



# T Southern TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER 2019

“Inasmuch  
as ye did it not  
to one of the  
least of these,  
ye did it not to Me,”

Matthew 25:45

## *Ministry to Migrants,* REFUGEES

THE ABAHIRIWE GROUP  
MINISTERS TO REFUGEES

EDUCATION 3.0

EXPANDING HORIZONS

# A Distress Call for God’s Children



**William Winston**  
*President of the  
 South Atlantic Conference*  
*Guest Editorial*

Much of the history and experience of the slaves in America was not written in book form. It was oral, like the lessons of ancient Israel, passed down from generation to generation, in the cotton field, on the sugar plantations, and around the dinner table. A fair portion of that oral tradition came in their music, what we refer to today as “Negro spirituals.”

One of those poignant arias was a song titled, “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child.” The song, as described in one source, *“is an expression of pain and despair as it conveys the hopelessness of a child who has been torn from her or his parents.”* The wistful melody screams maltreatment and oppression from the coasts of West Africa centuries ago *and* from the southern borders of Texas today.

During the last week of August, a delegation from the regional conference leadership, led by Calvin Watkins, president of the Southwest Region Conference, and Daniel Honore, president of the Northeastern Conference, in partnership with the North American Division (NAD), visited a detention center in El Paso, Texas. They did not go as empty-handed spectators. Thanks to financial contributions from each of the nine regional conferences and funds from the NAD, they were able to deliver thousands of dollars worth of much-needed medical and personal supplies. I can assure you, this was not a one-and-done effort. It is ongoing evangelism.

You and I have seen the news accounts and heard the reporters’ commentaries regarding the humanitarian crisis at our border with Mexico. Those of my colleagues who observed these conditions firsthand tell us that it was even more heart-wrenching than they imagined. In fact, while praying with and for these refugees, both presidents were so overcome by emotion that each began sobbing, unable to finish their prayers. In this mass of broken humanity, they also met displaced Seventh-day Adventists, “a long way from home” but anchored in their faith and praying for a better day.

Though this song, “Motherless Child,” is most commonly identified with the plight of African slavery, it is a refrain that certainly resonates with the hundreds of immigrant children stripped from the clutches of their parents. It is also relevant to the plight of adults fleeing the corruption of a homeland laden with violence and poverty.

Romans 8:35-39 comes to mind, “Who (what) shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” The Apostle Paul, in closing this moving passage, assures us that there is *nothing* that can or will isolate or detach us from that Divine love.

As children of God, we must not only quote Scripture or speak out against humanitarian injustice; we must — we are obligated to, where possible — supply relief for their suffering. There *is* a solution to this crisis. What that solution is, I honestly don’t know. But, if we sit down and prayerfully talk with one another, while we unite our efforts to bring material relief, God will tell us; He will show us; He will lead us to a benevolent solution.

I long for the day when all of the broken families from all corners of the Earth, separated by the ravages of sin, will be reunited around the throne of God. The tainted history of this world — written, oral, and musical — will be erased from the scrolls of the universe. What a day that will be!

Even so, come, Lord Jesus. 🙏

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

ADVENTHEALTH  
**Ingrid Hernandez**  
ADVENTHEALTH UNIVERSITY  
**Lisa Marie Esser**  
CAROLINA  
**Rebecca Carpenter**  
FLORIDA  
**Gladys Neigel**  
GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND  
**Tamara Wolcott Fisher**  
GULF STATES  
**Shane Hochstetler**  
KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE  
**Denise Pope**  
OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY  
**Kenn Dixon**  
SOUTH ATLANTIC  
**James Lamb, Ed.D.**  
SOUTH CENTRAL  
**Anthony Chornes II**  
SOUTHEASTERN  
**Nicola McClymont**  
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY  
**Janell Hullquist**

CONFERENCE/  
INSTITUTION DIRECTORY

CAROLINA (704) 596-3200  
P.O. Box 44270, Charlotte, NC 28215  
FLORIDA (407) 644-5000  
351 S. State Road 434, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714-3824  
GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND (706) 629-7951  
P.O. Box 12000, Calhoun, GA 30703-7001  
GULF STATES (334) 272-7495  
P.O. Box 240249, Montgomery, AL 36117  
KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE (615) 859-1391  
P.O. Box 1088, Goodlettsville, TN 37070-1088  
SOUTH ATLANTIC (404) 792-0535  
P.O. Box 1688, Decatur, GA 30031-1688  
SOUTH CENTRAL (615) 226-6500  
P.O. Box 24936, Nashville, TN 37202  
SOUTHEASTERN (352) 735-3142  
P.O. Box 1016, Mt. Dora, FL 32756-0056  
ADVENTHEALTH (407) 357-2083  
900 Hope Way, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714  
ADVENTHEALTH UNIVERSITY (800) 500-7747  
671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803  
OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY (256) 726-7000  
7000 Adventist Blvd., Huntsville, AL 35896  
SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY  
(800) SOUTHERN  
P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370

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PHOTO BY: JANESEA SAELEE

Missionaries Dave and Donna Anderson (back row) stand with families of the first Zomi converts. Thang Mang (far right), pastor, has been chosen by his people to lead the Zomi Division-wide.

# *Ministry to Migrants,* REFUGEES *Representing Christ in a Migrant Crisis*

BY TERRI SAELEE

Many of God’s chosen people were refugees and migrants, some even victims of human trafficking, and seeking asylum in foreign countries. Jacob, Joseph, Moses, David, Daniel, and Esther, just to name a few. In fact, Abraham was specifically called by God to migrate to an unknown country. It was even a part of God’s plan for Jesus to become a refugee

at a young age, escaping a jealous king.

You will not find the words “refugee” and “migrant” in the Bible, but the fact that God loves refugees and migrant populations is evident in the fact that most of its sacred pages are devoted to a detailed account a group of refugee migrants He repeatedly called “my people” (Exodus 3:7, 10; 5:1; 7:4,16; 8:1, 8, 20, 21, 22, 23; 9:1, 13, 17; 10:3, 4). God took an active role in helping them migrate across the

border (the Red Sea) to escape their oppressors, and even parted the Jordan River for them to enter a country where they were not welcome.

He also made sure they understood how He wanted them to treat the “strangers” who decided to join them in their journey, and the command applies to us: “Thou shalt not oppress a stranger: for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land



Jimmy Shwe, pastor, stands at the ARIM exhibit during ASI, Louisville, Kentucky, August 2019.



Steve Rose (left), Kentucky-Tennessee vice president for administration, prays with Thang Mang, pastor, during the organization of the Bowling Green Zomi Church.

of Egypt,” Exodus 23:9. “But the stranger that dwelleth with you shall be unto you as one born among you, and thou shalt love him as thyself; for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt. I am the Lord your God,” Leviticus 19:34.

There are three refugees in North America for every Seventh-day Adventist. “God in His providence has brought men to our very doors and thrust them, as it were, into our arms, that they might learn the truth, and be qualified to do a work we could not do in getting the light before men of other tongues,” *Evangelism*, p. 570; *Christian Service*, p. 200. (See additional insights in context.)

God’s love is like sunshine. It belongs to the whole world! And if we share it with the people He is sending to us here, He can use them, and their networks here and abroad, to send the message of salvation, like an electric shock, around the world!

Here is a glimpse of what God is doing among refugees in the Southern Union so far.

### Refugee Ministries in the Southern Union

The Southern Union is dotted with congregations of Adventist refugees and immigrants who have experienced God’s heart of love through the efforts of faithful Gospel workers.

Amharic – Contact Pastor Gemeches Tekle at 651-352-7978, gemex97@yahoo.com.

- Antioch, Tennessee
- Power Springs, Georgia
- Nashville, Tennessee

Burmese (Myanmar) – Contact Pastor Samuel Ngala at 269-519-4193, stngala@gmail.com.

- Charlotte, North Carolina
- Jacksonville, Florida

Cambodian – Contact Pastor Thon Hin at 704-608-8520.

- Charlotte, North Carolina

Hmong – Contact Pastor Ko Saelee at 608-772-1248, pksaelee@gmail.com.

- Charlotte, North Carolina

Karen – Contact Pastor Jimmy Shwe at 919-537-1544, sawlulu@hotmail.com.

- Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- Raleigh, North Carolina
- High Point, North Carolina
- Greensboro, North Carolina
- New Bern, North Carolina
- Charlotte, North Carolina
- Columbia, South Carolina
- Atlanta, Georgia
- Clarksville, Arkansas
- Louisville, Kentucky
- Jacksonville, Florida
- Smyrna, Tennessee

Kinyarwanda – Contact Pastor Joel Mpabwanimana at 602-908-9641, Joelmp2001@yahoo.com.

- Stone Mountain, Georgia

- Greensboro, North Carolina
- Louisville, Kentucky
- Knoxville, Tennessee

Montagnard – Contact Pastor Vinh Nguyen at 626-422-6841, vk.nguyen@sbcglobal.net.

- Greensboro, North Carolina

Swahili – Contact Pastor Enock Omosa at 919-931-7877, prumoja@yahoo.com.

- Raleigh, North Carolina
- Charlotte, North Carolina
- Atlanta, Georgia

Vietnamese – Contact Pastor Vinh Nguyen at 626-422-6841, vk.nguyen@sbcglobal.net.

- Orlando, Florida

Zomi – Contact Pastor Thang Mang at 270-599-6577, bgzomisdac@gmail.com.

- Atlanta, Georgia
- Bowling Green, Kentucky
- Orlando, Florida
- Miami, Florida
- 

**The leaders of each congregation has an incredible story to share – here are two:**

Jimmy Shwe, pastor, a refugee from Myanmar (Burma), had to flee from his home at age 10 when his father was nearly executed in ethnic and religious cleansing. After years fleeing for his life and living in refugee camps, he was resettled in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Within two years of his arrival, he was planting three Karen congregations there. He now not only pastors four churches in the Carolina Conference, but also serves as the North American Division Karen church planting consultant. He and the network of Karen church planters he mentors have grown the work among the Karen from zero to 55 congregations across the North American Division in just 10 years. Twelve of these Karen congregations are in the Southern Union.

Thang Mang, pastor, came to the States miraculously on the visa lottery system, and got settled here before his people, the Zomi, also from Myanmar, began arriving as refugees. He serves as pastor of the newly organized Zomi congregation in



PHOTO BY: JANESEA SAELEE

Terri Saelee (left) speaks with Celeve Izean (center), pastor and Haitian and African coordinator for the South Central Conference, and Shaka Gahunde, Oakwood University theology student, who pastors the Komeramwa Muvandi Kinyarwanda congregation in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Bowling Green, Kentucky, which hosted the annual North American Division-wide Zomi Convention. (See description below.) He has been chosen by his people to lead the Zomi work Division-wide, and has organized a team of translators to translate resources into Zomi.

**Recent Refugee and Immigrant Events Hosted in the Southern Union**

Some of these leaders and their congregations have hosted Division-wide events in the Southern Union this summer.

- **Hundreds of refugees honor their missionary and celebrate church organization at Division-wide Zomi Convention:** More than 650 Zomi refugees, originally from Myanmar (Burma) and now scattered across the North American Division, with 25 special guests from Myanmar, gathered in Bowling Green, Kentucky, in June to honor the missionary family who brought them the Adventist message, and to celebrate the organization of the Bowling Green Zomi Church during their annual Zomi Convention held there this year.

They honored Dave Anderson, a member of the first and only mission-

ary family to reach out to the Zomi in Myanmar. He shared the miraculous story of his father meeting a man in the middle of the jungle who had finished a Voice of Prophecy correspondence Bible course, and becoming their link to the Zomi people, who eagerly welcomed the Adventist message.

Steve Haley, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference president; Steve Rose, vice president for administration; and Kieth Noll, ministerial director, officiated in the organization of the Bowling Green Zomi Seventh-day Adventist Church with 140 members on Sabbath, June 29, 2019.

- **Eighty Karen youth attend Division-wide training in Louisville, Kentucky:** The Louisville Karen congregation hosted a Division-wide training for Karen youth from across the North American Division in August 2019. The event, drawing nearly twice as many youth as originally expected, was organized by Jimmy Shwe, pastor and Karen church planting consultant for ARIM (Adventist Refugee & Immigrant Ministries).

- **Two Regional African Camp Meetings:** Celeve Izean, pastor and a Haitian church planter recognized by the South

Central Conference for his work among refugees, has helped to launch several refugee groups, including the Moriya Kinyarwanda Seventh-day Adventist Church. Wellars Ngilinshuti, elder, with Joel Mpabwanimana, pastor, organized two Camp Meetings for the many Kinyarwanda/Kirundi-speaking refugees in the Conference — July 5, 6 in Louisville, Kentucky, with 500 attendees, and July 7, 8 at Oakwood University, Huntsville, Alabama, with 150 attendees.

• **Thirteen baptized at Hmong Camp Meeting near Charlotte, North Carolina:** Hmong members in Charlotte, North Carolina, while they do not have a Hmong pastor, have been reaching out to their community. They recently reached out to Ko Saelee, pastor and NAD ARIM Hmong church planting consultant, to speak for a Hmong Camp Meeting in July 2019. He found 13 new Hmong believers ready for baptism. These new members are eager to share their faith and grow the community of Hmong Adventist believers.

### **Unreached Refugees Need Cross-Cultural Missionaries. You Can Help.**


There are still many refugees in the Southern Union who are not yet reached by the Gospel. These can only be reached by those of us outside the language group who know Jesus and His beautiful message of hope and wholeness.

God is doing this in powerful ways in Clarkston, Georgia, a suburb of Atlanta, often called the most diverse square mile in the United States. Kelli Weaver Czaykowski has involved 30 churches in Atlanta and beyond in serving refugees in multiple ways. She and her team have found ways to help 72 refugees attend Adventist schools. For more information, visit <https://freerefugees.org/mision-index-impact>

In Greensboro, North Carolina, Fabian Reid noticed Nepali-speaking Bhutanese refugee children in his math classes. He began visiting their homes and helping where he could, giving Bible studies through a translator, and inviting them to church. Now, through a partnership with

the South Atlantic Conference, this first Nepalese group in the Division is now nurtured by David Tamsang, pastor and retired president of the Nepal field. Reid's translator, Bizu Biswa, is now studying for the ministry with the goal of reaching his people in North America. This is significant as this previously unreached language group is the second largest new incoming refugee language group in the North American Division, and it started with a math teacher visiting his students.

God can use the most random circumstances to connect you with someone from another culture who is seeking for truth and longing for a personal Savior. Imagine being the link to connect a whole culture to God! It may be easier than you think. Your divine appointment may be just around the corner. Don't miss it!

