

T Southern TIDINGS

FEBRUARY 2020

HOPE for the HOMELESS:

WHAT WE CAN DO

THE IMPORTANCE OF TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

LORD, START A REVIVAL WITH ME

THE MINISTRY OF GIVING

ENGAGING YOUTH IS ENERGY WELL SPENT

Three Preliminary Steps to Church Revitalization



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

In this year of the revitalization of our congregations across the Southern Union, there are three critical prerequisites we may do well to consider.

Firstly, there is a faith power that God has intended we would have to accomplish the Gospel Commission.

“This is my prayer ... that you may ... realise [realize] how ... tremendous is the power available to us who believe in God,” Ephesians 1:19, 20 Phillips.

“And what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, which He wrought in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places,” Ephesians 1:19, 20 KJV.

The Power of Faith

When a person rises up on the inside and begins to believe God’s promises, a force is released that is as real as your feet and hands are attached to your ankles and wrists. It is a force beyond human beings. It is the power of God, and it causes miracles to happen.

It is important to emphasize that to know God is to experience robust, available, and usable power. It is a power that is in your mind and soul, which flows outward through your thinking, your spirit, your actions, and your circumstances. And, when it is released, it brings a harvest to meet the needs in your life and in your plateauing or declining church.

Secondly, we may want to consider giving our failure to God.

“(God) grant ... that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith ... that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God,” Ephesians 3:16-19 KJV.

Giving Failure to God

Maybe right now you are doubtful that Jesus Christ can ever do anything with your life or your congregation. You may be without a job, or with a financial income that just doesn’t stretch far enough for your family or your church during challenging times of recession and inflation. You may have a nagging emptiness inside ... a deep fear of the future because you don’t know what to do. Simon Peter and his partners faced this challenge. They had fished all night, and all they had to show for it were empty nets and an empty boat. And that’s what Jesus asked for — the loan of their empty boat. Peter gave his failure to Jesus, and was provided a net-breaking, boat-sinking load of fish. Despite the shortfalls and failures of your broken life or declining congregation, surrendered failure to God can yield amazing successes and fulfilled dreams.

Finally, in our quest to be whole, and to revitalize our congregations, we need to understand that forgiveness elicits our own healing.

“And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you,” Ephesians 4:32 KJV.

Forgiveness Elicits Our Own Healing

We all have faults, shortcomings, and failures. There are places where none of us measure up like we ought. There are days when we can sing and rejoice and feel close to God. There are other days when we feel that God is a million miles away. It’s hard on those days, and maybe we will say things we shouldn’t say and do things we ought not to do.

I implore us to consider this. Let’s be in an attitude of forgiveness. Don’t let your heart be hardened. Don’t let bitterness come between you and your brother. Accept the fact that you have faults, and the members of your congregation have faults. Just go ahead and love one another. Accept one another — annoyances and all. Forgiving yields joyous and productive living. --RCS ●

Volume 114, No. 2, February 2020
The *Southern Tidings* is the official publication of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE
302 Research Drive
Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30092
Mail Address P.O. Box 923868
Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30010-3868
Telephone 770-408-1800
www.southernunion.com



EDITOR R. Steven Norman III
MANAGING EDITOR Irisene Douce
CIRCULATION Yaime Cordova
ADVERTISING Nathan Zinner
LAYOUT Julie Burks
PRODUCTION College Press

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

ADVENTHEALTH
Ingrid Hernandez
ADVENTHEALTH UNIVERSITY
Lisa Marie Esser
CAROLINA
Rebecca Carpenter
FLORIDA
Gladys Neigel
GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND
Tamara Wolcott Watson
GULF STATES
Shane Hochstetler
KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE
Denise Pope
OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY
Maquisha Ford Mullins, Ph.D.
SOUTH ATLANTIC
James Lamb, Ed.D.
SOUTH CENTRAL
Anthony Chornes II
SOUTHEASTERN
Noel Grant
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) 272-7493
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

SOUTHERN TIDINGS | Volume 114
Number 2 | February 2020
Published monthly by the Southern Union.
Free to all members.
POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to
Southern Tidings
P.O. Box 923868
Peachtree Corners, Georgia 30010-3868
EMAIL: idouce@southernunion.com



february 2020

features

4
HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS:
WHAT WE CAN DO

8
THE IMPORTANCE OF
TALKING TO YOUR DOCTOR
ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

9
LORD, START A REVIVAL
WITH ME

10
THE MINISTRY OF GIVING

12
ENGAGING YOUTH IS
ENERGY WELL SPENT

news

- 14 ADVENTHEALTH
- 16 CAROLINA
- 18 FLORIDA
- 20 GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND
- 22 GULF STATES
- 24 KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE
- 26 SOUTH ATLANTIC
- 30 SOUTHEASTERN
- 31 ADVENTHEALTH UNIVERSITY
- 34 SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
- 34 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
- 38 EVENTS CALENDAR
- 39 ANNOUNCEMENTS/SUNSET SCHEDULE



HOPE for the HOMELESS:

WHAT WE CAN DO

BY ZACHARY BOYD



For students like Dylan Gibbons, who is pursuing his master's degree in social work at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, connecting with those in need is a meaningful experience.



