

T Southern 

TRIDINGS

JUNE 2019

YOUTH EVANGELISM:

WINNING SOULS

Through Innovative School Activities, Missions



SPRING
WOMEN'S
RETREAT BONDS
MOTHERS,
DAUGHTERS

YOUNG
ADULTS
PARTICIPATE
IN F5
CHALLENGE

SERVICE
LIGHTS THE
WORLD

GAAA
STUDENTS
PARTICIPATE
IN MOCK TRIAL

OAKWOOD
UNIVERSITY
AEOLIANS
PERFORM AT
NATIONAL
EVENT

“Walking Together” Evangelism



Allan Machado, D.Min.
*President of the
Florida Conference*

Guest Editorial

Florida Conference has taken as its theme for this year, “Walking Together in Faith, Love, and Hope.”

Members ask me all the time, “How can we agree to walk together if we are so different from each other?” Many things separate us: background, generational gaps, traditions, fixed understandings, regions, ethnicity, theological and doctrinal considerations, and so much more.

The question is valid. The Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America is diverse. New data published by the Pew Research Center reveals that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is the most racially-diverse religious group in the United States.

I always answer the same way, “If you love Jesus, you must learn to love, respect, and tolerate the brother that may be different from you.” We are commanded to love one another. Is that challenging sometimes? Yes. If we are honest, we have to say, “Yes.” Something that is easy to do does not need so much emphasis.

At a meeting of the American Psychological Association, a graduate student at Columbia University presented his finding on how members of the various sections of 11 major symphony orchestras perceived each other.

- Those who play the drums were viewed as insensitive, hard-of-hearing, yet fun-loving.
- String players were seen as proud, overconfident, and non-athletic.
- The orchestra members chose “loud” to describe the brass players.
- Woodwind players seemed to be held in the highest esteem, described as quiet and meticulous, though a bit egotistical.

Interesting findings, to say the least. With such widely divergent personalities and perceptions, how could an orchestra ever come together to make such wonderful music? The answer is simple: regardless of how those musicians view each other, they subordinate their feelings and biases to the leadership of the conductor. Under his guidance, they play beautiful music.

When Jesus is the conductor, we can produce exceptional music. When we allow Jesus to be head of the body that is the Church, we can walk together and perform miracles. It does not matter how diverse we are, because in Jesus diversity is not a weakness but a strength. It is the pure manifestation of what God’s Church should be if we learn to walk together in faith, hope, and love. Our children are waiting to see this spirit represented in our lives. They want to be part of an orchestra that follows the conductor, and is of one mind — the mind of Jesus.

We can walk together if our faith is in Jesus, our hope is in His second coming, and we love like Jesus loves. Then this evangelism begun in our churches will spread to our neighborhoods and communities, towns and cities, conferences, and throughout North America. 📍

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june 2019



YOUTH EVANGELISM:

WINNING SOULS

Through Innovative School Activities, Missions

BY LUCAS L. JOHNSON II

In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead,” James 2:17 NIV.

Koby Fiebelkorn felt he was not doing enough. So, instead of just reading his favorite passage in the book of James, the 17-year-old started living it.

“I really like the verse about how faith without works is dead,” says Fiebelkorn, a senior at Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA), in Calhoun, Georgia. “You can say you believe, but if you’re not actively living it, then it’s really not going to be worth anything.”

During winter break, Fiebelkorn and a couple of his friends started giving weekly Bible studies in their dorm. They have helped bring many of their peers to Christ, or closer to Him.

“He (Fiebelkorn) has been a huge accountability support for guys in the dorm to remain committed to Jesus,” says Joshua Woods, GCA chaplain. “I can’t wait to see what God has in store for him.”

Fiebelkorn is among a number of young evangelists who are letting their light shine and winning souls for Christ through activities at their schools and in Christian groups.

For instance, at Georgia-Cumberland Academy there’s the Soul Café and GCA Talks.

The Soul Café is a musical program led by the students. With each song they create a discussion guide that includes Bible verses and discussion questions, says Woods. After each song, students discuss the meaning of the song, or the Bible text associated with that particular song.

GCA Talks is a spin-off of TED Talks. Students get up and give short talks on life and spirituality. They’re allowed to talk about whatever they like, says Woods, as long as there is a connection to scripture. After the talk, there are discussion questions prepared for the audience.

Both programs are part of GCA’s midweek service, or Prayer Meeting time, and students are not required to attend. However, since the programs started, Woods says attendance at the midweek service has been much higher.

“We’ve always had a decent group, 40 or 50 for midweeks,” says Woods, “but to see it more than double has been awesome.”

At Collegedale Academy, in Collegedale, Tennessee, a group of students





Koby Fielbelkorn (left) is a senior at Georgia-Cumberland Academy who studies the Bible with two of his schoolmates, "Sam" and "Martin."

PHOTO BY: BRIAN YOUNG



Travis Crawford, Collegedale Academy vice principal, leads out in an all-school prayer for a student who just lost his brother, and for a student who is hurting from a family tragedy.

go to downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee, just about every Sabbath and randomly pray for people. Sometimes as many as 50 students (mostly juniors and seniors) participate, says Brent Baldwin, Collegedale Academy principal.

“We want to give kids as many opportunities as they can to be active in their faith,” says Baldwin. “We do worship every day at our school. I can’t even get up front anymore, because the kids do the worships now. And, quite frankly, for me spiritually, it’s phenomenal, because it feeds me when I hear them share their stories.”

Some students use mission trips to spread God’s Word and testify about His goodness.

During spring break about 20 students from Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, Mississippi, traveled to Guayabo, Costa Rica, to help lay the foundation, brickwork, and other support for a Maranatha group that was to follow. The students had asked to do an evangelistic series in the evenings, completely student led, according to Steven Ferguson, pastor.

“We had one student who translated,

and several took turns with special music and preaching,” says Ferguson. “Through the evangelistic series, we had baptisms the Sabbath before we left. The students also wanted to help with the school, so they and the sponsors pooled all their spare money, and I mean all, and were able to come up with enough to sponsor a couple of kids to go to school there.”

Atlanta Adventist Academy, in greater Atlanta, Georgia, has had two mission trips within the last 10 months: one responding to the hurricane in New Bern, North Carolina, and the other following up in Vieques, Puerto Rico, for the second year in a row. About 30 students attended at least one of the two mission trips, says James Mello, chaplain. As a follow-up to the spring mission trip, Mello says a small Bible study group was started.

“This was a result of multiple students discussing a desire to become serious about their spiritual life, and be ‘all in’ for Jesus,” he says.

As a result of their activities, some of the schools are seeing an increase in baptisms. Forest Lake Academy, outside Orlando,

Florida, had seven baptisms in April, and was expecting at least 10 in May.

More than 60 students “have shown interests in either baptism or have accepted the call to make their relationship with Christ a priority,” says Andrew Moreno, pastor.

Church officials believe the school activities and missions are not just beneficial to students and their peers, but the Adventist Church as a whole.

Keith Hallam is associate director for secondary education at the Southern Union Conference, in Peachtree Corners, Georgia. He says the youth mission trips in particular “spread and expand our field of evangelism throughout the world.”

“So, if you’re building a school or a church, you’re putting the Adventist presence in another location of the world field,” says Hallam. “That’s expanding and allowing the message to go on and influence and grow the congregation.”

Michael Polite, associate chaplain at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, agrees.

“Research suggests that the more en-



Collegedale Academy students pray together.

gaged a student is in high school, as well as undergrad, the more likely they are to leave their undergrad experience and become active members of a local church,” says Polite, who has worked closely with youth for more than 10 years.

“So, the more we can use these adolescent moments to invite people to participate in ministry, as well as be impacted and transformed by the ministry, [the more] we are increasing the likelihood of them returning to a local church to do the same thing in their older years, or in their professional years.”

GCA senior Calvin Scott says he, and others, will continue winning souls for Christ — wherever life takes them.

“That’s my mission, to service and discipleship,” says Scott. “It’s just representing Christ, through what I say, how I act.” ●

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*.

TIPS TO ENGAGE YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS IN EVANGELISM

Give them a reason (2 Corinthians 5:14). In its most basic application, youth should want to witness for Jesus because they want their friends to experience what they themselves have experienced. Help them grow in their own relationship with God, and provide opportunities for them to share their faith. Encourage them to become personally involved and develop friendships with non-believers, while maintaining supportive relationships with other Christian youth who are committed to sharing God’s love.

Improve their identity. The former North American Division youth ministries associate director, Manny Cruz, calls it “building their Adventist self-esteem.” Many youth don’t invite others or share their faith because they don’t feel positive about being a Seventh-day Adventist. Help them feel proud about their church by involving them in a program, or supporting something they are interested in by sponsoring or hosting an event. They will be more inclined to invite their friends and be able to point with pride and say, “Yeah, this is something my church is doing.”

Discover their individual spiritual gifts, interests, talents, and abilities — then use them. We need to encourage our youth and young adults to ask themselves, “How can I use my love for _____ in a ministry?” Whether sports, art, or music, the possibilities are endless for ministry if we allow them to think outside of the box and be open to their ideas — ideas which may be a bit unconventional to some of us, but may in fact open doors to creating relationships and opportunities for youth to witness to those they might not have met otherwise.

Overcome personal obstacles. Being transparent is not an easy thing to do. Disclosing a relationship with Jesus Christ — something that is very deep and personal — can be extremely difficult for some. Many feel inadequate about sharing Scripture or giving Bible studies. Experience is the best teacher, and some suggest that information should be provided as necessary, parallel with involvement. Youth “must be taught how to labor for the Master. They must be trained, disciplined, drilled in the best methods of winning souls to Christ ... Let different branches of missionary effort be systematically laid out in which they may take part, and let them be given instruction and help,” *Gospel Workers*, p. 210.

Presenting the Gospel does not need to be complicated. In fact, the more simplistic and plain, the better, and it is something in which everyone — young and old — can participate.

Source: The Atlantic Union Conference Adventist Youth Ministries Department

Spring Women's Retreat

BONDS MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

The mother/daughter relationship is very important. Colleen Oakley on webMD.com says the mother-daughter relationship “determines a girl’s future relationship skills and self-esteem,” Oakley, 2014. The women’s ministries team understands this, and began inviting teens to their retreats in 2006. This year there were almost 70 teens, ages 10 to 18, in attendance, all taught by four students who attend Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee.

Jo Dubs, director for women’s and family ministries, says, “We are excited to see the growing interest from moms to have their daughters join them for this special weekend,” adding that the teen speakers this year, all from Southern Adventist University, provided “meaningful, interactive sessions with the teens.” Shelly

Turkenkopf agrees with the importance of the mother-daughter bond. She invited her two sisters, Donnita Burgoyne and Kelly Myers (her twin), and their mother, Donna Caswell. They all came from the Collegedale area to Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, Georgia, for the April 12-14, 2019, retreat. Turkenkopf says, “When you put four women in a small space, miracles happen — conversations, personal revelations, and sharing. Mom shared things about her journey through life.”

Caswell says the message “Live it... Beyond Hello” brought by Camille Brace blends perfectly with everything she is experiencing at church, “to move forward in a clear and intentional way.” She said, “I am very close with my daughters. They were all born around the same time. It is a

beautiful weekend. We nurture each other, have beautiful thoughts, and beauty all around. It is the complete package.”

Mother and daughter Luceta and Charis McRoy from Calhoun, Georgia, also attended the event. Charis said she was really impacted by this statement from the teen girls’ session, “What has been done for you is greater than what has been done to you.” To her it meant, “We have to count the blessings of God and His forgiveness for us, and that should make us able to forgive others. He has so many more reasons to be mad at us than we have reason to be mad at anyone else.”

Another mother/daughter duo who attended is Vanessa and Courtney Williams from the Alpharetta, Georgia, Church. They received a personal invitation from Dubs. For 17 years Vanessa attended the



PHOTO BY: TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Luceta and Charis McRoy



PHOTO BY: TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Vanessa and Courtney Williams



PHOTO BY: TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Almost 50 girls, ages 10 to 13, attended the spring women’s retreat, “Live it...Beyond Hello,” at Cohutta Springs Conference Center. Here, Julie MacLafferty, a student at Southern Adventist University, co-leads with Sonja Cartwright.



PHOTO BY: TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Shelly, Donnita, Kelly, and Donna

retreat with her mother as a tradition. Unfortunately, her mother passed last June. Now she and her 14-year-old daughter are beginning a new tradition.

Courtney loved the special time with her mom, and being included in a new tradition, saying, “It’s definitely valuable time together, enriching time together.”

Vanessa, who valued this retreat time, said, “The topic today touched me. It was talking about being more intentional about the people we are with, not to go out of your way, which is how I usually see it, but just to watch for what is near you.”

Oakley, C. (2014). *Building a Healthy Mother-Daughter Bond*. WebMD. Retrieved from <https://www.webmd.com/parenting/features/mother-daughter - 1>.

Tammy Wolcott Fisher is the communication director at the Georgia-Cumberland Conference in Calhoun, Georgia.

Young Adults Participate in F5 CHALLENGE

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Finding interesting activities for young adults can be a difficult task.

The 18- to 35-year-old age range includes high school graduates, college students, working adults, newlyweds, and even young families. With such a broad group of people, the young adult ministries of the Gulf States Conference has attempted to meet the variety of needs by hosting two retreat-style events each year, one in the spring and another in the fall. The schedule for these events is relaxed, with more time available between sessions and activities, allowing for attendees to enjoy the natural beauty of Lake Martin and Camp Alamisco in Dadeville, Alabama. At the spring event, April 11-14, 2019, about 20 people came, some as early as Thursday night, to take part in the boating, canoeing, and archery activities. A unique challenge and prize were instituted for the archery venture, a free Alamisco T-shirt to the first person to hit a bullseye. This challenge was met with success by one of the female participants. Because the young adult groups are smaller than average summer camp gatherings, the camp kitchen staff is able to prepare more elaborate meals. A nature retreat with deliciously prepared meals is difficult to beat. The devotion and worship times featured discussion topics rather than lecture-style presentations. This allowed for more people to get involved with the subject matter and share their ideas. On Sabbath morning, following a time of worship with music in the lodge, everyone boarded canoes and set off to a nearby cove. Surrounded by beautiful weather and singing birds, the morning topic was presented and discussed from boat to boat. After lunch and a time of rest, the group loaded onto two boats



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Retreat attendees pause for a photo after summiting Smith Mountain.



