Details: floridaconference.com/events/train-trainer-0
- Women’s Ministries Retreats** – Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Theme: God in Me. Cost: depends upon meal/accommodation choice and early-bird discount.
- Feb. 2-4. English-language. Guest speaker: Tamyra Horst. Details: floridaconference.com/events/2018-womens-retreat
- Feb. 9-11. English-language. Guest speaker: Janet Page. Details: floridaconference.com/events/2018-womens-retreat-0
- Feb. 16-18. Spanish-language. Guest speaker: Damary Ramírez-Lebreault. Details: floridaconference.com/events/2018-retiro-de-mujeres

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

- Marriage Retreat** – Nov. 3-5. WinShape Retreat, Rome, GA.
- Pathfinder Teen Challenge** – Nov. 3-5. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.
- ShareHim Homeland Lay Evangelism Training** – Nov. 4-5. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
- Prayer Ministries Day with Mark Piotrowski** – Nov. 11. Camden Church, Kingsland, GA.
- Pathfinder Junior Event** – Dec. 1-3. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
- Executive Committee** – Dec. 6. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
- Hispanic Elders’ Training II** – Dec. 15, 16.
- Pathfinder/Adventurer Christmas in Clarkston** – Dec. 17. Clarkston, GA.
- NAD Day of Prayer** – Jan. 6. We encourage all churches to highlight the importance of prayer in their service, and to petition Heaven for God’s power as we begin a new year of ministry and evangelism.
- Children’s Ministries Convention** – Jan. 12-14. Early bird deadline: Nov. 14. More than 35 workshops on how to help leaders minister to children, including VBS, Sabbath School, and children’s evangelism. Cohutta

Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA. Some events require pre-registration; details at registration.gccsda.com.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

- Highland Academy Board** – Nov. 9. Highland Academy.
- Elders’ Certification Training** – Nov. 10-12. Indian Creek Camp.
- Executive Committee** – Dec. 12. Conference Office.
- KYTN Acrofest** – Jan. 25-27. Highland Academy.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

- Fruition Lab Event** – Nov. 2. Young entrepreneurs are invited to Southern for a one-day seminar designed to inspire, connect, and educate. Held in Ackerman Auditorium on the University’s campus, the event is relevant to both students and business owners. For more details and registration information, visit southern.edu/fruitionlab.
- Homecoming** – Nov. 2-5. With an emphasis on missions, highlights of the weekend include a Parade of Nations, a hands-on service project to relieve local and global hunger, and a missionary reunion. Honor classes include: '1937, '47, '57, '67, '72, '77, '87, '92, '97, and '07. Visit southern.edu/alumni or call 423-236-2830 for additional details.
- Wind Symphony Concert** – Nov. 12. With Laurie Redmer Minner conducting, Southern’s Symphony Orchestra will perform works by Beethoven at 7:30 p.m., at the Collegedale Church. This and many other musical events can be viewed at southern.edu/streaming.
- Christmas Tree Lighting** – Nov. 28. Southern invites the community to usher in the holiday season with a special evening of music and warm, tasty treats, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in front of Wright Hall.
- Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble Christmas Pops Concert** – Dec. 2. Under the direction of Ken Parsons, Southern’s Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble will present their annual Christmas concert at 8 p.m. in Iles P.E. Center. Admission is free. For more information, visit southern.edu/music or contact 423-236-2880.
- School of Music Christmas Concert** – Dec. 9. Southern’s School of Music will host its annual Christmas concert featuring the Symphony Orchestra, Choral Ensembles, and Brass Ensemble at 4 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. The event, which will feature many holiday favorites for the whole family, is free and may also be viewed at southern.edu/streaming.

NBC

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Breath of Life

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GYC 2017 - ARISE: Dec. 27-31. Join thousands of young people from around the world at GYC Phoenix, as we spend four days looking at God's glorious vision for His people at the end of time from Isaiah 60. Engage in Bible study, prayer, witnessing, fellowship, seminars, and sermons. Visit www.gycweb.org for details and registration.

10 DAYS OF PRAYER RETURNS 2018 - Jan. 10-20. With the theme, "Our High Priest." Congregations worldwide continue to be blessed by this powerful prayer initiative. For more information and to sign up your church, visit www.tendaysofprayer.org.

RESCHEDULED: The Natural Remedies & Hydrotherapy workshop scheduled for Aug. 6-11 at Andrews University has been rescheduled for spring 2018. Details will be provided as they become available. For more information, email chis@andrews.edu.

SUNSET

	NOV 3	NOV 10	NOV 17	NOV 24	DEC 1	DEC 8
ATLANTA, GA	6:43	5:37	5:33	5:30	5:29	5:29
CHARLESTON, SC	6:27	5:21	5:17	5:15	5:13	5:14
CHARLOTTE, NC	6:27	5:21	5:16	5:13	5:11	5:11
COLLEGE DALE, TN	6:45	5:39	5:34	5:31	5:29	5:29
HUNTSVILLE, AL	5:50	4:45	4:40	4:37	4:35	4:35
JACKSON, MS	6:08	5:03	4:59	4:57	4:55	4:56
LOUISVILLE, KY	6:41	5:34	5:29	5:25	5:23	5:23
MEMPHIS, TN	6:04	4:58	4:53	4:50	4:48	4:48
MIAMI, FL	6:38	5:34	5:31	5:30	5:29	5:30
MONTGOMERY, AL	5:53	4:48	4:44	4:41	4:40	4:40
NASHVILLE, TN	5:49	4:43	4:38	4:34	4:33	4:32
ORLANDO, FL	6:39	5:34	5:31	5:29	5:28	5:29
TAMPA, FL	6:44	5:40	5:36	5:34	5:34	5:35
WILMINGTON, NC	6:17	5:11	5:06	5:03	5:02	5:02



The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same.

Since the 1866 opening of the Western Health Reform Institute, Adventists have provided hope, health and healing to millions of patients around the world. Yet as medical technology changes and health care evolves, one thing remains the same: our unwavering commitment to provide uncommon compassion, deliver whole person care, and extend the healing ministry of Christ to every patient, every time.

**CELEBRATING A
LEGACY**
150 YEARS
**OF ADVENTIST
HEALTH CARE**