Here's how: Visit <https://www.refugeeministries.org/> 

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**Terri Saelee** is the coordinator for Adventist Refugee & Immigrant Ministries at the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.

## **THINGS TO REMEMBER IN REACHING OUT TO OTHER CULTURES**

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1. It's okay to talk to someone whose culture you don't know.

Don't hesitate to speak to someone because you don't know their culture. They will appreciate your attempt to reach out, even if you make some mistakes.

2. Connect with respect.

Refugees and immigrants are a gold mine of hopes and dreams and desires to make a difference — to be producers, not consumers — and have a rich experience of overcoming obstacles. Connect in ways that bring out the best in them.

3. Be a loving and lovable Christian.

While doing all you can to help refugees and immigrants and to meet their needs, remember they would love to be able to benefit you too. Let them.

4. If in doubt, ask.

It is better to ask a person about his personal beliefs than to assume/generalize, even based on good information about the religious group to which they belong. This opens opportunities for faith conversations, and often unveils ways the Holy Spirit is already leading them closer to God, which you can affirm.

5. Don't debate.

Honey is better than vinegar here.

### **Connect with us:**

- Our website: <https://www.refugeeministries.org/>
- Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RefugeeImmigrantMinistries/>
- For more information, email Terri Saelee, coordinator, at [TerriSaelee@nadadventist.org](mailto:TerriSaelee@nadadventist.org).

# THE ABAHIRIWE GROUP MINISTERS TO REFUGEES

BY JEAN WYCLIF-NDAYISABA

While in Goma Refugee Camp, former Zaire, “Nicholas,” one of ADRA’s volunteers, told me words of wisdom and prophetic challenges about living in the USA. She said, “If you had a chance to reside in the United States, there are three important tools that you would need in order to be successful: be able to speak English, have good computer skills, and be able to drive a car. Imagine you are not qualified in any of the above, but living in this country. You are a refugee in need of multidimensional kind of help.”

Our community represents three African countries: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. We share the same language of Kinyarwanda. Refugees arrive in the country traumatized by wars and ethnic conflicts in their respective countries. Unable to read nor write, they have lost their cultural and traditional identity, and become change resistant. The best tools to give them are English as a second language (ESL); cultural integration; translating for them; and even helping them apply for Medicare, food stamps, and medical emergency.

Our mission seeks to help refugees through our program, along with refugee agencies in charge of their integration, including International Rescue Committee, New American Pathways, Catholic Charity, and World Relief. “Christ in me” ministry is a practical way to witness for Christ. Christ’s method is applied in our daily lives and with those we meet. It is



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Anita Kabarenzi, wife of Jean Ndayisaba, leads a song during the Abahiriwe refugee church service.

a successful tool in reaching people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good (opening networks). He showed His sympathy for them (forming attachments), ministered to their needs (meeting needs), and won their confidence. Then He bade them, “Follow Me” (to become disciples), *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 143. Ministry to migrants and refugees is an opportunity for the Church to show God’s love by demonstrating Christ’s method to beloved, vulnerable human beings.

The key word of the ministry is “love,” as we expand God’s Kingdom relationally. We demonstrate a personal evangelistic role — with the goal of instructing

individuals in Bible doctrines and leading them into a commitment to follow Jesus through baptism — by visiting members and non-members, conducting wedding preps and counseling and baby dedications, being part of community learning and connection, making sure the divine service is organized and done in total surrender and worship to God, and by coaching and being the role models to both young and adults.

Many refugees are Seventh-day Adventists, and we strive to locate them. We are informed by their family members or relatives worshipping with us. We visit them in their homes, listen to their story with empathy, give them assurance that we are here for them. We





PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Jean Ndayisaba, leader of the Abahiriwe Refugee group, serves more than 125 Seventh-day Adventist refugees from Rwanda and Congo each Sabbath at the Stone Mountain, Georgia, Church.



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

These men and women are some of the many Adventist members who have come to America from Rwanda and the Congo, and now they worship and attend ECL classes at the Stone Mountain, Georgia, Church.

receive their transfer letters from their churches in Africa, we accept them by profession of faith. We encourage and help them enroll their children in public or Adventist schools; we organize activities that will help them socialize with other community members, like fellowship meals, prayer meetings and small groups, Pathfinders, ESL classes, spiritual revival, song ministry, and community garden. Schools, day care, and community service centers are needed in order to satisfy our migrants' and refugees' needs. This will help us reach even the least for Christ's sake.

Though we are limited financially, the Stone Mountain, Georgia, Church supports us by giving needed leadership, training, worship accommodation, and funds that allow us to keep growing and serving. 🕊

**Jean Wyclif-Ndayisaba** is the leader of the Abahiriwe refugee group.

# EDUCATION 3.0

## *Florida Conference Partners With Loma Linda University to Create the Future of Adventist Education*

BY ROBERT HENLEY

Fifteen students from the Florida Conference Innovation Lab (FCIL) at Forest Lake Academy traveled to Loma Linda, California, to participate in the inaugural Loma Linda University (LLU) Biomechatronics Collaboratorium during the week of June 24-28, 2019. Organized into three research groups — Brain-Computer Interface, Virtual Reality, and Biomechatronics — they were paired with mentors specializing in each research area.

### **Brain-Computer Interface (BCI) Group**

Two neurologists and two neuroscientists provided this group with insight on using a BCI device to harness brain waves to control assistive devices such as a robotic arm. At the completion of the event, students demonstrated the ability to use brain waves to move a virtual cube.

### **Virtual Reality Group**

LLU Health Interactives worked with students to develop a solution for individuals suffering from phantom limb syndrome (PLS). The group produced a virtual reality system that reads signals from an electromyogram (EMG) device to enable lower-limb amputees to move a virtual limb in that environment, thereby decreasing the pain associated with PLS.

### **Biomechatronics Group**

The Biomechatronics Group was divided into two teams:

- One team worked with LLU Health Orthotics & Prosthetics Department and LLU Health Interactives to develop a game to read signals from an EMG device used to train upper-limb amputees to use their forearm mus-



PHOTO BY: ROBERT HENLEY

Taimane Henley (right foreground) and members of the Brain-Computer Interface Group discuss their research project. Also pictured from left: Jeffrey Rosenfeld, M.D., Loma Linda neuroscientist; Ally Hubbard; Adonna Andino; and Nicole Hubbard.

cles to control a robotic hand. The group developed a working prototype and the first iteration of the system.

- The second group was tasked by LLU Health Orthotics & Prosthetics Department with developing a mechatronic device used to improve the rehabilitation robot that is currently being used at the Rehabilitation Institute.

Each group showcased their prototypes at the conclusion of the event during an Innovators Showcase. “We met with four different neuroscience professionals who each added a different perspective,” stated Nicole Hubbard, BCI group member. “I had an educational experience that most other high school students would never have the opportunity to do.”

“We are excited about LLU’s commitment to K-12 Adventist education,” stated Frank Runnels, Florida Conference vice president for education. “The partnership will help us take education in the Florida Conference to the next level.”

“This event represents a unique partnership between LLU and the Florida Conference Office of Education — a partnership that will redefine Adventist education,” states D.P. Harris, Ph.D., vice president and chief information officer of LLU.

**Robert Henley** is the innovation coordinator for the Florida Conference Office of Education.

# EXPANDING HORIZONS

BY EMMA WINEGARDNER

When Michael Ciurea reached his final year at Southern Adventist University, he faced a challenge: his senior research project. Each member of Southern Scholars, the University's honors program, must complete a research project that engages with subjects outside his or her major. Ciurea, who had been in the program since his freshman year, wanted to think beyond these requirements.

"I was inspired by the interdisciplinary focus of Scholars, as well as by my year in Italy with Adventist Colleges Abroad," he said. "When I was traveling in Europe, everyone was worried about the refugee crisis; I wanted to look at that for my project."

Although Ciurea was a finance major, he wanted to expand the scope of his research to incorporate sociological aspects of the topic. He planned to consider the differences between attitudes toward refugees and statistics about the crisis. There was only one problem: the project required a trip to Italy. Ciurea wrote up a proposal for the project, including the necessary flights to and from Italy, and presented it to the Scholars director at the time, Mark Peach, PhD, professor of history and political studies.

"He liked it and presented it to the Scholars board," said Ciurea. "They approved it a month before I was going to fly out."

Ciurea traveled to Italy and interviewed citizens of two cities to provide the basis of his research. After arriving back in the United States, he turned the results into his senior project, becoming the first Southern Scholars international senior project to be awarded funding. Ciurea appreciates the way Scholars has allowed him to think and plan outside the box.

"Sometimes you get really into the course schedule for your major and dig down into those classes," he said. "That's not a bad thing, but Scholars really opens up the possibilities."



Southern Scholars made it possible for Michael Ciurea (bottom) and Aaron Negrillo to expand their learning and perspectives through international research.



For his senior project, Aaron Negrillo (right) focused on food and family, and connected with extended relatives in the Philippines.

Ciurea graduated in December 2018 with a bachelor's degree in finance, and is now a resident with AdventHealth in Florida.

## Building Connections

Aaron Negrillo studied abroad in Italy the same year as his friend and fellow

Southern Scholar, Michael Ciurea. Like Ciurea, Negrillo had been in Scholars since his freshman year, and he spent his time at Southern and overseas exploring the spirit of honors education. With the possibilities open to travel for a Scholars senior project, he wanted to conduct his research in the Philippines.

"College is a place where you try to explore your identity," Negrillo said. "I felt very disconnected from my identity as a Filipino American and as a Filipino in general. I wanted to be intentional about learning more about where my parents had come from and their legacy."

The Scholars program partially funded Negrillo's trip to the Philippines, where his project focused on food and family. Through his research, he gained a deeper sense of empathy for his parents' experiences by discovering their cultural milieu and family systems.

"Overall, food can be understood as a tangible expression of love," he said, "creating something for someone else, and giving him or her the energy needed to survive."

Negrillo graduated with a bachelor's degree in computer information systems this past May, and is a data science and enterprise analytics resident at Loma Linda University Health in California, but his project demonstrates attention to a broader perspective.

"I don't think it's about who is the smartest," he said, citing a common misperception about Southern Scholars. "We all have our own subject areas that we excel in. I think the beauty of the honors program is the desire to make a meaningful connection between disparate subjects, whether that's academic connections or even personal connections, because I don't think anything (or anyone) can survive on its own." ●

**Emma Winegardner** is a recent English graduate of Southern Adventist University.

# AdventHealth Executives Participate in Global Conference on Health, Lifestyle



Ted Hamilton, M.D., senior vice president and chief mission integration officer for AdventHealth, spoke during a Wednesday morning plenary session, which included all 800 conference attendees.



The third annual Global Conference on Health and Lifestyle took place July 9-13, 2019, in Loma Linda, Calif.

Three AdventHealth executives traveled to Loma Linda, Calif., this past July to represent the organization at the third annual Global Conference on Health and Lifestyle. Terry Shaw, AdventHealth president/CEO; David Banks, executive vice president and chief strategy officer; and Ted Hamilton, M.D., senior vice president and chief mission integration officer, joined more than 800 international church and health leaders at the event organized by the Adventist Health Ministries Department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Themed “Your Brain, Your Body,” the conference’s purpose was to explore lifestyle interventions and their impact on holistic wellness. Leaders also used the

time to bring a renewed focus on the Adventist health message and the Church’s historical position on health.

“Whole-person care was the conviction of our founding fathers, and it is ours as well,” said Shaw. “They deeply believed in the idea of wholeness as expressed in John 10:10. Today, health care continues to be a natural avenue for delivering on that idea.”

The verse John 10:10, “...I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly,” informs AdventHealth’s promise to help people feel whole in body, mind, and spirit.

This journey of wholeness is about more than just diet and exercise. It goes deeper into the concepts of faith, hope,

and love — found in 1 Corinthians 13:13 — and their influence on health and well-being. This was the basis of Hamilton’s plenary presentation on the first morning of the conference.

“It’s not about tofu and triathlons,” said Hamilton. “It’s about how we live our lives, how we care for each other, and how we choose to spend our time.”

Hamilton also spoke during the CEOs and Leadership breakout session, which included Banks, Shaw, and representatives from Adventist Health, the sister health system based on the West Coast. Following Adventist Health’s presentation on the missional history of Adventist health care, AdventHealth shared examples of the current deployment of mis-



AdventHealth's president/CEO, Terry Shaw, participated during the conference's CEOs and Leadership breakout session during a presentation titled "Being Significant in our Communities."

sion within its system. The executives talked first about the initiative to bring spiritual care to the outpatient setting. This initiative includes the Clinical Mission Integration program, which trains specialists to provide spiritual support to providers and front-line staff. It also includes a spiritual wholeness screening, which asks patients about the presence of love, joy, and peace in their lives, and if they say "no" to any one of these, it triggers a referral and call from an e-spiritual caregiver.


They then shared community impact examples, such as Global Mission Impact (GMI). Through GMI, Advent-

Health partners with a fixed number of "footprint" health facilities around the Seventh-day Adventist World Church to offer support and expertise. Another example was CREATION Life, AdventHealth's framework for whole living based on eight principles: Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust in God, Interpersonal Relationships, Outlook and Nutrition. To date, CREATION Life resources have been translated into 10 languages for use across 89 countries.

Between the co-presentation with Adventist Health, listening to the other expert speakers, and engaging with health advocates and leaders from 90 countries,

the AdventHealth executives found the conference an enriching experience.

"We always look forward to opportunities like this where we can connect with those who advance the global health ministry of the Adventist Church," said Banks.

To learn more about AdventHealth's mission and legacy of whole-person care, visit [AdventHealth.com/Mission-and-History](http://AdventHealth.com/Mission-and-History). 

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BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

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# Echo Podcast Ready to Launch Third Season

Recordings for season three of the Echo podcast just wrapped up at the end of July. The Echo podcast is hosted by Ryan Becker, and is a part of the Carolina Conference’s initiative for young adult media content titled “Project ReFresh.” Episodes for season three will begin airing this month.

Each episode of Echo features a pastor and a layperson having a conversation with Becker about tough topics in the Adventist Church. The third season will address topics such as “Journey to Your Current Place in Faith,” “Regional Conferences,” “How Do I help a Friend Who is Depressed?” and “How Do I Stay in the Church When I Disagree With the Choices it Makes?” Season three will feature pastors and members from all over the Carolinas, including Ryan Ashlock, Joe Peretti, Beth Grissom, Luke Kendall, Paola Alvarez, and many more.

