

T Southern TIDINGS

FEBRUARY 2018

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAMS

Give
EX-OFFENDERS
HOPE

FIGHTING SEX
TRAFFICKING
WITH A FALL FESTIVAL

PREDOMINANTLY
BLACK AND WHITE
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
CONGREGATIONS COME
TOGETHER

HISPANIC YOUTH
LEAD EVANGELISTIC
SERIES

Embracing the Gospel Commission Through a Christ-centered Approach



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

“And I, if I be lifted up ... will draw all men unto me,” John 12:32, KJV.

The ministerial force of the Southern Union has inspired, recharged, and propelled us down the road of preparation for the 2019 evangelistic initiative that we, as conferences and Union, have voted and agreed to embrace. Next year, 2019, will represent the 10-year anniversary of the 2009 North American Division Year of Lay and Pastoral Evangelism, which we have decided to celebrate throughout the Southern Union territory. It was during 2009 that we, as a Union, experienced unprecedented growth and expansion in multi-dimensional ways. It was during that year, through varied modalities, that members of our Church embraced the Gospel Commission through multiple Christ-centered approaches. The common denominator of all of our unique strategies for introducing people to Jesus was the intentional call of men, women, young adults, and children to accept Him through a planned and organized reaping event.

Many pastors from our eight conferences, administrators from our three universities, and executives from our Adventist Health System have affirmed the missional direction evidenced through the most recent Southern Union Pastors’ Conference. An appropriate and well thought-through theme, “The Gospel Changes Everything,” was the resounding contemplation of all who registered for and participated in the three-day ministerial convention. On Monday, January 8, 2018, the attendees were admonished to “Get It.” Plenaries and workshops assisted us in conceptualizing the Gospel Commission in the context of 21st century living. On Tuesday, January 9, we were implored to “Grow It.” Outstanding preachers, lecturers, and breakout group facilitators provided tools to enable leaders to develop the art of being fishers of men and women in a contemporary/post-Christian age. On the final day of this event, we were urged to “Give It.” Sharing Jesus, His love, and acceptance of all people was emphasized through each general assembly presentation and training group. A pivotal moment for the Pastors’ Conference was an awesome banquet where conference presidents, university presidents, church pastors, and Union officers collectively reaffirmed our commitment to the 2019 Year of Lay and Pastoral Evangelism. Jim Davidson, executive secretary of the Southern Union, led us through a meaningful dedicatory ceremony and appeal to God for our success. Let us sustain a posture of intercession to God for the success of Roger Hernandez, ministerial director of the Southern Union, as he continues to cast the vision and facilitate the training for our plan to embrace the Gospel Commission through a Christ-centered approach.

A few final thoughts from the Spirit of Prophecy:

“Of all professing Christians, Seventh-day Adventists should be foremost in uplifting Christ before the world,” *Gospel Workers*, page 156.

“The love of Jesus will melt and win hearts when the mere reiteration of doctrine will accomplish nothing,” *The Desire of Ages*, page 826.

“Present Jesus because you know Him as your personal Savior. Let His melting love, His rich grace flow forth from human lips ... Take the Word, and with tender, yearning love for souls, show them the precious righteousness of Christ, to whom you and they must come to be saved,” *Evangelism*, page 442. ①

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COVER PHOTO: R. Steven Norman III

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAMS

Give EX-OFFENDERS HOPE

BY LUCAS L. JOHNSON II

After serving three years in prison for aggravated burglary, Shane Echols had paid his debt to society, and hoped to start a new life. But, he was worried.

He had been in a similar position before. When he was released, the prison had given him \$100 and a bus ticket, but he hadn't really known where to go. Even worse, because of his felony record, he hadn't been able to get a job. Echols had ended up going back to what he knew — a life of crime that landed

him back in prison.

This time, however, the 44-year-old's fears were laid to rest when he contacted Jeffrey Cobb, founder of Shelter From the Storm, a transitional living home for ex-offenders in Gainesville, Florida. Cobb not only provided Echols with a place to stay, he also gave him a job working for the lawn service he owns. But probably most important, he gave Echols a fighting chance.

"I thank God for Mr. Cobb," said Echols, who met Cobb when the older

ex-offender visited his prison and testified about changing his life. "I've been out of prison just two days, and I'm already working. I'm not going back."

With prisons lacking adequate rehabilitation initiatives, transitional programs (or halfway houses) like Cobb's are filling in the gap by helping ex-offenders get re-acclimated to society when they're released from prison.

Political consultant David Keene alluded to the difficulty ex-offenders have re-acclimating in an interview for the



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Leo Tate, founder of the Lia Transitional House, Inc., leads a Friday evening Bible study for clients: guest Jeffrey Cobb (left), director of Shelter from the Storm; Leo and Margaret Tate, founders; Roderick Seay; and William Garrett.

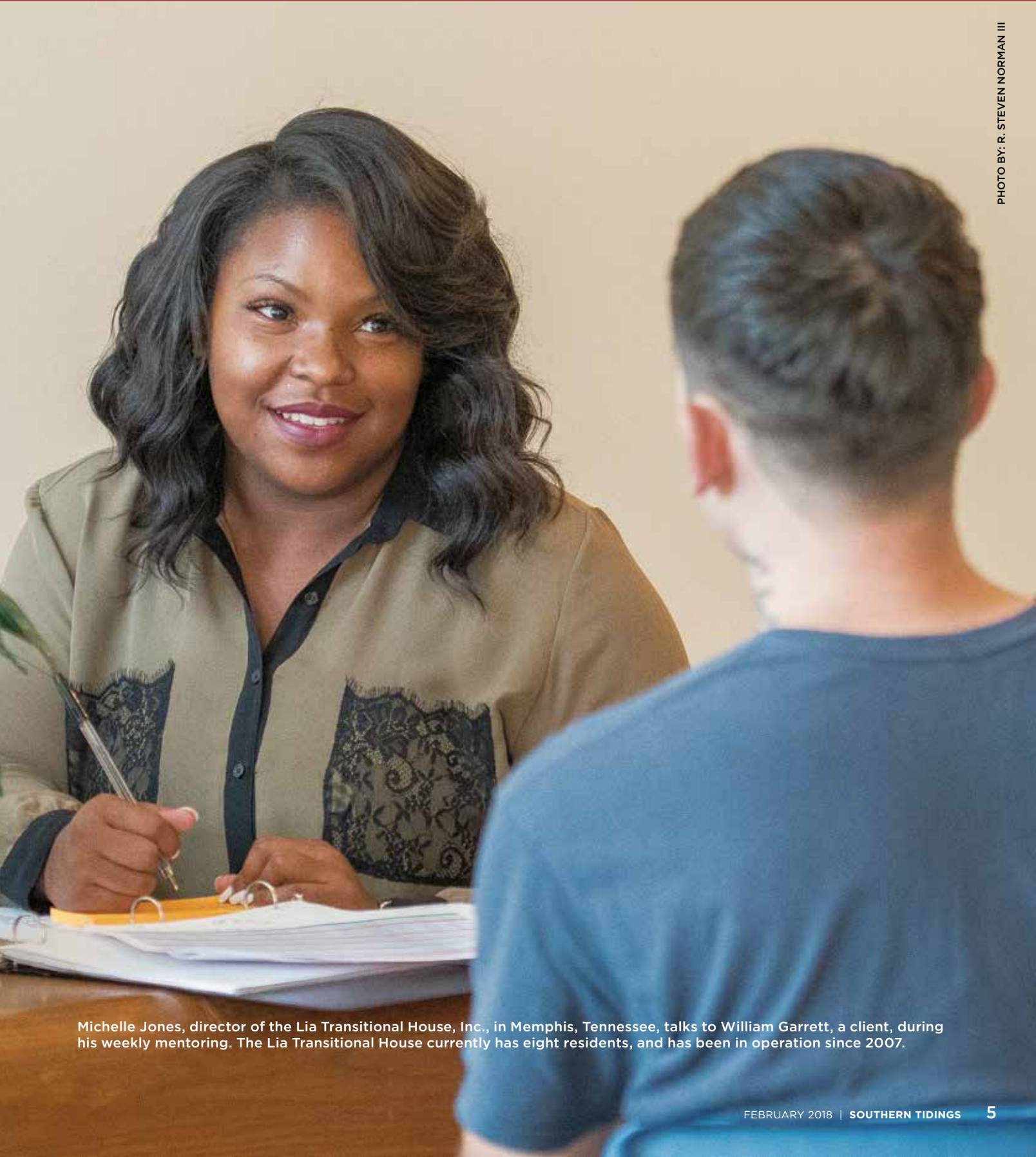


PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Michelle Jones, director of the Lia Transitional House, Inc., in Memphis, Tennessee, talks to William Garrett, a client, during his weekly mentoring. The Lia Transitional House currently has eight residents, and has been in operation since 2007.



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Jeffery Cobb (right), founder and director of the Gainesville, Florida-based, Shelter from the Storm transitional ministry, provides landscaping and lawn care jobs for clients. Here he is shown with Derrick Williams, Edwin Sanchez, and Shane Echols at one of their job sites.

Academy Award nominated documentary “13th,” which explores mass incarceration in the U.S. prison system.

“In many ways, the prison system is sort of in the dark,” Keene said. “If you look at the whole problem . . . we have too many laws, locking too many people up, for too many things, and while they’re in prison, doing very little if anything to rehabilitate them so that they can re-enter civil society when they get out. And then when they get out, we shun them.”

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has several transitional living programs for ex-offenders.

Cobb, 55, started Shelter From the Storm in 2001 after experiencing firsthand the difficulty of finding a place to

stay and employment after being released. During his 20 years of criminal activity in Miami, Cobb said he was incarcerated 10 times. His life began to change, however, when he said he began taking Bible studies from an Adventist who visited his last place of incarceration.

Cobb said he felt the Holy Spirit move in his life, and he decided that he “didn’t want to go back to that lifestyle.” Cobb also decided that when he got out, he was going to start his own business, and set up some type of place to help other offenders when they’re released.

He did both. His transitional program houses up to four men at a time, and his lawn service provides work for those who need a job.

“Employment is very important,” Cobb said. “A man that walks around with no money in his pocket, he feels degraded. And when they come out, if they don’t have anything different, they go back to what they know.”

Leo Tate agreed. He is the founder (2007) of Lia Transitional House, Inc. in Memphis, Tennessee, and has been in prison ministry for more than 40 years. His four-bedroom transitional home gives ex-offenders a place to stay, helps them find employment, and also assists with drug recovery, literacy, and even money management. Tate said he’s hoping to purchase and renovate a local school so he can help even more people.

“The Lord has given me a vision,” said



PHOTO BY: JOHN CROSS

Aphasis' founder, James Settles, turned his life around in prison, and vowed to start a transitional living program when he was released. Settles was released in 1994, and started Aphasis House in 2003 when a family heard about his effort and donated a home, allowing him to open his first halfway house.

Tate, who believes there would be more transitional homes and other programs to help ex-offenders if all churches heeded the words in Matthew 25:36 about remembering those in prison.

“If we get back and start doing what God wants us to do, I don’t think it would be as much crime,” Tate said. “I know we can’t stop all of it, but I certainly believe we can put a dent in it.”

Supporters of transitional living programs say they play a vital role in reducing recidivism.

One study by the U.S. Department of Justice tracked 404,638 prisoners in 30 states after their release from prison in 2005. The researchers found that within three years of release, about two-thirds,

or 68 percent, of released prisoners were rearrested. Within five years, 77 percent were rearrested, the study found.

Earl Gator can attest to those statistics. The 46-year-old said during the 11 years he was incarcerated, he saw some men return to the prison where he was two and three times before he was released. Gator blames the revolving door on the lack of prison programs to help individuals succeed once they’re released.

“If they would implement more programs inside that teach people a trade, something they can fall back on and do once they get released, a lot of them wouldn’t come back to prison,” Gator said.

He credits family support and a man who attends his Seventh-day Adventist

church in Nashville, Tennessee, with helping him stay out of prison. He said the gentleman, in particular, took him under his wing and taught him how to paint. As a result, Gator is now a painting contractor who is working with the founder of a Nashville-based transitional living program called Aphasis — which in Greek means “to let go, or forgive” — to implement a program that will teach ex-offenders a painting trade.

Like Cobb, Aphasis’ founder, James Settles, turned his life around in prison, and vowed to start a transitional living program when he was released. Settles was released in 1994, and started Aphasis House in 2003 when a family heard about his effort and donated a home, allowing him to open his first halfway house.

Since then, Aphasis has grown from a single home providing space for four men, to operating four facilities across Nashville, serving up to 28 men at once.

Currently, Aphasis is a leader in transitional housing services in middle Tennessee, and has published materials on how to start effective recovery programs, including a book by Settles on starting and managing a transitional house. Settles is not Adventist, but is grateful for all the support he’s received from Adventist churches and other denominations.

“God is using Aphasis House to provide the kind of facility where men can get the life skills they need to live a better life,” Settles said.

One of those men is Tim Holt, who has been living a successful life since leaving Aphasis 10 years ago. Holt said Aphasis’ relapse prevention program and its behavior modification classes were particularly helpful in changing his lifestyle.

“Aphasis House helped me to grow into the man I am today,” said Holt, who is married and owns a house. “I’m blessed.” ●

Lucas L. Johnson II

is a former reporter for The Associated Press. He is also author of the book, Finding the Good, which was featured on National Public Radio.

FIGHTING SEX TRAFFICKING

with a Fall Festival

BY SHELBE JOHNSON



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Shelbe Johnson, a 17-year-old high school senior, decided to organize a Fall Festival at the Columbus First Church in Columbus, Georgia. She used incentive money provided by the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, and all proceeds were donated to Micah's Promise to help end sex trafficking.

Twenty-five of the participants were students from various high schools who showed up to volunteer. Events included face painting, carnival games, a dunk tank, and cake walk.

Shelbe Johnson shares a testimony of organizing a Fall Festival to benefit the community.

As a student attending the Sawgrass Adventist School in Plantation, Florida, I always enjoyed the annual Fall Festival organized by the Home and School Association. The event featured carnival games, pony rides, a dunk tank, and my favorite foods, making it one of the most anticipated events of the school year. So, when I moved to Columbus, Georgia, as a seventh-grader, I dreamed of one day organizing a Fall Festival to benefit the community. The opportunity arrived in the fall of 2017, during my final year of high school.

It started with \$1,000 that Don Keele Jr., associate youth director for Georgia-Cumberland Conference, gave to the youth at Columbus First Church to plan a community event. As one of the few students in the high school Sabbath School class, I developed plans for a Fall Festival fundraiser. All I needed was an organization with a mission that we all could enthusiastically support. I soon learned about Micah's Promise, an organization that aims to end the sex trafficking of minors in our community.

I considered it a worthy cause since

many people do not realize the extent to which sex trafficking plagues our society. Many girls are lured into the lifestyle through social media and material incentives, and they have no way to escape. Through Fall Festival, I wanted to spread awareness about the issue, give the organization some publicity, and raise money that could help build a restorative home for girls looking to start a new life.

I contacted the head of the organization, Bobbi Starr, and told her about my idea for Fall Festival. She was immediately supportive and excited to work with me on the project. In addition to helping to promote the event, she also came to my school to educate students about the dangers of sex trafficking.

A week before the event, I began looking at the weather forecast, and it was not a pretty picture. Despite two weeks of beautiful weather, meteorologists began predicting a nearly 100 percent chance for rain, and possible thunderstorms. That meant we would have to move everything inside.

The most difficult part was not knowing how many people, if any, would show up, considering the gloomy forecast. Still, I moved forward in faith, holding the event

on October 8, 2017. To my surprise, 200 people attended!

Twenty-five of the participants were students from various high schools who showed up to volunteer. Most surprisingly, a juvenile court judge came out to support the event, as did a news reporter who provided TV coverage. Participants purchased \$1 tickets, which allowed them to play carnival games, dunk people in the dunk tank, participate in the cake walk, and do various other activities. We also had plenty of food for sale.

When the event was over, we had raised \$1,580, which we donated to Micah's Promise. In addition to the money, the organization also benefited from all the free publicity that Fall Festival generated. The event fostered a sense of community, bringing everyone together for fun on a rainy day.

My dream was finally a reality! 🎯

Shelbe Johnson
is a 17-year-old high school senior and member of the Columbus, Georgia, First Church.



Predominantly Black and White *Seventh-day Adventist Congregations* COME TOGETHER

LUCAS L. JOHNSON II

At a time of heightened racial discord and tragedy across the country, two predominantly black and white Seventh-day Adventist conferences are seeking ways to worship together.

Called “Imagine Nashville,” the first event took place September 30, 2017, at Riverside Chapel Church in the South Central Conference, and a follow-up event was held October 28, 2017, at the Madison Campus Church in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

During each event, there were activities that encouraged people of various ethnicities to interact with one another, and dialogues that conveyed a simple message: people are more alike than they are different.

Pastors from churches in both conferences also asked attendees to “imagine” how much more good they could do for the kingdom of God, for their communities, if they work together, much like Jesus asked His disciples to do.