On Sabbath morning the group had worship on the lake.

and cruised across the lake to the base of Smith Mountain where they set out to embark on an F5 Challenge: ascend the mountain and climb the fire tower that proudly stands at its top. The F5 Challenge is a community of like-minded

adventurers affiliated with the Adventist church. F5 stands for faith, fitness, fellowship, fortitude, and fun. Jason Shives, member of the Bass Memorial Academy Church and F5 Challenge, partnered with the young adult ministries to make the Smith Mountain climb an official F5 event. Although the length of the hike is only a couple of miles round-trip, Smith Mountain features the tallest elevation along Lake Martin's shoreline. Once at the top, hikers were greeted with a cool breeze, and an additional 90-foot climb up the stairs of the fire tower. The views from the tower were spectacular, an incredible example of God's creatorship on display. Watch the video of the climb and learn more about young adult ministries at www.gscsda.org/yamf5. 📺

Shane Hochstetler is the communication director at the Gulf States Conference in Montgomery, Alabama.

SERVICE LIGHTS THE WORLD

BY RACHEL BEAVER

Great things are accomplished when individuals give of their time and energy for a cause in which they believe. In 1892, George and Ada Colcord accepted the call to start a school in southeast Tennessee. With no existing structure to build on or outside financial support, the couple started Graysville Academy with money from their own pockets. Through their hard work, dedication, and passion — along with that of numerous other individuals through the years — Graysville Academy would eventually become Southern Adventist University.

Southern continues to benefit from this same mission-minded volunteerism. Today, more than 120 community members, retirees, and employees participate in the University's Lights Volunteers program. This group assists with many aspects of the University and the Collegedale Church, including transportation, tutoring, office work, food services, and much more. These volunteers have a true heart for the mission of the Lights program — lighting the world through a life of service.

Two of these volunteers are Dennis and Lila Tidwell. Lila Tidwell began volunteering in 2014 and her husband, Dennis, followed a year later. The couple has had a hand in many areas of service for both Southern and the Collegedale Church, including providing transportation, moving students into the residence halls, working during alumni events, helping with graduation, and more.

The Tidwells have a long history of volunteer and missionary work. For example, they established ADRA Vietnam in 1993, becoming the first Seventh-day Adventists at the time living north of the former demilitarized zone. However, the couple sees their service to Southern through Lights as



Lights Volunteers, who give generously of their time to Southern, enjoy an outing together during the University's "Volunteer Appreciation Week."



Lila and Dennis Tidwell have volunteered at Southern for several years.

particularly special because of their son, Nathan, who graduated from Southern in 2001.

"If I'm ever tempted to feel bored or wish I was doing something else with my afternoon," Dennis Tidwell said, "I tell myself that I'm doing it for Nathan — not for him directly, but for someone else's child. Hopefully, that student's parents appreciate it like we would have if someone had done it for Nathan."

Volunteering with Lights has also helped the couple connect with the local community.

"When we moved here, neither I nor my husband had attended Southern or had any connections with Southern other than our son," Lila Tidwell said. "But, I wanted to connect with people in the community,

so when I heard about Lights, I signed up, and I felt like I was part of something — a part of the University and contributing something to it. It was affirming for us."

Another regular volunteer through Lights is Keith Snyder, Ph.D., chair of the Biology Department. In his personal time, he frequently helps maintain the extensive hiking and mountain biking trail system on Southern's campus.

"I volunteer because I think the end goal is worth achieving," he said. "The trails are a tremendous representation to the larger community. We meet people up there from Knoxville, Nashville, Atlanta, Birmingham — all over the place — who sort of get an introduction to the school through that. It begins a connection with people who we wouldn't be able to meet any other way."

The work done by the Tidwells, Snyder, and the numerous other Lights volunteers is a great blessing to Southern. While individual tasks may seem small on their own, together they are a huge contribution to making university life the best it can be for students. ●

Rachel Beaver is a senior public relations major at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee.

GAAA STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MOCK TRIAL

BY EMILIE WINSTON-CARTWRIGHT

Twenty-four Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA) students appeared in an Atlanta, Georgia, courtroom on Thursday, April 11, 2019 — not as juvenile delinquents or menaces to society, but as bold bailiffs, passionate plaintiffs, determined defendants, magisterial members of the jury, and amazing attorneys. Fern Clarke, Ph.D., criminology coach, and Sylvan Lashley, M.A., M.B.A., Ed.D., J.D., GAAA/BCJA principal and leadership and legal studies teacher, were there to coach the students.

The 2018-2019 academic year was the introductory year for the leadership and legal studies class at GAAA. Sophomore, junior, and senior students have spent the school year exploring many aspects of the legal system, including the biblical origins of justice; the birth of the Constitution; the birth of the legal system; and a comparison of the United States legal system to African, European, and Asian legal systems. The students have also researched aspects of law, including civil law, criminal law, contract law, torts, and the juvenile justice system.

In January the GAAA students were presented with the opportunity to participate in a mock trial. The 45-page document, *State v. Capulet*, was presented to the students. The case is one used by high school students across the country in mock trials. Over the course of three months, the students studied each aspect of the case. Defending legal teams and



Fern Clarke (left), Ph.D., specializes in human services with an emphasis in criminology. Linda Walker (center), is a United States magistrate chief judge. Sylvan Lashley, Ed.D., J.D., principal of GAAA, presents a “Certificate of Thanks” to Walker.

prosecuting legal teams, together with volunteer professional attorneys and their respective student clients, devised a plan for presenting their arguments.

On court day, the students went before Linda Walker, United States magistrate chief judge, at the Richard B. Russell Federal Building and United States Courthouse in downtown Atlanta, Georgia, to participate in full court proceedings. Every aspect was facilitat-

ed by GAAA students — bailiff, prosecuting attorneys, and defending attorneys — with Judge Walker presiding. “It was an incredible experience,” George Cartwright, member of the class of 2019, stated. “It was fascinating to be able to explore the intricate innerworkings of the United States legal system, and to participate in the mock trial. Judge Walker made time to give us valuable feedback about our presentations. It was an unforgettable experience.”

Clarke remarked, “I was thoroughly impressed and proud of the GAAA students. I was able to see how determined and dedicated they were, the time they devoted, and how seriously they took the trial. They exceeded my expectations and outdid themselves.”

The future aspirations for the leadership and legal studies class include participating in a mock trial at the state competition with public and other elite private schools meeting to compete and debate. The students will receive accommodations so they will not be required to compete during Sabbath hours. For more information on the leadership and legal studies curriculum, or to partner with the school in traveling to the state competition, please contact Lashley at slashley@gaaaschool.org. 📍

Emilie Winston-Cartwright writes from Atlanta, Georgia, and is the proud GAAA mom of Zoë, '12, and George, '19.



GAAA students are taught legal skills and leadership by Fern Clarke, Ph.D., (front row, crouching) who specializes in human services with an emphasis in criminology; and Sylvan Lashley (third row, fourth from left), M.A., M.B.A., Ed.D., J.D., principal of GAAA, with degrees in law, business, and leadership. Lashley coached the prosecution and Clarke coached the defense in a mock murder trial in the Richard B. Russell Federal Building and United States Courthouse in Atlanta, Georgia. Linda Walker (back row, center), United States magistrate chief judge, presided.



Caira Staley (standing), Student Movement president and chair of the jurors, presents the verdict.



Linda Walker, United States magistrate chief judge, deliberates.

Oakwood University Aeolians Perform at Their First

NATIONAL AMERICAN CHORALE DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION EVENT

BY JASON MAX FERDINAND, D.M.A.

Ladies and gentlemen, making their first National American Chorale Directors Association (ACDA) appearance: The Aeolians of Oakwood University!" I took a big breath and walked out to center stage. We were received with such warmth. We acknowledged the audience, and then I turned to face the choir and mouthed to them, "Let's go to work." Our first set went attacca (without break between the songs). Song one, "Regina Coeli," was simply beautiful. Song two, "Lobet den Herrn," I stood there thinking "this is incredible!" They made the difficult piece seem like they wrote it. Song three, "Jubilate Deo," was so expressive. After this first set, the audience jumped up and went into a mad applause. They literally would not stop. Keep in mind that the organizers stressed for months that you could not

go overtime. So, I jokingly pointed to my watch to let the audience know we have to move on. They all laughed and sat down.

We met with our 17-piece chamber instrumental group that was based in Kansas City, Missouri, on February 27, 2019, and the Aeolians proceeded with confidence. The rehearsal was very methodical, making sure to cover all the small details of the pieces and the transitional elements therein. Due to the large number of the conference attendees, we would have to perform our set twice and on two different stages. On performance day, the Aeolians gathered in the holding area and the nervous energy was palpable. Some had headphones on, trying to focus. Others were practicing their choreography and staging. Our accompanists were playing imaginary instruments as they practiced in their minds. A friend and Grammy award-



winning music educator, Jeffrey Redding, Ph.D., stopped by to give a pep talk. "Sing to inspire, not to impress," was his message to us. Backstage, word kept getting back to us that the hall was filled to capacity. Without seeing the audience, we could sense the anticipation.

During the singing of "My Lord, What a Morning," one could hear a pin drop in that big hall. Cedric Dent, Ph.D., took the stage and we all had fun in the choreographed singing of Dent's setting



PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

The Aeolians were pleased to represent Oakwood University in musical excellence, led by Jason Max Ferdinand, D.M.A. (standing), professor and chair of the Music Department.

of “Smile.” “Promised Land” was our final statement. It was indicative of this choir making it to this significant stage. This song was fully staged with huge transitions of the stage plot as we sang. It was simply majestic. We ended the last note, and immediately came a thunderous applause. In the hall we were met with people crying, hugging us, and unable to speak. Our students could share hundreds of stories of encounters they had right after we sang.

In some aspects, the second performance was better than the first. We were met with even more exuberance. There were many folks who belonged to the first track (attendees are supposed to stay true to their tracks) who managed to hear us again the second time. The standing ovation at the very end was longer than the first. Praise God for His wondrous mercies. What a way to end Black History Month.

It was beyond gratifying to hear choral legends, whom I’ve read about in books and

heard their recordings, sing high praises of our young people. We, as believers, must not take for granted the treasure we have. We have the ability to heal. The ability to bring hope. We have received hundreds of messages of how lives were changed. The message needs to reach to all the world, and this is our tool. 🎧

Jason Max Ferdinand, D.M.A., is Oakwood University professor of music, director of choral activities, and Music Department chair.

Evangelists Share the Gospel with Racing Fans

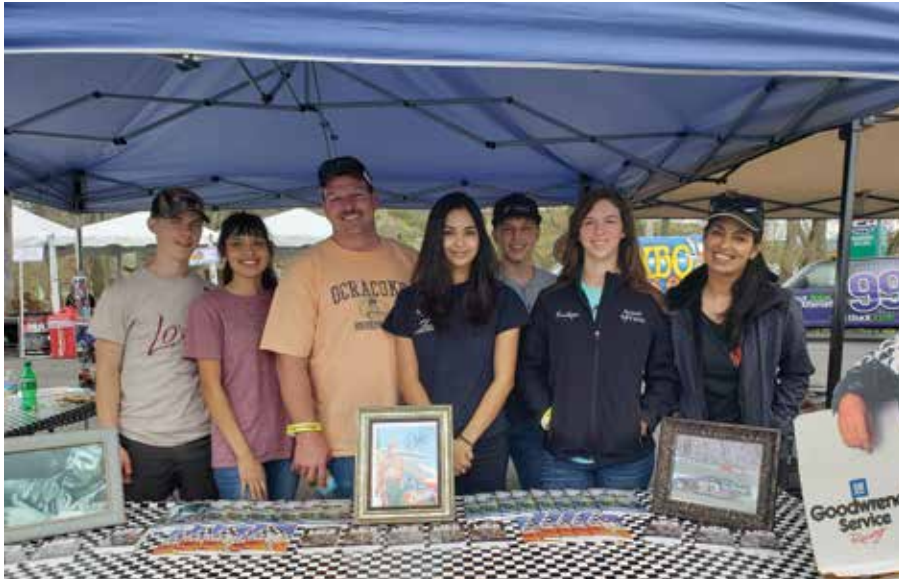


PHOTO BY: CRYSTAL EARNHARDT

PHOTO BY: CRYSTAL EARNHARDT

The last place you would ever think to go on a mission trip is a place where they say “Gentlemen, start your engines!” And, you don’t imagine you’ll hear the rumbling sound of engines as race cars rush around a track at speeds of 125 mph or more. This isn’t your typical mission field, but that’s exactly where John and Crystal Earnhardt, Carolina Conference evangelists, have been called to witness for Christ.

The youth from the Wilkesboro, N.C., Church were invited to attend the Bristol Motor Speedway Race weekend on April 5, 2019, and share their faith. None of them had ever been to a race track or even thought of attending one, but with John Earnhardt’s enthusiasm and passion — not to mention his relation to the world-famous Dale Earnhardt — it was exciting for them to be part of this mission.

Late Friday morning the group set up their booth at the Hospitality Village, where hundreds of racing fans would soon swarm in to receive freebies from the NASCAR sponsors. They had more than 1,000 sharing books to give away, including little Bibles and a version of *Steps*



PHOTO BY: CRYSTAL EARNHARDT

to Christ that has race cars on the cover to target the interest of the fans. They also gave away around 600 copies of Crystal Earnhardt’s *The 7 Flags of NASCAR*, a newly published book which takes the principles behind each racing flag and applies them to everyday life. The Gospel is interwoven with compelling stories meant to encourage the reader to seek God.

To draw people to their booth, they also gave out autographed pictures of racecar drivers. It worked! Do you know how easy it is to start a conversation with someone

as you’re looking for their favorite racecar driver’s picture? So many people are searching and longing for someone to admire and look up to. What a great opportunity it was to show Jesus’ love through the way they interacted and shared His Word with each person. Unconventional? Yes. Effective? Most definitely!