“I really feel like we’ve broken new ground,” said Echo host Becker. “Season three feels like it will be a catalyst to much-needed conversations in each listener’s local context. Ultimately, season three invites listeners to take better care of themselves and those around them. I know that personally, because that’s what recording it did for me.”

The Echo podcast can be found on Spotify, iTunes, iHeartRadio, Google Play, and anywhere else that hosts podcasts. Season three episodes will air this month, and episodes from season one and two are available now. Video ver-



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Ryan Becker, host of the Echo podcast interviews Rachel Beaver and Rick Maskellony for one of the shows episodes.



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

The Echo podcast is the first podcast by the Carolina Conference to be filmed and released simultaneously on YouTube as well as all major podcast outlets (including iHeartRadio).



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

For a special episode in Season 3, representatives from state and regional conferences sat down to talk about why regional conferences were established, and the arguments for and against their continued existence.

sions of the podcast can be found on Project ReFresh channel on YouTube. For more information about Echo or any of the other media content from Project

ReFresh, visit [theprojectrefresh.org](http://theprojectrefresh.org). 

BY RACHEL BEAVER

# Carolina Conference Starts Prison Ministry in India

Prison ministries leaders from the Carolina Conference have started a prison ministry in the country of India. This idea originated when Robert

Dhason, a member of the West Columbia, S.C., Church, and a friend of the president of the Northern India Union section, brought this need to the attention of the pris-

on ministry team in the Carolinas.

There was no Adventist prison ministry in India prior to this trip. The initiative was met with tremendous support. The Southern



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Union provided the cost for the plane ticket, and the rest of the funds for the trip were donated by Columbia First, West Columbia, Irmo, Three Angels, Midtown, and Charleston churches. With the cost covered, Robert Dhason, Larry Barker, Tony Bowers, and William Morgan set out to make it happen.

In India the team visited churches, schools, and hospitals in Karnataka and Bangalore. Students, teachers, and Pathfinders actually had the opportunity to go into the prison and teach inmates about hy-

giene. They also taught local doctors and nurses about reaching out to the prisoners.

The group felt immensely blessed by the welcome they received from the churches in India.

“There was one church that was the smallest but most spiritual church we went to,” said Barker. “They just kept saying ‘pray for me, pray for me.’ They wouldn’t let us leave until we prayed for them.”

Another man, an individual from another denomination, had been going into the pris-

ons for quite some time. He was impressed with what the Carolina group was doing, and has since become a part of the Seventh-day Adventist prison ministry in India.

“The goal is outreach,” said Barker. “Where there is an inmate there is also a family, so we’re able to reach the inmates and their families. Service and outreach go hand in hand.”

BY RACHEL BEAVER

# Carolina Prison Transitional House Nears Completion

Construction on the first prison transitional house in the Carolinas is near completion. For the last three years, the house itself has been under heavy renovation and funds are still being raised, but the end is in sight as the Carolina prison ministries team continues to spread the word and build support for this ministry.

The prisoner transitional house would give Adventist prisoners a place to go after being released. This would give such individuals a chance to get back on their feet. Three years ago, Bill Morgan felt led by God to purchase the property to create the prisoner transitional house. When he bought the house for \$9,000, it was in complete disarray. Every window and door was completely rotten. During the last year, leaders have been fasting and praying for God to provide the funds to finish the project. Alfred Johnson, director of adult ministries at the North American Division, donated \$10,000 toward this project. The Morganton, N.C., and Charleston, S.C., churches

held concerts to raise money as well.

“We’re about 80 percent finished,” said Larry Barker. “About \$60,000 should finish this first house.”

This will be the first prison transitional house in the Carolinas. After this house

is finished, additional houses and a trade school are in the vision for the future. This project will also be promoted on 3ABN in the near future.

BY RACHEL BEAVER

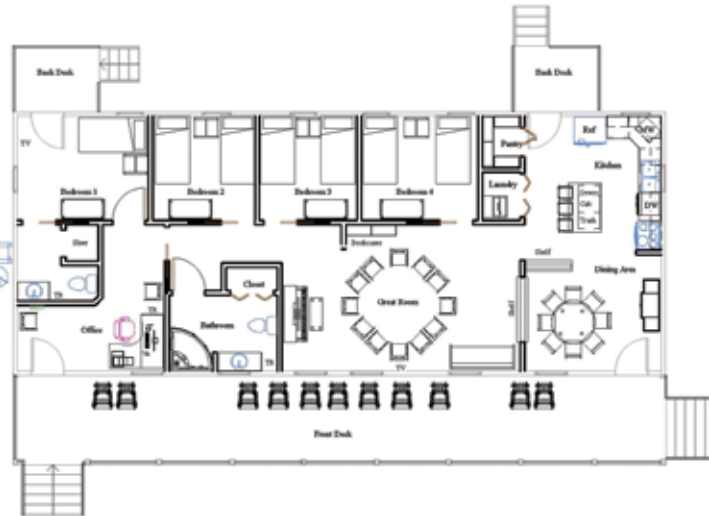


PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

# 112-year-old Adventist Still Attends Evangelistic Campaigns



Jeffrey Thompson, Ph.D. (left), Fort Lauderdale pastor, visits with super-centennarian Alex Dorival.

Alex Dorival, 112, was seated in his favorite pew as Jeffrey Thompson and Ruben Joseph did tag preaching at New Generation Adventist Church on Sabbath, April 20, 2019. A week of energetic preaching was brought to a climax with four people led to Christ by the two pastors who exchanged pulpits but preached the final sermon together at New Generation and Fort Lauderdale Adventist Churches.

Dorival, a farmer, was born on August 10, 1906, in the city of Port-de-Paix, Haiti. In 2006, he migrated to the U.S. and became a citizen. He spent most of his life as a Roman Catholic, but at 99, in 2006, he became a member of the North Miami Adventist Church (now New Generation Adventist Church). He dresses immaculately for church every

Sabbath. He is probably not just the oldest Adventist in Florida, but likely in the United States. He can walk with the assistance of a walker, which he started using at age 110. At age 105, he started using a cane for the first time.

“He is the father of 10 children, but I cannot tell you how many grandchildren or great-grandchildren,” said Bernadette Dorival Mercilus, his daughter who takes care of him. “He does not speak much these days, but he prays before going to bed every night,” said Mercilus. “He sings songs in French Creole most days, and likes to say ‘Alleluia.’” His favorite hymn is “Power in the Blood,” while Psalm 3 is his favorite Bible chapter.

What about his diet? There is plenty to eat at his breakfast and lunch table. He likes oatmeal, avocado, mangoes, wa-

termelon, black beans, sweet potatoes, and homemade Haitian pumpkin soup. At 112, he can still hear when spoken to loudly, and does not wear a hearing aid. He has no significant health issues other than glaucoma. He has never worn glasses. He is in remarkable health, and likes to walk outside his daughter’s residence on the green lawn in Miami, Fla.

Dorival didn’t always like the Adventist Church. For instance, in 1972 Mercilus had a unique dream which directed her to join the vibrant Adventist church in Haiti. “My father was upset. I prayed, ‘Lord let my father become a member of the Adventist Church.’ My prayer was answered in 2006 when my father was 99,” Mercilus says. ●

BY JEFFREY THOMPSON



# Tampa Church Teen Wins Award

With his award-winning art design, Casey Sterling, a Tampa, Fla., First Church teen, is the winner of a 3-R art contest sponsored by the city's solid waste department, as reported by Tampa Bay's Channel 13 news in May 2019. His design will appear along with his first name and school on the recycling trucks for one year.

Sterling first learned of the contest through his art teacher at Blake High School in Tampa where he was a junior student. Receiving the award and meeting TV personalities was exciting, but seeing his draw-

ing appear on the side of the recycle trucks was even better. "Seeing the truck roll around the corner with my work portrayed on it was breathtaking," says Casey. "Just to know that I was selected to share a message through Tampa Bay was more than a blessing!"

*Story compiled from fox13news.com/news/what-s-right-with-tampa-bay/tampa-s-recycling-trucks-display-student-artwork.*

BY KARMIN REMPFER



# Pathfinder Uses Honor to Go to Oshkosh Camporee



Nayo Wright uses skills learned from the soap-making honor to raise funds for the Oshkosh Pathfinder Camporee.

Nayo Wright, 10-year-old member of the Fort Pierce, Fla., Church Trailblazers Pathfinder Club, decided to use her soap-making honor to raise funds to pay for Camporee in Oshkosh, Wis., for her and her three siblings.

Wright uses organic ingredients, most of which help to either fight inflammation or remove harmful toxins from the body. Early mornings, after family devotion and before getting ready for school, find Wright busy at work making soaps. After she gets home from school and before she goes to bed, she takes time to ensure that her customers' orders are prepared.

It was a surprise when it proved to be so successful that Wright, along with help from her family, decided to expand in order to make a difference in the

way people cleanse their skin. "We believe that our skin is one of the largest organs of the body, and so we need to feed and nourish it with healthy foods just as we feed our body healthy and nutritious foods," is the philosophy at Nayo Safiyah Naturals, of which Wright is the creator and owner.

Wright is a straight-A fifth-grader at James E. Sampson Memorial Seventh-day Adventist School in Fort Pierce. She is also a member of STEM leadership, as well as Little EinsteinZ, the robotics team at her school. She believes the skills she learned in the Pathfinder club were worth it. She enjoys making soaps, and likes smelling the natural aroma while doing so.

# Alpharetta Members Celebrate the Church God Built

The Alpharetta, Ga., Church celebrated God’s goodness and leading with a grand opening of their brand new church building on June 22, 2019. There were 312 in attendance, with many watching the live stream from the church’s website.

“To me the highlight of the day was recounting the acts of God, and giving Him all the glory for the answered prayers and expressions of faith. It was a long process where we all learned to put our trust in Him to build this mission center,” commented Rusty Williams, pastor, in reflection of the day’s service.

Almost 14 years to the day, Harold Cunningham, Georgia-Cumberland Conference ministerial director for the southern region, delivered the sermon at the first Alpharetta Church service, held at the Alpharetta First United Methodist Church. The church came full circle and invited Cunningham to bring the message at the grand opening. He inspired the congregation to not sit and wait, but rather reach out into the community and “leave the building.” The message seemed to fit perfectly with the church’s desire to be a mission center for God’s Kingdom in this community and around the world.

The day started with Johnathan Ward, assistant professor of chaplaincy at Andrews University Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich., who returned for the day to teach the expanded adult Sabbath School to a full house. During the service, Rick Mosley, building chair, and Williams recounted the numerous and obvious miracles God provided to get this church to where it is today. Gladness filled the church members and visitors, and Jesus was uplifted from beginning to end!

Conference officials were in attendance, along with an overflow crowd, to enjoy the beautiful new 10,000-square-foot facility on 8.8 acres in Alpharetta, and praise God Who made it all possible.



SUBMITTED BY: NELSON FONTAINE

Alpharetta members and friends enjoyed a high Sabbath on June 22, 2019, as they celebrated the grand opening of their brand new church facility. Rusty Williams, Alpharetta pastor, shared a few of the numerous and obvious ways God led in providing for this 10,000-square-foot church on eight acres.



SUBMITTED BY: NELSON FONTAINE

The celebration continued the next week with an “Into the Wild” themed Vacation Bible School (VBS). Emphasizing the church’s strong commitment to children, youth, and outreach, VBS was open

to all the children in the church and community. 📍

BY NELSON FONTAINE

# Handmade Bags of Love Given to Displaced Children

Seventh-day Adventists place a high value on children. In light of the Bible, they are seen as precious gifts from God entrusted to the care of parents, family, community of faith, and society-at-large. Children possess enormous potential for making positive contributions to the Church and to society. Attention to their care, protection, and development is extremely important.”<sup>1</sup>

Fearfulness, helplessness, and anxiety are words to describe the enduring emotions that may take a child captive when he or she is removed from their home by authorities such as Child Protective Services. The cause of removal from the home is often drug abuse, neglect, behavioral problems, intellectual disability, or incarceration. And, after possibly having witnessed a parent get arrested, a child is thrust into a new way of life with nothing but the clothes they chose to wear that day. It is an experience filled with confusion, sadness, and loss. Although a life of maltreatment is now behind them, the uncertainty of the future can leave children in these tragic situations feeling frightened or alone.<sup>2</sup>

To help ease the transition into foster care, It’s My Very Own (IMVO) has emerged as a ministry that helps create and deliver “Bags of Love” filled with basic necessities, books, toys, and a handmade quilt to remind these children that they are not alone. It is an organization designed to be easy to duplicate, and be practiced by others in any location.

Peggy Lowe started out making quilts for IMVO in the Riverview Community Church in Greeneville, Tenn. Her pastor’s wife recruited her six years ago. Now Lowe organizes the northeast Tennessee chapter that reaches the displaced children in seven counties.

As of March 12, 2019, Lowe’s chapter of dedicated volunteers have distributed 798 bags made with love. In order to collect funds for this project, Lowe sends letters to churches in these counties and spreads the mission by word of mouth. The Kiwanis



SUBMITTED BY: SUSAN SCHNELL

Pat Greene (left), Peggy Lowe, and Pat Spilovoy serve with It’s My Very Own Bags of Love ministry for displaced children. Lowe organized the northeast Tennessee chapter. Six years ago, she was introduced to the ministry and really enjoys watching God work through their club.

Club in her area donates \$500 once a year, and other organizations also give generously.

Lowe has seen God work in many marvelous ways to fund their club, and the supply of donated fabric is growing instead of depleting.

She has also seen Christ’s hand in using their bags to reach specific children. She recalls a time where a social worker requested a special quilt with backing, so a weighted blanket could go inside. Lowe finished it on a Friday afternoon, and thought to wait until Monday to deliver it. However, she was impressed to deliver it that day even though she didn’t expect anyone to be on the job that evening. When she arrived, not only was the social worker in his office, he was also overjoyed to see that Lowe had brought the special quilt. As it turns out, he planned to gift it to a six-year-old girl who had been in foster care for three years, and was finally getting adopted by a family.

The adoption ceremony was that evening, and seeing God’s hand at work through her quilt, which brought a warm smile to the young girl’s face, was an ex-

perience Lowe won’t soon forget.

“It’s been my passion since we started,” said Lowe of handcrafting each bag with a purpose, accompanied by her fellow volunteers. “It gives me a reason to get up in the morning, and an increased focus on something besides myself,” she said while emphasizing: “It’s not just me — it’s a group of people willing to work on behalf of others who don’t really have a whole lot.” ●

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.adventist.org/en/information/official-statements/statements/article/go/-nurture-and-protection-of-children/>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families\\_and\\_Youth/Facts\\_for\\_Families/FFF-Guide/Foster-Care-064.aspx](https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Facts_for_Families/FFF-Guide/Foster-Care-064.aspx)

BY CHRISTINE MAGNUSON

# Intentional Prayer Leads to Baptisms



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETTLER

Robert Meneses (left), pastor, presents baptismal certificates to Leonard and Margie Gerard.