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Terrance Crosby, manager of the Good Samaritan Soup Kitchen in Laurel, Mississippi, and Florence Knight Blaylock of the Soso Church in Soso, Mississippi, fondly known as "The Pie Lady," bake 70 to 80 sweet potato pies every year at Thanksgiving and Christmas to feed the homeless. She has volunteered to bake pies for the homeless for the past 20 years.

In today's hustle and bustle, it is easy to take for granted the things that are most common to us: our cars, our houses, our jobs. But, imagine being laid off unexpectedly, and the rainy day fund rapidly drying up. For those who are not fortunate to get assistance, the result could inevitably mean a radical life change — homelessness.

That's the reality of 552,830 people who experienced homelessness on a single night in 2018, according to the latest figures from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Many of those individuals are veterans, people with disabilities, and youth under the age of 25.

According to HUD, the states making

up the Southern Union collectively had an estimated 70,087 people experiencing homelessness on any given day in 2018: Alabama, 3,434; Florida, 31,030; Georgia, 9,499; Kentucky, 3,688; Mississippi, 1,352; North Carolina, 9,268; South Carolina, 3,933; and Tennessee, 7,883.

Between 2017 and 2018, homelessness nationwide increased slightly by 0.3 percent, according to HUD. While the increase is not drastic, it is not decreasing. That raises a frequently asked question: What is being done to help the homeless? Better yet, what are Seventh-day Adventists doing?

The issue of homelessness, of helping the needy, actually has long been a con-

cern of Seventh-day Adventists, as noted by Ellen White.

"In the great cities, there are multitudes living in poverty and wretchedness, well-nigh destitute of food, shelter, and clothing," says White in *Welfare Ministry*, page 173.

Many Adventist churches and institutions across the Southern Union work with the homeless in their communities in a variety of ways. Here are some ways members are reaching this part of their communities.

Making an Impact

At Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, students frequently assist Project Rescue, an organi-



zation that helps the homeless by providing meals to more than 300 families per week, as well as other services. Student clubs such as Empowering Minds have volunteered there as a group project, handing out meals and canned goods to individuals experiencing homelessness. Additionally, once a year the ministry organizes a block party offering free haircuts, manicures, clothing, and connection, and Southern participates in this annual tradition.

In North Carolina, members of the Charlotte Central Spanish Church take food and other necessities, such as socks and underwear, to wherever the homeless may be — at a shelter, on a park bench,

under a bridge. The members are inspired by the words found in Matthew 25, “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me ...” (NIV).

In Memphis, Tennessee, every second Sabbath of the month the Longview Heights Youth Department packages 40 to 50 “Blessing Bags” of small necessities and passes them out in the community. They also recently had a clothing drive, and also provided toys and books.

“We realize that we need to get out in the community to help others,” says Aayana Boyd, who coordinated the event. “I

think too many times we are sitting in church, listening to what the pastor is saying, and not applying those lessons in our lives. The youth felt that we can use one Sabbath in a month to go out and be difference-makers.”

A few hours south in Soso, Mississippi, 88-year-old Florence Knight Blaylock (a.k.a. The Pie Lady) voluntarily bakes between 70 and 80 sweet potato pies for the Good Samaritan Soup Kitchen at Thanksgiving and Christmas. The kitchen serves the homeless people in the Soso area, providing close to 1,000 meals.

Blaylock moved from California back to her hometown in Soso to be with family, and is a member of the Soso Seventh-day

Adventist Church. She and her late husband were retired, but she felt compelled to help those in need.

“I just like doing things for people. I find it rewarding,” says Blaylock. “I can’t sing, play the piano, or preach, but I can feed you.”

In Huntsville, Alabama, the First Seventh-day Adventist Church is preparing to mobilize their First Church Homeless Community Mobile Feed Ministry by meeting people where they are.