On Saturday and Sunday morning, the young people led out in songs and devotions at the campsite where fans were lodged for the weekend. Some of the fans would join in to worship, and some would sit outside their campers and listen. Others would walk by, stop, and observe from a distance. No matter what, seeds were being planted.

Each year, as fans come strolling through, they can look forward to visiting that friendly booth, because this special booth has more to share than just books or pictures. It shares a true, lasting relationship with the Friend and Savior, Jesus Christ. 🙏

BY DENISE BUSTOS

Carolina Holds Adult Sabbath School Retreat



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

A new approach was taken for the Adult Sabbath School Retreat at Nosoca Pines Ranch this year as personal ministries leaders and elders were also invited to attend. These groups are the biggest lay-led initiatives for growing the local church. As a result, the Carolina Conference saw value in having both ministry leaders there to see how they could partner and work together in small group ministry, outreach, and church growth.

This was the premise behind the retreat held at Nosoca Pines Ranch, March 29-31. Normally the Adult Sabbath School Retreat is held as a training for only the teachers of local church classes, but this year the personal ministries teams were also invited in an effort to generate new ideas and increase effectiveness. Nearly 60 people attended this year's event, where Kameron DeVasher, personal ministries and Sabbath School director for the Michigan Conference, was the main presenter. He shared with the attendees a game plan for growing their church through BibleStudyOffer.com, through small group ministry, outreach, and *The*

Discipleship Handbook, as well as short training videos that can be used with the members on Sabbath morning to help equip them for ministry.

David Wright, Carolina Conference adult Sabbath School director, is not one to shy away from new ideas and change, but it is sometimes a challenge to get churches to buy in. This year the Conference offered an incentive to get more interest in attending the retreat. They basically gave a two-for-one deal. If a Sabbath School teacher attended with a personal ministries leader from the same church, they both were able to register for half price.

Wright, in commenting on the turnout, said, "This year we did several things different. There is now a *Carolina Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Newsletter* that I send out in hopes to get the word out of upcoming events. We also offered Spanish translation for the first time, and a sign-up incentive. This year three times as many people attended." Wright also stated, "It was encouraging to see their enthusiasm in learning how to do their jobs more effectively. As



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

our Adult Sabbath School and Personal Ministries departments work together, I pray that many of these leaders will bring about positive changes in their local church and communities, and that the Lord may bless in their efforts to create a vibrant, soul-nourishing, soul-winning program." ●

BY REBECCA CARPENTER

New Port Richey Adventist Christian Academy Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Adventist Christian Academy in New Port Richey, Fla., celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 27, 2018. While volunteering at the school, Marjorie Boyd, parent of two graduates and one of several founders of the school, noticed that 2018 marked the anniversary of the school. She began planning a special weekend celebration to commemorate the occasion.

The church service brought 50 years of Adventist Christian Academy students together. Graduates from as far as California returned to visit their former school and reunite with friends. The special service included a documentary of the school created by former student Bryan Lankston. Each of the school choirs performed selections for the occasion. Bryan Johnson, associate superintendent from Florida Conference, delivered the message on Christian education and its impact on youth. The service concluded with a special musical arrangement of “Friends,” by Michael W. Smith, performed by the Points of Light choir and students from the past. The selection featured Nathan Cortes, a self-taught pianist and former student, as well as former graduates Justin Rivera and Bryan Lankston singing the lead vocals.

Vespers was arranged by Uplift Praise, an outreach ministry of the church. Everyone was encouraged to share memorable stories from their time at the Academy. The vesper message was presented by Jonathan Pawson, pastor.

A special festival was held at the school on the following day. Many church groups were part of the event to raise money for the school and other church ministries. At the festival, a softball tournament was organized by Mark



PHOTO BY: KATHY LANKSTON

Points of Light Choir members and former students joined in singing “Friends,” by Michael W. Smith. The selection featured alumni of Adventist Christian Academy: Nathan Cortes, a self-taught pianist, and Justin Rivera and Bryan Lankston singing the lead vocals.

Schiefer, obstacle courses were run, and friendly games were played. Advent-Health North Pinellas (formerly Florida Hospital North Pinellas), donated t-shirts for all students and faculty to commemorate the event.

The members of the New Port Richey Church believe that God has truly blessed the

Academy with 50 years of providing Christian education. For more information on the school, or to see a documentary on the history, please visit npradventistacademy.org. 📍

BY KATHY LANKSTON

REVIVE Organized by Forest Lake Academy Students



PHOTO BY: ALISON PRUSIA

Forest Lake Academy students chose to gather, praise, worship, listen, and share as they discover the love of Jesus at the student-led monthly worship service.



Students from REVIVE also visited several fire stations to express gratitude to first responders.

“You who seek God, let your heart REVIVE,” Psalm 69:32 (NAS).

REVIVE is a dream that began to stir in the spring of 2018 on the campus of Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, Fla. The vision was for students to have a welcoming opportunity to gather and grow closer to Jesus and each other.

“As I was finishing my sophomore year,” says Sophia Fulbright, REVIVE leader and Student Association pastor, “I realized that, like me, many students had a deeper desire and need to grow closer to God’s heart.” After many conversations and lots of brainstorming, God opened doors and REVIVE emerged. Meeting once a month, during lunch, students choose to gather, praise, worship, listen, share, and discover the love of Jesus.

The program is led by students, and a community pastor is invited to unpack



PHOTO BY: ALISON PRUSIA

Students lead the singing during a student-led worship program held once a month during the lunch hour.

the truths shared in each chapter being studied from the powerful book, *The End of Me*, by Kyle Idleman. Small group time and prayer always ends the sessions. It’s simple; yet, it has been powerful for the 40–60 students who choose to

use their free time to grow.

A highlight of the year was serving the community together. Alongside Inspired Bags (InspiredBags.org), students loaded the school’s bus and visited several fire stations to express gratitude to the first responders who serve the Academy area.

REVIVE! This is just the beginning of what hopefully will be a growing revival on the campus and in the community! Every person shares journeys with distractions, disappointments, and heartache, so the leaders pray each month for those who will come as the meeting time nears.

Students involved in REVIVE are continuing to experience the igniting love of Jesus that strengthens the walk with Him and with friends. It is a young dream that has only recently begun, but how God will continue to lead is still to be seen. 🙏

BY SOPHIA FULBRIGHT

McDonald Road Church Takes 10th Mission Trip to Belize

During spring break in March, a group from McDonald Road Church in McDonald, Tenn., traveled to Belize to help out with some projects at Eden Primary School in the community of San Ignacio-Santa Elena. The mission group painted the classroom buildings; constructed a 165-foot sidewalk, stairs, and picnic tables on the school's campus; and held a Vacation Bible School (VBS) program.

"This year we painted all of their buildings," says Daryl Ford, who organizes the group together with her husband, Dan Ford. "This is the first year that their whole campus has been the same color. They were so excited!"

Thirty people went on the Belize mission trip, making it a larger group than the past few years. "For the projects we were doing, it turned out to be the perfect number," says Daryl Ford. "Each year when we go, it's like the perfect group comes together — the perfect abilities for the jobs we need to do."

"I've been doing this long enough that I know it's a God thing," says Dan Ford. "I know we are going to get the right people."

This is the 10th year that Dan and Daryl Ford have taken groups from the McDonald Road Church to Eden Primary School in Belize. They share that returning to the same place builds relationships, and a continuity that's difficult to cultivate any other way. It al-



SUBMITTED BY: BECKY BROOKS

Thirty individuals from the McDonald Road Church in McDonald, Tenn., went to Belize to help with a few projects at the Eden Primary School in the community of San Ignacio-Santa Elena. It is the 10th year that Dan and Daryl Ford have taken groups from McDonald Road Church, saying that building relationships and continuity are key.

so allows them to finish projects for the school that might otherwise never get finished.

"The kids we take down love the students there. They're working, but we tell them, 'If the bell goes off for recess, go play with the kids,'" shares Daryl Ford. "Plus, we do a VBS program on the campus. About 60% of the students who come there are not Adventist, so we're meeting needs by being there The hard part is saying goodbye, there are a lot of tears. There's just a bond with the people down there. You just don't have that if you don't go back. And, we have a project each time where we finish some aspect of it, so the kids can say, 'That's what I did.'"

Not only does it build bonds with the people in Belize, it is a special experience for the people who participate in the trip. Delaney Harris has gone on the Belize mission trip six out of the past seven years. "We've practically built this school, and that's great," she says. "But, in my own life, it's changed me — in understanding other people and other cultures — and is really helping me find my mission and find myself. It is just a really cool experience, and I think everyone should go on a trip at some point." ❶

BY BECKY BROOKS

Woodses Celebrate 70 Years of Marriage



SUBMITTED BY: TINA HEINLEIN

Robert (Bob) and Carolyn Woods celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on April 7, 2019. They are longtime members of the Douglasville, Ga., Church.

After dating three months, they were married on April 10, 1949, in a small church wedding in Atlanta, Ga.

Bob served in the National Guard and worked driving semi-trucks. Carolyn was employed at the Georgian Villa Nursing

Home (now Douglasville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center).

The Woodses have four children, 14 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Carolyn said that she never expected to live this long, but is thankful for each day God has given them. ❶

BY TINA HEINLEIN

SuCasa Church Members Engage Social Media Ministry Around the World

Carolina Bonilla shares her testimony about SuCasa Church's media ministry.

It was 2014 when I watched a five-part YouTube series titled, "What does it mean to be an Adventist?" by Joel Barrios, that broke me. One truth bomb after another was dropped before me, making me realize that belonging to the "right" denomination isn't enough. I wasn't living for the second coming of Jesus as if it were to happen.

I had no idea who this pastor, Joel Barrios, was or how he appeared on my YouTube searches. However, I began to watch his sermons, and they became a part of my Christian walk. They helped me see that I needed more of Jesus, and they inspired me to live by faith; and these messages, I would soon discover, were not only intended to be heard by me. God had a greater plan.

Later in 2014, I moved to Collegedale, Tenn., where I was surprised to learn that Barrios was one of the local pastors. I had no need to go church shopping.

The first Wednesday I arrived in town, I went directly to Collegedale Spanish-American Church, where Barrios was leading Prayer Meeting. As soon as Prayer Meeting was over, a woman approached me, introduced herself and offered to introduce me to the pastor. I excitedly said, "Yes!"

When exchanging greetings with the pastor, I felt as if I knew him, so I asked, "Pastor, would you like to record radio programs?" His eyes opened wide.

Barrios began to share with me about his burden. He had previously pastored in Atlanta, Ga., where his church had a radio ministry, and with the transfer to Collegedale he prayed for God to open the doors to spread the Gospel through media. It was his passion.

Consequently, I shared my conviction. "Pastor, I have a plan. I have a fiancé who lives in Chile and works for the Chilean Adventist University radio station. We are going to get married in about a year, and when he moves here, we are going to help you."



Joel Barrios, pastor of the Collegedale, Tenn., Spanish-American Church, preaches a sermon while many follow along in the Word of God. Barrios has a passion for media ministry, and has 10,000 subscribers on his church's YouTube channel.



The Collegedale Spanish-American Church is a church of prayer and action. Here, members pray for their church and its media ministry, through which the Holy Spirit has prompted people from around the world to be baptized.

Honestly, I had no idea if my media ministry plan would work. I hadn't discussed the plan with my fiancé or even asked if he would be interested, but, somehow, I figured he would be. I knew God had led me to this specific church for this specific mission.

As time passed, Barrios asked, "When is your fiancé coming?" He had taken my plan seriously. He had begun to pray for God to bring together a group of people to begin a media ministry, and God answered.

God not only brought my husband, but an entire group of talented individuals specialized in different areas to build the SuCasa Church media ministry. Together, we have been able to work on segments for the local radio station,

short videos to share on social media, podcasts, a music CD, a weekly commentary of the Sabbath School lesson, and viewings of our weekly worship services. We have developed a phone app, and a question-and-answer Bible program that airs through YouTube and Facebook. Together, God has worked to make media ministry a part of the Collegedale Spanish-American Church.

As a result, our YouTube Channel has reached 10,000 subscribers, and some of our videos have more than 35,000 views. Every Sabbath more than 150 follow our live stream, and the numbers keep growing.

We have six online followers, who have flown from their countries or residing locations to our church to be baptized.

Aside from posting and managing our media ministry, our church interacts with those watching online from different parts of the world by inviting them to send us a video message during a special program called "Maratónica SuCasa," every three months. It is a way for our church to meet and welcome them. We have received messages from people in places as far as Australia, Japan, Sweden, Spain, and every country in Latin America. What is more impressive is that these individuals are committed to the mission of our church. They know about the different activities we organize, and they want to be involved. Some have even asked to have their church membership transferred here. These members are called our "virtual church members."

The SuCasa Church media ministry has resulted from individuals hearing God's calling on their hearts, and desires to be part of seeing the climatic event of Jesus' second coming. It is not of our own doing, but of His providential workings. We hope and pray that you will collaborate with us in our Collegedale Spanish-American Church's mission of "preparing the way of the Lord," using the avenues God places on your heart to use. 📌

BY CAROLINA BONILLA

Community Ministry Unites Churches

In 2016, a local church outreach project named Adventist Blueprint Ministries was formed from the vision of Tim McCullum. The mission of the project is to bring all of the Adventist churches in and around the Hattiesburg, Miss., area together and work in unison for the community. The group travels the surrounding areas hosting block party/health fair events. These events cater to the relevant needs of the community.

So far, block parties have been held in Columbia, Hattiesburg, McComb, and Laurel, Miss. The ministry includes members from Bass Memorial, Ephesus, Elevate, Hattiesburg, Hattiesburg Hispanic, Columbia, South Columbia, Soso, and Ephesus (Meridian, Miss.) churches.

The most recent block party was Sunday, April 14, 2019. This event featured 11 booths with experts on health, diet, and finance. Adventist doctors, nurses, health educators, and a pastor, along with health experts who are not Adventists, participated in this community event. As participants proceeded from booth to booth, they earned marks on a community survey card. After they collected all of the available marks, they turned in the card to receive a free bag of groceries. Despite the storms that came through the day before, and the cold weather they brought with them, volunteers and community members were there in strength. Live music was performed by the Elevate praise and worship team, the Anointed Bodies of Christ, and a young soloist from an Adventist youth group. The community was served free hotdogs, chips, and water. Also, the children were able to enjoy a jumper, egg hunt with a twist, and other outdoor games. Door prizes were given away, including a free haircut, cookbooks, sandwich maker, basketballs, and even a new bicycle.