“Jesus said it is by this love that people will know you’re My disciples,” Furman Fordham, Riverside Chapel pastor, said in an interview before the October event.

“The disciples had different challenges and issues. The proof that they really were directed by a spiritual power was the fact that they had love one for another.”

The first event at Riverside drew the attention of local media because there was a deadly church shooting about a week before in a neighborhood just outside of Nashville, Tennessee.

While the Imagine Nashville events were planned weeks in advance, they took place amid a national backdrop of church shootings and racially-charged rallies, which church leaders say makes their message of unity even more relevant — and powerful.

“Christians are fond of saying that when



PHOTO BY: MICHAEL A. HUBBARD

God does something, Satan makes a counterfeit,” said Ken Wetmore, Madison Campus pastor. “Well, I think when Satan tries to do something, God brings around the real deal, and this is the real deal. This is about loving each other, and it’s long overdue in our community.”

The idea for Imagine Nashville, organizers say, actually started from a request by the conference presidents to bring all the churches together for an evangelistic meeting. The pastors were okay with that, but some suggested going a little deeper, to “really talk about being one, instead of a temporary kind of thing that will pass,” Fordham said.

“And so, it literally all started from this challenge to come together for an evangelistic meeting, and us saying we think it needs to go further than that,” Fordham said.

Wonder Drake, an elder at Riverside, said she’s glad to see Imagine Nashville taking place.

“I was very excited to see that my Caucasian brothers and sisters truly wanted to be united in Christ,” said Drake, who attended both

Imagine Nashville events. “And, I was very excited to see that the African-Americans wanted to extend that love.”

James Livingston, a member of Nashville First Church in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, said the joint events caused him to imagine even more what Heaven will be like.

“We’re all going to come together as one big family,” Livingston said.

Moving forward, pastors plan to have a variety of activities and training events each month.

Frederick Crowe, a 102-year-old former Riverside pastor and retired conference treasurer, said Imagine Nashville is a “good example” of what true unity should look like.

“The church has come a long way,” Crowe said. “This is another step in the right direction. And, the more we do this, the better.”

Lucas L. Johnson II

is a former reporter for *The Associated Press*, and author of the book, *Finding the Good*, which was featured on *National Public Radio*.

Hispanic Youth Lead EVANGELISTIC SERIES

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Guests of all ages entered the Montgomery, Alabama, Hispanic Church on Wednesday, December 20, 2017. They were greeted by members of the church's Adventurer club, tiny hands stretching out offering handshakes and hugs. Guests were then directed into the sanctuary, where they stepped onto a road that had been constructed from black plastic and yellow tape. The road ran the length of the aisle, up the stairs and onto the stage, where it ultimately rose even higher and stopped at a hand-painted cardboard cutout of Jesus. Attendees at the service were placed on a road that led to Jesus.

To open the service, four young people grabbed microphones and sang children's songs with background tracks and

Spanish lyrics on the screen. After a few songs, including a final opener where the crowd of about 60 people was invited to stand, Eliel Lopez offered the opening prayer. Lopez, a young church member, continued leading the service by making a few announcements and going through a series of questions, and offering prizes to those who would answer correctly. The questions were about the different presentations that had been given each night since the series began the previous Saturday. Most of the children in attendance had their hands raised high, ready to try to answer the prize-winning inquiries.

Following a prayer, a young girl dressed in her Adventurer uniform took the stage, along with a young man dressed in a king costume. The young man, Carlos Hernan-

dez, took a seat to the side, and the young lady, Ruby Chi, began to speak. At age 8, Chi was the youngest presenter of the entirely youth-led series of meetings, which featured presenters as old as 15. The eight-day series utilized a different presenter each evening, and they were sure to prepare before their presentation day came. Michel Rodriguez, pastor of the Montgomery Hispanic Church, worked with each of the presenters over a month in advance to train them in how to deliver their sermon, and make appeals that matched their presentation. In an interview after the service, Chi stated that she "practiced her presentation every day" in preparation for the event. Rodriguez added: "She has also been praying about her presentation every day for over a month."



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Michel Rodriguez, pastor of Montgomery Hispanic Church, is welcomed to his church by the Adventurers.



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Eliel Lopez engages with the young crowd during the giveaway portion of the night.



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETTLER

Eight-year-old Ruby Chi presents while Carlos Hernandez plays the role of King Hezekiah.

The series of meetings was titled “Sorprendednos en el Camino,” or “Surprised on the Road.” Each presenter gave a sermon about a different Bible character, and an encounter that character had with God in their life’s journey. The characters that were presented spanned Old and New Testament eras. Chi’s presentation was about King Hezekiah from 2 Kings 20. When asked what her favorite part of his story was, Chi responded, “That God gave him more life for serving Him.” For Chi, growing up in the United States has made her more comfortable with English than Spanish. Although she attends the Hispanic church and primarily speaks Spanish at home, English dominates the rest of her life. “It was a challenge,” she said, to volunteer and present in Spanish for this youth series. “But, I just wanted to do it for Jesus.”

This series was the result of Rodriguez

and the church board recognizing the number of young people in their church, and making an effort to include them in such an important church meeting. The Montgomery Hispanic Church holds several adult evangelistic events every year, but had never assembled an event specifically geared toward children, from children. The church became involved immediately; adult members donated their time and resources to create the stage decorations and large backdrop. Parents were intentional about bringing their children to practice and attended each meeting. It also posed an excellent opportunity to involve the church’s Adventurer club in every aspect of the series.

Rodriguez and other adults noted how the presenters mimicked the preaching styles and mannerisms of adult preachers that have preached at their church before. It was apparent that these children have

been listening to the sermons for quite some time, and were able to repeat the styles they’ve seen. Chi even opened her sermon with a personal story about her father to help capture the attention of the audience.

While the series was primarily targeted toward children, the adults who brought them stayed, listened, and could be heard offering an affirming “Amen!” to Chi’s presentation. At the conclusion of her sermon, Chi made an appeal, and several young people, along with a few adults, stood at the front while a closing song played. After a short time, Chi joined the group and gave a closing prayer. Rodriguez stated, “The kids have enjoyed leading out, and they aren’t afraid to make appeals that could change someone’s life.”

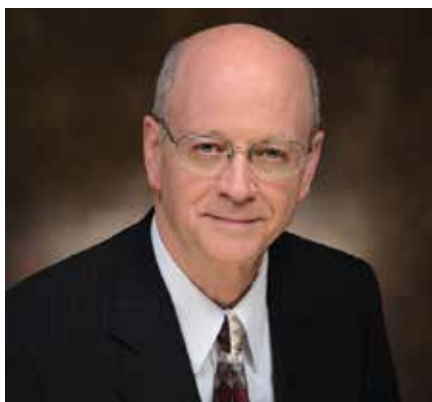
Southern Union Trust Services Director Passes

Ken Ford was born June 8, 1954, in Woodstock, Va., to the home of a Seventh-day Adventist minister. Following his father's assignment in Woodstock and Front Royal, Va., the family received a call to the Pennsylvania Avenue Church in Washington, D.C. This move proved to have a lasting impact on the life of Ken. Although only 11 years old at the time, he caught the attention of a little 9-year-old girl, by the name of Renee France, who attended the local church school with him. By the eighth grade, Ken also began to notice her as well. He began sharing such significant things with her as the prizes out of the Cracker Jack boxes he brought to lunch. What first appeared to be just puppy love, proved to be a lifelong romance.

When Ken was in the ninth grade and Renee was in the seventh, it first became known to their families that they liked each other. Ken attended Shenandoah Valley Academy (SVA), and in his junior year Renee joined him there as a freshman. In 1972 Ken graduated from SVA and enrolled in Andrews University, and once again he and Renee were separated. However, Renee gave him a going away gift of an elephant with a sign on it that said, "Elephants never forget — don't you forget me!"

Initially Ken enrolled as a psychology major. It was here during these years that he experienced a crisis of faith. This preacher's kid, who had spent most of his life as a "straight arrow," began to question not only his relationship with God, but whether God even existed. In fact he reached the point where he had made the decision to abandon any faith that he had, and declare himself an atheist.

However, one day as he was driving in Berrien Springs, Mich., he said, "God if you exist, you need to show me." At that moment, he was driving past the Michigan Adventist Book Center and he noticed a sign in front saying, "Ellen White books on sale." On what seemed an impulse (the



Ken Ford, D.Min., served as the director of trust services at the Southern Union.

prompting of the Holy Spirit), he turned the car around to take a look. Before he left, he had bought virtually every book she had ever written. Soon he picked up *The Desire of Ages* and couldn't put it down. That book caused him to fall in love with Jesus in a way he had never experienced before. He was converted; his crisis of faith was over. This experience led to a lifelong love and respect for the Spirit of Prophecy, and the realization of its life-changing power. Soon he changed his major from psychology to theology, and prepared to enter the ministry.

On New Year's Eve of 1975, 10 years after first meeting at the ages of 11 and 9, Ken proposed to Renee, and they were engaged to be married. However, Ken said he couldn't set a date until he had a job, so they both began to pray for a call. One of the last interviews he had was with the Potomac Conference, and soon they had a call to ministry upon his graduation. Renee had graduated from Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) with an RN degree.

They were married June 10, 1975, and then they were off to Martinsville and Danville, Va., to pastor. Two years later they returned to Andrews University where Ken obtained his master of divinity degree. Following graduation they moved to Ports-

mouth, Va., and on August 8, 1983, their first daughter, Jaelyn, was born. Their second daughter, Stephanie, was born February 16, 1987, in Charlottesville, Va.

From Virginia they accepted a call to pastor in Ontario, Canada, for several years before receiving a call to pastor the Summerville, S.C., district in the Carolina Conference. As daughter Stephanie said, "It was from the frigid temperatures of Canada to the scorching heat of the South," but soon they fell in love with their congregations, as they did with them.

From Summerville their next assignment took them to pastor the Hickory, N.C., Church. It was at this time that Ken was asked to be the associate director of the Carolina Conference Trust Services Department. In 2001, he obtained his doctor of ministry degree from Andrews University.

A few years later, he was asked to become the director of Trust Services for Carolina Conference. During his tenure he assisted hundreds, if not thousands, of people with preparing their trust and will documents.

In 2014 he was asked to assume leadership of the Southern Union Planned Giving and Trust Services Department. He was serving in this role when he passed to his rest on October 2, 2017.

Ken was greatly respected by those who knew him. His belief in and loyalty to Jesus and the Seventh-day Adventist Church, was as solid as bedrock. A fitting epitaph for his life is found in the words of Ellen White, "The greatest want of the world is the want of men — men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall," *Education*, page 57.

Ken Ford was this kind of man, whom we look forward to soon seeing again. ❶

BY JIM DAVIDSON

ADU Students Teach Life Skills to Homeless Population in Nonprofit Housing Program



ADU's occupational therapy faculty and students gather in the kitchen at the Wayne Densch Center to prepare a Thanksgiving meal for the residents and staff.

With its focus on clinical care driven by Christian values, Adventist University of Health Sciences' (ADU) degree programs are built around a faith-based education. Students of all programs are required to complete service learning work to earn their degrees. In the required "Matthew 25" course for the occupational therapy (OT) and occupational therapy assistant (OTA) degrees, students must complete mission-focused clinical work serving the underrepresented population of the community.

In the past, the students have primarily completed this requirement at the Hope Clinic, ADU's free clinic, and occasionally through work with other community organizations, including the Wayne Densch Center.

The Wayne Densch Center is a nonprofit housing program in Orlando, Fla., that provides transitional housing for homeless individuals with chronic physical health, mental health, and/or substance abuse is-

suess, for a period ranging from 30 weeks to a maximum stay of two years. The program allows each resident to have their own apartment, where they are required to meet standards of living.

The Center's "fragile housing" population often have specific medical needs that require counseling or medications that they are unable to afford, in addition to challenges in navigating daily life or maintaining a household.

In 2017 the OT Department chair, Tia Hughes, DrOT, reached out to the Center to establish a permanent partnership, which officially rolled out in the fall 2017 trimester, and has been well-received by students and members of the Center. OT students and clinical faculty from ADU visit the Center and provide life skills classes in a variety of areas, such as job readiness, anger management, assertiveness, and home maintenance.

"The individuals and families in these residences are trying to get back on their

feet, and many have never owned a home before. Life skills such as cooking dinner or doing laundry are invaluable to daily life for most adults, but this population face physical and mental challenges that can make these tasks difficult," explains Hughes.

In addition, they educate residents on building healthy diets, as well as diabetic management for those who have special dietary needs. Other workshops have included sun protection and encouraging recreational activities by leading walks outside around the property's lake.

The OT Department also hosted a Thanksgiving meal in November 2017 for all the residents and staff of the Center. The students and clinical faculty brought food in addition to cooking meals there. They also set up board games and sporting events for recreation. "It was an amazing day," recalls Hughes. 📍

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Charlotte Church Members Inspire 5K



PHOTO BY: JACKIE SETTLEMIRE

Two Adventist churches in the Charlotte, N.C., metro area combined efforts to host a 5K race on September 24, 2017, to raise money for Lily Pad Haven, a local charity that ministers to victims of human trafficking. The idea came about after two pastors, who are also runners, worked together for several years to coordinate the 5K and one-mile Fun Run at Camp Meeting. Bryan Aalborg, lead pastor of the Sharon Church, and Ryan Ashlock, pastor of the University City Church, wanted their churches to create an event in Charlotte that would help the community by

promoting a healthy lifestyle, and raise money for a charitable organization.

A team of volunteers from both churches spent several months planning the event, and on race day, 49 runners, including two from Lily Pad Haven, hit the trails at McAlpine Creek 5K Cross Country Course. Keland Barringer, a local teenager, took first place with a time of 19 minutes, 59 seconds. More than \$400 was raised for Lily Pad Haven.

The race also provided an opportunity to test and use the new race timing system purchased by the Carolina Conference. This equipment is now available

for Conference churches and schools to use for their own events. Since a major expense in organizing a race is hiring a timing company, it is now possible to use volunteers to run the system, which allows more money to go to the charity benefiting from an event. ●

BY RYAN ASHLOCK

Arden Prison Ministries Changes a Life

Tommie Ware's life changed in 1997 when someone came to his door and shot him because of his ex-wife. The altercation set off a series of events that sent Ware's life spiraling in the wrong direction, and he soon found himself in trouble with the law and was sent to prison.

The following year, a woman from Cary, N.C., sent Bible studies to Ware. He studied the worksheets and became quite interested in what he was reading, especially the sections on how the Sabbath had been changed throughout history. Since the Sabbath is part of the fourth commandment, Ware began studying the Bible. His aunt was a Seventh-day Ad-

ventist, so he asked her about the Sabbath as well. Sometime later Ware came across the book *The Desire of Ages*, by Ellen G. White, and his life was changed again, this time for the better.

Jim Wetmore, head of prison ministries at the Arden Church, met Ware in 2007 and began visiting with him. As a result of Wetmore's visits, Ware decided to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He was baptized in 2009 by Jim Hakes, then pastor of the Arden Church.

After 20 years of incarceration, Ware was released from prison in 2017. His Sabbath mornings are now spent greeting members at the Arden Church with a

smile. Despite the circumstances that led him to prison, he is thankful that his life was changed, and that God has always had a plan for him. ❶



PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTED

BY JEAN DAVEY AND JOALYCE WAUGH

Adventist Community Service Retreat



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

The Adventist Community Services (ACS) rally/retreat, held October 27-29, 2017, was rich in learning and fellowship. Keynote speaker Jim Ingersoll runs a ministry called 2 Serve, which trains Adventist young people to serve people in crisis. Students came from Tri-City Christian Academy and Heritage Academy to lead worship and

share stories of God's work. Throughout the weekend, numerous spotlights on community service offered valuable insight and tools.

A workshop on God's Closet was presented by founder Merryl Moore and by Marlene Nunnaley, God's Closet-Mills River director. They shared incredible stories of how this ministry has grown in

the Carolinas and across America. All are encouraged to pray, plan, and endeavor to serve their community. God will bless richly! The next ACS rally/retreat will be held at Nosoca Pines Ranch next fall. ❶

BY DAVID GRAHAM

Apopka Church Holds Mission Outreach Sabbath



PHOTO BY: THOMAS BROOME

Apopka church members visited area fire stations to give firefighters food, literature, and a prayer for their safety.

The vision of the Apopka, Fla., Church is to “Live for others, that others may live.” It is not simply a motto to print in the bulletin; it is a call for action. The call was reflected in the actions of the church’s second Outreach Project Sabbath on September 30, 2017.

The Sabbath began with a special Vesper service on Friday evening by Sergio Torres, pastor. His inspired words were a reminder that love originates with God, and it becomes fully evident in hearts when love for others is expressed through service.

On Sabbath, members participated in one of four mission outreach activities:

- **Low income apartment community in the Apopka area** — provided lunch, activities for children, a clothing give away, and inspirational literature.
- **Area fire stations** — offered food, literature, and special prayer for the safety and work of the firefighters.