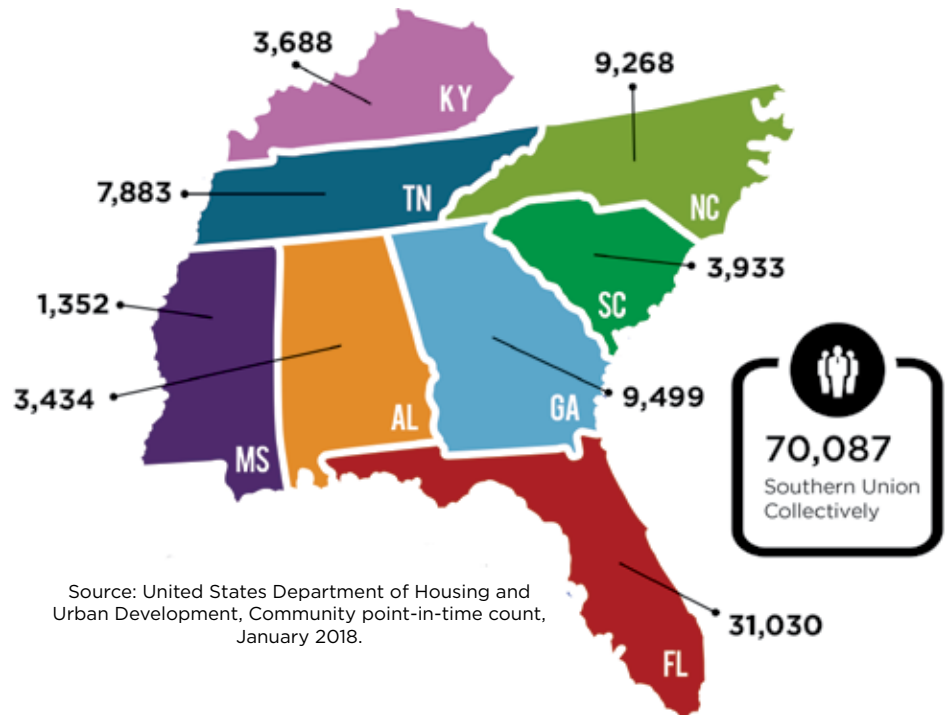
“I’m passionate about serving, period, but I know this is a community that a lot of people are either afraid to serve, to talk to, or intimidated by these people,” says Minnie Anderson, who oversees the ministry. “I am not, because I know when I talk to someone, the Lord will give me the words to say to reach them at their level.”

In addition to serving food, small trinkets are passed out as a reminder of God’s love, and most importantly, hope for a better tomorrow.

“I’m giving away trinkets that remind them of the Kingdom,” adds Anderson.

In Nashville, Tennessee, members of Madison Campus Church have a pancake breakfast for the homeless each Sabbath morning at a local Adventist Community Services center. Other area Adventists also use the center as a place to provide counseling for the homeless, as well as other services to help improve their situation.

HOMELESSNESS IN THE SOUTHERN UNION



“People mingle with those who come to eat, do Bible studies with them, and sometimes they’ll bring individuals from the pancake breakfast to church,” says Chelsea English, youth pastor at Madison Campus. “I think reaching out to abso-

lutely anybody is exactly what Jesus did. He came alongside people and helped them no matter where they were.”

While there are a number of ways to deal with homelessness, the most effective solution is to prevent it, according to

NATIONAL CATEGORIES OF HOMELESSNESS

CHRONIC
96,913



FAMILY
56,342



VETERANS
37,878



YOUTH
36,361



Source: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, Community point-in-time count, January 2018.



PHOTO BY: ISMAEL MONTOYA

A member of the Charlotte Spanish Church reaches one of the city's homeless by giving him a new pair of socks. Church members seize on opportunities of making an impact in their community by meeting the homeless where they are: at a shelter, on a park bench, or under a bridge.



PHOTO BY: R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Noah Boyd (left), Rekiyah Owens, Carly Powell, and Alonzo Daniels of the Longview Heights Youth Department pack bags of necessities for the homeless. The youth make 40 to 50 "Blessings Bags" a month for their outreach on the second Sabbath of each month.



PHOTO BY: DAVID CONRAD

On Sabbath mornings, the homeless are fed breakfast at the 403 Center (ACS) in Madison, Tennessee. The meals are provided each week by a Sabbath School class, from youth to adults, at the Madison Campus Church, or by Madison Academy.

the AdventSource website.

"Timely focused assistance to families can often prevent a crisis from becoming a catastrophe, and keep people out of homelessness. Prevention assistance can take several forms. The most common are ... rent, mortgage, or utility assistance and budget counseling."

The problem of homelessness should also be viewed in the context of the larger community environment, according to AdventSource.

"Those who advocate for this population must enlist the support of all segments of the community who are affected by the problem. The key word to helping the homeless is networking. By networking with other agencies, your Adventist

Community Services program can develop a large range of service alternatives, which can be packaged individually for each client. These unique services are tied together by agencies with a common purpose, to help the homeless."