As a result of this event, 39 Bible



Both adults and children come together for the weekly “Move Your Body” walk, run, and bike group.



Lyn Powell (left) and Vanessa McCullum prepare to distribute bags of groceries.

made approximately 320 contacts and given out more than 250 bags of groceries. In total there have been 200 people signed up for Bible studies, prayer, and other programs of interest, including financial management classes, parenting classes, exercise classes, healthy cooking classes, and more.

Additionally, the group has adopted the Fieldhouse, a homeless shelter in Hattiesburg, for men and women. Each year, before Thanksgiving, the group collects and donates new coats to the residents.

Continued growth from the ministry has also resulted in the “Move Your Body” walk, run, and bike group. This group meets Sunday mornings at the Longleaf Trace, a trail in Hattiesburg. 📍

BY VANESSA MCCULLUM

study interests were submitted. These names will be given to the local Adventist church to follow-up.

Since its inception, the ministry has

Conference Relaunches Endowment for Bass



Bass Memorial Academy String Ensemble with their director, Katherine Bowes (right), performed during Bass' Alumni Weekend.

During a time when many academies face financial difficulties, the administration of Gulf States Conference is looking for ways to reinforce the ongoing operations of Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, Miss. Brian Danese, vice president of finance for Gulf States and alumnus of Bass, recently shared how important the Academy is to the Conference: "Having recently attended the alumni weekend at Bass, it was a blessing to see over 80 young people up front, united in song." Having a place like Bass allows the young people to grow intellectually and spiritually. The future of the local churches, the Conference, and beyond, are trained there.

Danese was inspired by the history of getting Bass off the ground, things

like penny campaigns where hundreds of pounds of pennies were collected throughout the Conference by lay people. When he joined the Conference administration as treasurer, he discovered an endowment fund for Bass that was underperforming. Just recently, he was able to gain access to that fund to grow and reinvest it.

During the Bass alumni weekend, March 29-31, 2019, Danese relaunched the fund intending to raise it to \$10M. Since its inception, the fund had already increased to \$800K, a healthy start to the new campaign. The idea behind the endowment is to utilize the earnings of the fund's investments to support the institution. In this way, gifts that are given to the fund continue to give to the insti-

tution year after year. Several businesses recognized the value in the endowment campaign, including Adventist Health-Care, Richardson Trucking, and others, and committed to regularly contribute until the goal is reached. Two alumni of Bass approached Danese following his presentation, and offered a combined \$100K as matching money to grow the fund.

With these new commitments and continued support from Bass alumni, and Gulf States with its members, the Conference expects to close 2019 with \$1.5M in the endowment fund. See the video presentation at www.gscsda.org/gsc-today/bassendowment. 📺

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

New Fellowship Hall Blesses Members, Community

The dream of two decades became a reality Sunday morning, April 21, 2019, when the Leach Church in Cedar Grove, Tenn., dedicated their new fellowship hall. The 2,600-square-foot building is now more than double the size of the old hall.

The members desire to expand their outreach ministries further into the community; the new building is ideally suited for that goal. The dining hall boasts seating for more than 80 people comfortably for meals, and the kitchen has three times more cabinetry and counter space than the former building. The layout will now enhance the church's ability to do twice-a-year care baskets for the community, and special food preparation projects like Habitat for Humanity, as well as hosting numerous special events. The church has a vibrant Vacation Bible School, which typically hosts more than 50 children in June. It can now expand further. Since the church owns and maintains a community cemetery adjacent to the hall, numerous groups can now utilize the building for funeral services and receptions in case of inclement weather. The leaders also had the foresight to add



Participating in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Joe Castro (left), local elder; Aaron Sirk; John Baker, pastor; Silke Hubbard, Conference representative; Ric Shoemaker, RES Owner Contractor; and Bill Davis, local elder.

showers to the handicap-accessible bathrooms in case of emergencies or disasters.

The project led by RES Construction from Brownsville, Tenn., began construction in late November 2018, and completed the work in less than five months — three weeks earlier than projected.

Coincidentally, the ribbon-cutting event occurred at the eighth annual Easter Prayer Breakfast. The Easter event's purpose is to bring members and non-members together

to celebrate the resurrection of Christ; 52 individuals attended. John Baker, pastor, created the menu for the breakfast, and served Tuscan scrambled eggs, scrambled tofu, blueberry pancakes, home fries, vegetarian bacon, yogurt fruit parfaits, hot and cold cereals, and numerous fresh fruits. 🍌

BY JOHN BAKER

Belcher Church Celebrates Centennial

The year was 1919. The First World War had just ended. In Europe, President Woodrow Wilson was leading the American delegation to the Versailles Peace Conference. Henry Ford left the presidency of the Ford Motor Company and was succeeded by his son, Edsel. American suffragists were protesting in favor of giving women the right to vote. In addition, on the banks of Ferrells Creek in Pike County, Ky., the Belcher Church was officially organized.

It was a high Sabbath in eastern Kentucky on April 20, 2019, as members

and guests from all across the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference gathered to celebrate the centennial of Belcher Church. The Belcher Church traces its beginnings to the evangelistic work of Andy and George Taylor, Seventh-day Adventists from Minnesota who visited Pike County and developed a relationship with the family of Matt Hackney. Some time later, the area was visited by Felie Pierce, Adventist literature evangelist, who found the Hackney family faithfully observing the Sabbath. John Brownlee held evangelistic meetings, and the church was officially or-

ganized in 1919, with the Hackney family and 10 additional members in attendance.

During the last 100 years, the church family has been housed in four different structures. At first, the members met in a local school before constructing a building of their own. After that building was destroyed by flood, a new building was built in 1946 on land donated by Matt Hackney. When that structure no longer met the church's needs, the current facility was constructed in 1976.

A special highlight of the day was the baptism of Ethan Demaree by Steve Rose,



Attendees who celebrated the centennial service at Belcher Church, and baptism of Ethan Demaree.

Conference vice-president for administration, who also presided at Ethan's baby dedication 15 years ago.

Michael Ringstaff, who pastors the Belcher and Prestonsburg churches, organized the centennial celebration, and taught the lesson study. The Sabbath message was given by Paul Hoover, who recently retired as president of the Upper Columbia Conference. Hoover's call to pastoral ministry began at Belcher Church nearly 40 years ago. The members thanked God for His blessings during the past century, and continue to place their trust in Him for the future. 🕊

BY AARON RAINES

Three Conferences Hold ReGenerate 2019 at Indian Creek Camp

ReGenerate 2019, held at Indian Creek Camp, was attended by 154 pastors, elders, and active lay members from the Georgia-Cumberland, South Central, and Kentucky-Tennessee conferences. They came to be renewed by the Spirit of God, and they were not disappointed. His presence was manifested. All felt a renewed sense of hunger and thirst for Jesus. Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division, was the keynote speaker, along with other presenters, including Joe Kidder, Joe Grider, Olin McGraw, and Marc Lien.

Kidder spoke about the importance of experiencing God's power. Revitalization starts with each individual, prayer, Bible study, and sharing with others what God has done for them personally. He also talked about the worship experience — "your heart's desires."

Lien told how his church was revitalized and grew through small groups. Using Vacation Bible School, McGraw's



Individuals who attended and enjoyed ReGenerate 2019.

church was revived with more than 20 baptisms. Several testimonies were given of churches experiencing revitalization in the Georgia-Cumberland, South Central, and Kentucky-Tennessee conferences.

Attendees pray that the Holy Spirit which was present will enable them to continue reflecting Jesus throughout the conferences. 🕊

BY KIETH NOLL

GAAA Has a “More Excellent Way” — the GAAA Toolkit



PHOTO BY: IRISENE DOUCE

Delmas Campbell (at the podium), GAAA vice principal and chief oratory coach, announces each student’s oratorical participation award. Berean Christian Junior Academy participants include Kristina Moore, eighth grade; Alayah Donar, second grade; and Serenity Phillip, fourth grade. GAAA participants include Kadrianna Cohen, senior; Olivia Mitchell, junior; Kyndall Campbell, junior; Bethany Moore, freshman; Simone Jones, junior; Shontelle Baveghems, junior; Richard Davis, sophomore; George Cartwright, senior; Michael Hall, junior; Jorden Seal, senior; and Jaden Durand, junior.

“... Behold, I show you a more excellent way,” *I Corinthians 12:31*.

Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA) in Atlanta, Ga., has embarked on a “More Excellent Way” program with its new kit of integrated and adaptable tools. Whereas one traditional tool has been the high school diploma in preparation for college, GAAA has now added an encompassing vision of preparing leaders who, by the end of 12th grade, can witness in non-traditional ways.

Sylvan Lashley, Ed.D., BCJA/GAAA principal, has coined the term “Toward Digital Evangelism.”

Students are combining academic

scholarship, oratory, fine arts, legal studies, leadership, and technology in a new recipe. Grades 2-12 participate in annual, publicly held oratorical contests by memorizing speeches of great leaders and public personages, and delivering them at public events.

That oratorical tool has now been combined with legal studies and leadership, as recently evidenced when the legal studies class presented at a mock trial in an Atlanta courtroom featuring a full slate of student defense, prosecuting attorneys, witnesses, and jurors.

Next school year, GAAA adds a technology track where students can earn a certificate in technology by the end of

12th grade with Microsoft certification. This more excellent way is undergirded with character and spiritual development. Each student carries a toolkit with several compartments.

Recently, several students were inducted into the National Honor Society, with an emphasis on scholarship, service, leadership, and character — the main tool in the kit.

Along with a top-flight tour choir and basketball teams, GAAA is launching an entire digital platform. It is the integration of oratory, strong academics, fine arts, leadership, legal knowledge, and technology with the undergirding pillar of spiritual formation and character de-



PHOTO BY: LEE LAMB

Sylvan Lashley (left), Ed.D., principal of GAAA, stands with the National Honor Society (NHS) students and faculty: Jason Merideth, junior; Olivia Mitchell, junior; Brandon Lewis, junior; Kyndall Campbell, junior; Kedon Shaw, junior; Howard Brown, GAAA teacher and NHS chair sponsor; Michael Warren, senior; Bradley Scott, senior; Reuben Dinkins, senior; and Jorden Seal, senior; and Delmas Campbell (far right), GAAA vice principal.

velopment that will make the difference in the lives of youth.

All must be equipped to carry the Gospel forcefully, cogently, and clearly, for the vision leads to where many are going, and the mission consists of what many are doing.

The National Honor Society (NHS) is a nationwide organization for high school students in the United States and outlying territories, which consists of many chapters in high schools. Selection is based on four criteria: scholarship (academic achievement), leadership, service, and character. The National Honor Society requires some sort of service to the community, school, or other organi-

zations. The time spent working on these projects contributes toward the monthly service hour requirement. The National Honor Society was founded in 1921 by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Alpha chapter of NHS was founded at Fifth Avenue High School by Edward S. Rynearson, principal in Pittsburgh, Pa.

National Honor Society groups are commonly active in community service activities both in the community and at the school. Many chapters maintain a requirement for participation in such service activities.

In addition, NHS chapters typically elect officers, who, under the supervision

of the chapter adviser, coordinate and manage the chapter as a student organization. ●

BY SYLVAN LASHLEY, ED.D.

Southeastern Conference, Oakwood University Join Forces for Evangelism



PHOTO BY: ROGER ALVAREZ

Celebrating baptismal candidates Esteyssi and Johana Maldonado are Abel Morrobel (left), pastor; Isaac Ibarra, assistant to the president of Oakwood University; Freddie Sanchez, pastor; and Roger Alvarez, Southeastern Hispanic coordinator. Fifty-five new individuals were baptized, and a branch Sabbath School was started in Lehigh, Fla.

As part of a mission-driven Conference, Southeastern’s Hispanic ministries launched its first Conference-wide evangelistic crusade, “God First,” March 2-9, 2019, in a joint effort with Oakwood University (OU) students and professors. From the peaceful beaches of Clearwater, Fla., to the beautiful landscape of Silver Palms, Fla., 16 evangelists, armed with the power of a transforming Gospel, shared the Good News of salvation, and proclaimed a Christ-centered message of hope, compassion, and wholeness. As a result of the efforts, hearts were touched, lives transformed, 55 individuals accepted Jesus as their personal Savior,



PHOTO BY: ROGER ALVAREZ

Pictured are Johnnie Rodriguez (left), church member; Rafael Ortega, pastor; and Ernesto Rodriguez, baptism candidate. Johnnie Rodriguez brought his co-worker Ernesto Rodriguez to the evangelistic meetings.

and a new Sabbath School branch was born in Lehigh, Fla.

The unconditional support of Southeastern Conference administration is appreciated. Those represented at the closing ceremony included Nicola McClymont-Stoddart, D.B.A., director of human resources at Southeastern; Isaac Ibarra, assistant to the OU president for diversity and inclusion; pastors; and committed church members, all recognized for their hard work and passion for the Gospel. The mission will continue to be fulfilled as all strive together to advance His Kingdom. 🕊

BY ROGER ALVAREZ

“A Sabbath Without Walls!” Reaches Out to Loxahatchee Community



PHOTO BY: KIVETTE SINCLAIR-HAMILTON

Barry Bonner, pastor, and members of First Church in Loxahatchee Groves, Fla., became the sermon at Currie Park in West Palm Beach, Fla., for a community service outreach project, “A Sabbath Without Walls!” The community was provided clothing, personal hygiene items, and warm meals donated by the Loxahatchee Community Services ministry and the church members.

Barry Bonner, pastor, and the members of First Church in Loxahatchee Groves, Fla., became the sermon when they made their way to Currie Park in West Palm Beach, Fla., on February 2, 2019, for a community service outreach project — “A Sabbath Without Walls!”