PHOTO BY: ROBERT BROOME

Sue Tao attended an outreach project at Apopka Church at the invitation of a member. She participated in the hygiene project, and then enjoyed the fellowship dinner at the end of the day’s events.

- **Inner city communities of Orlando** — reached out to underprivileged children, by going where they lived, to teach them of the love of Jesus.
- **Hygiene kits** — assembled kits to be distributed by the Apopka Church Thrift Store, The Good Neighbor Place, to the homeless living in the surrounding areas.

In addition to these outreach activities, the church became a collection site for members to bring items to aide those recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Irma.

The success of all these activities can also be seen in the individuals who participate in these events. Members of all ages had the opportunity to serve in a capacity that reflected their unique spiritual gifts.

The Apopka Church is committed to share the Gospel, not only by words, but also through service to the community. 🙏

BY ROBERT BROOME

Highway Expansion Proves Beneficial for Dunnellon Company



PHOTO BY: GLENDA BATES

A new church was dedicated in Dunnellon, Fla., on November 11, 2017. The 53 members of Dunnellon Company were joined in the service by guests from the community and Adventist churches in the area.

Dunnellon began as a mission group on

September 1, 1998, when several people were baptized as a result of meetings by Art Swaningson, evangelist. The group was promoted to company status on September 25, 2001, and in October of 2001, with the backing of Ocala Church, the company purchased a small Baptist church.

It became evident that a larger building was needed as the church grew, but the County required the church to have a larger piece of property for an expansion or to rebuild. About this time, the State started making plans to expand the highway and purchased the front of the church property, including the well.

Although five acres of land were purchased on which to build, a property became available in the next block with the price drastically reduced. It seemed cost-efficient to purchase this existing building. Purchase was agreed upon, and keys to the new building were given the Dunnellon Company on June 23, 2017.

In addition to more room for worship, the new church also has a community service center providing free clothing and food to those in need. ☛

BY GLENDA BATES

Rolando Morgado Ordained at Miami Spanish Church

Rolando Morgado was ordained to the Gospel ministry on August 12, 2017, at the Miami, Fla., Spanish Church, where he serves as associate pastor.

He was born in Matanzas, Cuba. He and his sister, Oijany, had the joy of growing up in a ministerial family, and Morgado made the decision to be a servant of God at an early age. He witnessed about Jesus at preschool, and his teacher became interested in knowing about this Jesus. She then devoted her life to Jesus.

Morgado came to the United States in 2005 at the age of 16. Two years later, he decided to obey God's dream for his life and to study theology at Southern Adventist University. He faced many challenges, doubts, and fears due, to a great extent, to

his deficiencies in the English language, but he was pleased to see how God led him every day to a resounding and sure victory as he walked by faith in his Savior Jesus Christ.

Upon graduation in 2011, he was called to work in Tallahassee for the Florida Conference. In 2012, he became an associate pastor of the Hialeah Spanish Church. There Morgado met Nacira, and they were married in 2015. Their son, Alejandro Felipe, was born in 2016.

Morgado's dream is to continue to serve his wonderful God, so all who hear the message of hope and encouragement may also decide to follow Jesus. ☛



Rolando, Macira, and Alejandro Felipe Morgado

Life Being Lived to the Fullest at Peachtree City

John 10:10 states, "...I have come so that they may live life to the fullest." This is exactly what the members and friends of the Peachtree City Church learned more about during the months of September and October last year, as they focused on CREATION Health, in which the main idea is that "God offers abundant life to anyone who wants to be fully alive today and forevermore."

The eight main ideas of CREATION Health — Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook, and Nutrition — were explored on a deeper level pertaining to a person's well-being. The Peachtree City Church concentrated on these health-related issues by hosting an eight-week class on CREATION Health. CREATION Health encompasses a faith-based look at these topics as they relate to each person's health. It's about creating whole-person wellness, which can lead to hope, good health, and happiness.

Lynell LaMountain, Southern Union health ministries director, kick-started the series by speaking to the church members during the weekend of September 8-9, 2017. The class then began Tuesday, September 12, and continued each Tuesday night through October 31, with one topic of CREATION Health covered each week.



Lynell LaMountain, Southern Union health ministries director, kicked off the CREATION Health meetings in early September 2017.

SUBMITTED BY: LAURIE GIBSON

With an average attendance of around 25 people, participants were treated to delicious meals during each class, ranging from homemade sandwiches and soups to haystacks. Dinner was then followed by the topic presentation given by Nate Elias, pastor of Peachtree City Church.

Speaking about the event, Elias said, "I would have never predicted the number of members and friends who chose to commit to an eight-week class of living healthier lives. Having the dinner before each session, as well as providing childcare, offered a user-friendly experience for various age groups. It was truly wonderful to see a multi-generational event taking place." During the meetings, Elias also had many CREATION Health books and other health-related books for sale at a discounted price.

The hope was that attendees walked away with more knowledge about how to improve their lives in one or more of the areas discussed. Mary Carlson, a church member who attended each night of the class, commented, "CREATION Health reinforced the power of choice for me. Everything the class offered had its foundation in the choices I make. The classes opened my eyes and heart to the value of the choices I make on a daily basis."

For more information about events at the Peachtree City Church, visit ptcsda.com, and for more information about CREATION Health, visit creation-health.com. 📍

SUBMITTED BY: LAURIE GIBSON



The Peachtree City, Ga., Church offered a CREATION Health seminar series in September and October 2017. Twenty-five were in attendance, and a meal was provided at each meeting, as well as childcare, making it easier for individuals to attend the meetings.

BY LAURIE GIBSON

Churches Serve Area Homeless

When you have a heart for service, stand back and see what God can do. This is the 12th year members of the Hixson, Tenn., Church have served the homeless in Chattanooga, Tenn. Each year they come away saying, “What more can we do to help these people?”

Hixson Church’s little program has definitely mushroomed into an amazing outreach for the community. For the past 12 years they partnered with the Olivet Baptist Church, as they have graciously let them use their fellowship hall for the Christmas program. This year, though, when asked if their fellowship hall would be available for December 17, 2017, the response was, “We can next year, but this year it is not available.”

After getting to know the different churches downtown, and after much prayer, God led them to a facility that is rented out for business events and weddings. When the venue manager heard what the church wanted to do, he let them use the hall.

Members also reached out to the Community Kitchen as well as the Family Center to take pre-registration for a medical clinic. They were so excited to hear of a program offering medical services. There is much need.

Transportation was also arranged to bring women, children, and those who could not walk well to the program. CARTA donated 50 bus passes.

Church members invited chef Mark Anthony to create a healthy vegetarian Christmas dinner for all. Internationally known singer Charles Haugabrooks provided the entertainment, and guest speaker Eric Flickinger from It Is Written provided an inspirational message.

The medical clinic was coordinated by Charinette Guerrero, a recent nurse practitioner graduate from Southern Adversity University. Hixson members joined forces with the Collegedale Korean Church and their team of 11 doctors and 30 volunteers. Based on the New Start program, they conducted a “Mini Pathways to Health for the Homeless of Chattanooga.”

Patients were greeted with warm, friend-



SUBMITTED BY: SYLVIA KNOCH

The Hixson and Collegedale, Tenn., Korean churches worked together this past Christmas to serve the homeless community in Chattanooga, Tenn. They offered a medical clinic, seeing 115 patients with 12 requests for Bible study. They also had a Christmas party for 250 homeless, giving away backpacks filled with goodies.



SUBMITTED BY: SYLVIA KNOCH

Each patient went through the eight stations, and upon completion could select two additional stations, including an optometrist.

ly smiles to offset the weather, which was 32 degrees — cold and rainy. Each one was handed a clipboard to register and provide a brief medical history for the doctors to

review. They were also asked ways that the church might be of help to them, including if they would like Bible studies.

Each patient went through the eight stations, and upon completion, could select two additional stations, including dentistry, pediatrics, optometry, a haircut, massage (foot or chair), pain management, or an internist.

The medical clinic served 115 patients, and the team received 12 requests for Bible studies. Praise God! At the end of the clinic, they offered a Christmas program with a warm meal and amazing music. Each guest was given a backpack filled with blankets, gloves, hats, personal items, and food. They served more than 250 people.

They feel very blessed, and are talking about another medical clinic in the spring or summer this year. 🙏

BY SYLVIA KNOCH

Phenix City Goes to Jamaica



August Town Church (before)



August Town Church (after)

The 19-member team of the Phenix City, Ala., Church brought much-needed help to the August Town, Jamaica West Indies, Church and school on a mission trip for a “Church Reno” project. This trip was in answer to a Macedonian call for help before the hurricane season started. It was a rush against time, but through much faith and prayer materials were able to be purchased, and the members of the Hands and Feet of Jesus team (HFJ) from Phenix City Personal Ministries Department offered their skills, money, and time to the success of this project. The work included laying tile on the floor, fixing the roof, repairing broken windows, replacing the doors to the sanctuary, and painting the interior and exterior of the sanctuary for worship services. As a result, the church building may now be used as a hurricane shelter.

In addition to the significant work in renovating the church, the members also held daily Vacation Bible School activities, led by Laree Daniel, elder and HFJ leader, and her team, for more than 60 children of the church and community. Christopher Atkinson, pastor of Phenix City Church, led a mass tract distribution and delivered a powerful community sermon in the streets of August Town on Sabbath, July 8, 2017, similar to those he used to present while living in Jamaica.

The church members thoroughly enjoyed the time spent in Jamaica, and were revived to



The ceiling shows signs of water damage before renovations were made.



Phenix City, Ala., Church members led church and community children in Vacation Bible School.

do more significant work at home in the United States. They spent time with the members and volunteers from the August Town Church, and learned about Jamaican culture and Adventist ways of sharing Jesus. One of their favorite pastimes was sampling many fruits, such as sweep sop, guinep, jackfruit, and mangoes to name a few. They also enjoyed visiting

and praying with people in the community.

Atkinson said he felt very grateful and humbled to be able to contribute to the August Town Church. Other members of Phenix City felt the same.

Ann Dockinson stated, “Brother Caleb Atkinson [Christopher Atkinson’s deceased father] would be very thankful and blessed if he were here to see the August Town Church remodeled inside and out. With the hand of God, the project was completed in record time. It was amazing to see how the community came out to help rebuild God’s house, even those who were not members.”

“The mission trip was successful beyond our imagination! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we completed renovation of the building in about four days. The teamwork with the locals was phenomenal. It was long hours and sometimes late into the night. I was immensely blessed, and pray that I am able to return a portion of what I was given,” said Daniel.

Atkinson said the purpose of God’s church is to be the hands and feet of Jesus. HFJ hopes to continue its mission to help, including building a church Cuba, and doing evangelistic work in India.

“And he said unto them, ‘Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature,’” Mark 16:15. 📌

BY KATHLEEN NEUZIL

Renewed Friendship Leads to Rebaptism

I don't believe in happenstance; I think everything good that happens in our lives is providence from God," says Ida Lee (Beard) Hodge. Recently an accidental reconnecting with an old friend from her past positively influenced her decision to be rebaptized.

Back in the late 1970s, she and her friend, Dana (Saylor) Moody, were members of the Hansville Church, where their children attended church school. Hodge was attending Wallace Junior College, taking prerequisite classes to enter a medical program. When she graduated and went on to a four-year college, they lost touch.

Hodge's life went in a different direction. In pursuing her career, she ended up in Washington State. She had quit going to church, and her children were in public school. She was consumed with a new life, one that was not pleasing to God. However, she still considered herself an Adventist.

"My work made me feel needed because I helped my patients feel better," Hodge says. But, there was an emptiness inside her that she could not explain. She prayed for a reconnection with God, but felt her prayers never reached the ceiling. At one time she was so depressed that she considered suicide, but deep in her heart, she knew that wasn't the answer. With much interest, she carefully started rereading her Bible. As she read Isaiah 59:2, "... your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you,



Ida Lee (Beard) Hodge is grateful to God for reuniting her with her childhood friend, Dana (Saylor) Moody.

so that He will not hear [your prayers]," NKJV, she asked God for His forgiveness for her sins and tried going back to church. She never felt connected to anyone, though, and no one reached out to her in friendship. "I was far away from my home church in Alabama, the people I knew and loved."

When Hodge retired in 2004, she decided to move back home. She felt she had God's blessing on that decision, and trusted Him to protect her as she traveled alone. "Feeling His presence gave me encouragement and fearlessness; I felt my guardian angel was with me on my incredible journey."

However, once back home, she "wandered in the wilderness" for more than 10 years. At last, she felt Him calling her back, and she wanted to go back to church. But, she had moved to a remote area and had no transportation. On Sabbaths, she worshiped God alone in her home for about two years.

"That's when Dana appeared in my life again. I know God sent her to me. She took me to her church each Sabbath. When I experienced the love of that congregation, I knew I had to become a member." Robert Menezes, pastor of the Decatur, Ala., Church, rebaptized her in on October 7, 2017. "I praise the Lord for leading me back to Him, for finding Dana and a church home to call my own." 🙏

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Members Scatter Truth Like “Leaves of Autumn”

While watching a 3ABN presentation by Pathways to Health, Jacque Small was inspired to see how she could make a difference for God. After talking to a small group of members in her church, they formed the Wilson County Fair Committee (WCFC). In 2015, WCFC, along with Rocky Davis and the Literature Evangelism Department at the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, shared a booth and began distributing literature. Wilson County Fair averages from 400,000 to 600,000 attendees each year. Together, they have now distributed more than 4,000 books and 60,000 pieces of literature.

After much prayer and discussion, the committee felt it needed to take the ministry a step further. This called for a total change, starting with a new name, reorganization, and expanded goals. It was decided that the group’s goals were best represented by the quote, “truth must be spoken, in leaflets and pamphlets, and these must be scattered like the leaves of autumn,” *Testimonies for the Church*, v. 9, p. 231. The new name, Gold Leaf Outreach, best represented this concept. This will allow the team to do literature distribution at a variety of venues in the



Wilson County Fair booth

region, and to include all who might feel a calling to help with this ministry. Along with having a booth at the 2018 Wilson County Fair, the outreach ministry will man booths at other regional events. With God’s leading, the team will be working toward a multi-faceted literature outreach.

The witnessing team of this outreach would like to share with fellow churches and their members what they have learned through their booth experiences. If you are interested in joining a literature distribution event, contact Rocky Davis, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference at 615-859-1391, for further information. 📍

BY JACQUE SMALL

Madison Campus Children Bring Joy to Seniors



Kids in Tune sing to the residents at the LifeCare Center.

Kids in Tune (KIT) visited the senior citizens at the LifeCare Center in Old Hickory, Tenn., on Sabbath afternoon, November 18, 2017. The kids’ choir from Madison Campus Church (MCC) performed a variety of songs, including Thanksgiving and Christmas songs, and shared poems and Scripture.

For two weeks, the Sabbath School divisions at MCC made more than 100 colorful cards to share with the LifeCare



Trina Frasier (front), Greycen Frasier, Samantha Roddy, Rachel Denman, and residents of the LifeCare Center

Center residents. The handmade cards' loving expressions from the hearts of the children gave the young KIT choir members the opportunity to bring joy to the seniors, and also allowed them to share the love of Jesus. After a musical performance, KIT shared the cards, hugs, smiles, and ice cream. The Teens in Tune also visited the rooms of those who could not join the choir for the performance. The experience was a wonderful success.

Visiting the nursing home has become a yearly tradition for KIT, and such activities embody its mission to instill in children a passion for Jesus, music, and service. The residents loved watch-

ing and listening to the children sing, and they look forward to their visit each year. They cherished their cards and the chance to visit with the little ones.

May God continue to provide KIT with the opportunity to serve Him in this way. It's a blessing to the residents at LifeCare Center, and a greater blessing to the children. Through these types of experiences, the children learn to bring to life the two great commandments — to love Jesus and to love neighbors. ●

BY **CARISSA JORDAN,
GISSELA KROLL,
AND HAMLET CANOSA**

Korean Pastor Encourages Unity, Revival, Mission

Two Korean churches in Nashville have reunited to further the spread of the Gospel.

After four years of various generational and other challenges, a minority of the members of the Nashville, Tenn., Korean Church had transferred their memberships to the Nashville First Church in an effort to establish a second Korean church. Although the two churches have actively tried to promote God's mission in the Nashville area, several factors had been obstacles to their missionary work. These included limitations of human workforce, financial instability, lack of supplies, and, more significantly, a negative perspective from the local community on the divided churches.

While much effort had been made to unify the two churches, no satisfactory outcome had resulted. However, recently an important decision to serve a bigger mission was made in response to advice from Oh Young Kwon, president of the Korean Church Council, and administration of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

To become more efficient in spreading the



Those who attended the special service on December 2, 2017



Daniel Yoon (left), pastor, and Peter Kim, translator

Three Angels' message and the everlasting Gospel, the two Korean churches reunited on December 2, 2017. On that special Sabbath, "Unity, Revival, Mission" was the message

given by Daniel Yoon for his first Sabbath as pastor of the Nashville Korean Church. Also present to offer encouragement and congratulations were Steve Haley, president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, and David Hartman, Conference ministerial director.