Indeed, we all can do something to help the homeless, or any of our brothers and sisters who may be in need. In doing so, with humble hearts, we will be able to receive the reply in Matthew 25: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me," (NIV). ●

Zachary Boyd *Is a freelance reporter and a radio personality in Memphis, Tennessee.*

CONTACT INFORMATION ON HOMELESSNESS

Adventist Community Services Community Services & Urban Ministry Certification (free)

443-391-7253
acs@nadadventist.org
www.communityservices.org

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee

USICH-Regional Coordinator
Joe Savage
202-494-1219
Joe.savage@usich.gov

Florida

State Interagency Council
Erik Braun
850-922-4691
Erik.braun@myfifamilies.com

Georgia

State Interagency Council
Ronald Pounds
404-327-6864
Ronald.pounds@dca.ga.gov

Kentucky

State Interagency Council
Karla Hale
502-564-7630
khale@kyhousing.org

North Carolina

State Interagency Council
Martha Are
919-733-4534
Martha.are@dhhs.nc.gov

South Carolina

State Interagency Council
Anita Floyd
afloyd@uway.org

Source: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, <https://www.usich.gov/home-together/>

The Importance of Talking to Your Doctor About MENTAL HEALTH

BY ADVENTHEALTH STAFF WRITER



for depression at every ambulatory visit, and those who screen positive are referred to behavioral health consultants for short-term solution-focused therapy. Consultants meet with patients for a limited number of sessions, and if patients are in need of ongoing behavioral health support, Centura Health works to bridge them until they can connect to that support.

How to Get Started

With one in every five adults experiencing a mental illness each year, understanding that your primary care physician can help you get the treatment you need is more important than ever. While it can be hard to reach out for help, your trusted physician can support your mental health when you're feeling overwhelmed, stressed, anxious, or depressed.

If you're struggling with mental health, below are some tips on how you can prepare to talk to your doctor.

Make a Plan

Bringing up mental health is a lot easier said than done. Make it happen with a plan. Write down on your to-do list when you're going to call and schedule an appointment. It can be during your wellness visit or a separate special checkup.

Decide the date and time you'll call the office. Put it in your calendar, and when that time comes, pick up the phone or request an appointment online.

Practice Makes Perfect

Despite the growing awareness around the importance of mental health, there's

Most people make a visit to their doctor when they want to keep an eye on their physical health or are already sick and want to get better again. With that kind of emphasis on the body and not the mind, it's easy to forget the importance of mental health to our overall wellness.

Amber Pace, director of integrated behavioral health for Centura Health, a partnership between AdventHealth and CommonSpirit Health, recently helped a patient who realized this gap in her care. The patient was struggling with anxiety, so she made the decision to share that information with her primary care physician, who referred her to Pace. Since she started seeing Pace and working on new relaxation techniques, the patient has experienced

fewer days with anxiety, and even on those days that she feels anxious, she reports it's less disruptive than it was before.

"It's important for patients to be able to share with their providers about their concerns, both physical and mental," said Pace, who is a licensed clinical social worker and licensed addiction counselor. "When I first meet patients, I ask them what brought them in and if there are additional concerns they may have. We may not always discuss everything in one visit, but that does help us plan for future visits as well."

Centura Health has licensed behavioral health providers in 25 clinics across the network. Through the integrated behavioral health program, patients are screened

still a stigma attached to the topic — even when talking to doctors. Practice having the conversation with a trusted family member or friend. Share the feelings and symptoms you've been experiencing, and be upfront about seeking help.

Chances are your loved one will support you on your journey, and may even share their own mental health struggles or experiences. That practice can help make it a little easier to open up when you do meet with your doctor.

Prepare for the Appointment

If you're still feeling nervous about your appointment, write down a few notes about what you want to share. Jot down recurring symp-

ptoms, when they occur, and how long they last. Think about questions you want to ask your doctor and any treatment goals you may have.

Goals may include types of treatment you want to try (therapy, medication, or another approach) or milestones you want to achieve — fewer panic attacks or the ability to deal with stress, for example.

Know Your Strength

Many people feel like it's a weakness or failure to ask for help when facing a mental illness. But the truth is, recognizing you're suffering from a medical condition that can be treated, and seeking the support you need to be the healthiest version of you, shows real strength.

Your doctor will be there for you at every step of your health journey, listening, supporting, and guiding you to the treatment you need — whether it's for diabetes, high blood pressure, a temporary illness, anxiety, depression, or another mental illness. And, your provider will offer those resources with compassionate care that's focused on improving your physical, mental, and spiritual health.

"More than anything, we are here to care for patients and support their health in body, mind, and spirit," Pace said. "Sometimes, simply writing things down and handing a note to your physician can start the conversation." 📌

LORD, START A REVIVAL WITH ME

BY R. STEVEN NORMAN III



Several members sat around dinner discussing how to revitalize their church. They were concerned about the slump in attendance and spirituality of their church. Perhaps you share their concern, and want to know how your church can be revived.

An evangelist was asked how to start a church revival. He replied, "Go home, lock yourself in your room, and kneel down in the middle of your floor. Draw a chalk mark all around yourself, and pray for God to start the revival inside that chalk mark. When He has answered your prayer, the revival will be on." Prayer ignites personal and then church revivals.