Bonner and his congregation opted to forgo the traditional church worship service. Instead, they gathered in Currie Park and sought to be obedient to the Word expressed in Mark 16:15, to “...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

To facilitate those members who were unable to travel to Currie Park, Bonner hosted a condensed sermonette via the church’s prayer conference line; no one

was left out. The sermonette lifted the spirit of all members and set the stage for “A Sabbath Without Walls.”

At Currie Park, the members were able to fellowship with the community and, in particular, the homeless. The Holy Spirit was in this place, as members of the community were fed with both physical and spiritual food.

Community folks were provided clothing as well as personal hygiene items donated through the Loxahatchee Community Services Ministry. In addition, the community was blessed with warm meals prepared by the church members. The Sabbath was indeed a blessing to all in attendance. Individuals requested and

received prayers, and the church was even more blessed when a community member (despite her situation of being homeless) decided to praise the Lord in song. Oh, what a marvelous experience it was for all as they were reminded of the Scripture that says, “I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live: I will sing praise to my God while I have my being,” Psalm 104:33.

The members praise the Lord for providing the opportunity and experience of “A Sabbath Without Walls.” It is their hope that they will have many more opportunities and experiences to go out into the community, and to minister to God’s people. 🕊

BY KIVETTE SINCLAIR-HAMILTON

Educators Attend Awareness Seminar on Child Abuse, Suicide Prevention

Southeastern Conference (SEC) Office of Education recently held its spring professional development seminars for all SEC schools. Miami Union Academy (MUA) hosted all schools in south Florida on Sunday, February 17, 2019, and all other teachers met at the Conference office on Monday, February 18. The topics of discussion were essential to ensuring each teacher could successfully provide a safe, engaging learning environment for all students.

Gavin Gaynair, vice principal at MUA, provided training on the importance of implementing differentiated instruction in the classroom. Teachers were reminded that education is an equilateral triangle, a balance between teacher, students, and curriculum, and neither aspect is more important than the other. Teachers recognized that differentiated instruction promotes high standards while equipping each student for success in meeting the learning goals.

Marlene Jairam, MUA’s home and school leader and board member, conducted an awareness seminar on child abuse and suicide prevention. Jairam was assisted by her colleagues, Joanne Labossiere, Judy McCalla, Ph.D., and Paul Walker, Ph.D. The four presenters brought their expertise in social work, psychology, and mental health to the seminar, and discussed matters relating to the safety of students in the schools. The topics ranged from being able to identify red flags of abuse, to how to report suspicion. Teachers were reminded that they are mandatory reporters, but not responsible for investigating suspicion of abuse. Teachers were also educated on signs of suicidal tendencies, and how to address students who may be



PHOTO BY: DAREN JAIRAM

Joanne Labossiere (left), MSW; Barbara Davis, Ed.D; Judith Rey McCalla, Ph.D.; Marlene Jairam, MSW; and Vivian Walker, Ph.D., provided professional development for Southeastern educators. Presenters with expertise in social work, psychology, and mental health discussed matters relating to the safety of students – from being able to identify red flags of abuse to how to report suspicion.

contemplating suicide.

The training received was timely, beneficial, and useful for Conference teachers. Barbara Davis, Ed.D., Southeastern superintendent, did an excellent job choosing the topics and presenters. Teachers left feeling more confident

about how to best meet the needs of their students while ensuring the safety of each child. 📌

BY GAVIN GAYNAIR

Beracah Church Members Burn Mortgage



PHOTO BY: FREDLY THELIECIEUX

Gregory Mack (second from left), president of Southeastern Conference, and Israel Jean-Leon, pastor, participate in Beracah mortgage burning ceremony. Beracah, whose origins goes back to 1998, was the first French church in Bradenton, Fla.

Members of the Beracah Haitian Church in Bradenton, Fla., have a reason to rejoice. The members recently had a special mortgage burning ceremony on Friday, April 5, 2019. Nicolas Louis, Haitian coordinator, and Gregory O. Mack, president of Southeastern Conference, represented the Conference for the ceremony. After a powerful sermon by Louis, Mack led the charge, applauding the members for their commitment to ministry as they continue to advance Heaven's cause.

According to one of the founding members of the church, the journey was

not easy. Beracah was the first Seventh-day Adventist French church in Bradenton. Its birth goes back to August 1998, when a Haitian Seventh-day Adventist church member, Judith Fostin, decided to open her home to host a branch Sabbath School with only eight members.

As the group developed, they decided it was time to find a larger place. After several moves, they settled in a storefront plaza, which was a former night club. There they worshiped with about 10-20 members. As the church continued to mature, they needed to move again. After much prayer and searching,

the Lord led Gerald Joseph to a Baptist church. The Baptist members were looking to sell their property, which included a parsonage adjacent to the church building. In January 2005, along with the support of four other church members, the new Beracah Church was purchased. It is now located at 2212 8th Avenue E, in Bradenton. The purchase price was only \$320,000. Beracah members proclaim, "To God be the glory!" 🙏

BY NICOLAS LOUIS

Youth, Young Adults Serve Their Communities

The Southeastern Conference Youth Ministries Department took a unique approach to this year's Global Youth Day (GYD) experience. A monthlong call-to-service initiative was launched to ignite youth and young adults throughout the various regions to serve their respective communities. Prince Lewis, Southeastern youth and young adults director, facilitated a GYD kick-off rally on Friday, March 1, 2019, at Mt. Pisgah Church in Miami Gardens, Fla. Unifying efforts with local leaders, more than 300 youth were in attendance. Lewis challenged youth leaders to facilitate service experiences throughout the various districts. The rally was streamed live, with more than 1.8K viewers.

During the following week, March 9, 2019, the Daughter of Zion Church in Palm Beach County hosted their free grocery drive. One thousand people received fresh produce and groceries.

Thousands of youth and young adults were deployed on March 16, 2019, to be the sermon and adopt a community. More than 30 sites throughout south Florida were in place for youth and young adults to serve. Both FeJAH (Fédération de la Jeunesse Adventiste Haïtienne) and South Florida Youth Federation facilitated projects. Tabernacle Church in Miami, Fla., organized numerous projects in the heart of downtown Miami that included a street prayer team, free load of laundry at local laundromat, and care packages for the homeless.

The Mt. Zion Church in Kissimmee, Fla., surprised law enforcement and fire personnel at two police precincts and a fire station with personalized goodie bags and personalized notes of encouragement.

The closing ceremonies were held March 23, 2019, at Northside Church in Miami. The finale concert featuring national recording artist Mike Brown and



PHOTO BY: DANIELA JEAN

Tabernacle Church youth street prayer team in downtown Miami, Fla., pray with the community. Global Youth Day was a monthlong call to service for youth and young adults in Southeastern.

F.O.C.U.S. was a great celebration for all who had served all month long. Lewis affirmed the constituents, acknowledging the dozen youth groups who were recipients of service sponsorship that would aid in supporting their respective service projects. A community block party followed the concert. The month of March was dedicated to service and evangelism

for the youth of the Southeastern Conference and the community at large. Lives were enriched, the Gospel was shared, and the mission continues! ●

BY DANIELA JEAN

Government Workers Affected by Shutdown Receive Help



PHOTO BY: JENNIFER BARTLEY

Adventist Community Service workers from 10 Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., area churches and Accurate Health Care Agency partnered for grocery giveaway to employees affected by the partial government shutdown. More than 200 families were served, and 54 gas cards and 12 gift cards were given away.

Adventist Community Service (ACS) leaders from 10 Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., area churches and Accurate Health Care Agency, partnered for a grocery giveaway on January 28, 2019, to employees who were affected by the partial government shutdown which lasted four weeks. Participating churches in the Florida Conference include Ambassador, Eliathah, Ft. Lauderdale, and Lauderhill; churches in the Southeastern Conference include Deerfield Beach, Ebenezer, Light House, Mt. Olivet, New Hope, and Unity.

The event was held at the Vincent Torres Memorial Park in Lauderdale Lakes, Fla. Sandra Davey, vice mayor of Lauderdale Lakes, partnered with the church members to secure the park. The 10 a.m. start time and a wind chill of about 35 degrees did

not prevent families from coming out with their bags and baskets to be filled with grocery items to include bread, pastry, canned goods, vegetables, frozen foods, meat, and dairy products.

During the event, many showed up who were not workers of the federal government, and they were given an equal amount of grocery items. Large numbers of TSA workers came for the distribution. Those who had to work sent their IDs to collect their gas and gift cards, which were only given to federal employees.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) workers arrived late due to returning to work that same day. They were able to pick up their gas and gift cards, though most of the grocery items were gone. Ft. Lauderdale Church food pantry delivered several bas-

kets packed with various grocery items to the IRS office in Plantation, Fla., the following day.

In total, 200 families were served, and 54 gas cards and 12 gift cards were given. Local area pastors were on hand to witness the event — Dolphy Cross, Unity and Deerfield Beach; Jeffrey Thompson, Ft. Lauderdale; Anslem Paul, New Hope; and Donald Burden, Light House. All participating churches and pastors; Accurate Health Care Agency; volunteers; and Robert Moore, ACS director for Southeastern, were thanked for being instrumental in making this a memorable event. ●

BY JENNIFER BARTLEY

Ephesus Jr. Academy Students Respond to Altar Call



PHOTO BY: LOVELEE MATHURIN

The Ephesus Jr. Academy in West Palm Beach, Fla., students Jeremiah Jean-Baptiste (left), Jayla Turner, Bryan Chung, and Kody James accepted the call of God to give their lives to Him. After daily Bible study at school, and with support of their families, the impact of the home-school-church connection was reaffirmed.

It is a high day in Zion,” echoed Willie Walker, principal, as he announced the upcoming baptism of the Ephesus Junior Academy (EJA) students at the Ephesus Church in West Palm Beach, Fla. After daily Bible study at school, the four young individuals made the life-altering decision to give their lives to the Lord forever, and were supported by their parents. Gathered to witness the occasion were their families, the EJA faculty and staff, the Ephesus Church family, and Barbara Davis, Ed.D., Southeastern Conference superintendent of education, accompanied by her husband.

The baptismal ceremony began after divine worship, and the students were

anxious to make their calling and election sure. Keith Albury, pastor, read the modified vows and the students happily accepted.

The members and visiting congregants witnessed the revival taking place at EJA. They were affirmed and reaffirmed of the impact of the home-school-church connection. The newly baptized students returned to the embrace of their families, the school administration and staff, and other parishioners. When asked why they were baptized, the students’ responses were indicative of their convictions. Jayla stated that she wanted to “give her heart to Jesus and follow Him to the end;” Bryan said that he wants to “stop sinning

and be good at home;” Jeremiah wanted to be baptized so that he could “be more holy;” and Kody likewise shared in all of the affirming statements.

The baptismal service was a perfect example of the wholistic approach taken at Seventh-day Adventist Christian educational institutions. One of EJA’s teachers, Joel Louis Jeune, stated that this is an “appeal and encouragement to church/school administrators, teachers, and parents to uphold and support Seventh-day Adventist education.” This is why Christian education is the heartbeat of the mission. ●

BY LOVELEE MATHURIN

Small Steps Lead to Big Strides for Community in Tanzania

At AdventHealth University (AHU), the mission to live the healing values of Christ starts with its employees. Elisabeth ‘Beth’ Spinella, office coordinator for AHU’s Office of Mission, keeps busy with her involvement on campus, serving as a leader and ambassador of the University’s culture.

In addition to her role at AHU, she also serves as the secretary for Small Steps for Compassion, a home for orphaned girls in Tanzania, Africa. The charity is a family affair, with Spinella and her husband both serving on the board. Beth’s sister-in-law, Shannin Pickle, is the founder and president, while Pickle’s husband, Paul, serves as its vice president.

It all began after the two families watched “Invisible Children,” a documentary that depicted the abuse of children’s rights in Africa. They were moved to take compassionate action.

Pickle and Spinella eventually became board members for an orphanage in the Democratic Republic of Congo. After a couple of years, however, Pickle said she felt “like God is telling me I need to start an orphanage.” Spinella’s answer came in the form of a donor who reached out, offering to donate land in Tanzania.

In 2009 they established an NGO (non-governmental organization) and partnered with another organization, Orphan’s Heart, to help with fundraising and getting the land ready. Everything was set.

Then, weeks before they were to start, plans for the land fell through. Losing the property was an unexpected challenge. “But, God had something better in mind,” said Spinella.

Shannin and Paul Pickle went to Tanzania and found another seller, purchasing 11 acres that had a small home on it. An important focus from the beginning was to be involved in the community. So, the first thing they built was a well, providing a clean water source to the locals.



The Small Steps board members, volunteers, and all 25 of the girl’s home children pose together during their August 2018 mission trip.

The girls’ home started with four girls and three house “moms.” Now, after 10 years and with a new, larger home built, it’s at full capacity with 25 girls and 17 employees. The team is intentional with how many girls they bring in to ensure each gets the time and attention they need. The girls have tragic stories, coming from traumatic, often dangerous situations.

Spinella attributes much of their success to Juma Kitau, the director of operations. “[He] is amazing. We could not do anything without [him]. He is our cultural source and a great leader,” she said.

The home is designed to be sustainable with a herd of goats for milk, a fish pond, as well as two large greenhouses, and an outside garden that provides fresh vegetables. Their philosophy is “cradle to college,” and they are committed to funding a college education for the girls someday, or the opportunity to learn a vocational skill.

The team also operates STEPS Academy, which provides a God-centered learning experience to educate and empower students. The academy has 25 teachers, including the headmaster, as well as regular staff, and has a total of 300 students from pre-K up through the first four years of high school.

When they acquired the school in 2017, it was dilapidated and woefully lacking in resources. Through fundraising they were able to repair the grounds and buildings, purchase books for each student, put new whiteboards in the classrooms, and create a resource room where other classroom supplies can be checked out.

Spinella, her family, and other volunteers come on mission trips often, bringing members of AHU’s community. This month she will be there with faculty and staff to do teacher training, helping the school’s educators improve their skills. They will also spend time giving love and attention to the children at the girls’ home. “I’m counting down the days. I get so excited every time I go to see our girls ... our community there,” said Spinella.

The community returns her enthusiasm. The organization even received honors from the village chief. Additionally, the girls’ home has been recognized by the Tanzanian government as the most outstanding children’s home in Tanzania. And, between the girls’ home and STEPS Academy, they provide employment for about 50 locals.