Yoon asked all the members to truly reunite by following God's counsel to, "Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!" Isaiah 43:18, 19. ●

BY **DANIEL YOON**

Bethany Church Members Honor Seniors



Bethany Church senior members, who range in age from 60 to 90, were honored during a recent family life ministries event.

Senior citizens of Bethany Church in Macon, Ga., were recently honored with “A Dinner & A Concert & A Play.” The event was organized by the Family Life Ministries Department. The department hosted the first “Dinner & A Concert” two years ago, and the response was outstanding. “The senior citizens enjoyed it so much that we wanted to do it for them again. Our intention was to honor them and make them feel as special as they are to us,” said family ministries leaders Franklin and Stephanie Johnson. “They faithfully support the church, so we wanted to give back just a little something to them.”

More than 30 members and community guests attended the event, ranging in age from 60 to 90. The gathering turned into a mini class reunion when one of the guests discovered that she had attended

school with a few of the members.

The family ministries committee transformed the fellowship hall into a banquet hall with vintage decorations and old photographs of some of the honorees. The event started with music by Franklin Johnson and recording artist Theresa Morton. This time, not only were the senior citizens treated with singing, but also a play. The cast of DRAMA, from Charlotte Berean Church, presented the play, “Down South Convalescence Home,” a comedic look at life in a nursing home. Although the characters were funny, the message behind the play was serious. “The purpose of the play is to make people aware that they should visit their loved ones or people in general who are confined to a nursing home,” said Perry Jordan, director. “They need to be visited as much as possible.”

A catered sit-down dinner and musical selections by LaVerne Anderson, Evelyn Bell, and Willie Farlar followed.

Susie Scott, who attended the event with her husband, Joseph, said she enjoys the get-togethers that family life plans for the elderly members who don’t get out much. “The Dinner & A Concert & A Play was beautiful,” she said. “I enjoyed the music, the food, and the fellowship, and I hope that in the future we can do more things like this. I love getting dressed up.”

Almost everyone posed at the end of the evening for a group picture that will serve as a lasting memory for generations to come. 📷

BY STEPHANIE JOHNSON

Berea Church Honors Community Guest

Each year Berea Church in Sumter, S.C., seeks to identify a person who has positively impacted people's lives in the Sumter community. The person who is selected is acknowledged during the Community Guest Day service. Well-deserving Natalie Williams was unanimously chosen as this year's candidate, and was honored on Sabbath, September 16, 2017.

Williams is the first black female assistant agent in charge of the Department of Parole and Probation in Sumter County, and was the first female ombudsman for South Carolina Department of Corrections, Internal Affairs Division. She was an investigator for Child Protective Services for the Department of Social Services, is a veteran of the United States Army, and was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She retired from South Carolina State government after 31 years of service. Presently, she serves as director of Cultural Affairs Ministry and Veteran Affairs at Mt. Pisgah African Methodist Episcopal Church, and volunteers as African studies teacher at Berea Junior Academy and a guide at the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia, S.C.

Williams frequently attends and supports many services at Berea Church, but she is currently a member of Mt. Pisgah African Methodist Episcopal Church. She is the founder and director of the Sankofa Connection Cultural Touch Festival in Sumter. Her special interests include American Sign Language, black history events and programs, afrocentric classes for children and adults, African-American wedding ceremonies, African dance, and the Djembe drum.

Among her achievements, she received the Legacy Award from the House of Representative in recognition of outstanding contributions to the community; Heritage Award for invaluable contribution to the African-American legacy in



Michael Miller, pastor of Berea Church in Sumter, S.C., stands with Natalie Williams, Berea's Community Guest Day honoree.



Natalie Williams (second from right) poses with her daughter and granddaughters.

Sumter, S.C.; and Berea Junior Academy Award for dedicatory work in education.

She is blessed with two daughters, seven granddaughters, three great-granddaughters, and two great-grandsons. Her

immediate family, church family, a host of well-wishers, and friends witnessed her accepting the award. 📍

BY CARLINE SAMUELS

Richard E. Tottress, Ph.D., Celebrates 100th Birthday

Richard E. Tottress, Ph.D., has enjoyed 100 years of life, with 75 years of ministry all across the United States!

He has a rich heritage of ancestors. His grandfather, MayAndrew Melvin Tottress, was a businessman, veterinarian, farmer, and blacksmith, among other trades and businesses. He owned a 500-acre farm and was called “Mr. Tottress” by all. His grandmother, Sarah Swan Tottress, was a midwife and Sunday School teacher. His father, M. M. Tottress Jr., was a Baptist preacher and farmer. Character, integrity, and education were instilled into each generation of Tottresses, and especially Richard.

Richard Tottress has accomplished many things during his lifetime:

- 1917 — November 25, born in Newby, Okla., to Louisa Headspeth Tottress and MayAndrew Melvin Tottress Jr.
- 1937 — Graduated from the prestigious Lincoln High School in Bristow, Okla., where he excelled in all subjects. Won the oratorical contest, and was recognized by Langston College, where he attended after high school.
- Moved to Madera, Calif., and then to Fresno, and later enrolled and graduated from Pacific Union College in Angwin, Calif. He was introduced to the Seventh-day Adventist message. Neil Wilson, former General Conference president, was a friend and colleague.
- 1943 — Graduated from Pacific Union College with a B.A. degree in theology. Became a pastoral intern and traveled throughout California, and then many cities in Texas. Became a civilian military chaplain at Camp Barkley in Abilene, Tex.
- 1955 — His B.A. thesis, “Heaven’s Entrance Requirements for Races in Consideration for Races,” was copyrighted and set for publication in 1955, while he was living and pastoring in Charleston, S.C.

- 1957 — *Heaven’s Entrance Requirement for Races in Consideration for Races* was then a book, and requested to be used for students in the library at Pacific Union College by his former professor, W. R. French. Later, there was a digital version produced and housed at the University of California in the Davis Library.
- Wilmington, N.C., is where he began his broadcasting entitled, *Your Bible Speaks*.



Richard E. Tottress, Ph.D.

- 1963 — Called to Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) as pastor, dean of men, and professor of history and Bible. Became the first chaplain for the college. He was instrumental in getting the Oakwood College radio station started. He wrote for government grants to get guy-wires to set it up at Oakwood.
- Tottress contracted with the local station WEUP to continue his broadcast of *Your Bible Speaks*, which was broadcast every week. He was well accepted as he spoke during the week, and had many ministers of different denominations interested in the Seventh-day Adventist message.
- 1965 — Oakwood Church building fund was started by Tottress, and the money was guarded to not be spent for anything else but God’s church, until the fulfillment of the building of the church structure was completed.

- 1977 — Grand opening of Oakwood College Church. Richard Tottress and Eric C. Ward, co-pastors and former suitemates at Pacific Union College, cut the ribbon on Sabbath, September 3, 1977.
- 1979 — Moved to Atlanta, Ga., and organized the College Park Church, which is now the Mt. Olive Church. Started and continued *Your Bible Speaks* radio broadcast. Called to serve as Berean’s co-pastor.
- 1981 — Received his master’s and Ph.D. from Beverly Hills University, which is now the University of Los Angeles.
- Tottress has numerous awards, has written six books, had thousands of prose and poetry poems published and unpublished, and is a National Board member of March of Dimes.
- 2015 — Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., has cataloged 11 entries into the Ellen G. White Adventist Research Center of Tottress’ books, sermons, and other documented materials worthy of archiving, presented to James Ford, associate director, by Tottress’ niece, Timetta Wilson. These materials can be located on the internet: digital James White Library catalog.
- 2016 — Emeritus ministerial credentials were presented by the Southern Union of Seventh-day Adventists, as an ordained minister and certified to pastor anywhere in the world.
- 2017 — On November 25, Richard E. Tottress celebrated his 100th birthday!

Tottress is married to Mattie Duncan Tottress, who is a retired high school administrator. She was a highly rated administrator who has trained many teachers.

These are just a few glimpses into the history of a humble man of God. 🕊

BY MATTIE DUNCAN TOTTRESS

East Hispanic Church Burns Mortgage

The East Hispanic Church in Duluth, Ga., held its mortgage burning ceremony on Sabbath, January 6, 2018, with the help of David Smith, executive secretary of the South Atlantic Conference in Decatur, Ga.

Ismael Uribe, pastor, who also pastor churches in Forest Park, Morrow, and Carrollton, Ga., organized the program. Some pioneers were present to share exciting stories about the beginning of the



David Smith (center), executive secretary of the South Atlantic Conference, holds the mortgage papers as they burn.

church. This is the third church in Uribe's district to become debt free.

The members praise the Lord for multiplying his churches and eliminating their debts. 🕊

BY EFRAIN POLOCHE

Atlanta Boulevard Church Holds “End It Now” Campaign

A recent study on violence shows that Georgia ranks 17th in the nation for domestic abuse. In Atlanta, statistics for child abduction and spousal abuse are alarming. One in three people endure an abusive or unhealthy relationship.

In southeast Atlanta's Kirkwood community, Atlanta Boulevard Church heard the call for help and stepped in. Under the leadership of Harold Thomas III, pastor, the church held its 2017 “End It Now” campaign on August 12. End It Now is a global initiative to increase awareness of domestic violence, and mobilize Seventh-day Adventists worldwide in the fight to help end it.

The event, a 1.4-mile march from Atlanta Boulevard Church to Coan Park and back, presented an awesome opportunity for the members to connect with the community. Led by the Atlanta Boulevard Pathfinder Club, and accompanied by the thunderous sounds of the Decatur and West End Pathfinder Drum Corps, members and the community connected. Some members of the community marched, and others handed out water to marchers.

The day ended with a provocative and



Atlanta Boulevard Pathfinder Club and Decatur and West End Pathfinder Drum Corps participated in the End It Now campaign.

informative panel discussion moderated by JoAnn Farmer-Young, LPC, CAMS, of One Step Counseling Center, on “Dating and Teen Violence.” Guest panelists included church and community leaders Eddie Beal, Ph.D., psychiatrist; Selina Hansford, family law specialist; Rosa Lewis, advocate; Felicitée Love, victims advocate and author; Elouise Mitchell, director of Carrie-Steele-Pitts Home; Ruth Reeve, advocate; Lenora Ruff, Ph.D., advocate; and Carol Smith, advocate.

The panel discussion clearly established

that awareness was just a first step in affecting change. The interest in, concern for, and desire to continue addressing ways to curb domestic abuse was inspiring. Motivated to do more, the members formed the Victory Support Group. This group, directed by JoAnn Farmer-Young, offers counseling and spiritual support to help domestic abuse victims, ages 17 and up, deal with the aftermath of the abuse. 🕊

BY ALOMA BRYAN AND ANGELA ALEXANDER-GATTISON

Oakwood University Church Celebrates 40 Years in Current Edifice

September 3, 1977, will long be remembered in the history of the Oakwood University Church in Huntsville, Ala., on this date, the grand opening for its new, palatial 3,000-seat worship facility commenced. The late Eric Calvin Ward, then senior pastor of the Oakwood College Church (now Oakwood University Church), led church members, Oakwood College faculty, and students in the ceremonial march from Ashby Auditorium (the former venue of worship) to the newly constructed Oakwood University Church building. Ward, accompanied by several dignitaries, including the late Charles E. Dudley, then president of the South Central Conference; Calvin B. Rock, Ph.D., D.Min., then president of Oakwood College; and Joe Daley, mayor of Huntsville, Ala., cut the ribbon to the church and ushered in a new era for Oakwood University and the church. Forty years later, September 9, 2017, Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., current senior pastor of the Oakwood University Church, led out in the anniversary celebration in the current church edifice.

The 40th anniversary celebration began at 9:15 a.m. with a special Sabbath School program featuring historical reflections by Mervyn Warren, Ph.D., D.Min., son-in-law of Calvin Moseley, first black pastor of Oakwood Church, along with the lesson study being presented by former associate pastors Michael Harpe; David Lee; Micah Weech; Toussaint Williams, Ph.D.; Bob Mounter; and Charles Tapp, D.Min.

The divine worship experience was truly a memorable event. The capacity crowd witnessed recognitions given to Annell Wright Rogers, longest continuous serving member of the Oakwood University Church; Barbara Warren, daughter of Calvin Moseley; and living former senior pastors Richard E. Tottress, Ph.D.; Robert



PHOTO BY: JOE BOOTH

Leslie Pollard (left), Ph.D., D.Min.; John Nixon, D.Min.; Gwendolyn Ward; Richard E. Tottress, Ph.D.; Craig Newborn, Ph.D.; and Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min.

Woodfork; Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min.; John S. Nixon Sr., D.Min.; and Craig Newborn, Ph.D. Music was provided by the Oakwood University Aeolians and Orchestra, Wintley Phipps, and special guest Grammy Award-winning Christian Artist Sandi Patty, complimenting the preaching ministry of Carlton P. Byrd.

The major highlight of the day was a special presentation given to Gwendolyn Ward, spouse of the late Eric C. Ward. Among the gifts she received was a mural of her and her husband with the church complex in the background. Posthumously, Ward was recognized for his vision, leadership, spirituality, and influence on tens of thousands of students, coupled with being the builder of the Oakwood University Church building. Carlton Byrd reflected that the Wards laid the foundation on which countless ministers stand today. In her response, Gwendolyn Ward reflected

that it was “a real privilege to be able to be in a structure that my husband dreamed of long before he started on it.”

For the afternoon program, the Vesper message was given by Craig Newborn, coupled with music from church choirs that have ministered throughout the 40-year period, including the Cherub Choir (former Children’s Choir with members now in their 40s and 50s), the Singing Men, the International Cathedral Choir, the Church Chorale, and the Voices of Inspiration.

The 40-year celebration is part of the church’s “Restoration 40” initiative, which includes refurbishing the sanctuary, and the construction of the new Oakwood University Church Family Life Center, scheduled to open in February 2018. ●

BY PASTOR PAUL GOODRIDGE

South Central Holds Annual Teen Leadership Training Boot Camp



Nine leaders, 16 emerging leaders, and two guest presenters came together on October 20-22, 2017, at the Wild, Wild West Camp in Tuskegee, Ala., for a Teen Leadership Training (TLT). The focus was on team building and preparation.

Experiences in team building were gained through platoon membership, bridge building, and clearing a TLT hiking trail. Each boot camper was part of a platoon that consisted of four to six campers. Each platoon's leader was responsible for keeping the platoon together. The chain of command for each camper was platoon leader, master chief, lieutenant, and camp commander.

Much productive, effective, and successful interaction came into play when each platoon worked together to build a bridge from wooden tongue depressors that would hold

four pounds for two minutes. The platoons worked collaboratively to clear a hiking trail through the wilderness. They worked together to chop and clip wild weeds, saw tree limbs, and make a wooden bridge across a small stream. Later that night, they had the opportunity to experience their hard work in a night hike. The ultimate in team building was "Big Foot." Big Foot is a race where three team members compete against another team to "walk" two 2x4x6 planks to a designated area.

"Interesting," "positive," "inspiring," "motivating," and "informative" were some of the comments made about special guest speaker Jessica Johnson. She "made you think about your spiritual life and future." Another said, "Listening to someone close to my age tell how to be responsible, mature, and prepare for college was more ef-

fective than hearing it from a family member or an older person." Johnson focused on preparation for now and eternity. She shared how she almost missed graduating with her high school class, how God turned her life around, and the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus. In preparation for the last days, campers also had the opportunity to experience what it could be like by playing a game entitled the "Time of Trouble."

If you are an emerging leader and interested in opportunities for team building and preparation for the future, the next TLT Boot Camp is scheduled for October 19-21, 2018. Register early! You don't want to miss out! For more information, contact the South Central Conference Youth Department at 615-226-6500. 📞

BY BRENDA COWAN

Southeastern Builds Mission Exchange Program

Just before He ascended to Heaven, Jesus challenged all to “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,” Matthew 28:19, NIV. Then He promised that “you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth,” Acts 1:8, NIV.

With these pronouncements and promises, all have a very clear invitation to international missional engagement. However, there is a dangerous tendency that comes along with the tremendous opportunity.

This tendency is succinctly explained by the late, great theologian Howard Thurman, when he spoke about missions, saying, “This impulse at the heart of Christianity is the will to share with others ... but there is a lurking danger It is the sin of pride and arrogance that has tended to vitiate the missionary impulse, and make it an instrument of self-righteousness on the one hand and racial superiority on the other.”

It is the Holy Spirit Who leads everyone to engage in ministry and mission work. However, it is in doing that work that many may become puffed up as though they have righteousness in and of themselves because they are inclined to help those who are in need. Closely akin to this danger is a sense of arrogance and pride that suggests that one who is in position to help is somehow more superior than those in need. This is simply not true.

It is with this in mind that the Southeastern Conference has devised a new initiative to create mission partnerships with foreign fields, rather than top-down service projects that are short-lived.