David's Psalm 51 prayer illustrates prayer for personal revival. After a period of spiritual depression, sin, and gnawing guilt, David sought a revival of his spiritual joy and passion for souls (Psalm 51:3, 4, 12, 13).

His prayer suggests that we:

- Acknowledge God's unfailing love, v. 1
- Confess our sin, v. 2-9
- Plead for a new heart, v. 10
- Pray for the Holy Spirit, v.11
- Seek the joy of salvation, v. 12
- Ask God to rekindle your passion for Christ and souls, v. 13

Conclude your prayer with surrender — "Take me, O Lord, as wholly Thine. I lay all my plans at Thy feet. Use me today in Thy service. Abide with me, and let all my work be wrought in Thee," *Steps to Christ*, p. 71.

Do you desire greater spiritual vitality? Will you prayerfully commit to praying for a personal revival? If you do, God will answer your prayer. 📌

R. Steven Norman III is the director of the Communication Department and Southern Tidings editor at the Southern Union.

THE MINISTRY OF GIVING

Donors Make the Difference at GCA

BY JODI HEROD STEELE



PHOTO BY: NANCY GERARD

Josh Woods (center), chaplain, prays with a group of students in the new Goodman Family Prayer Room at Georgia-Cumberland Academy.

For the last two years, the campus of Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA) has been a maze of earth moving equipment, cinderblocks, and chain-link fences. When the school year began August 2019, the sights and sounds

of construction were replaced by beautifully realized facility additions. The extra space afforded by the new student center, four classrooms, 17 staff offices, alumni center, cafeteria, gymnasium, and wellness center is greatly appreciated by the grow-

ing student body. All of these improvements were made possible by the generous financial support of faithful donors to the "Continuing the Mission" campaign.

As beautiful as the new facilities are, the activities going on inside are the main



PHOTO BY: NANCY GERARD

Georgia-Cumberland Academy teacher Bruce Boggess teaches a class in one of the newly built classrooms in the STEM Center funded by Dennis and Tami Starkey.

attraction. The addition of new classrooms provided space needed to set up a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Center, funded by Dennis and Tami Starkey. The STEM Center features two 3D printers, a laser engraving machine, and circuitry equipment that builds coding and engineering skills. The center is open to students every day, and has been used for class projects in such subjects as geometry and art.

“We can contribute to the curriculum of every subject with the equipment we now have available,” said Shannon Scott, who oversees the center.

The Starkey family, whose two grown children are both GCA graduates, were motivated to donate funds for STEM education because of a desire to create an environment of academic excellence for Adventist students.

“We want the joy and satisfaction of seeing the kids of the Adventist Church have the opportunity to obtain a high quality education in a Christ-oriented atmosphere,” the Starkeys shared. “We serve a God Who is most excellent. It is only right to honor Him with excellence in our facilities, academics, and spirituality.”

Across campus in the new student center, the Goodman Family Prayer Room

is a haven for students and staff seeking spiritual refreshment. The thoughtfully designed space provides a place to connect with God in the midst of often busy days on an academy campus.

The Goodman family were inspired by their daughter, Kayla, to give specifically for the Prayer Room. Kayla, a recent GCA graduate, was a strong spiritual leader during her four years at the school, where she started a thriving prayer ministry. The Goodmans want all who enter this sacred space to allow God and His love to become the center of their heart and life.

In addition to donations for new facilities and programs, GCA has been fortunate to receive funding for scholarships and endowments from a number of sources. Endowments are funds that are invested in perpetuity, and the interest earnings are used to fund various programs or scholarships.

Keith and Linda Hieb have established one such endowment. The Clough-Hieb Endowed Scholarship Fund provides tuition assistance to students based on financial need. The students must be passing all their classes, and be working to help defray the cost of a GCA education. This, along with more than 30 other endowments and scholarships, helps to provide assistance to many students who would otherwise strug-

gle to obtain an Adventist education.

“Our whole family had the opportunity to attend Adventist schools, and we are strong advocates of Christian education,” said Keith Hieb. “All four of Linda’s children graduated from GCA and we are very impressed with the school and its leadership team. We believe that academy is a great time to influence and shape young people, and we’re inspired to establish our endowed scholarship for worthy students.”

The gifts of generous individuals enable GCA to continue providing a quality Christian education to several hundred students every school year. These generous gifts come in many amounts, from seemingly small donations to large contributions. That is the beauty of giving — every penny adds up in pursuit of the greater goal. The ministry of giving is open to everyone, and every gift can make a difference in a student’s life.

“I have no regrets about attending GCA,” said Aleah Clarke, Class of 2019. “The people who I once saw as strangers, I now see as family. Thank you to the donors and staff for the best two years of my life.” ●

Jodi Herod Steele is the marketing assistant at Georgia-Cumberland Academy in Calhoun, Georgia.