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETTLER

Robert Meneses (right), pastor of the Decatur, Ala., Church, presents during an evangelistic series.

Leading up to an evangelistic series campaign in April 2019, God led the Decatur, Ala., Church to focus on prayer and devotion to Him as a means of meeting greater success with their outreach efforts. This is something that is emphasized in the following quote: “The greatest victories gained for the cause of God are not the result of labored argument, ample facilities, wide influence, or abundance of means; they are gained in the audience chamber with God, when with earnest, agonizing faith men lay hold upon the mighty arm of power,” *Gospel Workers*, page 259.

Adjusting the church’s focus began when Robert Meneses, pastor, visited his family in Portugal earlier in the year. While there, an aunt gave him a little book in both English and Portuguese titled *Steps to Personal Revival*, by Helmut Haubeil. At the same time, his wife, Elida, prayer coordinator for the church, read a pastor’s testimony in *Ministry* magazine about reading the same book. After reading the book herself, she felt impressed that the church

ought to read it as well. Amazingly, when she took it to the Sabbath prayer group, another member shared how a friend had just recently shared a positive review with her about the same book.

Preparing for the series, the church adopted several new activities. They started having united prayer time in the church sanctuary for 30 minutes every Sabbath morning. They also began utilizing inserts in the church bulletin to promote prayer, revival, and the work of the Holy Spirit. Two consecutive Saturday evenings, a video seminar on the Holy Spirit was presented at the church. Following the seminar, copies of Haubeil’s book were distributed, and the church was challenged to read it in six weeks.

Following that time, the church participated in the Ten Days of Prayer initiative from the General Conference. Members used this time to meet at the church and pray for revival and the Holy Spirit. The following Sabbath, a special service called “Praise and Prayer” took place, offering

more time for testimonies and prayer than a standard service.

The festivities didn’t end there. Brian Danese, vice president for church development at the Gulf States Conference, came and presented a Gospel Weekend seminar, which the church followed by starting a 40 Days of Prayer weekly devotional. Short video clips from Dennis Smith, author of *40 Days of Prayer*, were shown Sabbath mornings during the announcement time.

When April came and the evangelistic series began, the church had experienced revival and a deeper relationship with Jesus. As Meneses presented the sermons, and members attended each meeting, relationships with guests were established, and the Holy Spirit continued His work. After the series, 10 souls committed their lives to Jesus through baptism. The church views these results as a testimony to the power of prayer. ☛

BY ELIDA MENESES

# Women Equipped to Lead at Event



Attendees gather for a group photo at the Gulf States Conference office.



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Mary Jo Dubs, director of family ministries at the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, presents the keynote address.



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Cynthia Bush, director of women's ministries at Gulf States, opens the event focused on equipping women for ministry.

have potential in Christ,” echoed the voices of the attendees at the “Equipped to Lead: Women Involved in Ministry” conference at the Gulf States Conference office in Montgomery, Ala. Mary Jo Dubs, director of family ministries for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, was the keynote presenter and led the women in repeating these words of affirmation.

Cynthia Bush, director of women’s ministries for Gulf States, created the two-day event to offer encouragement to directors of local church women’s ministries. Additionally, women who participate in any department in their local church were invited to attend the event. When polled, women indicated involvement in prison, youth, Sabbath School, and many other ministries. The event wasn’t limited to just the Gulf States Conference; several attendees from other conferences also participated and said they were blessed.

Dubs offered a variety of presentations that covered how Jesus ministered to women, providing attendees a clear view

of how highly Jesus esteemed women in His ministry. In many interactions, Jesus noticed the core issues they were facing, and gracefully met their needs. Dubs also utilized a variety of group exercises to engage with the audience. One of these exercises involved attendees being assigned a woman from the Bible as a topic of study. Though many of these stories are just a few verses long, asking the right questions and considering the context brought many encouraging details to light.

Dubs also addressed the “old couch” in our churches, those things churches keep doing despite their poor appeal. They are kept around, however, simply because it is comfortable, just like old couches. “What are some of the ‘old couches’ in your church?” Dubs asked. Some of the responses included a lengthy order of service and poorly conducted Sabbath Schools. Dubs challenged the group to come up with solutions to these old couches, something practical that could be applied when they get back to their churches.

The event concluded Sabbath afternoon with an affirmation service acknowledging the efforts of the women in their churches and communities. Each woman received a certificate and a small gift to recognize their desire to minister for Jesus. Several women complimented Bush for the event, including Pat Hillyer, attendee, who stated, “It really was a great event, I was so glad I got to attend.”

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

# Jon Remitera Ordained to Gospel Ministry

The historic Nashville, Tenn., First Church was filled to capacity with friends, family, and colleagues of Jon Remitera on Sabbath afternoon, July 20, 2019. They had come to lend their support on the occasion of his ordination. Remitera grew up in the Orlando, Fla., area, and as a youth had no interest or intention in ever serving in pastoral ministry. Originally, he intended to major in pre-med, but the Lord eventually made clear that His desires for him was to commit himself academically and professionally for preparation to serve God's Church full-time as a minister of the Gospel.

Remitera is a graduate of Southern Adventist University, where following graduation he served the University as assistant chaplain, and, at the invitation of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, completed his master of divinity degree at Andrews University. Currently, he serves as the



Steve Haley (left), president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference; Jon Remitera; Steve Rose, executive secretary of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference; Aaron McNulty; and Greg King, Ph.D.

pastor of the Somerset, Ky., district; he previously served four years as the associate pastor of Nashville First Church, with a primary assignment of planting a new congregation in the Mt. Juliet community of metro Nashville.

Joining Conference officers in conferring ordination upon Remitera was Greg

King, Ph.D., chairman of the Religion Department at Southern Adventist University. King shared the devotional message, reminding Remitera from God's Word of the responsibility and privilege of being called to serve. 📌

BY STEVE HALEY

# Philadelphia Church Members Provide Backpacks, School Supplies to Local Children

In July, members of the Philadelphia Church joined members of the Pulaski Church to provide school supplies to local children. The church members packed backpacks with pencils, pens, markers, glue sticks, and paper. The school supplies were scheduled to be given out at 2 p.m., and by the time the doors of the Pulaski Parks and Recreation Center opened, dozens of parents and children had filled the gymnasium to capacity.

Children chose the backpacks which sat in boxes by school grades. The smiles



The crowd waits for backpacks and school supplies.

on their faces revealed gratitude and satisfaction. Each child walked away with supplies clutched in their hands.

During the give-away, several young members of the Philadelphia Church played games with the children as they waited, and others provided snacks and refreshments. Adventist literature was also available for all interested.

The members of the churches felt that the event was a success, as more than 200 backpacks were given out. 📌

BY CIRO SEPULVEDA

## Two Conferences' Young Adults Participate in Cuba Mission Trip

Jesus' great commission, "Go into all the world and preach the good news," Mark 16:15, was taken seriously by 11 young adults and three pastors from the Kentucky-Tennessee and South Central conferences. On this occasion, the beautiful island of Cuba was the focus for evangelism. More specifically, the Cuban Central Conference located in Camagüey was the host, and the region of Ciego de Avila was the mission site.

For six nights and two Sabbath mornings, every young adult preached the Word of God under the title, "Knowing God is All," based on John 17:3. Thanks to generous donors, 15 Bible workers were hired to work in the area for six months before the evangelistic campaign began. The do-



Participants of the Cuba mission trip

nors also helped with transportation for visitors to the meetings.

The local pastors, lay pastors, and church members poured their hearts into evangelism. The partnership between the Cubans and the visiting evangelists who proclaimed messages of hope touched many lives, and resulted in doubling the historical baptisms in the area.

Those who participated in the mission trip are quick to admit they are the ones who benefited the most from the experience. The group went in as strangers and returned as a family, a different kind of a family, a missional one. 📌

BY NELSON SILVA

## Conference Holds 20th Hispanic Youth Camp



Attendees throughout the weekend

One hundred fifty young adults, including 20 volunteers, met at Indian Creek Camp with the goal of celebrating the 20th Hispanic Youth Camp of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, July 25-28, 2019. Two young people confirmed their covenant with God through baptism, and many others reaffirmed their commitment to love God with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength, which was the theme of the Gen-D (Generation Disciples) weekend.

Pastors from the Conference presented the Word of God throughout the weekend, expanding on the *Shema*, Deuteronomy 6:5, and Jesus' reference to it found in Matthew 22:37. The six Hispanic districts, led by their pastors, made plans to return to their congregations and put into practice the teachings on discipleship, not only personally, but also communally through service and evangelism. 📌

BY NELSON SILVA

# Lighthouse Church Members Hold First Senior Day Program



PHOTO BY: RONALD JACKSON

Lighthouse Church in Denmark, S.C., held its first Senior Day program on April 9, 2019. There were approximately 35 people who attended the service, including several community guests. James Reid, pastor, preached

for the divine worship service. Pictured from left are Larry and Lori Fullard, Edward and Dorothy Redwine, Arthur Jackson, Eartha Jones, Earl Ricketts, Michael Oliver, James Reid, Mabel Reid, Herbert and Delores Baker, Jennie Dun-

can, Terry Mullen, and Dominique Best, pastor. Sabbath lunch was served after the divine worship service. ❶

BY DOROTHY REDWINE



# “Spirit-Filled, Mission-Driven” is South Central’s 2019 Camp Meeting Theme



PHOTO BY: JYREMY REID

South Central Conference campers raise their hands during the morning worship song.



PHOTO BY: THAMAR PERICLES

Benjamin Jones, president of South Central Conference, and staff join together in the final appeal.

The 73rd annual Camp Meeting for South Central Conference commenced on June 8, 2019. This year was filled with dynamic sermons, practical presentations, and many youth activities. Attendees were blessed to have individuals like Vandeon Griffin, associate director of youth and young adults’ ministries at the North American Division; Abraham Jules, D.Min., Northeastern Conference evangelist; and Lola Moore-Johnston, pastor of the Woodbridge, Va., Church.

One of the highlights was the early morning services, where two new pastors, Marlon Reid, Hillcrest Church, Nashville, Tenn., and Reginald E. Robinson, First Church in Port Gibson, Miss., delivered powerful messages which were aligned with the Camp Meeting theme, “Spirit-Filled, Mission-Driven.”

A few other highlights were the launch of South Central’s new website, which has the theme “I am South Central.” The idea behind this phrase is that each member of South Central, no matter their age or title,



PHOTO BY: LOLOMA SPRAGGINS

South Central youth participated in the Media Camp with the Oakwood University Communication Department team.

plays a key role in enhancing not just the mission of South Central, but Christianity. Giving tools options like the Cash App and the Adventist Giving App were introduced to the members for easier methods to return their tithe or give donations. Also, the Camp Meeting app was reintroduced; it allowed campers to have a full, detailed schedule of all the events and real-time updates of all changes.

South Central is a huge supporter of

their youth. This year a full week of activities, which included arts and crafts, choir, how-to classes, and so much more, were offered. For the mature youth, the Oakwood University Communications Department offered a Media Camp. The teens and preteens were able to walk through the production studio and have a hands-on experience with cameras, lighting, switch boards, and more.

At the conclusion of Camp Meeting, Benjamin Jones, president of South Central Conference, delivered his message and final appeal for all of the campers to remain unified. He emphasized that this is the year of evangelism, and South Central is on a mission to prepare hearts for Christ’s soon return. He also mentioned that he is preparing for the 2020 Camp Meeting, which has a proposed theme of “Thy Kingdom Come.” He encouraged everyone to plan to attend, and to stay spirit-filled and mission-driven. 📌

BY ANTHONY CHORNES II

# Southeastern Holds Second Math Derby

On your mark ... get set ... GO! And, they're off: "7 times 8, plus 4, times 5, divided by 25, plus 8, times 20, and then take the square root of that ... no paper, pencil, or calculators allowed, please." Willie Walker's version of mental math gives problems repeatedly as they are called out without concern for order of operation. (Check the end of the article for the answer. Did you get the right answer? How long did it take you? Try calculating this complex math problem in your head in a matter of a few seconds to respond before anyone else does.)

The first Math Derby in April 2018 began with Willie Walker, former principal of Ephesus Junior Academy in West Palm Beach, Fla., and founder and CEO of Project Motivational Math, a corporation that has been inspiring and motivating students all over the world to develop and exercise their math skills in a math gymnastics for decades. Walker, also known as "Mr. Math," engaged the first set of participants by warming up for the math competition.

The Southeastern Conference and Project Motivational Math teamed up to present a math competition like none other. When Walker served as a principal in Southeastern, he proposed a partnership to hold the annual Conference-wide Math Derby, and Barbara Davis, Ed.D., Southeastern superintendent of education, enthusiastically agreed.

Eight schools participated in the second Math Derby, April 28, 2019, including one school from the Florida Conference, and many marveled at how motivated the students were to participate. Throughout the day there was an air of excitement as student after student flexed their mathematical muscles and spoke a language that many of the spectators could only dream of learning. The teachers who prepared the students for the Math Derby



Barbara Davis, Ed.D., Southeastern Conference superintendent of education, and Willie Walker ("Mr. Math"), principal of Ephesus Junior Academy in West Palm Beach, Fla., and founder and CEO of Project Motivational Math (PMM), teamed up for the second math derby. As PMM techniques are demonstrated with students in the classroom, the fear of mathematics is eliminated, students' critical thinking skills are enhanced, and they learn to love working with numbers.

PHOTO BY: LOVELEE MATHURIN

provided an invaluable contribution. At the end, students and their schools were presented with plaques, trophies, ribbons, and cash prizes.

Project Motivational Math designed the acclaimed motivational math program for Southeastern students in grades 3-9. The program utilizes a motivational technique queuing system guaranteed to render immediate results. This motivational mental math rally offers mental math gymnastics, math buzz, place val-

ue, math jeopardy, and a written test. Students compete individually, and as part of a team for the team math segment. The innovative motivational supplementary curriculum is compatible with nationwide standards, and is provided to all schools that want to participate. Schools are provided with access to online basic math tutorials and testing resources, a motivational mental math kit which includes a recipe for mental math manual, a motivational math interaction CD, and a webinar for teacher-training with a classroom demonstration with students.