Like many charitable organizations, Small Steps’ biggest challenge is fundraising. Currently, they’re working to get each student sponsored so that their monthly schooling expenses would be covered.

Small Steps has ambitious plans for growth, including a medical clinic for the community, and they are already making an impact. “It was a lot of prayer and just God opening the right doors at the right times,” Spinella said.

AHU strives to be a home to faith-focused employees and students who seek opportunities to serve others. It’s uncommonly compassionate and devoted people like Spinella and her family who help bring AHU’s vision to life. ●

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Campus Research Day Raises the Bar



Elizabeth Dodds, junior psychology major, presents during Campus Research Day 2019.

Campus Research Day has been a tradition at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., for more than a decade, beginning with the School of Nursing and expanding to become a campus-wide event. However, this year organizers adjusted the structure of the event to provide a more valuable academic experience for participants.

“Campus Research Day had outgrown itself,” said Katie McGrath, chair of Campus Research Day. “It was so wildly

successful that it had to change in some way. It had grown to the point that there were no longer enough appropriate presentation spaces, volunteers, or audience members to support the program.”

Previously, anyone on campus could present on Campus Research Day, resulting in good participation but low motivation to strive for excellence. McGrath worked with the academic and campus leaders to restructure the event, deciding that the best solution was to raise the bar

for participation and institute the incentive of monetary prizes.

Under the new model, students could only present with a professor’s approval. As a result, fewer individuals participated — 231 compared to 409 last year — but the quality of research was higher. Faculty judges representing the sciences, humanities, and social sciences evaluated the presentations, resulting in the top presenter in each category receiving a prize.

“Campus Research Day is a big thing,” McGrath said. “By raising the bar, we’ve made it a privilege to participate, and it becomes an important line-item on that student’s resumé. Just to present is a big deal, and something that can go on a graduate school application.”

Marissa Chang, senior biochemistry major, received a prize for her presentation, “Synthesis and Reactions of Phosphorus Containing Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons,” and she noticed the difference in this year’s experience.

“I have participated in Campus Research Day before for a class,” Chang said. “Before, the room I was presenting in was very small but only a few other people were in the room. This year I presented in a big room in the Hickman Science Center, and it was pretty full when we started our session. The changes allow for us as students to work toward a goal of winning. I think it gives more of a professional feel, and overall I think it is a good learning experience for any career.” 📍

BY TRISNEY BOCALA



Nursing professor Maria Valenca, M.D., provides feedback following a student’s presentation on Campus Research Day.

Community Joins Together for Intentional Prayer

During the 2018-2019 school year, Southern and the Collegedale, Tenn., Church partnered in a special way to surround the campus with intentional prayer, culminating in 10 nights of prayer and revival called Praxis.

Beginning in the fall, Julie MacLafferty, senior theology major, worked with Dave Ferguson, pastor, and Southern’s chaplain’s office to identify volunteer prayer warriors. She coordinated church members and Southern employees, giving each volunteer a list of 10 specific Southern students to pray for, ensuring

that every University student was blanketed in prayer.

This initiative led up to Praxis, which means “practice, as distinguished from theory; the Greek word for acts.” The 10 nights of prayer were modeled after the example found in the book of Acts, with the team providing a structure for prayer over specific areas in participants’ lives.

“The overarching goal of these days of prayer was to draw the community together to pray for one another about specific burdens, praises, illness, relationship issues, etc.,” Ferguson said.

Each night participants received a passage of Scripture to study, a challenge to change something in their personal lives, or a specific prayer request.

Small groups from Praxis continue to meet together once a week in various locations on Southern’s campus to keep up the spirit of the “Acts prayer,” sharing stories, testimonies, and lifting each other up in prayer. 📍

BY NATALIE BOONSTRA

BAEZ, MILTON L., 77, born March 3, 1941 in Lajas, Puerto Rico, died Feb. 27, 2019 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. He is survived by his wife of 12 years, Bruni; two sons: Kirk Baez and Christian Baez; one daughter, Tiffany Fossum; and nine grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastors Eugene Torres and José LeGrand.

BOEHM, WILLIAM "BILL" JOHN, 68, of Ooltewah, TN, born Dec. 1, 1950, died March 30, 2019. Bill has been a resident of Ooltewah for the past 25 years. He was a member of Collegedale Community Church. Bill served his country in the United States Air Force and retired after 24 years of service. He was a true handyman and could fix anything. Those who knew Bill were aware of his love for "tinkering." Bill also was fascinated with old cars and Corvettes especially. He never met a stranger, and could carry on a conversation with anyone. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 49 years, Carol Boehm; three children: April (Norman) Hobbs, Scot (Adriana) Boehm, and Brandy (James) Hendricksen; three sisters: Rita (Bob) Maschmeier, Diane (Craig) Babcock, and Patti Boehm; seven grandchildren: Savannah Hobbs, Nelson Hobbs, Austin Boehm, Phillip Boehm, Isabella Boehm, Patrick Hendricksen, and Colton Hendricksen; numerous extended family members; and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents: Paul and Anna Boehm; two brothers: Paul Boehm and Allen Boehm. A celebration of life service was held April 6, 2019 at Companion Funeral Home in Cleveland, TN. Full military honors was present at the service. Internment is at the Chattanooga National Cemetery.

CHAPMAN, ROBERT (BOB) E., 87, born Feb. 21, 1932 in Tennessee; died Feb. 28, 2019 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Connie; one daughter, Laurie (Ken) Cravey; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. The service was conducted in the Lower Youth Center of the Forest Lake Church.

GORDON, CHARLES HENRY, 103, born Jan. 31, 1915 in Whistler, AL, to the union of Lillie Payton (Blackwell) and Charles Henry Gordon, Sr., died Jan. 19, 2019. He was his parents' only child, and was well loved. Young Charles was fortunate to cultivate a strong re-

lationship with his mother, and counted her as one of his closest friends until her passing. He inherited his passion for fishing from her. He attended school in Whistler before beginning his career as a skilled tradesman. While living in Detroit, MI, Charles worked in a machine shop which manufactured parts for Ford. Upon returning to Alabama he worked as a merchant marine and in welding; however, his primary field was construction. The quality of his work and his professionalism made him a sought after employee within the industry during his time. He would say, if you worked hard and kept your word, you didn't have to worry about employment. He applied this same work ethic to all areas of his life. "Treat everyone the way you want to be treated. Treat people right," was the response he always gave when asked the key to his longevity. He lived a life of integrity and service that embodied this core belief and reflected his strong love of God and family. Whether you knew him as "Sugar-pop" like his grandchildren knew him; Uncle Charles like his nieces and nephews; "Bro. G" like his church family; or "Sir Charles" like his gym family; to have known him is to know his strong spirit, inquisitive mind, and zeal for life regardless of age. In 1936, Charles married the love of his life, Louise Spraggins Gordon. Their family soon expanded to welcome daughter Alberta. Theirs was a love story that modeled a godly marriage for the world to see. Louise was a devoted, loving wife to Charles, and in turn, Charles was a devoted, loving husband to Louise until her passing. Charles provided a strong foundation for his family, a constant in the lives of his child and grandchildren. He held a respect and love for family that extended to all of his relatives. He was a long-standing, active member of Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Church. Central to his life was his deep relationship with and belief in Jesus Christ; his dedicated service in church ministry was an expression of that belief. He was active as a deacon for decades, and headed the deacons' ministry for a number of years. He participated in the Chancellor choir, was active in Sabbath School, as well as many other ministries throughout his long tenure at the church. He possessed a profound love for Emmanuel and its members, and was proud to count them as family. Charles was active and engaged at all stages of his life. His mind was razor sharp to his last day. His two loves were fishing and baseball. He enjoyed working out at the gym and walking, interests he developed in his late 80s and early 90s. He

enjoyed politics and vigorous debate on almost any subject, most often instigated by him. He enjoyed watching Family Feud religiously, and discovering new shows to add to his repertoire like American Pickers and Project Runway — he was a fanatic. He liked keeping in contact with family and friends, and would regularly pull out his notebook to call whomever he felt had been out of touch for too long. He enjoyed spending time with and giving orders to his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, and they enjoyed spending time with him and saying "yes sir." His beloved wife, Louise, and daughter, Alberta, preceded him in death. He leaves four grandchildren to cherish his memory: Sonya (James), Will, Rita and Ava; seven great-grandchildren: Steve (Tiffany), Lawana, Ammorette, Bethany, Akeem, Charles and Christopher; six great-great-grandchildren: Shakyra, Collin, Akeem Jr., Avery, Taylor, and Kai; one son-in-law, George; a host of nieces; nephews; cousins; other relatives; and friends.

HERRING JR., FLETCHER L., 85, born Oct. 21, 1933 in Macon, GA; died March 6, 2019 in Orlando, FL. He was a member of the St. Petersburg Church. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Marietta; four daughters: Kim (Daryl) Dixon of Orlando, Karen (Kyle) McCaffrey-Nagy of Pinellas Park, Lynda Frye of Orlando, and Lonna Forss of Largo; 11 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The service was conducted by Pastor Les McCoy at the DeGusipe Funeral Home in Maitland, FL. The interment was at the Veterans Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

MAKI, HENRY, 87, of Moss Point, MS, born Nov. 3, 1931 to the late Andrew and Minnie Maki, died Feb. 16, 2019 in Pascagoula, MS. He was a mail carrier for more than 30 years, and served in the U. S. Army during the Korean conflict. He enjoyed fishing and gardening. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He attended church every Saturday at the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Mary Maki; son, Andrew Henry "Andy" (Paula) Maki; grandchildren, Jacob Andrew Maki and Hannah Marie Maki; nephew, Wayne Young; along with numerous other nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends. Along with his parents, Henry was preceded in death by his daughter, Sheila Maki; and two sisters: Mary McDonald and Catherine Pettis. The funeral service was held Feb. 21, 2019 at the Heritage

Funeral Home in Moss Point, MS, with Pastor Michel Rodriguez officiating.

MAKI, SHEILA DIANNE, 61, of Moss Point, MS, born Dec. 2, 1956 in Jackson County, MS, died Sept. 19, 2018 in Pascagoula, MS. Sheila was an educator for 27 years at Escatawpa Elementary. While she was a teacher, she frequented many trips to Washington, DC, and enjoyed the caravan of parents who would follow along. She is survived by her parents, Henry and Mary Maki; brother, Andrew Henry (Paula) Maki; nephew, Jacob Andrew Maki; and niece, Hannah Marie Maki; along with other family and friends. Sheila was preceded in death by her grandparents, Andrew and Minnie Lee Maki; and Martin Young II and Rora Blenia Young; two aunts: Catherine Louise Pettus and Mary Elizabeth McDonald; one uncle, Martin Young III. The funeral was held Sept. 21, 2018 at Heritage Funeral Home in Escatawpa, MS, with Pastor Michel Rodriguez officiating. Interment followed at W.R. Clark Cemetery in Forts Lake, MS.

PEREZ, MARIA, 63, born Dec. 16, 1955, died March 14, 2019. She was a member of the Dunnellon, FL, Church since Aug. 9, 2014. She is survived by her husband, Joe; one son, Shadai, from Texas; one daughter, Priscilla, from Ocala, FL.

SCHUTTE, LESLIE G., 93, born April 7, 1925 in Denver, CO; died March 5, 2019 in Winter Garden, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. He served in the Navy and Army for a total of 39 years. He is survived by one son, Leslie G. (Linda) Schutte Jr. of Cushman, AR; two daughters: Bonnie Hepburn of Oceanside, CA, and Birgitta (Leslie) Kerns of Apopka; one brother, Harold Schutte of Ashville, NC; one sister, Gloria Boreford of Richmond, VA; seven grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife of 71 years, Lotti, in 1917. The service was conducted by Noel Shanko at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment with military honors was at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery in Mims, FL.

TRACY, ROBERT, 86, born Nov. 10, 1932 in Hanover, NH, died March 22, 2019 in Ormond Beach, FL. He was a member of the St. Augustine Church for 27 years. He is survived by one daughter, Roberta Tracy of Casselberry,

FL. The funeral service was conducted at the Community United Methodist Church in Casselberry. Interment was at Palm Cemetery in Winter Park, FL.

URSIN, PATRICIA L., 89, born Aug. 4, 1929 in Gary, TN, died Jan. 15, 2019 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka, FL, for four years. She is survived by her husband, Roy S.; two sons: Ken of Apopka, and Douglas of Waukegan, MI; one daughter, Kristine Schmidt of Springfield, OR; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Interment was in Altamonte Springs.

VADEN, LILLIAN MAE, 97, of Florence, AL, died May 2018. She was a longtime member of the Shoals Seventh Day Adventist Church. She was well known for her interest in flowers and gardening and watching the birds on her back porch. She was preceded in death by her husband, Archie Vaden, and grandchildren, Rene Vaden and Kenneth Vaden Jr. She is survived by her children: daughter, Dorothy (Billy) Wallace; son, Eugene (Diann) Vaden, son, Ardy (Bonnie) Vaden, daughter, Carolyn (Jerry) Anderton, son, Bill (Geri) Vaden, daughter, Libby (Dale) Winburn, son, Larry (Pam) Vaden, Kenneth (Sharon) Vaden, daughter, Ellen (Gerald) Richardson; 16 grandchildren; and many great and great-grandchildren.

WEBB, ERMA L., 86, born March 16, 1933 in Hitchcock, OK, died April 15, 2019 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka for 43 years. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, James; two sons: Scott (Olga) of Great Bend, KS, and Steve of Apopka; one daughter, Sandy (Joel) Richards of Bolton, MA; one brother, Harold "Hal" (Cynthia) Haffner of Ronks, PA; and four grandchildren. She was predeceased by one brother, Ed Haffner; and two sisters: Rosalie Lee Zinkle and Carol Hayse. The service was conducted at the Forest Lake Church by Greg Ellis.