ENGAGING YOUTH

is Energy Well Spent

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER



Young people pack school supply bags for a community giveaway in 2015.

For more than 10 years, the Laurel, Mississippi, Church has made a dedicated and intentional effort to reach young people for Jesus. It has become an integral part of their identity as a local church, and it's working. Young people who are affiliated with the church have an experience with God that will not soon be forgotten. Children, teens, and young adults are introduced to a relationship with Jesus

that sticks with them wherever they go. "Not only do they make it fun, but they make it so easy to learn and fall in love with Jesus," says Laken Merritt, young adult teacher for Laurel Church. Young people carry this introduction to Jesus with them, even if they grow distant from the church. While they may cease attending church or in other ways depart from God, they remember the Adventist Church as home. And, when the time is

right, they return.

Merritt attended the church when she was younger, departed for a time, and then returned. "When I met my husband, he was eager to learn about the Adventist Church. So we started doing Bible studies with Uncle Renny and Aunt Judy. And, as this was all happening, I knew God had brought me back to where I was meant to be." Now with children of her own, Merritt states that



Rick and Laken Merritt snap a photo before Rick's baptism in 2019.

they “love and look forward to going to church and telling me all about what they learn.” It was Merritt’s experience as a student that inspired her to become a young adult teacher, along with her husband, Rick. “I want to make an impact on their lives like Ms. Kathy and Mr. Kelly did for me.” Merritt isn’t the only one to have a story like this. Others who attended the church’s youth programs in the past have now returned with their families, and have taken up leadership roles in Pathfinders, the weekly community Vacation Bible School-style program, and more.

The church has prioritized these programs and has emphasized growing younger by constructing a family life center on their property, with ample space for a gymnasium, classrooms,

and a commercial kitchen. A consistent mid-week program allows for community children to attend and play games, have a snack, and learn about Jesus in an engaging environment. The church even offers a busing service for the community children to get them to free programming.

The church didn’t just construct the place and leave the burden of its payment on future generations, they endeavored to pay it off quickly. Twice a year, rummage sales are conducted to raise funds for paying off the building and providing scholarships to summer camp at Alamisco. Thousands of dollars are raised every year, and the principal on the construction loan has been reduced quickly.

When Jim Stewart, pastor, entered the district just over two years ago, he praised the church for their ongoing emphasis on youth and community programming. His children quickly became recipients of the church’s ministry, and near the end of 2019, two of his sons, along with four other young people, officially joined the church membership by baptism. When asked about the feeling of being able to perform the baptism for his children, Stewart stated, “I usually don’t get emotional, but that got me. It was incredible.”

With Pathfinders, summer camp, Vacation Bible School, and weekly community programming, countless hours are dedicated by church members that teach, drive, cook, pray for, and love the children. The members show the children Who Jesus is and how much they are loved. It is apparent that this is no easy task, and many of the volunteers have been faithful in their duties year in and year out. However, this compassion results in no energy wasted because the results show that every positive impression on the children is valued, and may ultimately make the difference for their eternity. 🕊



Jim Stewart (second row, second from left), pastor, puts his arms around his sons and poses with members of the McNeil and Bullock families following their baptism.

Shane Hochstetler is the communication director for the Gulf States Conference.

Terry Shaw, One of Health Care's Most Influential People

Modern Healthcare has named Terry Shaw, AdventHealth president/CEO, one of 2019's 100 Most Influential People. This prestigious recognition program acknowledges and honors individuals who are deemed by their peers and the senior editors of Modern Healthcare to be the most influential individuals in the industry, in terms of leadership and impact.

In naming Shaw 84th on the list, Modern Healthcare noted his more than three decades with AdventHealth. During his tenure as the organization's CEO, he has advocated for a more seamless care navigation experience, the incorporation of spiritual care in the outpatient setting, and greater diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Under his leadership, AdventHealth has been on a transformation journey to become a faith-based, consumer-focused clinical company that puts people at the center of their care.

"This recognition is important for three reasons. It's important for our mission of 'Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ' — the reason we come to work every day, it's important for our brand because we believe AdventHealth is uniquely positioned to make a strong impact in our communities, and of course it's good for Terry," said David Banks, chief strategy officer for AdventHealth. "We're proud of our leader, and we're excited he was recognized among the other health-thought leaders of the country."

As the only representative of an Adventist organization on the list, Shaw's appearance brings greater awareness to AdventHealth's legacy for whole-person care, a heritage it shares with the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and confirms a longstanding tradition for high-quality, innovative health care recognized around the country and world.

This is Shaw's first appearance on the list, which features individuals from



a range of sectors such as government, health care, and technology. The distinguished list of honorees includes Seema Verma, administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS); Jeff Bezos, president/CEO for Amazon; and Tim Cook, CEO for Apple.