During the past two years, several pastors and Southeastern ministry departments have conducted ministry projects in collaboration with the ministry leaders in Jamaica (and the Central Jamaica Conference in particular), with the expressed intent of



PHOTO BY: EDDY GUERRIER

Southeastern pastors stop for a selfie moment with Wayne Smikle, pastor of the St. John’s district in Central Jamaica Conference: Nathaniel Lyles (left), Georges Fleurimond, Smikle, Steven Gates, and Eddy Guerrier.

building lasting relationships, and collaborating for building God’s Kingdom.

In March 2017, the Youth Department went to help paint a school. Two years ago, the singles’ ministry adopted a school and has committed to supporting a particular school over several trips, with equipment and building repairs. This past October, four Southeastern pastors partnered with the Central Jamaica Conference’s annual multi-site, lay-led evangelistic effort, which yielded nearly 100 baptisms after one week of preaching.

Nevertheless, the intention has always been to build a partnership. So, not only has the United States served Jamaica, but Jamaica has served the United States. In September last year, a group of youth visited Southeastern from Central Jamaica Conference to lend a hand with multiple service projects throughout the state of Florida. Also, in March of 2018, the Conference is planning to host pastors from Jamaica who will come to preach revivals in Southeastern, just as the Southeastern pastors did there. In the coming years, the

Conference looks to build similar partnerships with local conferences in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

With each visit, there was focused time for collaborative worship and fellowship. Without a commitment to both, lasting bonds cannot be formed. Therefore, both teams spent time together aside from work to relax, laugh, and enjoy each other’s company. One such fellowship outing included a trip to Disney’s Animal Kingdom. It was most likely in one of those down times that Steven Gates, pastor, learned that his host pastor in Jamaica is a direct relative of a family who are members of the church he pastors in Florida. It’s these types of circumstances that remind that all are one in Christ. All have been bound together, not simply in service, but in familial bonds of love.

All are not enemies, and all are not superior. All are partners. All are collaborators. All are the family of God. 🙏

BY CHRISTOPHER C. THOMPSON

Southeastern Celebrates Retired Workers

The idea was born around 2004 to plan a special event to pay tribute to Southeastern Conference retirees. Under the leadership of I.L. Harrell, Conference ministerial director, the first celebration was held and then became an annual event. It continued with the late Milton Sterling, D.Min., and Brent Waldon, ministerial director successors.

The purpose of the retiree luncheon was to honor individuals who served Southeastern in the local churches, schools, and as literature evangelists for many years until retirement. Under Sterling's leadership, this celebration invitation was extended to retirees from other conferences who had relocated to Florida.

Southeastern considers it a privilege to host this annual event. It is well attended, and attendees express appreciation each



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

Gregory Mack (left), Southeastern president, and Robert Patterson, Southeastern CFO (far right), stand with recently retired workers Michael Ross, Clarence Richardson, and Allen Fullwood.

year. Carrie Kelly, retired teacher, stated in a thank you card, "Thank you for remembering us who have worked for the Church for many years." Richard Barron, retired pastor and administrator, stated to Waldon, "Thank you for just remembering us and inviting us to celebrate together every year."

Southeastern salutes the retired workers for their dedicated service and the difference they have made in the lives of so many in immeasurable ways. ●

BY CAROL SMITH

Women's Retreat Encourages "Journey to Wholeness"

"Journey to Wholeness" was the theme for the Southeastern Conference Women's Retreat, held in Orlando, Fla., November 2-5, 2017. The entire weekend was focused on empowering females of all ages to take charge of their lives. Attendees were reminded of several truths: "We are responsible for our choices. We choose to remain in bondage to sin, or we choose freedom in Christ."

All must prepare for the journey, and that preparation begins at an early age. Career options and opportunities to meet with practitioners and entrepreneurs took place at the career fair on Thursday evening. Presenters shared tips and tools on college readiness, career planning, and balancing work and family.

Keynote speaker Janice Johnson Browne, Ph.D., advised that being light-weighted on the journey allows all to maneuver



PHOTO BY: NOEL GRANT

Southeastern women's ministries and area leaders honor Laura Smith, retired Southern Union women's ministries director, for her years of service to women: Esmeralda Guzman-Harris (left), Mithra Williams, Betsy Hall, Smith, and Eugénise Mompremier.

obstacles. Many are not strong enough to carry the weight of some burdens. Tears, joy, brokenness, affirmations are all part of the journey. Attendees were reminded of these truths throughout the weekend. Laura Smith, retired Southern Union women's ministries director, commended the diversity in ethnicity, culture, and age groups represented. Activities were geared to attendees from ages 5 to 95. She remarked that she saw younger people, and celebrated the targeted programming and resources to meet their needs.

All journeyed on, and kept the theme song for the weekend in focus, "I won't go back, can't go back to the way it used to be, before your presence came and changed me." ●

BY KEITHA HATCHER

Oakwood University Adds New Honor Society



Oakwood University added an additional international honor society, Kappa Delta Pi International Society in Education, to its current list of honor societies last academic school year. Currently Oakwood University students hold membership in the following honor societies:

- Alpha Chi National Honor Society
- Delta Mu Delta National Honor Society

- Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta) National Biological Honor Society
- Kappa Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International

Membership in any of these societies offers students the opportunity to network with high-achieving professionals; win valuable scholarships, fellowships,

and grants; and gain the ability to participate in campus and community programming that extends and enhances their academic experience. 📍

BY KAREN BENN MARSHALL, PH.D.,
VP OF ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

Museum of the Bible Features Work of Southern Adventist University Students, Professors

The findings of Southern Adventist University archaeology students and professors are on display at the new Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C. The temporary exhibit, titled “In the Valley of David and Goliath,” focuses on the groundbreaking contributions of the Khirbet Qeiyafa Archaeological Project, co-sponsored by the institutes of archaeology at Southern and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

From 2007 to 2013, many groups of Southern students had the opportunity to work on the site overlooking the Elah Valley, where the confrontation between David and Goliath took place. The ancient fortified garrison city, Khirbet Qeiyafa, is on the border between Judah and Philistia, southwest of Jerusalem.

“Based on the extensive data from the excavation project, we believe that Khirbet Qeiyafa may be ancient Shaaraim mentioned in 1 Samuel 17:52 within the context of that story,” said Michael G. Hasel, Ph.D., director of Southern’s Institute of Archaeology and a director of the project. “The site dates back to the time of Saul and David, and the two gates at the site match the biblical name of Shaaraim, which means ‘two gates’ in Hebrew.”

During the course of the excavation, Southern students helped make discoveries that gained international attention, and are now featured in the Museum of the Bible. These include the oldest Hebrew inscription ever found, uncovered in 2008, as well as an inscription found in 2013 dating to the 10th century B.C., which mentions



In 2008, Southern students discovered the Khirbet Qeiyafa Ostrakon, the oldest known sample of Hebrew writing, which is now on display in the Museum of the Bible.

someone with the same name as one of Saul’s sons.

“The significance of these inscriptions cannot be underestimated,” Hasel said. “They show that literacy was well established by the early 10th century, the time of Judah’s first kings. David could indeed have written the Psalms that are attributed to him.”

The Museum of the Bible is located in the heart of Washington near Cap-

itol Hill, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Mall. The museum has six floors dedicated to different aspects of biblical history, and the development of the Bible.

According to Hasel, “It will be a landmark institution in the capital of the United States, where millions of visitors can benefit from its holdings.”

BY SOUTHERN STAFF

Southern Exceeds Service Goal



Marceline Ndahayo, a junior health science major and contributor to the service hour goal, is spending the year as a student missionary doing medical work in Peru.

Throughout 2017, Southern celebrated its 125th anniversary with a wide variety of activities. One element of that commemoration was collecting the service hours of alumni, students, volunteers, employees, and friends of the University, with the goal of reaching 125,000 hours by the end of the year. Southern’s good-hearted extended family not only met that goal, but surpassed it, with 164,148 hours logged.

“The joy of service is a core part of South-

ern’s identity — something we hope young people learn here and put into practice the rest of their lives,” said Jennifer Carter, director of Southern’s Christian Service Program. “I’m so thrilled that we exceeded the goal, although I’m not surprised. I imagine this was only a fraction of the time people actually spent serving others last year.”

BY JANELL HULLQUIST



BURCHARD, ROBERT “BOB” WARREN, 85, of Hendersonville, NC, born July 1, 1932 in Dayton, TN, to the late Wallace Henry Burchard Sr. and Orphia Klaus Burchard, died in the early hours of Oct. 14, 2017 surrounded by his loving family, after a brief battle with cancer. He attended elementary school in Dayton. In 1951 he graduated from Mt. Pisgah Academy in Candler, NC, where his father was school farm manager and his mother was school nurse, and he took a lab course in Asheville, NC, before being drafted into the Army. Bob spent the majority of his two years in the Army in Germany. When he was discharged, he spent a year at Madison College before transferring to and finishing a business degree at Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) where he also met his future wife, Ann Maxwell, whom he married on Aug. 4, 1957.

They determined from the beginning that as the Lord was foremost in their plans and leading, He would always be their Leader and Guide. So at graduation, they signed an application for mission service to go wherever they were needed.

His first job after graduating was as business manager of a small private hospital in McMinnville, TN, where their son, Mark, was born. Two years later, he was assistant administrator of another small hospital in Ellijay, GA, where they added their daughter, Beth, to the family. The Seventh-day Adventist Church needed an administrator at their hospital in Tokyo, Japan, and in 1963, he and his wife and children moved to Japan. In addition to running the hospital, he was asked to take on the responsibility of business manager for the Choral Arts Society of Japan Missionary College, as they toured the United States in the spring and summer of 1966. It was an exciting and memorable experience he was proud to have been a part of.

In early 1970, after six years at the Tokyo Sanitarium and Hospital, he was transferred to Hong Kong to the position of CEO of Tsuen Wan Adventist Hospital, and oversaw the building of a second hospital, Hong Kong Adventist Hospital, and was then CEO of both institutions. While there, he undertook the project of building a 12-story apartment high-rise for hospital staff housing, as well as continuing to improve and expand both hospitals.

Upon arriving in Hong Kong, there were no vacancies in the staff apartments on the hospital compound, so the family moved into a house next-door to Dr. Harry Miller on the college campus at Clear Water Bay, an hour's drive away. After 13 months, they moved into the unfinished new hospital in Hong Kong. Because housing was so expensive in the city, the fourth and fifth floors became staff housing, and were partitioned off into apartments until needed funds were gathered to finish the new apartment building.

Since Hong Kong was half way around the world, you could choose to continue on around the world when going on furlough or, go back the same way you had come. Bob spent many hours planning wonderful trips for his family on a dime through Asia and Europe to take advantage of that opportunity.

In 1979, when his children were college-age, he moved his family back to the States to become CEO of Manchester Adventist Hospital in Manchester, KY. After six years, he was transferred to Fletcher, NC, to finish building and moving into what is now Park Ridge Health (PRH). During his 10 years as CEO at PRH, he continued to expand and improve services, bringing many new doctors to the area to become a part of Park Ridge Medical Associates and Park Ridge Health. In addition to his duties as CEO, he was also chairman of the board of three other hospitals in Kentucky, TN, and Truth or Consequences, NM. He had a knack for taking a hospital that was struggling and turning it around to make it a successful and respected part of the medical community. After he retired, he was asked by the Church once again to go overseas, this time to Bangkok, Thailand, where he worked on a volunteer basis as a consultant and CEO of Bangkok Adventist Hospital as they merged their two hospitals. This gave many more opportunities for travel. He and his wife made many dear friends during their two years in Thailand, as they had in every country, city, and state where they had worked. Bob was a very kind, good-hearted, and generous man; always willing to listen and help whatever the problem. He determined early in his career to go wherever he felt called by God through his Church to help serve the medical needs of people anywhere he was needed. He never made a major decision without consulting with the Lord, often counseling and praying with those who came to his office. He was well-loved and will be greatly missed by those who worked with and for him.

The last 20 years of his life have been spent being a proud and loving grandfather, lending a hand or doing chauffeur duty for his grandson, wife, daughter, or whoever else might need him. He was a familiar sight enjoying walks with his daughter and dog around the neighborhood most days. He was also on church boards and school boards, and the Carolina Conference Committee. He helped out with his Home Owners Association, planted gardens, and took many trips with his wife around this country and abroad. He also continued to do consulting work, and made several trips back to Hong Kong in that capacity. In 2015, he and his wife returned to Hong Kong as special guests and honorees at the grand opening of a beautiful 25-story state-of-the-art hospital in Tsuen Wan that had been built by one of the many people he had mentored during the years. It was a well-deserved honor after such a long life of dedicated service.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 60 years, Ann Maxwell Burchard, his son, Robert Mark Burchard; his daughter, Beth Burchard; his grandson, Samuel Burchard, all of Hendersonville, NC; his sister, Carol Burchard Magboo of Cleveland, TN; his sister-in-law, Ruby Burchard of Rising Fawn, GA; his brothers-in-law: Oliver Maxwell and his wife, Rubye, and Bert Maxwell and his wife, Jean; as well as nephews; and nieces in Tennessee, Idaho, Kentucky, Washington, and Georgia. Bob was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother, Wallace Henry Burchard Jr. of Rising Fawn, GA. No funeral was planned as Bob donated his body to a research program called Genesis, but a memorial service was held in November at the Hendersonville, NC, Church.

COCKRELL, GARY L., 72, born Oct. 9, 1945 in Norfolk, VA, died Nov. 2, 2017 in Orlando, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for one and one-half years.

He taught math/science spread for more than 38 years at: Jefferson Adventist Academy, Jefferson, TX; Orangewood Academy, Garden Grove, CA; Memphis Jr. Academy, Memphis, TN; Brake-worth Jr. Academy, Pell City, AL; Redding Adventist School, Redding, CA; and Atlanta Adventist Academy, Atlanta, GA.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Karen; two daughters: Deanna (Jason) Rader of Winter Garden, FL, and Kari (Jeff) Oakman of Winter Garden; two brothers: Kevin (Bonnie) Cockrell of Mobile, AL, and C. (Ann) Randolph Cockrell of Orange, CA; one sister, Deborah (Byron) Streifling of Banning, CA; and four grandchildren. He was predeceased by one brother, John (Lynda) Cockrell. The memorial service was conducted by Hal Peggeau at Forest Lake Church in Apopka.



DAVIDSON, AUDREY, 88, born Sept. 30, 1920 in Mahoning township in Pennsylvania, died June 27, 2017 in Snellville, GA. She was the daughter of Howard and Nellie Arner, graduated from Mount Vernon Academy in Ohio in 1939, and attended Washington Missionary College in Takoma Park, MD.

She married Ray Davidson in Takoma Park on May 22, 1941. They were married for 59 years. Upon graduation from college, they entered the Seventh-day Adventist ministry where they served for 38 years. During those years, she stood by her husband's side as he served in pastorates in the Kentucky-Tennessee, Florida, Missouri, Southern New England, Georgia-Cumberland, Colorado, and Potomac conferences. For several years, she worked as an administrative assistant in the World Foods Department of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Upon retirement, they lived in Pennsylvania and Florida before making their home in Charlotte, NC.

She is survived by one daughter, Barbara Nelson of Gibsonia, PA, and one son, Jim Davidson, of Loganville, GA; two brothers: Phil Arner of Nescopeck, PA, and Tim Arner of Knoxville, TN; five grandchildren: Randy Nelson, Phillip Nelson, Jill Nelson, Sarah Smith, and Jonathan Davidson. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Davidson, and two brothers: Robert and Sterling Arner.

EWING, LOREN WALLACE, 59, born Sept. 6, 1957 in Aurora, IL, to Ralph and Ruby Ewing, died April 20, 2017. The family moved to Avon Park, FL, in 1969. Loren lived there and married his childhood sweetheart, Judy McClellan in 1983.

He worked for 12 years as an EMT for Hardee and Highlands's county EMS. During this time, they had two beautiful children, Jessica and Nicholas (now 27 and 25, both married). From there he worked as the manager of a large Horse, Cattle, and Citrus Ranch in Hardee County. But his passion for the Lord led him to accept a call to work in camp ministry for the Carolina Conference at Nosoca Pines Ranch. Taking the position of the Horse Barn director/ranger he found his greatest joy for the past 10 years sharing the love of God.

Sadly, in September 2014 he was diagnosed with Leukemia. He had a successful bone marrow transplant in May of 2015, and was able to return back to work a year later. In April 2017, he contracted the flu and pneumonia which took his life. He is resting now, awaiting the resurrection morning when Jesus will call his name and say, "Well done thy good and faithful servant, enter into the place I have prepared for you." He will be sorely missed by family, friends, and work associates.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Judy McClellan Ewing; his daughter; Jessica Ewing Freire (Sam) of Avon Park, FL; his son, Nicholas (Kelsey) of Celebration, FL; his mother, Ruby Ewing of Avon Park; two brothers: Glenn (Cindy) of Spokane, WA, and Floyd (Donna) of Frostproof, FL; two sisters: Helen Ewing Faber (Rick) of Liberty Hill, SC, and Brenda Ewing Williams (Bill) of Avon Park; his mother-in-law, Doris Lee of Avon Park; brother-in-law, James McClellan (Janie) of Mesa, AR; sister-in-law, Joy McClellan Bradley (Bruce) of Loma Linda, CA; many nieces; nephews; and friends. He was pre-deceased by his father, Ralph Ewing; his father-in-law, John F. McClellan; and brother-in-law, John E. McClellan. A Memorial Service was held May 6, 2017 at Nosoca Pines Ranch.