WILSON, LOIS, 91, born in Soso, MS, in 1928 to Ernest and Vilinda Knight, died April 23, 2019 after a long illness. She grew up in Soso along with her four brothers: Harold Knight, Hurl Knight, Billy Knight, and Holmes Knight. She attended the Soso Church School and Oak Park School. As a young woman, she married and moved to Denver, CO;

St. Louis, MO; Chicago, IL; and then finally back to Soso. In 1956, Lois married her soul mate, James Wilson, and started a new life in Chicago. First and foremost, Lois was a wife and mother, but she took care of everyone in her life. She had two children, Ronald Stephen Wilson and Linda Carrol Wilson Chatman. Her nieces and nephews affectionately called her "Aunt Mama Lois" because they felt so close to her, and she mothered them all. Lois loved ordering household gadgets from her favorite catalogs, reading romance novels on her Kindle, traveling with her family to many places including Florida, Jamaica, and Las Vegas; and cruising the world with family and friends. After moving to Chicago, Lois went to work at Kuppenheimer Suits where she met many of her lifelong friends. She became an expert at making men's and women's clothing, and sewed for several well-known designers in the Chicago area in the 1970s, until she moved back to Soso. Lois worked at Ingalls Memorial Hospital, where she also made many lifelong friendships. In 1979, Lois moved back to Soso with two of her grandsons, Carl Russell Golden Jr. and Bruce Edward Golden, to take care of her ailing father, Ernest Knight. Mr. Knight had just finished building Lois' dream home, and she looked forward to spending the rest of her days in Soso. Lois and her grandsons had a great time together, and she eventually went to work at their school in order to keep a close eye on them. Lois was the one who gathered up all the children to go to ball games and other school events, and she enjoyed every minute of it. Her grandsons grew up to be successful and productive adults, mostly due to her influence on them and the time that she invested in their wellbeing. Lois considered her greatest accomplishments being a devoted wife to James, a loving mother to her children, and a loving grandma. She will be remembered as "one of a kind" giving person who never met a stranger, and would welcome everyone into her home for a good meal and conversation. She is survived by her loving, devoted husband, James Wilson; one son, Ronald Stephen Wilson; one daughter, Linda Carrol Chatman; five grandchildren: Ronald Stephen Wilson Jr., Carl Russell Golden Jr., Bruce Edward (Mary) Golden, Torrence James (Calisha) Wilson, and Virginia Lois Wilson; five great-grandchildren; a host of extended family; and friends. Lois was preceded in death by her parents: Ernest and Vilinda Knight; and three brothers: Harold, Hurl, and Holmes Knight.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ADVERTISING

(1) Have your pastor or local church elder write "Approved" and his signature on the sheet of paper containing the advertisement, (2) write your name and address on the same sheet, (3) specify how many times the ad is to run, (4) send the approved ad to your conference office 6 weeks in advance of the publication date and (5) don't forget to enclose payment in full for each month the ad is to run. Make checks payable to SOUTHERN UNION.

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PROPERTY AVAILABLE

COLLEGEDALE GUESTHOUSE: 1.5 bedroom fully equipped condo with kitchen and laundry, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. "What a find!" say guests, "Delightful!" \$70/night for two (2-night minimum). Call 423-236-4688 or 423-716-1298. See pictures at www.rogerkingrental.com [6]

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE - An Adventist community in a rural setting that offers affordable homes or apartments and caring neighbors, with a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, planned activities, and transportation, as needed. Also, Wolfe Living Center offering independent living and nursing home. Website: <http://summitridgevillage.org> or Bill Norman 405-208-1289. ©

FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT independent living is owned by the Florida Conference and is right here in the Central Florida area. Sunny beaches, golf courses, the best medical care and shopping are all close by. Renovations and upgrades are constant in our units. The 13.5 acres of property are well maintained and give you the open, country style of living. Call Nancy today: 407-862-2646. You will be glad you did! [6-3]

ENJOY WORRY-FREE RETIREMENT at Fletcher Park Inn on the Fletcher Academy campus near Hendersonville, NC. Spacious apartments available now. Ask about our limited rental units and villa homes. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our vegetarian buffet when you tour. Call Lisa at 1-800-249-2882 or 828-209-6935 or visit www.fletcherparkinn.com [6-7]

IN THE PICTURESQUE CHEROKEE VALLEY - just 15 minutes from Southern Adventist University, Country Haven Retirement Center offers professional, loving care to a small number of persons. Owned and operated by an Adventist family. Contact Jonathan Stockil at 304-888-3691 or jstockil@yahoo.com [6]

COLLEGEDALE HOME/LAND FOR SALE: Visit DixonTeam.com to view all of our new listings. Collegedale luxury airport home awaits! Stately home w/ mother-in-law apartment & airplane hangar on the Collegedale Airport, \$799,000. Pikeville Land: 5 acre mountain top lot with breathtaking view to build your dream home, \$140,000. Pikeville Land: 10 acre wooded lot. \$50,000. Call the Dixon Team-Keller Williams Realty at 423-702-2000 for more info, (office: 423-664-1800). [6]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY proudly presents Southern Tiny Living. Our tiny homes currently range from 200-300 square feet of living space and feature: fully equipped kitchens, full-sized bath facilities, queen sized lofts, high ceilings and other practical amenities. For more information and pricing details, please call 423-236-7537, email tprice@southern.edu or visit www.southerntinyliving.com [6]

HOUSE FOR SALE IN THE COLLEGEDALE AREA: Beautiful home near Southern Adventist University with incredible mountain views and a rentable 2 bedroom apartment for \$399,000. Check out the virtual tour at www.4114stratton.com. Contact Jon D'Avanzo, Davanzo Real Estate: 423-834-4545 or JDhelpingyou@gmail.com [6]

WATERFRONT HOUSE for sale near Collegedale: 7860 Giorgio Circle in Hampton on the Lake, Gated Golf Course Community. Live on the water only 9 miles from Southern Adventist University in this spectacular waterfront home which features 6,498 square feet, 7 bedrooms, 5.5 bathrooms with 2 master suite areas and a fully appointed lower "in law suite" with custom kitchen, laundry, and a separate oversized garage! Giorgio Circle is an exclusive section of Hampton on the Lake. Truly a slice of heaven. Offered at \$1,149,000. Check out the virtual tour at www.7860giorgio.com. Contact Jon D'Avanzo, Davanzo Real Estate: 423-834-4545 or JDhelpingyou@gmail.com [6]

COUNTRY LIVING 11 miles from Southern Adventist University: 17 pristine acres with a horse barn and fields with a beautifully updated home with 4,200 square feet. All one level plus a 3 car garage, workshop, inground swimming pool, and 2 acre pond stocked with fish! Breathtaking views! \$699,000. Contact Jon D'Avanzo, Davanzo Real Estate, 423-834-4545 or DJ Kimmel at 423-509-5200. [6]

NEW SUBDIVISION LOTS available 5 miles from Southern Adventist University: Build your custom home just inside Bradley County for low taxes. Walk out basement lots and crawl space lots are available. Bring your own builder or use one of our current builders! Very peaceful location and beautiful views. Contact Jon D'Avanzo, Davanzo Real Estate, 423-834-4545 or DJ Kimmel at 423-509-5200. Check out the website for lots at www.djkimmel.com [6]

HIDDEN RIDGES SUBDIVISION - MCDONALD: New construction home only 5 miles from Southern Adventist University priced at \$349,900 with 2,300 square feet with custom upgrades including hardwood floors and granite countertops. Call Jon D'Avanzo, Davanzo Real Estate, 423-834-4545 or DJ Kimmel at 423-509-5200 for more information. [6]

SDA REALTOR FOR TN & GA – Specializing in selling and buying homes in Collegedale; Ooltewah; Chattanooga, TN; North GA and surrounding areas. Call Ms KC Cyr - Keller Williams Realty at 571-271-8386, KCHomes101@gmail.com. Service provided in English and Korean. [6-11]

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN ESCAPE – Selling my parents secluded “Swiss” chalet in 14.7 acre wooded valley near Burnsville, NC. Perfect for family or retirement, 2 story, 4 bed, 3 bath, large basement with central forced air wood heat, well and spring water and large separate shop. \$225,000. For information and photos, ed.mundy@gmx.ch [6]

SDA REALTOR – Moving to/from Florida? Wanting to buy or sell anywhere in the U.S? I look forward to helping you! Sandra Da Silva, Realtor: 407-840-8500, www.sandradasilva.cbintouch.com. [6]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks full-time graduate faculty to join our mission-focused team. Teaching responsibilities will be primarily at the MSN and DNP levels. Candidate must hold current acute care NP certification. Requisite qualities include advanced practice nursing experience, interest in research, successful teaching, flexibility, and commitment to SDA education. The candidate must be a member in good and regular standing in the SDA Church. Doctorate strongly preferred; MSN required. Send curriculum vitae or inquiries to search committee chair, Christy Showalter, cshowalter@southern.edu in the School of Nursing, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315. [6]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Website Development Manager**. The Website Development Manager works closely with the Director of Marketing and University Relations to create and implement the strategy and goals for the university website, digital advertising, and social media efforts. As a full stack developer, this position requires a high level of website design and development pro-

ficiency. For a complete list of responsibilities, requirements, and qualifications visit www.southern.edu/jobs [6]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks to fill a **faculty position in the School of Journalism and Communication**. Candidate will bring his or her creativity, energy, and academic and professional excellence to the SJC. For a complete list of responsibilities, requirements, and qualifications visit www.southern.edu/jobs [6]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks candidate for the **Associate Director** of the Center for Teaching Excellence and Biblical Foundations of Faith and Learning. For full job description which includes responsibilities and qualifications visit www.southern.edu/jobs [6]

UNION COLLEGE invites applicants for an **Accounting teaching faculty position**. Qualified applicants will be committed members of the SDA church and have a master's/doctorate degree or significant experience and willingness to pursue a master's degree. Find more information at www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings or contact Lisa Forbes at lisa.l.forbes@ucollege.edu [6]

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE, Management of Howell Mountain Enterprises, Inc. is seeking a **Director of Howell Mountain Enterprises**. Major duties to provide administrative oversight for Ace Hardware, Howell Mountain Market and Deli, Chevron Station, and Campus Copy Center. Provides leadership, directs operational performance, and growth initiatives. Preference for MBA or BS/BA degree in business administration or related field. Experience in retail, hardware, or grocery store management preferred. For more information or to apply, please call Human Resources at 707-965-6231 or visit <https://www.puc.edu/v/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings/job-postings/director-of-operations> [6]

LOOKING FOR CERTIFIED TEACHERS to join us in Christian Online Edu-

cation (Grades 3rd - 12th). Work part-time from home tutoring “live” in a Skype-like environment. If interested, please call us at 817-645-0895. [6, 7]

DO YOU HAVE A HEART FOR MINISTRY and experience in development, public relations, or audio producing/directing? Then the Voice of Prophecy in Loveland, Colorado, wants to hear from you! Positions currently open: Development Director, Discovery Mountain Associate Director/Producer, Public Relations Director. Visit vop.com/jobs to learn more! [6, 7]

STALLANT HEALTH RURAL HEALTH CLINIC in Weimar California is accepting applications for a **Nurse Practitioner** or a **Physician Assistant**, as well as a **Licensed Clinical Social Worker**. Please contact Marva at marva@stallanthealth.com for further information. [6]

FLETCHER ACADEMY, INC. seeks an experienced leader to serve as **Director of Information Technology**. This position reports to the CEO and is responsible for all functions of the Information Technology department for school and business segments of the corporation. Candidate supervises a staff of adult technicians and student trainees, taking an active role in the performance and security of all systems. At least a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology or an equivalent program of study, and relevant experience, including demonstrated leadership capability, is required. Excellent people skills are required, to include experience collaborating with a diverse team and leading from a highly visible position, interacting with persons of varying knowledge of technology and with vendors. Candidate must be proficient in Windows, Apple iOS, the Google and Microsoft application suites, mobile devices, servers, and networking. Finally, the candidate will be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church in good standing, and enjoy working with young people in a boarding academy setting. Send cover letter and resume to Gary Carlson, CEO. Email: gcarlson@fletcheracademy.com [6]

FLETCHER ACADEMY, INC. is seeking an experienced leader to serve as **Director of the Lelia Patterson Fitness & Aquatics Center**. This position reports to the CEO, and is responsible for the general management and growth of an important business entity. Candidate supervises adult and student staff, and independent contractors. A degree in business administration, wellness management, or equivalent program of study is strongly preferred, although experience could be substituted for the right candidate. Candidate must have demonstrated leadership capability through a proven track record; successfully managing and growing a fitness, wellness, aquatics center, or similar facility is a strong plus. Candidate will be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist church in good standing, and enjoy working with young people in a boarding academy setting. *Send cover letter and resume to Gary Carlson, CEO.* Email: gcarlson@fletcheracademy.com [6]

MISCELLANEOUS

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

AUTHORS OF COOKBOOKS, HEALTH BOOKS, CHILDREN'S CHAPTER AND PICTURE BOOKS, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. *Find our new titles at your local ABC or www.TeachServices.com, used SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com* [6-4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. *For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies* [6-5]

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in biology; cinema, religion, and worldview; education (including special education); and social work. Flexible completion times and in-person, hybrid, and fully-online formats available. Financial aid may be available. *For more information call 509-527-2290 or visit wallawalla.edu/grad* [6]

SPECIAL EDUCATION master's degrees are offered at Walla Walla University (M.Ed. or M.A.T.). Fully online format and flexible completion times available. Now offering a limited-time 33% tuition discount. *For more information call 509-527-2290 or visit wallawalla.edu/SPED* [6]

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catalog, send \$25 to: SDA Pen-Pals, PO Box 734, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. [6-8]

ISRAEL TOUR with Pastor Jim Gilley and friends. November 17-25, 2019. \$3,295.00. Includes air, breakfast and dinner buffets daily, all tips, taxes. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles, other departure cities available. Call Maranatha Tours at 602-788-8864. [6-8]









UCHEE PINES INSTITUTE'S 50th Anniversary, June 23-29, 2019. Speakers include Mark Finley and John Bradshaw. *ucheepines.org or 877-UcheePines.* [6]

WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER: Reversing Disease Naturally with Lifestyle Medicine for almost 80 years. Receive natural treatments for cancer, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, stress, depression, anxiety, etc. *Call today 800-634-9355 or visit us @ wildwoodhealth.com.* [6, 7]

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FEATURED SPEAKERS

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|  Barry Black US Senate Chaplain |  Denise Cleveland Leggett US Housing & Urban Dev. |  Scott Rittsma Institute of Truth Ministries |  Jo Ann Davidson SDA Theological Seminary |
|  Roger Hernandez Southern Union |  Jason Ridley Albany, West |  Tony Minor Atlanta Health |  Cynthia Hale Bay of Hope Christian Church |

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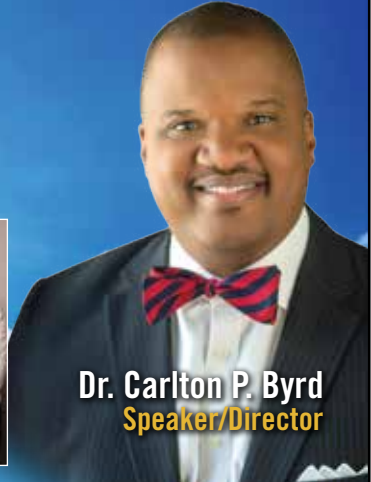
Donnie McClurkin
Musical Guest – July 20



Jonathan Nelson
Musical Guest – July 24



Sensere
Musical Guests – July 21



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Ken Thought He Had Prepared


Ken, a member at the Waynesville, N.C. Church, was familiar with estate planning. Not only did he name Carolina Conference as his beneficiary, he encouraged others to do the same.