As the techniques are demonstrated with students in the classroom, the fear of mathematics is eliminated, students' critical thinking skills are enhanced, and they learn to love working with numbers. The areas that are covered to help increase critical thinking include number sense, fractions, percents, mental math and motivation, metrics and measurements, estimation and rounding, decimals, pre-algebra, word problems, geometry, ratios and proportions, and probability.

The teachers facilitating the process really enjoy the opportunity to share and coach their students to get them ready for the competition. They learn a great deal themselves in the midst of it all, and they are astounded by the capabilities of their own students.

Watch for Math Derby to come to an area near you in the future. 📍

*Answer to Mental Math Gymnastics relay question: 20.*

BY LOVELEE MATHURIN AND WILLIE WALKER

# Mt. Pisgah Church Member Conducts Art Therapy Brunch

As a member of Mt. Pisgah Church in Miami Gardens, Fla., Alfrena Moosa is dedicated to sharing her God-given talent. She is a gifted visual artist who lives by the words of 1 Peter 4:10, “As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another.”

Moosa hosted an Art Therapy Brunch in the fellowship hall of Mt. Pisgah on June 2, 2019. She planned this event to reach her church family and the Miami Gardens community. When attendees arrived, they were given colored pencils and a blank sheet of paper. They were instructed to draw whatever came to mind, and be prepared to present it to the group. It is frequently difficult for some to speak in public. However, through her own ease with the group and her willingness to detail her own experiences, Moosa inspired others to do the same.

It was quite remarkable to see the art and hear how, through drawing, folks were willing to share their deepest and most personal testimonies with a group that offered love and support. Some depicted scenes of life threatening or abusive situations they had experienced. “They were thankful for a comfortable environment to take a step toward a safe future,” Moosa said following the event.

Moosa believes everyone has a “power story,” and she says, “Sharing your process can save someone’s life.” She also contends a “full stomach” of free gifts and the art on display contributed to the success of the Art Therapy Brunch. 📍



Artist Alfrena Moosa speaks to the audience on June 2, 2019. Moosa hosted an Art Therapy Brunch in the fellowship hall of Mt. Pisgah Church. She planned this event to reach her church family and the Miami Gardens community.



Brianna Scott shares the story behind her illustration. Through drawing, many were willing to share their deepest and most personal testimonies.

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BY NANCY WELLS

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# AHU's Summer Science Camp Takes Children to the Moon and Back



Gloria Gonzalez, M.S.Ed., B.S.N., nurse faculty at AHU, demonstrates to a group of campers how to insert an IV.



Esther Beltran, M.D., Ph.D., talks to a group of Boys & Girls Club members about the Apollo moon missions.

PHOTO BY: JADIEL ALFONSO

PHOTO BY: JADIEL ALFONSO

Have you ever imagined yourself traveling through the stars to walk along the craggy face of the moon?

This year, participants at AdventHealth University's (AHU) Summer Science Camp had a chance to virtually experience that for themselves. The 4th annual summer camp brought another week of learning and exploring for middle school students of the Boys & Girls Club of Central Florida. This year's event took place near the same date as an important milestone in science history — the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing on July 20, 1969. From June 24 to June 28, 2019, the children participated in a series of activities meant to interest them

in the field of STEM education through presentations, interactive simulations, and demonstrations. AHU organized a special event in partnership with NASA on Tuesday, June 25, led by NASA-sponsored physician Esther Beltran, M.D., Ph.D., chief scientist at the Florida Space Institute at the University of Central Florida (UCF). This activity simulated the famous Apollo moon missions, including six different landing sites.

The VR lunar guide, created by NASA scientists and based on past expeditions, including Apollo 11, showcased real-life space travel challenges and solutions for the young astronauts. The children utilized VR goggles to explore a visual simulation of what the Apollo mission

astronauts may have seen.

Beltran is passionate about these outreach opportunities. "I'm doing this because I wish I could have done something like this as a kid," she said. "You give them a spark, and they take off." She also talked about the importance of showing students the many inter-professional collaborations that happen in the STEM field. As a child she was interested in space, and once she got older she realized there were ways to combine her love for space science with her medical field background.

The annual event also included a trip to the Orlando Science Center, a hands-on science museum that aims to inspire more curiosity for science and explo-



PHOTO BY: JADIEL ALFONSO

A camper from the Boys & Girls Club of central Florida looks at a virtual simulation of the moon.

ration. Faculty and staff volunteered throughout the week to take the boys and girls on tours of the University's labs, demonstrating the immersive simulators that the students use in their coursework.

Another activity took the children through an interactive "Game of Life" — using the board game as inspiration. Each child was assigned a healthcare career and a salary to create a budget. Then, they made decisions about housing, transportation, food, and other life essentials, including entertainment like going to the movies, while managing their money. It's a fun but practical activity that equips the children with skills like financial literacy, life management, team building, and problem solving.

Kendra VanHouten, director of community engagement at AHU, said, "It was inspiring to watch the excitement when the campers virtually landed on the moon, or learned about how to budget for their future, or [about] all the interesting ways science impacts everyday life."

AHU strives to find ways to connect with the community through education, in which healthcare and medicine can be brought together with other disciplines to advance the practice of whole-person care. By instilling intrigue and interest in STEM, young people can begin to imagine unique, exciting futures for themselves. 📍

*This work was jointly supported by the NASA Planetary Science Division under the Solar System Exploration Research Virtual Institute Cooperative Agreement (NNA17BF68A).*

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

# Oakwood University Hosts Adventist English Association Conference

For the first time since the organization was established in 1968, the Adventist English Association (AEA) met on the campus of Oakwood University (OU), Huntsville, Ala., on Friday, June 21, 2019. The Department of English and Foreign Languages welcomed the international members of the AEA. Approximately 70 percent of the attendees were first-time visitors to the campus. Jenny Nogales from Adventista de Bolivia said, “It is warm here; we were treated very kindly.”

The conference location rotates through the Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities around the world, and convenes only once every three years. This year’s AEA was unique because it was hosted jointly on both campuses of Oakwood University and Southern Adventist University.

Monique Pittman, professor of English at Andrews University, a first-time visitor to Oakwood, commented, “I feel so welcomed, and am eager to learn more about the history of the University.” She went on to mention

how interested she was in the powerful role OU has “...in taking the pain of the past and using it for inspiration.”

The morning began in the Moseley Chapel, where Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood, offered opening words that emphasized and celebrated the complexities of the English language. Ramona Hyman, Ph.D., chair of Oakwood’s Department of English and Foreign Languages, initiated the celebration of the spoken word by sharing her work, and encouraging OU professors and other attendees to share their favorite or original poetry. The day also included a walking tour around the campus, a visit to the Clara Peterson-Rock Museum in the Eva B. Dykes Library, lunch, and afternoon sessions in the Bradford Cleveland Brooks Leadership Center. The concluding moments on Oakwood’s campus, before departing for Southern Adventist University, were spent in reflection at the historic slave cemetery.

Conference participants enjoyed the time

spent on the sunshine-soaked campus of Oakwood University, and look forward to an opportunity to return. The next AEA conference is scheduled for June 2022, and will be held in Peru. 🌐



**Chandra Mountain, Ph.D., Oakwood English professor, coordinated the AEA Conference activities.**

BY MAQUISHA MULLINS, PH.D.

# Oakwood Farms Charms at Inaugural *Graze: Huntsville*

Oakwood Farms (OF) was invited by the Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network (ASAN) to participate in the first *Graze: Huntsville* event that took place Sunday, July 14, 2019, from 5 to 8 p.m. The event paired local chefs with a local farm to develop a unique culinary experience for attendees.

The event has experienced success during the past five years in the Birmingham, Ala., area, which inspired the organization to bring the celebration of sustainability in farming to Huntsville. “We want to continue to do more events like this with partners in the community,” remarked Corzetta Underwood, assistant manager at Oakwood Farms.

Another good pairing is Oakwood Farms



**Corzetta Underwood shares information about Oakwood Farms with one of nearly 400 attendees at *Graze: Huntsville*.**



**The Oakwood Farms team was paired with Walter Thames, chef with What’s for Super Catering, to offer nearly 400 attendees a palette-pleasing vegetarian menu.**

and ASAN. Oakwood Farms promotes faithful stewardship of God's land, and that includes refraining from using harsh chemicals that might poison the soil. ASAN is a grass-roots network of farmers and agriculture-related organizations, all committed to promot-

ing sustainable agriculture in Alabama.

As the reputation of Oakwood Farms continues to stretch across northern Alabama, there will be increased involvement in ventures such as this in the region and state. The public will not have to wait long,

because those who missed *Graze: Huntsville* will have an opportunity to support Oakwood Farms at *Graze: Birmingham*, scheduled to take place this month. 📍

BY MAQUISHA MULLINS, PH.D.

## Student Work-Study Transformed Into Micro-Internships

On any given day at Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala., you will find students on mobile devices, laptops, and desktop computers, not for the latest social media video meme, but in search of campus internships and jobs (micro-internships). Yes, they are job searching without parents' assistance.

Oakwood University's new Career Connection Center (CCC) was created to put experiential learning and career development in one location to connect students to their career passion, and guide them to achieve their career goals while maintaining the path to graduation. CCC's director, Jorge Bartholomew, says the micro-internships or micro-credentials are designed to permit students to try out their skills in a controlled environment that allows for feedback and development.

### Micro-internships and micro-credentials

Micro-internships, according to Bartholomew, are "an immersive learning experience that will allow students to practice workplace skills to ensure career success." These include short-term assignments to projects that require use of real-world skills learned in the classroom. Similar to an opportunity that an organization would give to a new hire or intern, the micro-internship program not only improves student employability skills, but also increases college retention and student success.



### Educational Design Lab (EDL)

With assistance from Educational Design Lab (EDL), Oakwood's CCC created the Micro-Internship Program as a component of the University's Career Pathways' Initiative (CPGEM). The goal is development of the whole student, not just for the college experience, but for success in their careers. The program trains supervisors to become developers of workplace competencies and providers of feedback. Learning to receive developmental feedback allows workers to develop emotional intelligence, to improve their workplace performance, and also to manage their career trajectory. Students complete a 360-degree feedback instrument during the internship, and are supported by both their supervisor and their CCC advisor.

In April 2019, the annual homecoming weekend hosted many professional alumni that provided workshops to current students in areas of career focus. Careers fields ranged from communications to medical, and everything between and beyond. Information shared during breakout workshops was valuable to students as they matriculate

through Oakwood, and prepare to depart into the professional arena. The event was called Alumni 360, and involved reinforcing the micro-internship concept to prepare students for the professional environment.

This introduction added to the practical learning for students as they hear from recent graduates and current professionals in their areas of interest.

### Digital badging and its importance

When achievement measurements are vital in the workforce, chronicling accomplishments must be a part of progress gauging — such as digital badging. Digital badging includes visual displays or indicators of competencies and achievements a student receives as a result of a performance assessment.

This innovative digital approach for students to earn a toolbox of skills — initiative, resilience, intercultural fluency, collaboration, oral communication, creative problem solving, empathy, and critical thinking — is key for not only career placement, but also for college retention. According to Prudence Pollard, Ph.D., administrator for the CPGEM Career Pathways Initiative, "Collecting these eight digital badges are valuable demonstrations to employers of achievement of skills and competencies for the marketplace." Many of the local businesses in Huntsville seek Oakwood University's students because of earned skills they acquired, and their ability to gain new ones in a short time. 📍

BY KENN DIXON

# Southern Welcomes Korean Education Students



The visiting students from Sahmyook University in South Korea, celebrated the Fourth of July with their Southern Adventist University hosts.

This summer, Southern Adventist University hosted a group of students from Sahmyook University, a Seventh-day Adventist institution in South Korea, for four weeks. The 16 students, all studying early childhood education, were sponsored by a South Korean government grant as part of the country's initiative to increase university competitiveness and global education. The visitors expanded their perspectives by engaging with Southern's students and faculty, particularly in the School of Education and Psychology.

The students' time at Southern included three weeks of classes in English as a second language, and one week centered around teacher training for Forest Kindergarten — a popular and innovative outdoor teaching method. In addition to the classes, Southern planned cultural activities and field trips for the group.

This is the first year for Southern to host education students from Sahmyook, although the University has conducted a similar program for several years with the nursing students of Saniku Gakuin College and Shukotoku University in

Japan. Because Southern and Sahmyook are sister universities, a few Korean faculty members have spent their sabbatical years as visiting professors at Southern, and this connection prompted the group's visit.

The partnership between Sahmyook and Southern not only benefits students academically, but also leads to deeper connections. For the final two weeks of the program, students stayed with host families. One couple who opened their home to two of the students are Mandy Sharpe, D.P.T., director of clinical educa-



tion for Southern’s physical therapist assistant program, and her husband, Kirk.

“They really just settled into our family very well,” Sharpe said. “We talked and joked, and my little kids would wake up and go straight to the visiting students to give them hugs.”

Students received a positive impression, as well.

“American people, I think, are very kind,” said Liz Wang, one of the visiting students from Sahmyook. “They are always smiling at us, even though we are strangers to them.”

Jennifer Carter, director of Southern’s Christian Service program, was the event planner for the Sahmyook visit.

“We’re hoping to continue this friend-

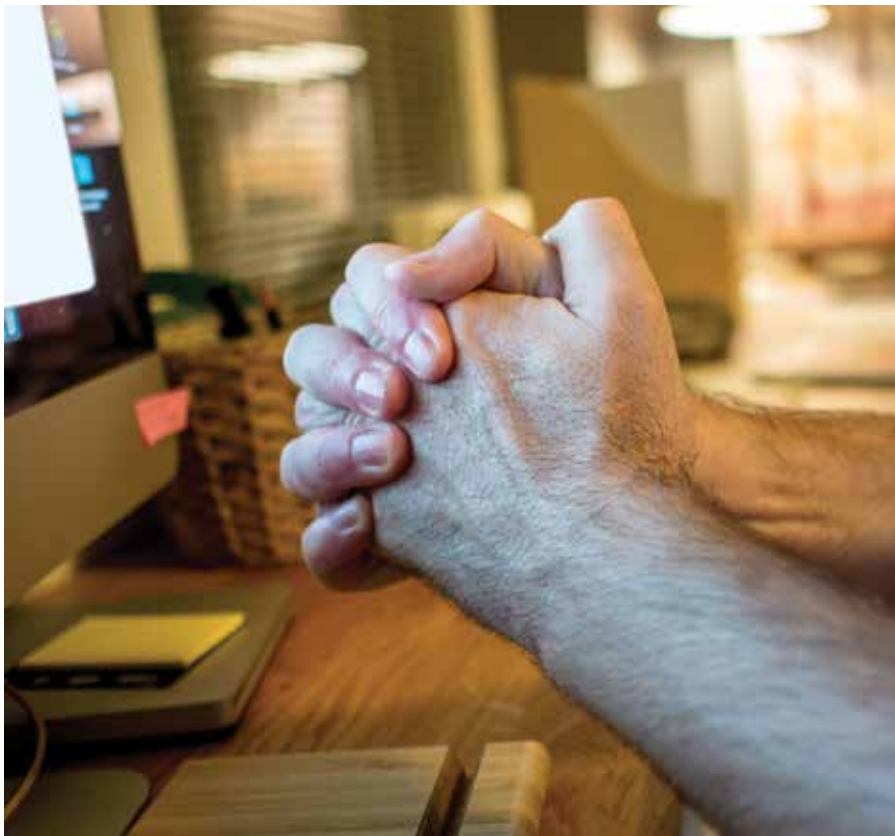
ship,” she said. “We want to send groups of our students to visit Sahmyook, and they’re working on coming here again next year.”