FOX, RANDALL, 80, born Nov. 15, 1936 in Montgomery, AL, died Oct. 7, 2017 in Sebring, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park, FL, Church.

In 1960, he began his denominational career in education: West Coast Jr. Academy in Bradenton, FL, teaching grades 5-8; Orlando Jr. Academy teaching grades 7-8, vice principal; Mile High Academy in Denver, CO, principal; Forest Lake Academy in Apoka, FL, principal; Florida Conference in Winter Park, FL, superintendent of education; Central Union (now Mid-America Union) in Lincoln, NE, director of education. In 2000, he came out of retirement to assist his daughter in teaching fifth grade at Walker Memorial Academy in Avon Park, and in 2004, he was asked by the Florida Conference Education Department to be part of the new silver team to assist the Office of Education with teacher supervision, school evaluations, and mentoring teachers. In 2005, he filled in part of a year as an administrative superintendent.

Randall was one who loved Christian education, encouraged marketing plans, successful school evaluations, and advocated Christ's plan. Those who encountered him appreciated his God-given wisdom and kindness.

He met his wife in his senior year at Collegedale Academy in Tennessee. They married three years later in 1957, and celebrated their 60th anniversary in July 2017. In addition to his wife, Gwen, their family included: Robin Renee Williams, Cherrie Fox, and Jill Stansell; one brother, John (Dot) Fox; two nephews: John and David Fox; and one niece, Debbie McDonald. The service was conducted by Pastor Frank Runnels, Florida Conference VP for Education, at the Avon Park Church.

KEESLING, RUTH SPIVEY, 89, born Jan. 6, 1928 in Geneva County, AL, died July 9, 2017 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Spring Meadows Church in Sanford, FL, for 22 years.

Ruth began working for the denomination in medical records at Florida Hospital South in Orlando, FL, in the late 1960s. In 1979, she became head of medical records at Jellico Community Hospital in Jellico, TN, until the late 1980s. She then served as director of medical records at East Pasco Medical Center, Zephyrhills, FL, until 1995.

She is survived by one son, Rick (Sharon) Spivey of Clayton, GA; three daughters: Jan (Jim) Campbell of Orlando, Lisa (Mikel) Tuten of Sanford, and Robin Baez of Orlando; six grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband of 39 years, Cecil R. Spivey, and husbands: David Carrico and Eldon Keesling; two brothers: Chester Graham and Bill Graham; and five sisters: Rilla Mae Hadden, Lilla Pearl Graham, Bertie Clyde Graham, Verlon Graham, and Ruby Lee McNeal. The graveside service was conducted by John Rauch, Mikel Tuten, and Bob Wade at Ward Wilson Memory Garden in Dothan, AL.



RUBA, WALTER, 92, of Cary, NC, died July 20, 2017 at WakeMed Cary.

Walter was born in Czechoslovakia and spent his entire career with the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a colporteur, missionary to Africa, and later as a publishing director in Canada. He and his late wife, Ursula Tomczak Ruba, retired to Cary in 1992, where they joined the Pittsboro Seventh-day Adventist Church. Walter served as treasurer, head elder, and Sabbath School teacher for many years. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his brother, Richard Ruba. He is survived by his children: Karin von Maltitz and her husband, Eddie, of South Africa; Norbert "Bert" Ruba and his wife, Libby, of Apex; Gary Ruba and his wife, Janelle, of Martinsville, IN; one sister, Mary Anne Civric of Germany; and eight grandchildren.

STEVENS, RUTH ELIZABETH, 91, born April 18, 1926 in Ripley Township, OH, died May 13, 2017 in Anderson, SC. In 1963, Ruth moved to Charlotte, NC, to work for the Carolina Conference where she met her husband, Clarence E. Stevens. After moves for Academy and College for her children, they returned to Anderson, SC, in 1980 where they assisted in new church plants in the area. She also assisted in running the Anderson Learning Center, and then worked as secretary for AnMed Hospital until she retired.

She is survived by her children: Joel R. Brown and Deanna L. Brown; grandson, Jonathan E. Brown; and three nephews: Dr. Larry McCullough (Ruth) of Nashville, TN, Lee McCullough (Bonnie) of Wheaton, IL, and Ronald Russell (Norma) of Mansfield, OH. Ruth was predeceased by her beloved husband, Clarence E. Stevens (Dec.'03); her parents: Gilbert and Irene McCullough; her sister, Louise Russell; and brother, Dean McCullough.



SUMNER, MARGARET EMMA TWOMLEY, 92, born June 2, 1925 in Washington Sanitarium and Hospital in Takoma Park, MD, to Robert B. and Bertha Twomley, died July 13, 2017 in Hendersonville, NC. Known to her friends and family as Meg or Marge.

She graduated from Adelpian Academy in Holly, MI, where she and her brothers and one sister lived. She then studied pre-nursing at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI, and graduated with a RN diploma from Melrose Sanitarium and Hospital in Melrose, MA. It was during her nurses training that she met Russell Sumner. He was an accomplished soloist and she an accomplished pianist. They began to work together, and so they were dating and were married on November 6, 1949, in Holly, MI.

They moved to Berrien Springs, MI, and built a home with the help of Russell's family and friends. Two sons, Charles Calvin and Garrett Bruce soon joined them. That completed the family. Growing tired of the Michigan weather and bad roads, they sought relief in Florida.

The Sumners lived for many years in Orlando, FL, where both worked in the medical field at Florida Sanitarium and Hospital (now Florida Hospital Orlando). Russell as a medical technologist in the laboratory. Margaret first as an RN, then as the head of nursing. She retired as the executive vice president, nursing being one of many areas of responsibility.

After retirement they moved to the peace of the Great Smokey Mountains. They attended the Murphy Church where she played the organ for 20 years. The county life agreed with them both, but the time came when gardening and yard work became a chore, and a more relaxed lifestyle was desired. They found it at Fletcher Park Inn. Life in Hendersonville, NC, was very agreeable, and Meg's two brothers and sister soon joined them. They lived within easy walking distance of each other, and enjoyed the closeness of the reunion after all the years apart.

She began the morning of July 13, 2017, as any other day with a list of errands and a social call on a recovering friend at a nearby rehab center. While exiting her car, which she was still driving herself at the age of 92, she lost her balance and fell hitting her head on the pavement. The injuries sustained in the fall led to her death 19 hours later.

She lived a long, meaningful life of service. Her family is comforted by the fact that she was able to live in her own home all her life, drove herself to do her shopping and errands. She was close with her family, both in where she lived and emotionally. She did not suffer more than a brief time in her passing, and she knew her Savior. The family looks forward to a very near reunion at Christ's coming.



TRUAX, ALLEN EUGENE (GENE), 87, born March 30, 1930 in Taylorsville, KY, died Aug. 4, 2017. He joined the Navy at the age of 17, and served in Europe as well as the Pacific and Atlantic fleets. During the early part of his naval career, he met his first wife, Doris. They had one daughter, Michelle, in 1951. He retired from the Navy in Maryland after 21 years of service. Around 1967, he was baptized into the Rising Sun Adventist Church as a result of evangelistic meetings by Elder Joe Crews. He served on the Chesapeake Conference executive committee and on the board of Highland View Academy. His wife, Doris, died in 1982. A short time later, he met Ella Mae through mutual friends. They married and moved to be near her family in Collegedale, TN. He retired from the social security administration a few months after moving to Tennessee after 17 years of service. After retirement, he was able to dedicate his life to service for Jesus and the people placed in his path. He was a member of the Ooltewah Church, where he was head elder and school board chairman for years. He and Ella Mae hosted many Bible studies and small groups in their home. He travelled in the U.S. and internationally for Maranatha mission trips. His life of service is a Christ-like example to all who knew him. He is survived by his wife, Ella Mae; daughter, Michelle; step-children: Jeff, Craig, and Michele; and eight grandchildren.

VAN DUINEN, DONALD E., 91, born Nov. 8, 1925 in Hudsonville, MI, died Nov. 5, 2017 in Grand Rapids, MI. He was a member of the Grand Rapids Central Church in Grand Rapids for 17 months. He taught school for 36 years at the following schools: Kalamazoo Seventh-day Adventist School in Kalamazoo, MI, Ruth Murdoch Elementary School in Berrien Springs, MI, and Jacksonville Junior Academy in Jacksonville, FL.

He is survived by two sons: Keith Van Duinen of Portland, OR, and Loren Van Duinen of Ostego, MN; one daughter, Judy Shull of Grand Rapids; one sister, Ella Davis of Port Charlotte, FL; seven grandchildren; 12 step-grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and 13 step great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Roy Castelbuono in Lincoln Square, Grand Rapids. Interment was in Rose Hill Cemetery in Grand Rapids.



ABRAM-JACKSON, ANNIE BERNICE, 90, born Oct. 6, 1926 to the late Steve and Lula Abram in Marion County, died March 2, 2017. She was one of 15 children who all preceded her in death, except one brother, Charlie Abram. Annie was reared in a household where the Word of God was gradually, but firmly established in their lives. Annie joined John the Baptist M. B. Church, and served in several capacities such as singing in the choir, ushering, and in the Home Missions work. Annie was an avid life-long reader, and loved school. She graduated from Lampton Industrial High School, but was unable to attend college. She worked several jobs after school, including working at the old canning plant. She later worked in the Head Start program during its inception, and in the Columbia Public School cafeterias. She often told us that when she was in primary school, she met Sammy Jackson. Sammy took one look at her and told her he was going to marry her. She told him, "No, you're not." However, on July 10, 1946, they were married, and this union lasted 57 years before Sammy passed away. Eight children born: Terry Elijah Lee (Belinda); Francena (Thomas) Jefferson; Lee Howard (Sarah); Maxine; Jewrine; Argena (lived for three days); Mary Louise (M. L.) Pittman; and Darlene Crumedy, all of Columbia, MS. There was a special place in her heart for Malinda (Hezzie) Watts and Ellen "Muffin" Griffin, who called her "Annie Bird." Annie loved children and people. As a young mother she was always surrounded by them including her nieces, nephews, neighborhood children, as well as her own. During summer months she could be found sitting on her front porch sharing Bible studies and singing songs. One of the songs we remember singing a lot was "Jacob's Ladder." It was fun to see who could hit the highest note. She always taught and instilled a love for the Lord in her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren by her teachings as well as her daily living. She also kept her children active in church activities, as well as the importance of service to others. Annie later became a member of South Columbia Seventh-day Adventist Church where she not only enjoyed attending church activities, but also served as the assistant community services leader, deaconess, and a Pathfinder. Annie leaves so many sweet moments and sweet memories for her children and the loves of her life: Franchesca McKnight and her sons, Jared and France; Shakira and Harvey Young and their girls, Olivia, Natalynn, and Kennedy; Natasha Alexander and her daughter, Gaqueta; Tanya and Shantico Hill and their children, Tanashya, Luther Echols III, and Shuntia; Andria Yvette and Derick James and their children, Derick Jr. and Ayanna; David and Lakeshia Alston and their children, Shania, Daquan, and Elijah; Millicent Virgil and her girls, McKenna and Mykia; Terrod Jackson (de-

ceased); Walter and Dawn McKnight and their children, Angel, Anthony, and Faith; Ashley and Quentin Gipson and their children, Hannah and Noah; Milton Pittman and his children, Terrean, Ruby Ann (deceased), Evan, and Jordyn; Maria and Wendel Echols; Maisha Pittman; Yolanda and Willie Sims and their children, Jalen, Jada, and Jacarie; Yomanda and William Ross and their children, Asia, Carter, and Kennedy; and Benjamin Gaddis; two sisters-in-law: Ethel "Sweetie" McConnell and Katha "Peet" Jackson; two brothers-in-law: Leroy (Bernisteen) and Paul Jackson; a host of nieces; nephews; relatives; and friends.

BIRELEY, JOSEPH R., 73, born Feb. 12, 1944 in Indianapolis, IN, died Nov. 18, 2017 in Hudson, FL. He was a member of the New Port Richey Church in New Port Richey, FL, for 13 years. He is survived by his wife, Laura; one son, Michael Bireley of Indianapolis, IN; one daughter, Rochelle Eisenhauer of Chicago, IL; three stepdaughters: Tammy Cox of Kingwood, TX, Tina Withrow of Manchester, MI, and Terry Durban of Livonia, MI; one sister, Sandy Bertram of Indianapolis; 20 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service was conducted by Pastor Gary Grimes.

BRANNAKA, GERALDINE (GERRY) MAE, 92, born March 30, 1925 in Fort Atkinson, WI, died Oct. 16, 2017 in Hendersonville, NC. Gerry was a member of the Fletcher Church. She did colporteur work for many years. She had nursing training and attended Emmanuel Missionary College and Hinsdale Nursing School. She worked at Hinsdale Sanitarium in Illinois and New England Memorial in Stoneham, MA. She retired to Florida and then Fletcher Park Inn, NC. She was preceded in death by her husbands: Claude Shook and Charles Brannaka; one son, Richard Shook (Nancy) of Fletcher, NC; grandniece and grandnephew: Robin and Randy Riggs of California.

DAVIS, SARA ELIZABETH, 108, born June 8, 1908 in Jamaica West Indies to Cornelius and Sarah Davis, died Feb. 8, 2017. She was one of eight children born to the union. As a young lady, she worked as a cook and later a manager at a restaurant by the sea in Ocho Rios. While in Jamaica she was a member of the Bonham Spring SDA Church. She migrated to the U.S. in 1977, and continued her devotion to God by becoming a member and deaconess of Ebenezer Church in Freeport, N.Y. She loved to cook, all she needed was a reason and ingredients. Her famous "Ginger Beer," "Rub-Up," "Rice and Peas," "Sorrell," "Fried Fish," and numerous other Jamaican favorites will be greatly missed. She attributed her longevity to being single, loving God, and Jamaican ground provisions. She loved life and wanted to be alive when Christ returned. She will

be greatly missed by all. Having her in our lives for 108 years was a precious miracle. She is survived by her daughter, Udia; three grandchildren: George (Queen), Georgette, and Geraldine; five great-grandchildren: Danielle, Jermaine, Kerion, Jerel (Jacqueline), and Michal; and one great-grandson, Jaion.

FAST, ELMER WINTON, 87, born Nov. 13, 1929 in Okeene, OK, died Oct. 25, 2017 at his home in Portland, TN. He is survived by his wife, Martha Marie Fast; four sons: Charles (Jenae) Fast, John (Lyrene) Fast, Curtis (Barbara) Fast, Jerry (Deborah) Fast; three grandchildren: Josh Fast, Crissa (Josh) Minett, Ada (Josh) Travis; one brother, Leonard Fast; two sisters: Deloris Neff and Betty Feikes.

FARDULIS, LAURA EVELENE COOPER, 99, Born April 28, 1918 in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, died Dec. 15, 2017 at Pisgah Manor in Candler, NC. She fell on Monday, December 11, breaking her left hip. Her parents were Nazarene ministers/evangelists. Laura was the oldest of seven children. She grew up in Jasper, FL, but spent most of her adult life in Miami, FL. She was baptized in 1944 in Mirror Lake at Forest Lake Academy, and was a long time member of the Miami Temple Church. She was very active in church work. She worked for the Review and Herald Association during WWII. She married Irvin Fardulis on Aug. 17, 1944. She worked for O.D. Anderson, M.D., as his receptionist/book keeper/transcriptionist. She is survived by her three children: Loren Fardulis (Paula) from San Diego, CA; Ginger Fardulis Small (Clarence) of Greeneville, TN; and David Fardulis (Sharon) of Asheville, NC; 11 grandchildren; 18 great grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

FORD, THOMAS LEE, 78, born Feb. 9, 1938 in Springfield, OH, died May 24, 2016 at Alive Hospice Skyline Madison Campus. He worked in maintenance at Riverside Hospital before his retirement, and was a member of the White House, TN, Church. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. He was preceded in death by his parents: Leo and Jennie Ruth Zotf Ford; and one brother, Eldon Ford. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara Wheeler Ford; one son, James (Johnna) Ford; one brother, John (Johnnie) Ford; and two grandchildren: Dustin and Derek Ford.