"This year's selection process was contentious and difficult. Many health care organizations made bold strides in the continued transformation of the industry. Many others were more cautious during a year that brought uncertainty over how the law of the land might change as a result of a federal court decision," commented Aurora Aguilar, Mod-

ern Healthcare editor. "The honorees chosen this year by Modern Healthcare and our readers are those who were fearless in their risky strategies and unapologetic in their rationale. Whether you agree with the compiled list or not, you can't argue with the influence of these 100 health care leaders. Congratulations to those honorees."

To view the complete ranking, visit [ModernHealthcare.com](https://www.modernhealthcare.com). 📍

BY INGRID HERNANDEZ AND MARIO ROBERTS, SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS AT ADVENTHEALTH

Fifteen AdventHealth Hospitals Recognized



More than a dozen AdventHealth facilities have been recognized among the highest performing hospitals in the nation, as the Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit health care ratings organization, released its latest Top Hospital designations.

A total of 15 AdventHealth hospitals were recognized as Top Hospitals. AdventHealth Gordon (Calhoun, Georgia), AdventHealth Manchester (Kentucky), AdventHealth Rollins Brook (Lampasas, Texas) and AdventHealth Wauchula (Florida) earned the Top Rural Hospital designation. AdventHealth Apopka, AdventHealth Carrollwood, AdventHealth Daytona Beach, AdventHealth North Pinellas, AdventHealth Palm Coast, AdventHealth

Wesley Chapel, AdventHealth Zephyrhills, and AdventHealth Sebring (each in Florida); and AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center Bolingbrook (Illinois) and AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center GlenOaks (Glendale Heights, Illinois) earned the Top Urban Hospital designation. AdventHealth Orlando (Florida) earned the Top Teaching Hospital designation.

The Top Hospital award recognizes the highest performing hospitals based on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey. Of the 120 hospitals chosen as Top Hospitals, 55 were Top Teaching Hospitals, 37 were Top General Hospitals, 18 were Top Rural Hospitals, and 10 were Top Children's Hospitals. About 2,100 hospitals were considered for the recognition.

Qualifications for the Top Hospital award include performance in areas such as infection rates, practices for safer surgery, maternity care, and the ability to prevent medication errors.

The Leapfrog Group's Top Hospital designations come on the heels of the release of its fall 2019 Hospital Safety Grades, where more than 75 percent of eligible AdventHealth hospitals earned an "A" grade for meeting the highest safety standards in the U.S.

For the full list of facilities recognized as 2019 Top Hospitals, visit LeapfrogGroup.org. ●

BY MARIO ROBERTS, SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

Arden Street Ministry Feeds the Homeless in Asheville



PHOTO BY: PEN BRAISTER-STURGIS

PHOTO BY: PEN BRAISTER-STURGIS

You don't have to travel to faraway lands to be a missionary for Jesus Christ; all you need is a jar of soup to give to those who are hungry. The Arden Street Ministry of the Arden, N.C., Church began September of 2019, with three individuals walking through downtown Asheville, N.C., passing out lunches to the homeless. The 30 lunches consisted of sandwiches, chips, boiled eggs, homemade cookies, bananas, and water bottles. Within 45 minutes, the food was gone.

The Arden Street Ministry is an ongoing, active ministry involving individuals from different denominations, and some who claim they don't want anything to do with organized religion. All age groups participate in passing out food, from young teens to those in their late 70s, taking Jesus' Word to heart, "For I was hungry and you gave Me food to eat."

There are volunteers from all four of the local Adventist churches (Arden, Fletcher, Hendersonville, and Mills River). To date, more than 840 lunch bags

and 250 soup jars have been distributed in Asheville. With the weather getting colder, the ministry began collecting coats, warm clothes, gloves, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, and countless hand warmers that are given each week with the food.

Along with delivering food, the group offers to pray with their new friends, asking for specific concerns to bring to the Lord. The homeless rarely share their real names, but they do share their prayer needs. Housing, health issues, reuniting with family members, opioid addictions, and mental issues are just a few of the prayer requests.

"I love your shirt," said Gypsy, a vibrant and outspoken street friend. "Your group really lives up to your shirt message." On the front the message is simple, "Servant of Jesus." On the back, the words, "We are His hands to serve those in need," really resonates with people.

In October, they began adding five Glow Tracks to the lunch bags. They have since passed out more than 2,000 tracks. Members pray every time they

pack these small pamphlets, as they have the potential to change lives with their message.

"I am thrilled to see so many respond to us," said Gail Bremner, Arden member. "Every Friday, the minute the van opens up with food and clothing, they gather around and start choosing the supplies they need."

"It's a thrilling feeling to make soup and sandwiches for so many each week," shared Marji Strickland, a Methodist friend, who for years has been praying to be part of an active ministry feeding the homeless.