Ken, like many others, was so certain he had properly executed his will that he didn't review it for needed updates or verification.

When his safe was opened after his passing, his original, unsigned will was in it. However, an unsigned will is like having no will.

► **To ensure your personal affairs are in order, contact your local conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services Director.**

| | | |
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| Carolina <i>Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200</i> | Kentucky-Tennessee <i>Silke Hubbard (615) 859-1391</i> | South Central <i>Sonja Crayton (615) 226-6500</i> |
| Florida <i>Phil Bond (407) 644-5000</i> | Oakwood University <i>Lewis Jones (256) 726-7000</i> | Southeastern <i>Juan Gonzalez (352) 735-3142</i> |
| Georgia-Cumberland <i>Ray Hartwell (706) 629-7951</i> | South Atlantic <i>Merkita Mosely (404) 792-0535</i> | Southern Adventist University <i>Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818</i> |
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CAROLINA

SIT CAMP - June 9-21
ADVENTURE CAMP - June 16-23
WATER SPORTS CAMP - June 16-23
HORSEMANSHIP I - June 16-23
JUNIOR CAMP - June 23-30
HORSEMANSHIP II - June 23-30
TEEN CAMP - June 30-July 7
HORSEMANSHIP III - June 30-July 7
FAMILY CAMP - July 15-19

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE - floridaconference.com/events
A BETTER CHOICE / FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER - Altamonte Springs: 407-644-4255. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: floridaconference.com/abc or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com
FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER EXPRESS DELIVERY SCHEDULE - Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a scheduled location. Orders must be made by phone or e-mail before noon on the Thursday prior to a scheduled Sunday delivery.
 June 9. Midport, West Palm Beach First, Pompano Beach, Margate, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Sunrise. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, West Palm Beach Ephesus.)
 June 23. Winter Haven, Avon Park, Arcadia, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.
 June 30. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.
 July 7. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)
 July 14. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden in Miami, Maranatha in Miami Gardens.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

HISPANIC MEN'S RETREAT - June 14-16. More information and registration at registration.gccsda.com.

Majestic Beach Resort, Panama City Beach, FL.

3 POINT PLAY IN JELICO AND LA-FOLLETTE - June 17-20. A free basketball camp to learn fundamentals, skills, and values. Jellico and LaFollette, TN.

PERSONAL MINISTRIES RALLY - June 22. 2-5 p.m. Nigerian Church, Lithonia, GA.
EQUIPPING FAMILIES - June 22. The Grateful Living Department presents a free seminar on finding freedom in your finances from a Biblical perspective. Sweetwater, GA, Church.

3 POINT PLAY IN SEVIERVILLE - June 24-27. A free basketball camp to learn fundamentals, skills, and values. Sevierville, TN.

3 POINT PLAY IN WINDER - July 8-11. A free basketball camp to learn fundamentals, skills, and values. Winder, GA.

REVERSING COGNITIVE DECLINE - July 20. 6-9 p.m. Q & A session from 9-10 p.m. Wes Youngberg, DrPH, MPH, CNS, FACLM, presents strategies to prevent Alzheimer's disease and reverse memory loss. Collegedale Community Church, Ooltewah, TN. Register for events on the Conference website, www.gccsda.com.

GULF STATES

SUMMER CAMPS - June 2-July 12. Camp Alamisco. www.campalamisco.org/summer-camp

SHOALS HOMECOMING - June 21, 22. Shoals Church, Florence, AL. Guest presenter: Dr. Philip G. Samaan. Sabbath lunch and light supper. www.facebook.com/shoalsseventhdayadventist.

TEEN INVITATIONAL: CANOEING - Sept. 8. www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events

"FACE TO FACE" YOUTH RALLY - Sept. 28. Cody Road Church, Mobile, AL. www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

HISPANIC CAMP MEETING - June 7-8. Highland Academy.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - June 11. Conference Office.

COLLEGIATE CUBA MISSION TRIP - June 22-29.

MINISTERS' MEETINGS - July 21-24. Indian Creek Camp.

HISPANIC YOUTH RETREAT - July 25-28. Indian Creek Camp

50+ CAMP - Aug. 6-11. Indian Creek Camp.

MEN'S RETREAT - Sept. 6-8. Indian Creek Camp.

YOUNG WOMEN'S RETREAT - Sept. 8. Kentucky Castle.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - Sept. 13-15. Indian Creek Camp.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Sept. 17. Conference Office.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT. - Sept. 20-22. Indian Creek Camp.

SOUTHEASTERN

CAMP MEETINGS:

ENGLISH-ADULT/MAIN PAVILION - June 20-29. Hawthorne, FL. Speaker 1st Sabbath is Peter Kerr, President of Atlantic Caribbean Union. Speaker 2nd Sabbath is Bron Jacobs, Community Praise Church in Alexandria, VA.

YOUTH PAVILION - June 23-29. 7 p.m. nightly - NET19 for Youth and Young Adults. Hawthorne, FL.

HAITIAN-ADULT/MAIN PAVILION - July 3-7. Hawthorne, FL.

YOUTH SUMMER CAMP - July 7-27. Hawthorne, FL.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC SUMMER CAMPS - June 17-19. Southern is hosting camps for high school students in automotive repair, business entrepreneurship, computing, creative writing, filmmaking, journalism, outdoor adventure leadership, photography, pre-med, psychology, social work/missions, and vegetarian culinary arts. Registration is \$150 for day students or \$200 for overnight campers staying in residence halls. For more information or to register

ter, visit southern.edu/camps or call 423-236-2781.

WELLKIDS AT SOUTHERN - June 24-28 and July 15-19. Keep your children moving and exploring the great outdoors this summer with "WELLkids in the Wild," a summer day camp program at Southern Adventist University. Each weeklong session offers outdoor adventures facilitated by graduate students in the Outdoor Leadership program. Activities include rock climbing, hiking, canoeing, ropes course, caving, rafting, and more. Available for ages 10-16. Spots are limited, so don't wait! More information and registration is available at southern.edu/wellkids.

SMARTSTART BEGINS - July 29. New students at Southern can earn three credit hours for free during the summer (a savings of more than \$2,000). To learn more, visit southern.edu/smartstart.

friends of libraries to attend the 39th Annual Conference in Silver Spring, MD. The Conference will explore "Librarians Outside Libraries," with a special emphasis on what Adventist librarians are doing professionally outside their offices, such as collaboration, teaching, research, mentorship, and more. For more information about the Conference, visit <https://www.asdal.org/conferences/>.

PLAINVIEW ADVENTIST ACADEMY, SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY, AND DAKOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - Oct. 4, 5. Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND. Come and renew your friendships. Honor Classes: '45, '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '80, '90, '95, '00, '05, '10, '15. For more information, call 701-751-6177 ext. 212, or visit our website at www.dakotaadventistacademy.org.

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTION - Oct. 24-27. Myrtle Beach, SC. A weekend for great preaching, music, on-the-beach Vesper, praise and testimony, educational workshops, community outreach, vendor tables, and good ole fellowship with women throughout South Atlantic and beyond. Hotel accommodations will be at Embassy Suites/Queensway Boulevard. All rooms are 2-room suites with adequate amenities and ocean views. Everything starts Friday morning, so make plans to arrive Thursday, so you won't miss anything. Workshop and vendor opportunities are available, but are moving fast. To register for the convention: www.AdventSource.org. To make hotel reservations: <https://tinyurl.com/2019-SDA-Conference>. For more convention information, contact Currine Harris, 404-792-0535, or charris@sacsda.org.

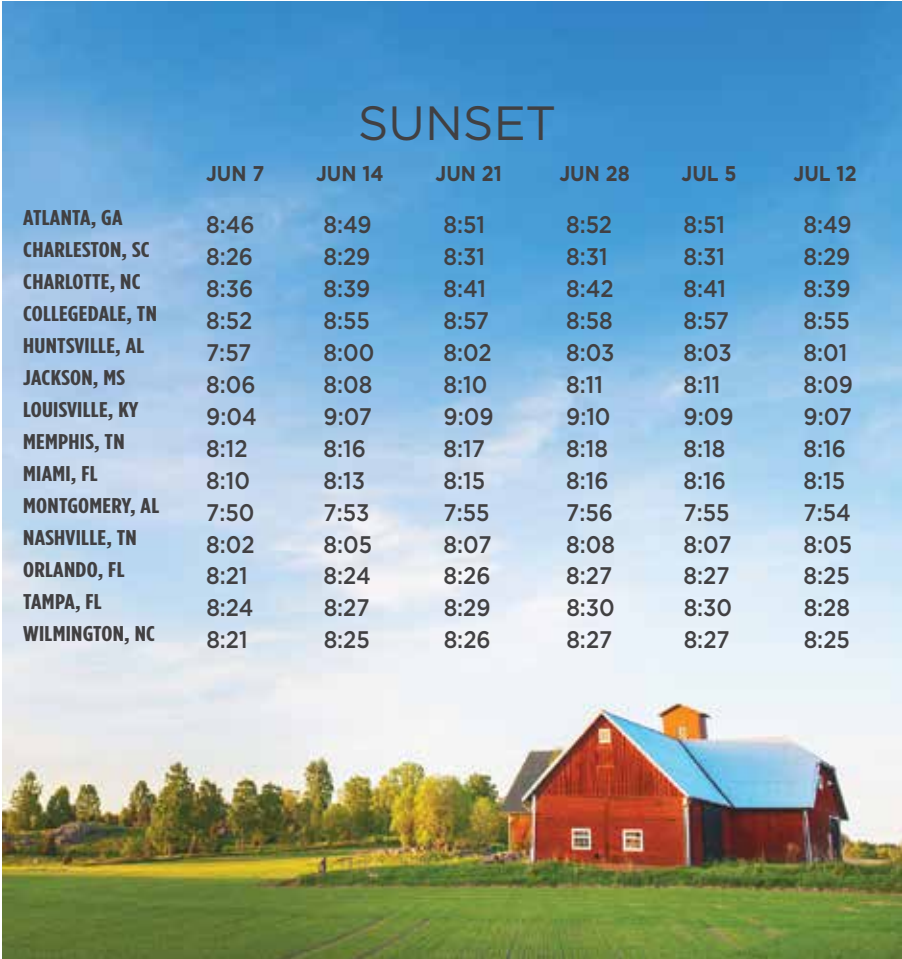
ANNOUNCEMENTS

"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION - June 7, 8. For alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, Michigan. Honor classes: 1939, 1949, 1959, 1969. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit <http://www.glaa.net>.

ANDREWS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY AND THE CEDAR RAPIDS IA SDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION - June 14, 15. Come celebrate 100 years of Adventist Education in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, especially if you are alumni. More information at www.andrewsca.org or email Centennial@andrewsca.org.

ADVENTIST ENGLISH ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE (AEA) - June 20-23. Early Bird registration is now open. Visit adventistenglishassociation.org for registration information.

THE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST LIBRARIANS - June 24-27. Invite all Seventh-day Adventist librarians and



SUNSET

| | JUN 7 | JUN 14 | JUN 21 | JUN 28 | JUL 5 | JUL 12 |
|------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| ATLANTA, GA | 8:46 | 8:49 | 8:51 | 8:52 | 8:51 | 8:49 |
| CHARLESTON, SC | 8:26 | 8:29 | 8:31 | 8:31 | 8:31 | 8:29 |
| CHARLOTTE, NC | 8:36 | 8:39 | 8:41 | 8:42 | 8:41 | 8:39 |
| COLLEGE DALE, TN | 8:52 | 8:55 | 8:57 | 8:58 | 8:57 | 8:55 |
| HUNTSVILLE, AL | 7:57 | 8:00 | 8:02 | 8:03 | 8:03 | 8:01 |
| JACKSON, MS | 8:06 | 8:08 | 8:10 | 8:11 | 8:11 | 8:09 |
| LOUISVILLE, KY | 9:04 | 9:07 | 9:09 | 9:10 | 9:09 | 9:07 |
| MEMPHIS, TN | 8:12 | 8:16 | 8:17 | 8:18 | 8:18 | 8:16 |
| MIAMI, FL | 8:10 | 8:13 | 8:15 | 8:16 | 8:16 | 8:15 |
| MONTGOMERY, AL | 7:50 | 7:53 | 7:55 | 7:56 | 7:55 | 7:54 |
| NASHVILLE, TN | 8:02 | 8:05 | 8:07 | 8:08 | 8:07 | 8:05 |
| ORLANDO, FL | 8:21 | 8:24 | 8:26 | 8:27 | 8:27 | 8:25 |
| TAMPA, FL | 8:24 | 8:27 | 8:29 | 8:30 | 8:30 | 8:28 |
| WILMINGTON, NC | 8:21 | 8:25 | 8:26 | 8:27 | 8:27 | 8:25 |



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