GONZALEZ, ROGER JOSEPH, 70, born Nov. 28, 1946 in Providence, RI, died Oct. 19, 2017 after a short, but courageous battle with cancer. He was a member of the Cross Plains, TN, Church where he served and an elder, Sabbath School teacher, and headed the building committee. Roger was a veteran of the U.S. Army as a medic and conscientious objector. He spent many years as a

welder, builder, and business owner. During the last 25 years, he owned EZ Hoods and Advanced Cleaning Systems. He took great pride in teaching people across the country, the hood cleaning business. He co-owned and operated the school with his daughter and son-in-law, Anne-Marie and Russell Clark, and his wife, Pat. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Gonzalez; his mother, Swiftley McIntosh Gonzalez; two daughters: Anne-Marie (Russell) Clark, and Rachel (Jeff) Terry; two stepsons: Keith Garner and Brandon Garcia; one stepdaughter, Brandy (Scott) King; three granddaughters: Daria Clark, Annabel Clark, and Harper King; three grandsons: Evan Clark, Chase Garner, and Jacob Terry; one great grandson, Ayden Clark; three brothers: Joseph (Norma) Gonzalez, Carlos Gonzalez, and Orlando (OJ) Gonzalez. He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Gonzalez.

JOHNSON, SHIRLEY WYLLENE, 76, born July 3, 1941 in Nashville, TN, died Dec. 16, 2017 at NHC Healthcare in Hendersonville, TN. She was a graduate of Madison College Academy, and a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Shirley was a homemaker to her late husband and children. She is survived by two sons: Robert "Allen" Dixon and Daniel (Kerry) Johnson, Jr.; two daughters: Tina (Ralph) Brown and Rhonda (Meredith) Hudgens; two brothers: Meredith (Rhonda) Hudgens, Landron (Fredda) Hudgens; one sister: Susan Harding; seven grandchildren: Colin Dixon, Devon Dixon, Zachary Brown, Austin (Molly) Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Nathan Johnson, and Rachel Hudgens. She was preceded in death by her husband, Daniel Dean Johnson Sr.; her parents: Elmer and Dorthy Balthrop Hudgens; and one brother, Denson Hudgens.

JONES, DOROTHY GILBERT, born June 2, 1927 in Akron, OH, died June 10, 2017. Dorothy attended Firestone Park Elementary School in Akron until the age of 13, at which time her father's brother, who resided in Alhambra, CA, persuaded her father to come to live in the "Land of Milk and Honey." Dorothy enrolled in Lynwood Seventh-day Adventist Academy where at the appropriate time she graduated from the 12th grade. Her mind was already made up with a determination to go to Oakwood College (now University). In the 40s and 50s, times were hard and money was scarce, but Dorothy became involved with the Colporteur Ministry and enduring many challenges, even spending hours in jail, she walked and walked, canvassed and canvassed until eventually she had matriculated through four years at Oakwood College. What a sigh of relief and such an ecstatic feeling when she was able to march down the aisle and obtain a bachelor's degree in education in June 1950. Dorothy was certainly a "people person," a vibrant woman of God who never met a stranger. But there was one person

she met while at Oakwood during her freshman year for whom she had a very special attraction. They met, they dated the entire four years, the "Love Bug" nested; they were engaged, and in the summer of 1950, after leaving Oakwood, she married the love of her life, Frank Loris Jones in Cleveland, OH. Frank graduated along with her from Oakwood with a bachelor's degree in theology. With Frank, there was unwavering companionship, love, and devotion. They were married for 57 years until his demise in 2007. Their marriage was enriched by the arrival of Frank III, Patricia, and Steven. Frank as a pastor and as treasurer of the World Church (General Conference) of Seventh-day Adventists, was required to often pick up and move from one city and/or state to another. Consequently, they traveled extensively to various mission fields all around the world. She enjoyed every moment of it, and loved to tell of her extraordinary experiences encountered during her travels. She also took joy in inviting people to her home for dinner and entertaining guests, talking to friends on the telephone, shopping, visiting the sick and shut-ins, playing Rummikub, and making only pleasantries in her home for her family. She was full of humor and could keep you in stitches at times. She maintained her trademark sense of humor all the way to the end. We thank God for the Christian influence she shared with us. She served her Church (Oakwood University Church) faithfully in many capacities: A greeter, a member and chairperson of the nurturing committee of the HARAW organization (Huntsville Association of Retired Adventist Workers), a member of the Grief Share Ministry, and an active member of a community volunteer organization, called SAVSS (Seventh-day Adventist Volunteer Satellite Services). She was also active in the Oakwood University Alumni Association. Dorothy was a gifted teacher who was passionate about her work and awesomely effective as an outstanding and devoted educator. One can only imagine her excitement on that day in 1950 when she stepped through the door of her very first classroom. She taught for 24 years and worked as a guidance counselor for 20 years. As a result, the impact she has had on thousands since that day has been enormous. Her greatest legacy and the contribution for which she was proudest, was her Birthday Card Ministry, which started more than 50 years ago, and continued until about five weeks prior to her demise. It is notable to mention how her Birthday Card Ministry was started. She told us it was quite by accident that she found out that her neighbor had a birthday coming up in a few days. She went home, made him a cake, and on his special day took him the cake and a birthday card. He was so overjoyed that he literally cried like a baby and said, "I'm 45 years old and no one has ever given me so much as a card for my birthday." Dorothy said

her creative juices started to flow, and thus her Birthday Card Ministry was launched. During a brief illness, she fought a courageous battle with cancer and passed away peacefully in her home. She is survived by her children: Frank (Serita), Patricia (Wayne), and Steven; her grandchildren: Marques, Matthew, Devroux "Cody," and Jaden; her great-granddaughters: Diamante and Lyric; her sisters: Ann, Ruby, and Katherine; nieces; nephews; two goddaughters: Charee Bridges and Apryl Goulbourne; other relatives; extended family members; her church family; and a host of friends. Dorothy sleeps to await the call of the Lifegiver and the sound of the trumpet on that great getting up morning.

LEE, JEWEL BERTHA, born Feb. 9, 1918 to Henry and Sylvia Derricotte in Birmingham, AL. Jewel spent her early years in Birmingham where she attended public schools and graduated from Parker High School in 1935. She attended Miles College in Birmingham from 1935-1936. In June 1936, she married John Harris of Birmingham. They moved to Capels, WVA, and lived there for four years. After returning to Birmingham in 1940, they joined Ephesus Church. Later in the early 50s they moved to Nashville, TN, and connected with Meharry Boulevard Church. Jewel enrolled and attended Tennessee A & I College, and graduated in 1953 with a B.S. degree. She taught school for 24 years in the Nashville Metro Public School System. John Harris was killed in an automobile accident in 1975 in the state of Kentucky. Jewel later married Allen Alston from the state of West Virginia in 1993, who was a member of Hillcrest Church. Alston died in 1998. Jewel never had any brothers, sisters, or children other than members of the church. She loved the Church very much and its teachings. She supported and attended church regularly. She bought \$300,000 worth of charitable gift annuity from two leading Seventh-day Adventist organizations. She served as Sabbath School secretary, Sabbath School teacher, usher, was a member of the treasury department, and a master worker member for many years. She leaves to cherish her memories cousins: Dr. Gale Hurley and her two daughters, Hope and Kaila Iglehart of Athens, GA; one nephew, Marvin Harris of Columbia, OH; three step-daughters: Roselle Robinson and her husband, Zeo (Cookie) Alston, and Marva Evans of Welch, WV; special friends: Doris Hill of Atlanta, GA, and Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Buchanan of Nashville, TN. A very special thanks to Mrs. B. Howard Vanlier of Nashville, TN, and Alive Hospice of Nashville; a host of church members; and friends.

MARQUEZ, FLOR M., 79, born March 30, 1938 in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, died Aug. 18, 2017 in Avon Park, FL. She was a member of

the Sebring Spanish Church in Sebring, FL. She is survived by her husband of 27 years, Miguel Martinez; family: Mikecol Martinez of Orlando, FL, and Justin Martinez of Pennsylvania; one brother, Pablo Marquez of Orlando, FL; and one sister, Rosaura Cardona of Avon Park. The service was conducted at the Fountain Funeral Home in Avon Park.

PENDLETON, LESLIE DONALD, 84, born Sept. 19, 1932 to the late Howard and Yvonne Pendleton in Leominster, MA, died Feb. 25, 2017 at Lake Point Landing Assisted Living Center after several years battling cancer, while he was attended by his son and daughter at his bedside. He grew up in Lancaster, MA, and attended South Lancaster Academy before serving as a medic in the Korean War. He attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) on a GI bill. He met his wife, Barbara Shirley Beans, at SMC and married in 1957, graduating with a degree in business and industrial arts in 1957. Leslie and Barbara entered into mission service at the Tanzanian Union East Africa mission of which he served in the treasury department for five years. Upon returning from mission service to the United States, Leslie served the Seventh-day Adventist Church in various accounting positions for approximately 30 years including: accountant, assistant treasurer, conference treasurer; auditor for conference, union, and the General Conference. Leslie severed approximately 15 years in the Atlantic Union and 12 years in the Southern Union. He retired in 1993 in Hendersonville, N.C. His hobbies included photography, landscaping, cars, and hiking in the woods. He had a great love for nature. He is survived by his son, C. Douglas Pendleton; one daughter, Julia J. Reynolds; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

QUALLS, GILBERT LYNN, 82, born Aug. 12, 1935 in Clovis, NM, and grew up on a farm in Ranchville just outside of Clovis, died Aug. 14, 2017 at his home in Cedar Bluff, AL. He attended and graduated from Sandia View Academy in New Mexico. During the months, school was in session, he worked in the dairy to earn the money necessary to pay room and board while in school there. During the summer months, he returned home to help on the farm. After academy graduation, he went to college for two years at Southwestern Junior College, now Southwestern Adventist University. From there he was drafted into the Army, and spent a good bit of his tour of duty stationed in Europe working as a medical dispenser. As a young person in the Ranchville community, he had very little exposure to anything medical, but having worked as a corpsman for Uncle Sam, he learned there are many places and things a young person can do other than watching

the sun come up and go down over the hood of a John Deere tractor. Following his tour of duty in the Army, he returned home and worked one year as a heavy duty equipment operator at Cannon Air Force Base, and was able to save enough money to get back into school. He decided to go to Madison, TN, to a school associated with a hospital which offered many area of training pertaining to some aspect of medicine. He chose nursing with the goal of advancing into Anesthesia after completing his R.N. degree. While at Madison, he met and married Mary Faye Draughon, who was working there after receiving her R.N. and B.S. degrees. They married in 1963, and he continued his nursing degree and graduated from the School of Anesthesia in 1969. During the years, they lived and he worked in several hospitals in different states including Tennessee, Georgia, Texas, New Mexico, and Alabama. They lived a number of years in Calhoun, GA, where their three children all graduated from Georgia-Cumberland Academy. In July 2011, he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease but was able to continue his work as a CRNA for one year before retiring after working in anesthesia for 43 years. He did fairly well for a couple of years, but Parkinson's and other medical and surgical conditions gradually took a toll. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Mary Faye Qualls from Cedar Bluff, AL; daughter, Deborah and her husband, Steve Sallee of Rocks Spring, GA, daughter, Renee and her husband, Brian Robbins of Orlando, FL, and son, Kevin Qualls of Anniston, AL; three wonderful grandchildren: Brennan Sallee, Kayman Sallee, and Brylee Robbins; one sister, Doris Bailey Clovis of New Mexico; one brother, Hubert Qualls of Clovis, N.M.; several nieces; and nephews.

SHEPHERD, CARL, 90, born June 29, 1927 in Stearns, KY, died Oct. 11, 2017 at the Jean Waddle Hospice Center in Somerset, KY. Carl was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He was a member and deacon at the Stearns, KY, Church, where he served in many capacities, including holding home Bible studies. He served as chaplain of the American Legion Post 115, and volunteered as a van driver for many years, taking veterans to the VA hospital. Carl also had a ministry at the Job Corp and at the United States Penitentiary in Pine Knot. He touched many young lives while shooting pool. In his spare time, he loved feeding the birds and squirrels. He is survived by three daughters: Sue (Dan) LaFavor, Gilda Long, and Rita Christoff; two sons-in-law: Tommy Carr and Roger (Linda) Tucker, who he considered a son; one sister, Jenny Lee (Maurice) Leistman; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. Preceding him in death were his parents: John and Stella Hickman Shepherd; wife, Betty Irene Maxwell Shepherd;

two daughters: Carlene and Anna Lou; five brothers: Dan, Noble, Jimmy, Granville "Bully," Elmer Shepherd; five sisters: Dot Casill, Louise Hamby, Doris Shepherd, June Rowe, and Margie Redden.

STEVENS, ANNA MARIE, 93, born Jan. 15, 1924 in Grayson County, KY, died Dec. 18, 2017. Anna was a member of the Elizabethtown, KY, Church. She was preceded in death by her parents: James and Naomi Lowe. Anna is survived by her husband, Jesse L. Stevens; one daughter, Anna Kay Call; one son, Roy Vessels; three grandchildren: Victoria Call, Jennifer Rankins, and Stephen Vessels; four great-grandchildren: Autum Vessela, Carma Vessela, Cole Rankins, and Kendall Rankins; a host of other family; and friends.

STUYVESANT, V. WILFRED, 89, born July 12, 1928 in Fullerton, CA, died Nov. 21, 2017 in Berrien Springs, MI. He was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. He began his higher education at Madison College, where his parents taught, then received a bachelor's degree in biology from Southern Missionary College in 1952. He completed medical school at Loma Linda University in 1956, and then served as a physician in the Alaska Native Hospital in Anchorage, AK, for two years. Upon returning to California, he completed a pathology residency and did research in immunology. In 1971, he started a pathology practice at Madison Hospital, where he worked until his retirement. He was an avid nature photographer and gardener, and served on the boards of several Adventist organizations. He is survived by his wife, Florence Nelson Stuyvesant; four daughters: Ruth (Robert) Chesnut, Cheryl (Darryl) Hosford, Heather (Vincent) Page, and Valerie (Daniel) Anderson; one sister, Carolyn Stuyvesant; five grandchildren: Andrew Hosford, Daniel Hosford, Kristen Page, Darren Anderson, and Jolene Anderson. He was preceded in death by his parents: Paul and Sarah (Huenergardt) Stuyvesant; one sister: Elisabeth Heidinger; and one grandson, Derek Page.

ZACHARIAS, CAROLYN RUTH CATON, 84, born June 24, 1933 in Cicero, IN, fell asleep in Jesus Oct. 29, 2017 at 5:30 a.m. She was in her 43rd home her husband, Harold Zacharias, had built for her with him faithfully sitting right beside her. They enjoyed 63 years together, had three daughters: Jeanne, Joanne, and Juli, and one son, Jeff. She showered love on her 12 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; other family members; and many others. She had the beautiful gift of putting her family first, right after her lifetime friend, Jesus. After opening her arms to loving life and God's will, her next home when Jesus returns will be in Heaven where we all will spend eternity.

MAKE US ONE Romans 12:4-5



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Faith For Today
Speaker/Director



DR. THOMAS JACKSON
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Rekindle the Flame Ministries
Pastor/Director



JYNEAN PALMER-REID
Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy
Chaplain/Instructor

Registration begins at 4:00 pm at the Stone Mountain Evergreen Marriott and the first meeting is with the main speaker – Mike Tucker and his first speaking appointment is at 7:00 pm on Thursday.

We will have mini-concerts, testimonies, great break-out sessions, round table topics, recreation, panel discussions and spiritual enrichment.

Please note that everything isn't over until Sunday at 2 pm with a Family Fun day, outreach and evangelistic effort with all ASI members involved.

Registration for the ASI Convention does not include lodging. Lodging reservations must be made directly by telephone with Stone Mountain Evergreen Marriott. No online reservations are available.

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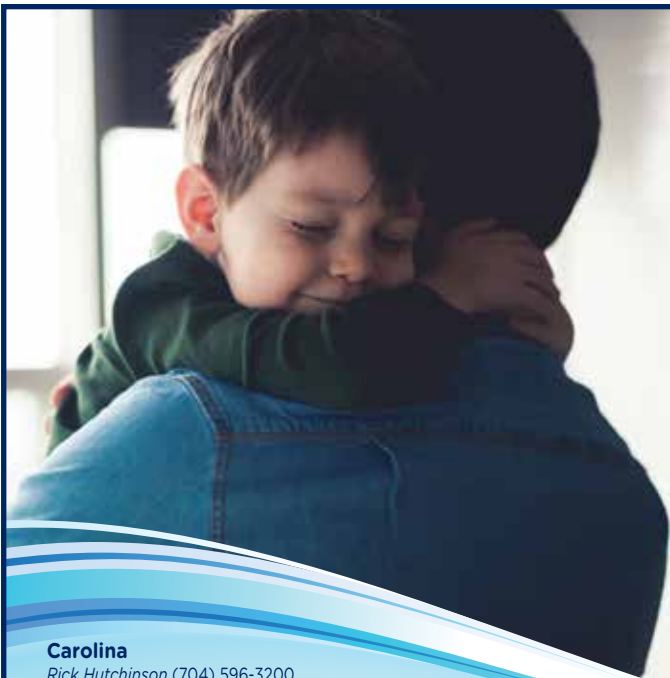
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POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY seeks full time professor to teach **graduate outdoor education** courses. Responsible for: engaging in activities of department including research; providing leadership to graduate assistant; providing academic advising; and serving on university committees. Qualifications: earned doctoral degree in leadership, education, or other; familiarity with online programming, and willingness to obtain pertinent outdoor certifications. Send cover letter, CV, statement of philosophy as it relates to outdoor 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 [2]

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. [2]

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, depart-

ment, 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 [2]

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 [2]

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 [2]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks an **Adjunct Instructor of German** for its Modern Languages Department. Must be an experienced educator, hold an MA in German (with 18 graduate credits hours in German) and be familiar with ACFTL National language guidelines. Must also

be willing to participate in professional development activities ensuring awareness of goal-oriented and student centered instruction. *Send CV to Dr. Adrienne Royo-Chair, Modern Languages Department via US Mail or email to: aroyo@southern.edu, PO Box 370 Collegedale, TN 37315, Att. Dr. Adrienne Royo.* For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [2]

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 [2]

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to jobs.wallawalla.edu [2]

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* [1]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a full-time **Systematic Theology faculty member** for 2018-2019. Ph.D. preferred; master's degree considered. Successful candidates will have teaching and pastoral experience.

Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Amy Rosenthal, arosenthal@swau.edu [2, 3]

THE EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT at Southwestern Adventist University invites applications for a **full-time faculty position**. Preferred candidates will hold a doctorate in Educational Psychology or Secondary Education and have university teaching experience. Master's degree considered. Must have or be able to obtain a Texas teaching credential. *Send CV and cover letter to Dr. Donna Berkner, dberkner@swau.edu* [2, 3]

UNION COLLEGE seeks a Seventh-day Adventist **PA faculty member**, master's degree required. This position will be responsible for both didactic and clinical components of the curriculum. Prior teaching experience desired but not necessary. *Send CV and references to Megan Heidtbrink, megan.heidtbrink@ucollege.edu. Further information, www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings* [2]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks a **Director of Human Resources**. The Director of Human Resources is the chief human resources officer of the university and serves as an advocate regarding benefits, policies, and practices that would have a positive impact on employees and as an advisor and strategic partner to university administration. Provides leadership through the management of a comprehensive human resources department, ensuring that all HR programs and initiatives are integrated and effective in supporting the overall mission, goals, and objectives of the institution. <https://www.andrews.edu/admsvs/jobs/manage/approve/1600> [2]

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC) OF SDA'S department of Archives, Statistics and Research is seeking a **Managing Editor** for the Encyclopedia of Seventh-day Adventist. This position is a full-time salaried position with full benefits. Duties include coordinating research, selection and work flow, developing resources, process, and plans for guiding the process through to a successful launch in 2021. Must be SDA church member. Applicant must have a detailed knowledge of church structure. Editorial experience required with a background in religion and academia preferred. *Send resume to stavenhagenr@gc.adventist.org* [2]

PUT YOUR PASSION for Christian education to work! Captain Gilmer Christian School is seeking qualified candidates for the position of **Kindergarten Teacher**. This full-time, salaried position (with benefits) is responsible for fostering the intellectual and social development of children in the first phase of their elementary school experience. Duties will include both teaching and staff duties at Captain Gilmer Christian School. Position requires current basic NAD teaching certification; candidates must be an active member

in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Ready for a new opportunity? *Contact the Fletcher Academy, Inc. HR Manager at 828-209-6714.* [2]

ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM is seeking a **Summer Associate** to work in their Corporate Legal department for at least six weeks in 2018. Candidate must be in top 25% of class. Interest/experience in healthcare industry preferred, but not required. Duties include legal research and other projects, totaling 40 hours per week. Pay is \$20 - \$25 per hour; reasonable relocation expenses will be reimbursed. *Please send transcript and resume to Manuela.asaftei@ahss.org* [2]

MISCELLANEOUS

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. *For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies* [2-5]

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CAROLINA

Pathfinder Bible Experience Testing – Feb. 3. Raleigh and Spartanburg Churches.

Romance at the Ranch – Feb. 9-11. NPR.

Pathfinder Bible Experience Testing – Feb. 11. Charlotte University Church.

Hispanic Romance at the Ranch – Feb. 16-18. NPR.

REGENERATE! Church Revitalization Conference – Feb. 23, 24. Spartanburg Church.

Generous Living Summit – Feb. 24. Columbia First Church.

VBS Workshop – Feb. 25. Carolina Conference Office.

MPA Mission Trips – Feb. 25-March 11.

Pathfinder Bible Experience Testing – March 3. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Pathfinder Camporee – March 15-17. Darlington Raceway, Darlington, NC.

Mt. Pisgah Academy Music Festival – March 29, 30. MPA.

Alive Youth Rally – March 30-April 1. Spartanburg Church, 1217 John B. White Senior Blvd., Spartanburg, SC 29306.

FLORIDA

Complete calendar online – floridaconference.com/events

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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 e-mail before 5:30 p.m. on the Thursday before a scheduled Sunday delivery.

Feb. 4. Midport, West Palm Beach First, Pompano Beach, Margate, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Sunrise. (Southeastern Conference: Port Saint Lucie, West Palm Beach Ephesus.)

Feb. 18. Arcadia, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.

Feb. 25. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

March 4. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.

March 11. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden, Maranatha in Miami Gardens.

Women's Ministries Retreats. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Theme: God in Me. Cost: depends upon meal/accommodation choice and ear-

ly-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 Ramirez-Lebreault. Details: floridaconference.com/events/2018-retiro-de-mujeres

Men's Ministries Convention: 25th Anniversary. March 9-11. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Thy Kingdom Come. Guest speakers: Claudio Consuegra, Shian O'Connor, Ron Smith. Cost: depends upon meal/accommodation choice and early-bird discount.

Hope for Hurting Hearts Retreat-Teens. March 29-April 1. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs. Educational retreat for teens who've been sexually abused as children. Cost: \$125. Details/registration: floridaconference.com/events/hope-hurting-hearts-retreat-teens

124th Annual Florida Camp Meeting. April 5-8. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Legacy of Hope. Cost: depends on meal and accommodation choice. Free to attend. Details/registration: floridaconference.com/campmeeting.

Campestre Hispano (Spanish-language Camp Meeting). April 13-15. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 202 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Legacy of Hope. Cost: depends on meal and accommodation choice. Free to attend. Details/registration: floridaconference.com/campestre

Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership Convention. July 27-29. Miami DoubleTree (Hilton Airport Hotel), 711 NW 72nd Ave., Miami. Cost: \$129 if registered by March 29, \$149 afterward or \$169 on site. Includes all meals. Accommodation fee additional (reserved directly with hotel). Details/registration: floridaconference.com/events/leadership-convention-0

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Elementary Band/Strings Festival – Feb. 1-2. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

Pathfinder/Adventurer Director's Appreciation Weekend – Feb. 2-3. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Pathfinder/Adventurers Directors Council – Feb. 4. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

"If My People Pray" (2 Chronicles 7:14) Prayer Conference – Feb. 16-18. Featured speaker, Kevin Wilfley, senior pastor of the Kirkland Adventist Church and prayer ministries director for the North Pacific Union Conference. Early bird deadline: Jan. 24; final deadline: Jan. 31. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Pathfinder Teen Event – Feb. 16-18. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

CONNECT: ACF Leadership Conference – Feb. 23-25. The theme, "Next Level Discipleship," will help college-age adults discover practical ways to better understand what discipleship really means. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

Pathfinder Bible Experience, Conference Level – Feb. 24.

Ecuador 2017 Report Singles' Ministry – March 10. White Oak Room, Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN.

Regenerate-Youth/Young Adult Festival – March 17. Get ready for a high Sabbath with academy choirs, a variety of music groups, and mission reports. Guest speaker: Iki Taimi, pastor of the Gardena Community Church in California. A highlight is the afternoon expression session; youth take to the stage to share their faith with their peers through music, drama, and personal testimonies. Meal ticket deadline is March 7. The Church at Liberty Square, Cartersville, GA.

Pathfinder Precision Drill Team Day – March 18. Soddy-Daisy High School, Soddy-Daisy, TN.

Hispanic Women's Ministries Retreat – March 23-25. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Pathfinder Bible Experience, Union Level – March 24. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

GULF STATES

Sabbath School Training (Adult and Youth Departments) – Feb. 2-4. Camp Alamisco. www.gscsda.org/sstraining

Teen Invitational: Caving in North Alabama – Feb. 2-4.

SEEDS Church Planting Conference – Feb. 9, 10. Birmingham First Church.

Teen Invitational: Paintball – Feb. 11. Raymond, MS.

Pathfinder Bible Experience, Conference Level – Feb. 17. Pensacola, FL.

Hispanic Couples Retreat – Feb. 23-25. Destin, FL.

Mad About Marriage Seminar – Feb. 23, 24. Panama City, FL.

Teen Invitational: Backpacking – March 2-4. Talladega Forest.

Cross Examination Youth Rally – March 17. Big Cove Christian Academy.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

HI-C+ Public Ministries Weekend – Feb. 2-4. Indian Creek Camp.

Highland Academy Board – Feb. 8. Highland Academy.

Couple's Retreat – Feb. 10. Paradise Ranch.

Young Women's Galentine's Day – Feb. 11. Conference Office.

7UP Pathfinder Campout - Feb. 16-18. Indian Creek Camp.
CREATION Health Seminar - Feb. 21. Conference Office.
Children's Ministries Training - March 2, 3. Madison Academy.
Eastern Kentucky Camp Meeting - March 9, 10. Prestonsburg, KY.
KYTN Music Festival - March 15-17. Highland Academy.
"Lead Like Jesus" Leadership Training - March 18. Madison Campus Church.
Memphis Festival of Faith - March 23, 24. Memphis, TN.
"Praying for Your Husband" Seminar - March 25. Conference Office.
Executive Committee - April 3. Conference Office.
Board of Education - April 5. Conference Office.
Campus Catalyst - April 7. Lexington Church, Lexington, KY.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Fisk Jubilee Singers in Concert - Feb. 10. Southern welcomes the Fisk Jubilee Singers for a concert beginning at 6 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. This group began touring in 1871, representing the first American university to offer a liberal arts education to students regardless of color.
Archaeology Lecture - Feb. 12. Agnete Lassen, Ph.D., associate curator of the Yale Babylonian Collection, will give a talk titled "Seals Hidden and Seals Revealed: Seals in Ancient and Modern Display" at 7 p.m. in Lynn Wood Hall Chapel. Details: Visit southern.edu/archaeology.
Symphony Orchestra Concert - March 18. With Laurie Redmer Minner conducting, Southern's Symphony Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. This and many other musical events are also broadcast at southern.edu/streaming.

SOUTHERN UNION

NAD Advisories for YPAC Members - Feb. 23-28. Southern Union Office.
ACF Connect Conference at Cohutta Springs Camp - Feb. 23-25.
GC Global Youth Day Sabbath - March 17.
SU PBE Event at Georgia-Cumberland Academy - March 24. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNION COLLEGE HOMECOMING - April 5-8. Honor classes: 1948, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2008. For more information, contact the alumni office at 401-486-2503, 3800 S. 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@ucollege.edu.

ENTERPRISE/GREAT PLAINS ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - April 13, 14. Enterprise SDA Church, Enterprise, KS. Honor Classes graduating years ending with 3s and 8s. For more information, email ea.gpa.alumni@hotmail.com, call 620-640-5740, or check school website: ea-gpa-alumni.com.

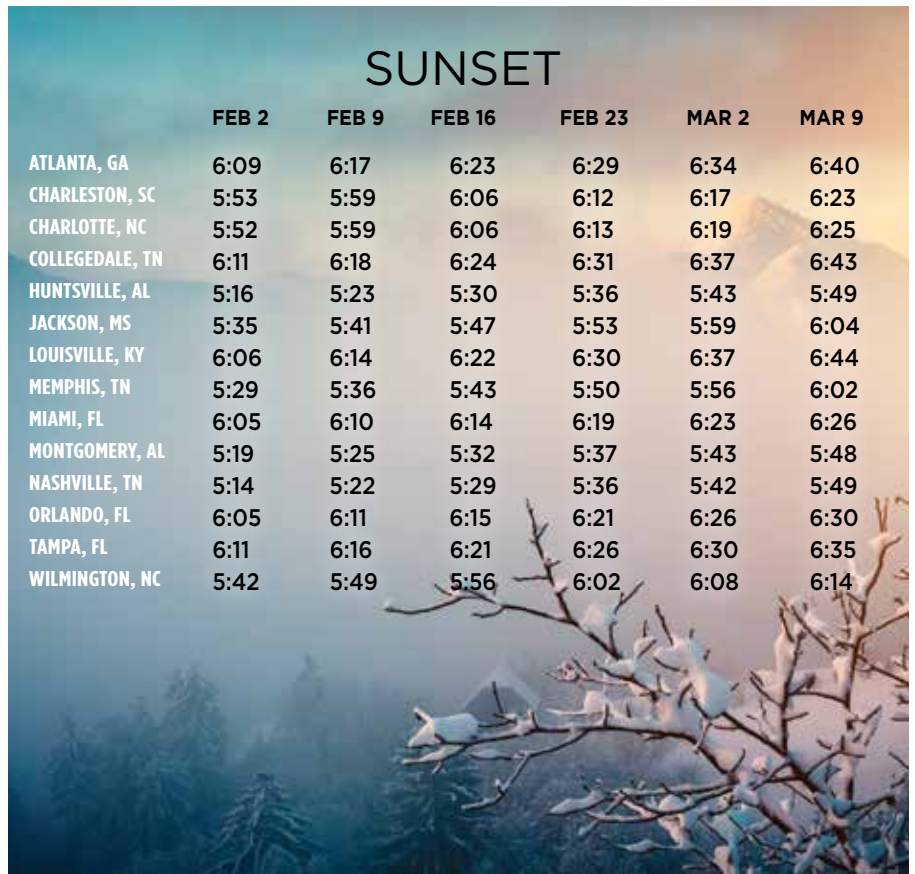
OKLAHOMA ACADEMY DAYS - April 13-15. If you are a student who is serious about your walk with the Lord and His mission for your life, Oklahoma Academy may be just the place for you. Come for our Academy Days weekend and find out. Call 405-454-6211 to make your reservations today! Also, visit www.oklahomaacademy.org.

LA SIERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - April 27, 28. Honor classes: 3s and 8s. Welcome reception, Friday at 7 p.m., LSA Library. Sabbath services: registration at 9 a.m. and Homecoming Service at 10 a.m., LSA Gym. Potluck, campus tours, reunions, and varsity basketball. Please update/email contact information to: JNelson@lsak12.com; www.lsak12.com; alumni office: 951 351-1445 x244.

"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION - June 8-10. For alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, MI. Honor classes: 1938, 1948, 1958, 1968. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit http://www.glaa.net.

CELEBRATE YOUR FAVORITE TEACHER. The cover feature for the July 2018 Southern Tidings will highlight personal tributes to teachers who had a lasting influence on their students. If there is such a teacher who made a difference in your life, please share your story at www.southernunion.com/teachers. In 250 words, answer the following: Who was your favorite teacher? Why?

LAURELWOOD ADVENTIST ACADEMY - Aug. 3-5. Members of the Class of 1968 will meet at the Adobe Resort in Yachts, Oregon, for a 50-year class reunion. Call and make your reservations now. Reference Laurelwood Academy's 50th Class Reunion. Questions? Call Jacquie Jenkins Biloff at 605-295-0040 or email at skyjaky@gmail.com.



SUNSET

	FEB 2	FEB 9	FEB 16	FEB 23	MAR 2	MAR 9
ATLANTA, GA	6:09	6:17	6:23	6:29	6:34	6:40
CHARLESTON, SC	5:53	5:59	6:06	6:12	6:17	6:23
CHARLOTTE, NC	5:52	5:59	6:06	6:13	6:19	6:25
COLLEGE DALE, TN	6:11	6:18	6:24	6:31	6:37	6:43
HUNTSVILLE, AL	5:16	5:23	5:30	5:36	5:43	5:49
JACKSON, MS	5:35	5:41	5:47	5:53	5:59	6:04
LOUISVILLE, KY	6:06	6:14	6:22	6:30	6:37	6:44
MEMPHIS, TN	5:29	5:36	5:43	5:50	5:56	6:02
MIAMI, FL	6:05	6:10	6:14	6:19	6:23	6:26
MONTGOMERY, AL	5:19	5:25	5:32	5:37	5:43	5:48
NASHVILLE, TN	5:14	5:22	5:29	5:36	5:42	5:49
ORLANDO, FL	6:05	6:11	6:15	6:21	6:26	6:30
TAMPA, FL	6:11	6:16	6:21	6:26	6:30	6:35
WILMINGTON, NC	5:42	5:49	5:56	6:02	6:08	6:14



SEE FOR YOURSELF

Students are extraordinarily friendly, professors are exceptionally caring, and the whole campus is focused on Christ.

But don't just trust our word. Arrange your own free visit to Southern's campus, or join one of our special events.

See Southern for yourself.

FREE* PreviewSouthern event:

February 19, 2018

March 15-16, 2018

June 21, 2018



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or go to southern.edu/visit.

Collegedale, TN