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BY EMMA WINEGARDNER

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## Online Prayer Rooms Connect Students



By utilizing the prayer forum built into each of Southern’s online classes, students and faculty can find a deeper level of connection.

Online classes at Southern provide a special way for students and faculty to engage with one another: a praise and prayer request forum.

Despite students not meeting together in person, they find connectedness, and the online nature of the forum facilitates interactions that are unique compared to a

traditional classroom experience.

“Studies have shown that students tend to be willing to be more vulnerable in an online class than in a face-to-face class,” said Tammy Overstreet, Ph.D., dean of the School of Education and Psychology and former director of Online Campus.

All online classes come equipped with the prayer forum, which professors may then choose to use as best fits their course. This helps replace the devotional time that professors at Southern often incorporate into their on-campus courses.

“Many times students talk about how they grew very close to their professor, their classmates, and God, and not just through the prayer forum but through the intentional way we build the courses on a biblical foundation,” Overstreet said.

The forum allows a student or professor to write a post about a need, difficulty, or positive story, and other members of the forum may then post responses.

“In classes where students are more active on it, individuals feel safer to share personal needs, stories, and praises,” said Braam Oberholster, D.B.A., a business professor who uses the forum in his online courses. “From comments, it appears that for some the saying is true: a burden shared is a burden lifted.”

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BY EMMA WINEGARDNER

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**BAERG, BERNIE PARKER**, 83, born Oct. 31, 1935 in Salt Lake City, UT, died May 19, 2019 at Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga, TN, surrounded by his loving family.

Bernie spent his life in service to others as a teacher and pastor for the Adventist church. He will be remembered for his devotion to spreading the love of Christ to others as a wise, kind, considerate, and true Christian gentleman. For many years, he served as a missionary in South America in Columbia and the Netherlands Antilles before continuing his ministry back in the USA. Bernie lived the life he preached and was a true “man after God’s own heart.”

He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Jeannie; four sons: Steven, Daniel, Wayne, and Garth; three daughters: Perri, Anne, and Maeva; 21 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife of 43 years, Betty Jo (Gaitens); his daughter, Joyan; and his great-granddaughter, Maggie Sue. A funeral service was held May 24, 2019 at the Collegedale Church with Pastor Jerry Arnold officiating. Interment followed in Collegedale Memorial Park.

**DUNN, AUDIE ALMEDA SMITH**, 103, born March 23, 1916, to the late Wesley Cody Smith and Fanny Mae White Smith in Jack County, TX, died June 18, 2019 in Columbus, NC. She and her sisters attended Madison College near Nashville, TN. While there she met Robert Dunn. They were married in a double wedding with Robert’s brother, Raymond and Virginia, on Feb. 27, 1937.

She served as office secretary in the Pennsylvania Conference, The Quiet Hour, The Review and Herald, and as a teacher at a church school in Charlotte, NC. Audie and Robert retired at Fletcher Park Inn in Hendersonville, NC.

She is survived by one brother, Dr. Herman Lewis (Jack) Smith of California; son, James Robert Dunn, and his wife, Mary Janice of California; daughter, Polly Jean Dunn Baker, and her husband, Robert of Columbus, NC; son, Michael Edward Dunn, and his wife, Judy of California; son, Stephen Kent Dunn, and spouse Charles Larson of California; six grandchildren: Robert Derek Dunn of Massachusetts, David Todd Dunn of Texas, Mark Cody Dunn of California, Jeffrey Kip Viar of North Carolina, Joshua Truth Dunn of Utah, Nathanael Victor Dunn of California; and 11 great-grandchildren; many nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert William Dunn; her father, Wesley Cody Smith; her mother, Fannie Mae Smith; her sisters: Sibyl Iris Smith Gallagher and Lenna Estalene Smith Justus; and her brother, Weldon Jesse Smith.



**ERHARD, JEFFERY ALAN**, 62, born July 13, 1956 in Royal Oak, MI, died June 12, 2019 while scuba diving in Bonaire. He was born the second of five children to Warren “Sonny” and Barbara Erhard. He attended Andrews University, obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education and a master’s degree in educational administration, where he met his wife and love of his life, Darla Rouse. He worked as a teacher and coach at Spencerville Junior Academy, Broadview Academy, East Pasco Adventist Academy, and spent the last 22 years as associate dean of men at Southern Adventist University. His work highlighted his gift of connecting with people young and old, and bringing out strengths in students that they may not have even recognized in themselves. His booming voice and hearty belly laughs could regularly be heard echoing through the halls of Talge, and his door was always open to those in need of comfort or who just wanted to see a friendly face. He was an old soul with a sense of pride in his country, family, and faith that no one could dispute. He believed that all things were possible with hard work and prayer. When he wasn’t indulging in his love of water by swimming in the backyard pool, boating, or planning his next scuba diving trip, he could be found in his workshop building custom wood masterpieces or tuning up his motorcycle for his next long ride. He was a loving and devoted son, brother, husband, father, uncle, and Papa—a teacher, coach, counselor, and investor in people, and now he sleeps until the trumpet sounds.

Jeff is survived by his wife of almost 39 years, Darla Erhard; sons: Nick (Brooke) Erhard of Ooltewah and Neal (Corinne) Erhard of Ooltewah; five grandchildren: Peyton, Cadence, Elliot, Wilder, and Grey; his mother, Barbara Erhard of Fort Lauderdale, FL; brother, Jamie (Shelly) Erhard of Berrien Springs, MI; nieces: Heidi, Lindsey (Erik), Amy (Trent), Leslie (Andi), Kaitlyn (Chad), and Lauren (Tyler); his mother-in-law, Darlene Rouse; and brother-in-law, Arden (Jan) Rouse. He was preceded in death by his father, Warren “Sonny” Erhard; and his siblings: Michael Erhard, Laurie Erhard, and Andrew Erhard. A celebration of his life was held July 6, 2019, at the Collegedale Church.

**GASCAY, STEPHEN "GENE,"** 86, born Aug. 10, 1932 to Steve and Mabel Gascay in Stoneham, MA, died peacefully at home April. 27, 2019. He will be remembered by his family as a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and he will be greatly missed.

He was educated in both the Seventh-day Adventist and public school systems. After his military experience as a psychiatric technician, he obtained his doctorate degree in education from Colorado State University, and was employed by the Seventh-day Adventist school system for the next 41 years. His service includes educational, instructor, professor, department chairman, and academic dean intermittently in the following universities and colleges: Atlantic Union College, Union College, Pacific Union College, La Sierra University, and Loma Linda University. His employment involved development and administration instruction in the U.S. and abroad. He was considered an accomplished educator. He was a man of well-chosen words and kindness.

A memorial service to celebrate the life of Gene was held May 25, 2019, with Dr. Jim Landis officiating.

A military service was conducted afterward with acknowledgement of his military experience. Arrangements were conducted by Heritage Funeral Services.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Ruth Kainer Gascay; his son, Douglas (Natalie); his daughter, Dana (William); and five grandchildren. The family looks forward to the resurrection to be reunited with Gene.



**GLANDER, GENEVIEVE LEE (ANDRES),** 97, born May 29, 1921 in St. Louis, MO, died May 9, 2019. Her loving family was with her. Genevieve was the daughter of Obed Fredrick James Benjamin Andres and Hilda Dagmar Nielsen. Two children came from this marriage, Genevieve and her brother, James Benjamin. She had one half-sister from her father's first marriage, Selma Andres Fenton. She also had three half siblings, Alice, Jack, and Jessie Edith, from her mother's first marriage to Brown McDonald. The third marriage brought three more half-siblings into Genevieve's life: Janet Beverly and Jean Betty (twins) and Florence Isabel, as well as a step-brother, Raymond Allen King, and step-father, Joseph Blackburn King.

Genevieve taught elementary school for the Adventist church for 22 years in the Southern Union Conference, and before that she taught for about 10 years in the Pacific Union Conference. She retired from teaching in 1986 and moved to California. Genevieve was married to Oscar Hugh Lee on June 7, 1945 in Arlington, CA. They were married 25 years before he passed in 1970. They had two children, Daniel Meridith Lee and Barbara Kathleen Lee. Genevieve remarried on Dec. 21, 1986 to Nathaniel

Alan Glander in Colton, GA. They were married for 29 years before he passed in 2015. There were no children from this marriage; however, Alan had two grown children at the time from his first marriage, Jerry Glander and Jean Glander Seigle. She is survived by her children, Daniel Lee of Monteagle, TN and Barbara (Larry) Lee Bearden of Rossville, GA; sisters, Janet King Georgette of Loma Linda, CA, and Florence King Bare of Sun City, CA; grandchildren: Aaron Lee, Peter Lee, Brooke Lee, and Stefan Lee, Stephanie Bearden Meyer, and Christopher Lee Bearden; one great-granddaughter, Taylor Meyer; two step-children, Jerry (Nani) Glander of Keeau, HI, and Jean (Gary) Steger of F. Walton Beach, FL. Genevieve was preceded in death by her parents: Obed Fredrick James Benjamin Andres and Hilda Dagmar Nielson McDonald Andres King; step-father, Joseph Blackburn King; two husbands: Oscar Lee and Alan Glander; four sisters: Alice McDonald Hensley, Edith McDonald Moyer, Selma Andres Fenton, and Jean Betty King; two brothers: Jack McDonald and James Benjamin Andres; one step-brother, Raymond Allen King; and one grandson, James Colby Bearden. A graveside service will be held at a later date in the Sequatchie Valley Memorial Gardens in Jasper, TN, and Genevieve will be laid to rest beside her first husband and father of her children, Oscar H. Lee.



**HAZEKAMP, GERALD MITCHELL**, 72, born April 11, 1946 in Muskegon, MI, died March 14, 2019 in Chattanooga, TN, after suffering a massive stroke. Known throughout life as “Mitch,” he grew up in Ravenna, MI, the second son of Jerry and Joyce Hazekamp. He was one of seven children (five boys and two girls). Mitch always counted it both a privilege and blessing to have grown up in a small community of about 1,000 residents in the “Great State of Michigan.” He loved to recount tales of hunting, fishing, and camping with family and friends. His dad taught him from an early age to relish time in the outdoors. In fact, many of his children’s stories can be traced right back to his Michigan roots. This carried over throughout life, for he was always looking for an opportunity to be out in creation, working on the lawn, in the garden, or in the woods. One of his greatest joys was his tractor and the hours he spent clearing woods, hauling brush, burning brush piles, and splitting firewood.

During his years of pastoral ministry, parishioners knew he truly cared about them individually. He could often be found doing lawn care for older, infirm members, transporting someone to a doctor’s appointment, or just sitting and listening to ramblings of former days. On the flip side, once a week found him at school having worship with students, and popping in for recess games. Mitch was passionate about evangelism, for it was through that means he became a Seventh-day Adventist at the age of 22. After graduating from Southern Missionary College, he joined the pastoral team of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference and pastored for 24 years, serving in McMinnville, TN; Morristown, TN; Murphy/Andrews, NC; and Savannah, GA.

During that time, he obtained a master’s degree from Andrews University in pastoral ministry. He went on to serve as ministerial director for the southern region of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, and then as director of the Stewardship/Trust Services Department. After retiring in 2017 with 42+ years of service, Mitch served as interim pastor for the Rossville, Ellijay, and Chatsworth/ Ranger districts. His final assignment was a return to Rossville, which he had completed just three weeks prior to becoming ill. However, he managed to make time to serve as a volunteer chaplain at Gordon Hospital (now AdventHealth Gordon), and to be actively involved with God’s Pantry, the food bank ministry of the Calhoun Church. A quest for travel and adventure took Mitch on many road trips and to countless campgrounds. He and his wife, Vivian, were blessed to have traveled, with tent or camper in tow, through all 50 states and the Canadian provinces. They never did do the Appalachian Trail, but they did many backpacking trips and hiked countless miles through all seasons of the year, and in all weather conditions, including -45 degree wind chill!

At one time, Mitch was an avid amateur wildlife photographer and would persistently chase down critters looking for the perfect shot. Once, after a 10-mile hike, word passed down the trail that there were mountain goats ahead. He took off again, and only the threat of darkness halted that expedition. But he did get a lovely photo of mom and baby! Mission trips were highlights of his life; he loved sharing Jesus and doing construction. He seemed the happiest when he had a Bible in one hand and hammer in the other. He thoroughly enjoyed meeting, mingling with and ministering to people of all cultures.

On his two trips to Kenya, Mitch took random pictures of the villagers during the day, and in the evening before the nightly meeting, showed the daily photos, much to the great delight of adults and children alike.

Mitch was a genuine family man and relished those times when everyone could all be together. He had a habit of rising early when the stars were still shining brightly, going outside, looking up at the heavens and praying for each family member by name—each sibling, and each niece and nephew on both sides of the family. His desire was for each one to have a personal relationship with Jesus. By nature, Mitch was a very upbeat person, always seeking to be an uplifter to anyone who might be discouraged. He loved to remind folks to rejoice in the Lord. In fact, at one time his administrative assistant, Cheri, gave him a plaque that read, “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it,” Psalm 118:24. His attitude was that God had given us the day for a reason, and we need to live in the present, figure out what it was we were supposed to do, and by God’s grace, just do it!

He is survived by his devoted wife, Vivian; and four children: son, Dennis, and daughters, Dawn (Mark) Dauchy, Ronda (Darren) Edwards, and Tami (Michael) Joiner; three granddaughters: Brittini (Donavon) Reed, BriAnna Dauchy, and Samantha Edwards; brothers: David (Lorrie) Hazekamp, Steven (Kathy) Hazekamp, and Randy (Shelley) Hazekamp; sister, Karolyn (Dennis) Deweerdt; a host of nieces; and nephews. Mitch was preceded in death by his brother, Al; and sister, Diana; along with his parents. A memorial service was held April 27, 2019 at the Calhoun Church with Dr. Stan Patterson officiating.

**LAWRENCE, ROY V.**, 92, born in 1927 in Coleysville, Jamaica, to Harold and Chriscel Lawrence, who raised him in the North Street Church; died April 24, 2019 at AdventHealth Waterman Hospital in Tavares, FL. He was a member of the church in Umatilla.

After being offered a full scholarship to Union College, Lawrence migrated to the United States to complete advanced degrees in mathematics. He served as a mathematics professor for many years at Northern Caribbean University; school board chair of Faith Adventist School in Hartford, CT; educator at various schools throughout the Southern New England Conference; and school board member for the Florida Conference. In addition to his professional roles, he also served as Sabbath School teacher, elder, and advisor throughout the Adventist church. Most recently, he was granted the Lifetime of Service Award by Washington Adventist University.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Audrey; two daughters: Donna McDonald of Eustis, FL, and Janette Neufville of Bowie, MD; one sister, Vernor Howe of Lawrenceville, GA; and four grandchildren.

The funeral service was conducted by Pastor Robert Putt at the Umatilla Church.



**MOTE, ARDEN C.**, born April 12, 1927 in Lansing, MI, died June 29, 2019 in Rossville, GA. Arden was raised in a good home, but his parents weren't church-going people. His mother, Mary L. Mote, died of cancer when he was only 13. When he was 17-years-old, his father invited him to attend some evangelistic meetings presented by Elder M. L. Venden. Arden enjoyed the meetings, and at the conclusion of the series, he was baptized along with his father, David A. Mote. He immediately made the decision to honor the Sabbath, even though he had the leading male role in his high school's play, scheduled for Friday night only two weeks away. Because of his commitment to his new-found faith, the school changed the play to Thursday night instead. Midway through Arden's senior year in high school, with the help of Elder D. W. Hunter, he transferred to Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, where he completed the first semester of his Adventist education.

In the fall, he enrolled in the ministerial course at EMC, graduating in 1951 and entering the ministry with his wife, Dorothy (Harrington) Mote, and sons, Ronnie and Donnie. Three years later, their daughter, Judy, was born. Arden served as a pastor-teacher in Fort Meade, FL, and as principle and teacher in Oneco, FL, before completing a short internship and entering full-time ministry in 1953.

He pastored the Apopka and Winter Garden churches in Florida, followed by assignments in Ferndale, MI, the Madison Boulevard Church in Madison, TN, the Village Church in South Lancaster, MA, the Warwick Church in Bermuda, the Fort Collins Church in Colorado, and finally as pastor of visitation at the Forest Lake Academy Church in Florida. Arden retired from pastoral ministry on April 1, 1989, and moved to Deltona, FL, then to Avon Park, and in 2006, to Rossville, GA.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Mote; sister, Marilyn Keep of Lansing, MI; sons, Ron and Don Mote, both of Ooltewah, TN; daughter, Judy Mote Evenson, of Fairbanks, Alaska; nine grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. Arden rests in the Collegedale Memorial Cemetery awaiting the voice of his Savior and Friend when He returns to take His children home!



**NORCOTT, WILLIAM FRANCIS**, 80, born in Durban, South Africa in 1937, died June 30, 2018 at Moses Cone Memorial Hospital in Greensboro, NC. He was the middle child of three children born to Seventh-day Adventist missionaries to the Congo in the 1920s, Dr. and Mrs. Victor and Lucie Norcott. In 1958, when Francis was 21 years old, he came to the United States by ship on the Queen Elizabeth to go to Washington Missionary College (later Columbia Union College, now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, MD. There he met North Carolina native, Julia Wright, who was also attending the same college. They were married a few years later, and raised their family in Maryland. While in college Francis worked at Washington Adventist Hospital as an inhalation therapist (respiratory therapist), and after college worked at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventist World Headquarters in Silver Spring, MD, until his retirement more than 40 years later. His wife, Julia, also worked at the General Conference, as the managing editor of Ministry Magazine until retirement.

In May 2018, Francis had been hospitalized due to a severe infection causing sepsis and endocarditis.

His idiopathic interstitial lung disease (pulmonary fibrosis) was exacerbated by the infection and his now weakened state. End stages progressed suddenly and quickly. With Julia by his side, he bravely hung on to be able to see each of his children and every grandchild, who all live out of state and rushed to be with him.

He shared with his family that he cherished each one, and he was right with his Lord and Savior, at peace with what was to come, and ready to rest. His peace came from his steadfast faith and knowledge as he was falling asleep, and when his eyes open once again he would be with his family and friends together in the arms of Jesus.

Francis, often called "Franci" by friends, is survived by his wife, Julia; three children: David Wright, Yvette Norcott Patton, and Claire Norcott Newlon; and five grandchildren; two sisters; brothers-in-law; one niece; grandniece; and nephew who live in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Franci found great comfort in the family and friends who reached out in person, by phone, text, email, and letters from all over the world, and was so grateful and truly felt very blessed. It was his desire for only the simplest of memorials. To honor his wishes, his immediate family held a private ceremony with gratitude to all friends and family who remain close in their hearts, giving them strength and comfort.



**POOLE, WILLIAM OLIVER**, 82, born April 12, 1937, died May 28, 2019, after a battle with Alzheimer's. He was retired from Southern Adventist University's Engineering Department. He was married to Barbara A. Poole for 58 years and much loved by his three children, Gary, Terri, and Tansha. Affectionately known as Billy, he served his country, first in the US Navy, receiving an honorable discharge and transfer to the US Air Force. Billy enjoyed all things nature—hiking, camping, and communing with his Creator in the beauty He made for us all to enjoy. He was a skilled electrician and “jack of all trades,” serving his community, neighbors, friends, and church family in need. He was an active member of his church, and a consummate witness to the love of the Lord. He is survived by his wife and three children mentioned above; his six sisters: Mona, Velma, Dee Dee, Zona, Sonja, and Sarah; three brothers: David, Paul and Sam. He was predeceased by his mother, Iva; father, Carl; brother, Carl (Buddy); and sisters, Hope and Mary. A memorial service was held June 2, 2019, at the Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, TN.

**PUPO, GLORIA E.**, 90, of Altamonte Springs, FL, born June 4, 1928 in Baracoa, Cuba, died May 29, 2019 in Altamonte Springs. Gloria was baptized at a young age into the Adventist Church. At the time of her death, she was a member of the Winter Park, FL, Spanish Church, where she remained a faithful member until her passing. She graduated from Santa Clara Adventist College in Santa Clara, Cuba. While there, she was Girls' Dean and Spanish Professor, as well as the secretary to the college president. She later moved to Chicago, IL, and worked at the Pacific Press Publishing Association as an editor in the Spanish Department. It was there that she married her late husband, Emmanuel A. Pupo. Together, they returned to Cuba in 1957 to assist Emmanuel's father with his concrete business. In September 1958, they became the proud parents of their daughter, Gloria Margarita, known to everyone as Glorita. Three months later, realizing that the Cuban government was becoming a communist one, they immigrated to the United States, settling in Miami for six years. Wanting an Adventist school for their daughter, they moved to Madison, TN. Gloria was always supportive of her youngest brother, Dr. Luis M. Albert. When he asked for her help in setting up his medical practice in Glendale, CA, the family moved there for a few years. They then moved to the Orlando area where Glorita could attend Forest Lake Academy.



Gloria leaves a legacy of committed service to the Lord. Not only did she work full-time at the College, Pacific Press, and the Adventist Health System (now AdventHealth), she volunteered in many positions in the various churches in which she was a member. Her ministry in many different departments spanned 60 years of dedicated service. In each position, she was called to serve, she did so with integrity and a passionate love for people and the Lord. She was a prayer warrior, and Jesus was her best friend. A big part of her life was lovingly caring for her three grandchildren. She was so many things: strong, wise, loyal, humorous, sweet, compassionate, loving, and willing to assist people whenever needed. Throughout her life, we can truly say that she reflected God's love to anyone around her. Now, after a long and fulfilling life, Gloria sleeps knowing she will see Jesus when He comes to take His children home. She is survived by one daughter, Gloria M. Becker of Altamonte Springs; three grandchildren: Kristin Becker of Altamonte Springs, Devin (Rhianna) Becker of Maitland, FL, and Ryan Becker of Ooltewah, TN; one sister, Lorinda Maria “Cucu” Albert of Moa, Cuba; one brother, Dr. Luis M. Albert of Glendale, CA; many nieces; and nephews. The service was conducted by Dr. Allan Machado at the Winter Park Spanish Church. Interment was at Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka, FL.



**WAMPLER, WILLIAM DEAN**, 89, born May 16, 1929 in Harrisonburg, VA, died Jan. 22, 2019 at his home in Chattanooga, TN. When he was 10 years old, a tent meeting was held by evangelist E.F. Koch near his home. Bill and his mother attended and were baptized at the close of the meetings. Because of this experience, he had a deep desire in his heart from an early age to be in the Gospel ministry. When he was a teenager, his family moved to Chattanooga. He graduated from Collegedale Academy in 1947 and then attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University), graduating in 1951 with a degree in theology. Three days after graduation, he married Betty Grounds, whom he had met at Southern. He received a call to join the Alabama-Mississippi Conference (now Gulf States Conference), and his first assignment was to assist Elder Hoyt Hendershot in a tent meeting in Pensacola, FL. Following that, he taught church school in Pensacola while also helping in the district. Next, he taught at Brakeworth Junior Academy in Birmingham, AL. In 1954, he started in full-time pastoral ministry, serving as pastor in several districts in the Alabama-Mississippi Conference. In 1963, he was asked to become education and youth director for the Conference. In 1965, he was elected president of the Alabama-Mississippi Conference. He served in this position for 16 years. In 1981, he was elected president of the Iowa-Missouri Conference, ministering there for 18 years. He retired in 1999 after 48 years of ministry, and moved to Chattanooga, TN, to be near family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Betty Wampler; sons, Jim (Sandra) Wampler and Gary Wampler; daughter, Debbie (Richard) Haas; five grandchildren: Jodi Wampler, Jeremy (Courtney) Wampler, Justin (Lindsay) Wampler, Ryan (Courtney) Haas, and Derek Haas. A memorial service was held Jan. 26, 2019 at the Standifer Gap Church. Interment was at Collegedale Memorial Park.



**WICKWIRE, SARAH ADELE DORLAND**, 98, born Dec. 14, 1920 in Everly, Iowa, died May 20, 2019 surrounded by family. She was born to Earl W. and Faye Dorland during the time that WWI was raging in Europe. In the spring of 1923, the family moved to the “Carnal Place,” a farm four miles southwest of West Union, Iowa. Then in 1929, Adele’s family moved to a large farm near Madison, SD, where she helped her father with milking the cows. There the family became friends with some Adventist neighbors and later, at age 13, Adele and her family attended evangelistic meetings, and they all became baptized members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Adele did some literature evangelism work for a short period of time then later attended Walla Walla College, where she earned her college degree and then taught commercial subjects at Auburn Academy in Washington, and later at Plainfield Academy in New Jersey. She left teaching in 1954 and became an office secretary at the Columbia Union Conference in Takoma Park, MD. It was there a few years later that she and Bruce Wickwire’s paths merged. They became good friends and married in 1959, beginning their service for the Church together.

In 1966, they responded to a call from the Northern Europe-West Africa Division located in St. Albans, England, where Bruce would serve as publishing director and Adele as secretary to the division secretary. Their travels in service took them to most of the Scandinavian countries, as well as parts of West Africa. In 1971, they returned to the United States to serve in the General Conference office where Adele was secretary to the General Conference undertreasurer. Then in 1985, Adele and Bruce retired and, after two years, moved to Collegedale, TN, to be near their daughter Linda and their six grandchildren. A few years later, their daughter Barbara and her family moved to the Collegedale area with their four children.

Bruce and Adele enjoyed all of their grandchildren and later great grandchildren. They were great mentors to all the grandchildren and were much loved by all. Their son, Bruce Jr., and his family served overseas for many of these years and after returning to the U.S., were able to spend more time with Grandpa Bruce and Grandma Adele, so three more grandchildren were wonderfully mentored.

During retirement, Adele and Bruce did some travel and service for the General Conference Publishing Department, and then Adele served as secretary and editor for two books that Bruce wrote: “Bold Journey,” the story of the return overland trip from Singapore to London, and “Gospel in Shoes,” stories of literature evangelism and its impact on the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Adele continued to enjoy the memory of Bruce’s unceasing sense of humor and even developed her own style of humor and often repeated his entertaining stories and jokes.

She is survived by her children: Barbara Clemons, Linda (Jim) Breedlove, and Bruce (Victoria) Wickwire Jr.; many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Bruce Wickwire Sr.; son-in-law, Bill Clemons; and siblings: Clifford Dorland, Elaine Leno, and Earlene Claridge. A memorial service was held May 23, 2019 at the Chattanooga Funeral Home with Dr. David Smith officiating.

**YOUNG, HAROLD COPE**, 94, born May 1, 1924 in Coolomee, NC, died April 13, 2019 surrounded by his family. He was a longtime member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Harold was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during World War II; he was deployed to the South Pacific from 1943 to 1946, and was aboard a ship in Tokyo when the surrender was signed.

Following his military service, he attended Southern Missionary College obtaining his undergraduate degree in education. He was a longtime devoted and dedicated elementary educator, most recently at Madison Campus Elementary School. Harold enjoyed his work and continued to work up until Thanksgiving 2018 as a starter on the golf course at Fairvue Plantation in Gallatin, TN, a place and a game he loved.

He loved people and never met a stranger, but family was most important in his life. He is survived by two sons: Richard (Tonia) Young and Martin (Cindi) Young; two grandchildren: Steven (Karina) Young and Emily (Jason) Maxie; one great-grandson, Landin Young; one sister-in-law, Louise Shain; several nieces; and nephews. Harold was preceded in death by his wife, Peggy Young; parents: Phillip S. and Alma Brinegar Young; one brother, Phil Young; and sister, Mary Jo Daily.







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On October 13, Southern's Wind Symphony, with Ken Parsons conducting, will present an evening of music at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church.

These events are also broadcast at [southern.edu/streaming](http://southern.edu/streaming). To learn about more School of Music events, visit [southern.edu/musicevents](http://southern.edu/musicevents).

### From Script to Scripture Exhibit

Beginning November 5, our on-campus Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum will feature a new exhibit—"From Script to Scripture." It will explore the history of the alphabet, the transition from scrolls to books, and the role of the written word—particularly the Bible—during the period of the Reformation and beyond. Never before displayed publicly, this exhibit will feature rare, original Bibles including a copy of the 1611 King James Version, the Vulgate, and a translation by Martin Luther.

For more information, visit [southern.edu/archaeology](http://southern.edu/archaeology).

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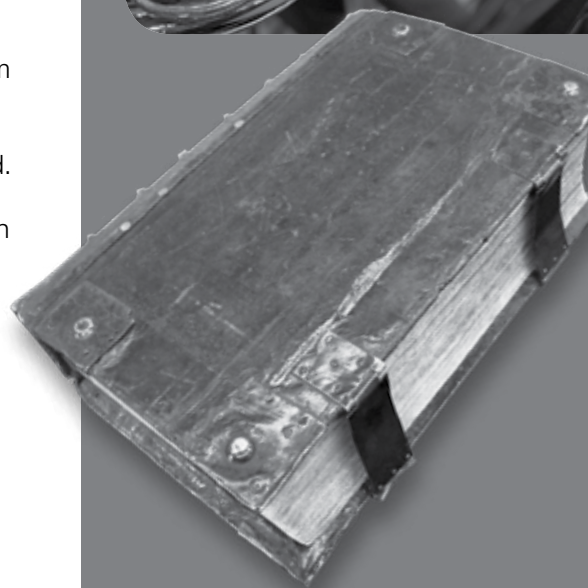
Southern's vespers programs, held in the Collegedale Church, are broadcast live each Friday at 7:30 p.m. To view online, visit [southern.edu/streaming](http://southern.edu/streaming).

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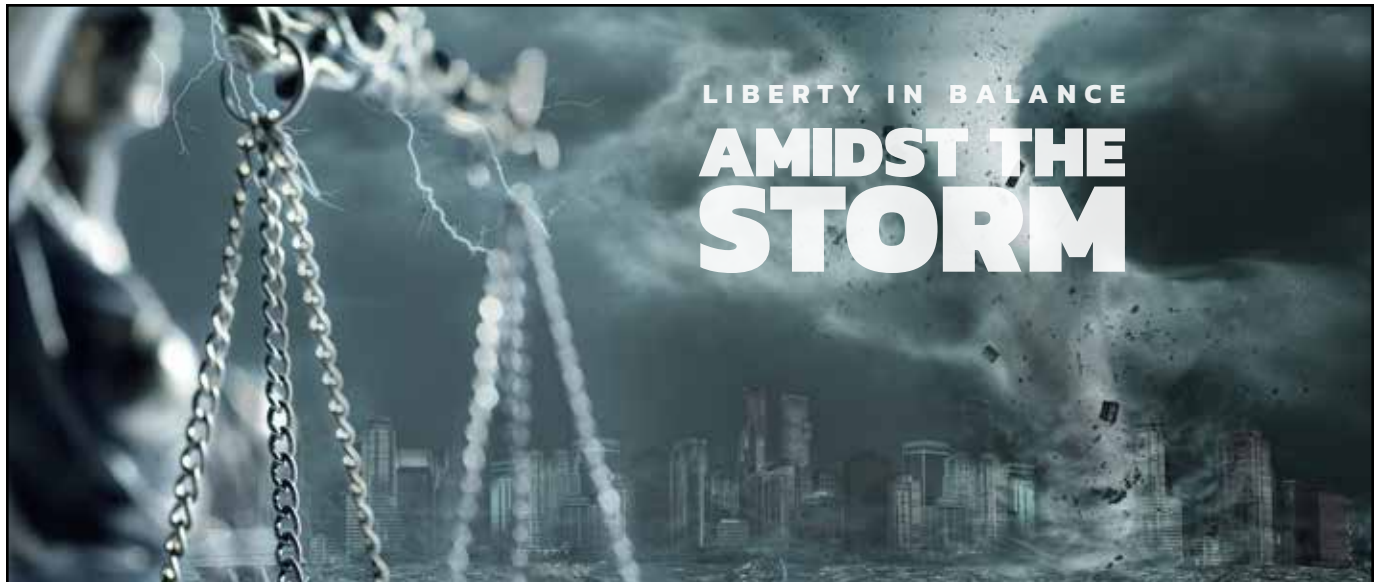
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## CAROLINA

**HISPANIC CAMP MEETING II** - Sept. 6-9. J. Espósito, F. Revollo. NPR.  
**COMPASSIONATE CARAVAN OF EVANGELISM** - Sept. 14-16.  
**RETIRES RETREAT** - Sept. 15-19. NPR.  
**MEN'S RETREAT** - Sept. 27-29. NPR.

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 Sept. 8. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.  
 Sept. 15. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)  
 Sept. 22. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden in Miami, Maranatha in Miami Gardens.  
**UNQUENCHABLE LOVE COUPLES' RETREAT** - Sept. 20-22. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd Ave., High Springs. Cost varies depending on married or unmarried attendee and accommodation choice. Details: campkulaqua.com or 386-454-1351.  
**LIFE STYLE HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE RETREAT** - Oct. 11-14. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd Ave., High Springs. Special guests: Willy "Ghetto Preacher" Ramos, Nicole Stallings, Justin "That Christian Vlogger" and Emily Khoe. Cost: \$200. Details: floridaconference.com/lifestyle  
**Young at Heart Retreat** - Oct. 20-23. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd Ave., High Springs. Fellowship for ages 50+. Cost varies depending on married or unmarried attendee and accommodation

choice. Details: campkulaqua.com/kulaqua-s-summer-camp/year-round-programs/young-at-heart

## GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

**NORTHEAST TENNESSEE CAMP MEETING** - Sept. 20-21. The Oaks Retreat, Greeneville, TN.  
**AYMT (PATHFINDER LEADERSHIP CONVENTION)** - Sept. 20-22. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Calhoun, GA.  
**HEALTH RALLIES WITH EW DEMPSEY - LEARN GOD'S ULTIMATE PLAN FOR YOUR LONGEVITY:** Sept. 21. 2-5 p.m. McMinnville, TN, Church.  
 Sept. 28. 2-5 p.m. Athens, GA, Church.  
 Oct. 5. 2-5 p.m. Douglasville, GA, Heritage Church.  
**ENGAGE (YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING)** - Sept. 27, 28. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.  
**SABBATH IN THE SMOKIES** - Sept. 27, 28. Speaker: Harold Cunningham. For tent camping registration, call Heidi at 706-629-7951. Priority is given to those who attend church in northeast Tenn. Cades Cove, TN.  
**EQUIPPING FAMILIES WITH STEPHEN REESE** - Sept. 28. Oglethorpe, GA.  
**MASTER GUIDES CAMPOREE** - Oct. 4-6. Cohutta Springs Ball Field. \$30 per camper. Crandall, GA.  
**STRONG MEN OF GOD MEN'S RETREAT** - Oct. 4-6. Featured speakers include Sherwin Jack, Harold Cunningham, Gary Rustad, and Darrel Anderson. Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/strong-men-of-god-retreat-tickets-64604352357>. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.  
**ADVENTURER FAMILY FUN WEEKEND** - Oct. 11-13. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.  
**AFTERNOON RALLY** - Oct. 12. Jamestown, TN.  
**PATHFINDER DRILL INSTRUCTOR WEEKEND** - Oct. 18-20. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.  
**7 BRIDGES MARATHON** - Oct. 20. Choose from five different races, and run this Adventist sponsored race. Use promo code CONFERENCE10 to save 10% off registration. Details: <http://sevenbridgesmarathon.com/>. Chattanooga, TN.  
**MARRIAGE RETREAT I—COURAGEOUS HEARTS** - Oct. 25-27. Speakers: Grant and Monique Wells. Embark on a weekend designed to help couples

restore communication and affection. A few spots left, reserve now. WinShape Retreat, Rome, GA.

**ACF (ADVENTIST CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP) - Leadership Reboot**, Oct. 25, 26.  
**PATHFINDER TEEN CHALLENGE** - Nov. 1-3. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.  
**MARRIAGE RETREAT II—SPICE IT UP** - Nov. 1-3. Speakers: David and Beverly Sedlacek. A refreshing, spiritual, fun, and romantic time of learning for you and your spouse. These fill fast. WinShape Retreat, Rome, GA.  
 Register for events on the Conference website, [www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com).

## GULF STATES

**GOSPEL WEEKEND** - Sep. 6, 7. Birmingham 1st Church. Do we have an understanding of the Gospel that goes beyond our kindergarten instruction? Join Brian Danese as we explore this most vital subject. [www.gscsda.org/gospel](http://www.gscsda.org/gospel).  
**TEEN INVITATIONAL: CANOEING** - Sept. 8. [www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events](http://www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events).  
**GOSPEL WEEKEND** - Sep. 20, 21. Huntsville Central. [www.gscsda.org/gospel](http://www.gscsda.org/gospel).  
**"FACE TO FACE" YOUTH RALLY** - Sept. 28. Cody Road Church, Mobile, AL. [www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events](http://www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events).  
**POSSIBILITIES MINISTRY** - Nov. 2, Community Church, Meridian, MS. How can we best reach and teach those with Aspergers, ADHD, or are on the Autism Spectrum? Come and learn from Larry R. Evans of the General Conference. [www.gscsda.org/events](http://www.gscsda.org/events).  
**ELDERS' AND DEACONS' RETREAT** - Dec. 13-15. Camp Alamisco. Sung Kwon, director of Adventist Community Services for the NAD, presents "Burst the Bubble: Finding Your Passion for Community Outreach." [www.gscsda.org/events](http://www.gscsda.org/events).

## KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

**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.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION** - Oct. 17. Conference Office.

**SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY**

**SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT** - Oct. 6. With Laurie Redmer Minner conducting, Southern's Symphony Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. at Collegedale Church. This and many other musical events are also broadcast at southern.edu/streaming.

**PREVIEW SOUTHERN** - Oct. 10, 11. Students are invited to take a campus tour, discuss majors with professors, sit in on financial aid workshops, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. For more information, call 1-800-SOUTHERN or email visit@southern.edu.

**WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT** - Oct. 13. Southern's Wind Symphony with Ken Parsons conducting, will present an evening of music at 7:30 p.m. at Collegedale Church. To learn about more School of Music events, visit southern.edu/musicevents.

**HOMECOMING** - Oct. 24-27. Save the date! Highlights of the weekend include reunions for Die Meistersinger, Evangelistic Resource Center Missions (ERC), and Soul-winning and Leadership Training (SALT). Honor classes include: 1939, '49, '59, '69, '74, '79, '89, '94, '99, and '09. Visit southern.edu/alumni or call 423-236-2830 for additional details.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BREVARD CHURCH 25TH HOMECOMING** - Sept. 14. The celebration will be in their beautiful sanctuary. Sabbath School - 9:20 a.m., Worship Service - 11 a.m., Fellowship Dinner following, and Concert - 2 p.m. Find Brevard Church on Facebook.

**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.

**FLETCHER ACADEMY HOMECOMING WEEKEND** - Oct. 4-6. FA Campus. Join us as we honor the class years ending in 4's and 9's. The Class of 1969 will mark its 50th Reunion. Special invitation to former Fletcher Academy mission trip participants. Please update your contact information at agibbs@fletcheracademy.com, 828-209-6704. More details at: www.fletcheracademy.com.

**GYC SOUTHEAST - "THE WIFE OF JESUS: WEDDING OF AN ETERNITY."** - Oct. 9-12. Join young people from across the southeast region, as they study the Church, Jesus' bride, and implications for us as His end-time Church. Dean Cullinane will be the main speaker, with other great breakout session speakers. The conference will take place on the campus of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, TN. Visit http://www.gycse.org for details and to register.

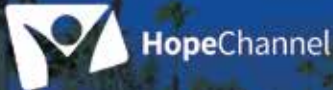
**SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST COMMUNICATORS 30TH ANNUAL CONVENTION** - Oct. 17-19. SAVE THE DATE! Celebrating 30 years of communication excellence! SAC's Tagline: "Purpose. Passion. Partnership." Location: Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Join Seventh-day Adventist communication professionals and university students from all around the North American Division for training, networking, and spiritual renewal opportuni-

ties. Additional details for the hotels and more: www.adventistcommunicator.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.

**FIRST LITHONIA AND LITHONIA ADVENTIST ACADEMY 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION** - Nov. 29-30, Stonecrest, GA (formerly Lithonia). All are invited to this special weekend beginning Friday at 7 p.m. Sabbath activities include Sabbath School, Divine Worship, lunch, and an afternoon and evening program. Come and "Reflect and Rejoice" in God's goodness over the past 30 years. For details: 404-547-4280.

	SEPT 6	SEPT 13	SEPT 20	SEPT 27	OCT 4	OCT 11
ATLANTA, GA	7:56	7:46	7:36	7:27	7:17	7:08
CHARLESTON, SC	7:37	7:28	7:18	7:09	7:00	6:51
CHARLOTTE, NC	7:43	7:33	7:22	7:12	7:02	6:53
COLLEGEDALE, TN	7:59	7:49	7:39	7:29	7:19	7:10
HUNTSVILLE, AL	7:05	6:55	6:45	6:35	6:25	6:16
JACKSON, MS	7:18	7:09	6:59	6:50	6:41	6:32
LOUISVILLE, KY	8:04	7:53	7:42	7:31	7:21	7:10
MEMPHIS, TN	7:19	7:09	6:59	6:49	6:39	6:30
MIAMI, FL	7:34	7:26	7:19	7:11	7:04	6:56
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:02	6:53	6:44	6:34	6:25	6:17
NASHVILLE, TN	7:07	6:57	6:46	6:36	6:26	6:16
ORLANDO, FL	7:40	7:32	7:24	7:15	7:07	6:59
TAMPA, FL	7:44	7:36	7:28	7:20	7:12	7:04
WILMINGTON, NC	7:30	7:21	7:11	7:01	6:51	6:42



## JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

# CELEBRATION OF HOPE 2019



We have great kids programs!

Celebration of Hope is an inspiring weekend for individuals and families that wish to support the mission of Hope Channel with a minimum of \$1,500 over the next 12 months. Join Pastor Derek Morris and the Hope Channel team at one of the two remaining Celebration of Hope weekends. **Space is limited and filling fast, so register today** to witness first-hand how the lives of Hope Channel viewers are being transformed by your faithful support!



Oleg Kostyuk

**Asheville,  
North Carolina**

October 18-20, 2019



Featuring Rudy  
Micelli in concert



Dwight Nelson

**Orlando, Florida**

November 15-17, 2019



Featuring  
Jennifer  
LaMountain  
in concert