The group asks for prayers that the Lord will supply a truck for their ministry that can transport the food, water, blankets, and all the coats and clothing each week to Asheville. And, more importantly, they ask for prayer for their new homeless friends. ①

BY PEN BRAISTER-STURGIS

iMPAct Youth Rally Impacts Mount Pisgah Academy Student



PHOTO BY: EMMIE LEE



PHOTO BY: EMMIE LEE

Steven Sigamani

MPA student Emmie Lee shares her story.

As a student at Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA), I am privileged to experience many of the amazing events that happen on our beautiful campus. Though this is only my second year here, Youth Rally has definitely become one of my favorite events. Seeing the big white tent being set up on center campus always gets me excited. The day our guests began to arrive was one of busy excitement. Youth from all over the Carolina Conference came, including potential students, recent MPA graduates, and major supporters of the school. The weekend was packed full of time making new friends, catching up with acquaintances, and taking the opportunity to draw closer to God.

Many of the youth and sponsors who come for the weekend stay in the dorms. As a result, my roommate and I were blessed to have a girl from off campus stay in our room that weekend. It was so much

fun getting to know her, telling her all the awesome things about MPA, and sharing our own experiences as students at MPA.

Every year, Youth Rally has a different theme. This year it was “Get Up.” The speaker talked about finding true identity in Christ, and not allowing dishonest Christians to discourage the true believers from getting up and finding the true connection and intimacy with God that humans were originally created to experience. Many people, students and staff alike, were very much moved by the messages.

Several people were asked about their experiences at Youth Rally. When asked what her favorite part of the weekend was, Kyndra Huckaby ('20) said, “Definitely the speaker. He was very interactive! And the Krispy Kreme donuts!”

“I am so thankful for the speaker this year,” said staff member Donna Robertson. “He was very interactive and on a great outreach level with the age group he

was addressing.”

When asked what impact the Youth Rally had on her, Amyia Betenbaugh ('22) said, “The speaker made a great impact on me because of the message he was delivering. Sermons reach you more if it hits you on a personal level, and that’s what happened to me. I also loved the music and the worship atmosphere we were in.”

On behalf of the staff and students of Mount Pisgah Academy, I want to thank our speaker, Steven Sigamani with Engage Ministries from Southern Adventist University, and everyone else who worked so hard to make Youth Rally a success. There is no doubt in my mind that many people received an incredible blessing from this spiritually encouraging weekend, and that an amazing iMPact was made. Plan now to join us for iMPact Youth Rally 2020! 📍

BY EMMIE LEE ('22)

Key West Rebuild Project

New Community-wide Florida Keys Outreach



Two students were part of a mission group from Mt. Pisgah Academy in Candler, N.C., that helped pass out surveys to the residents of Key West, Fla.



When Jacob visited as a guest for Sabbath services, he learned of the need to have walls repaired in the sanctuary. He is a professional and offered to complete all the work for just the cost of materials and traveling.

It all started when God moved on hearts of the leadership of Florida Conference to begin afresh the work in Key West. Conference leadership put together a bold plan to place a full-time consultant/pastor in Key West to restart the work. Steve Veres, pastor, was chosen to lead out in this most sacred work. A radical new three-fold plan between Florida Conference’s ministerial, community services, and MultiCare Foundation was an answer to years of prayers by many in the Florida Keys.

Before reopening doors to Impact Community Mission Group and Key West Church, a small group of five people determined to seek God first and gathered together in the dingy and dark fellowship hall and sanctuary to pray. Without the means, people, or wisdom to tackle such a challenging area of Florida, they prayed for the Lord’s counsel and providence for 10 days.

The Community is the Focus

After conviction to serve the community following the 10 days of prayer, Veres, the small group, and visiting mission groups conducted surveys of the community. The simple question was asked, “What are the needs of this community?”

Surprisingly, the surveys showed a need for help with some of the basic issues of life: health, happiness, and assistance to recover from Hurricane Irma. This is what the Lord impressed the prayer warriors to do during the 10 days of prayer, and was indeed what the people wanted and needed.

Community Services Begin

Working to develop the Keys portion of Conference Community Services Disaster Response Program, the work of

ministry began for survivors of Hurricane Irma. Working side by side with the staff of MultiCare Foundation, hundreds were ministered to in Jesus’ name.

Simultaneously, prayers were offered for both the means and workers to do remodeling, cleanup, and repairs at the mission. The Conference put aside some financial resources to help with this project, and God began to send the right people with skills to complete each project. Estimates amounted to \$13,000 to repair just the sanctuary’s walls damaged by various hurricanes! At just the right time, God sent “Jacob” as a guest for Sabbath services. A professional, Jacob completed all the work for just the cost of materials and traveling. God had come through again!

Then began the health outreach. As a result of mobile screenings with MultiCare Foundation and demographic surveys,



A year ago, a small group of five people prayed 10 days for the Lord's counsel to help them know what to do in the community. There are now 25 people attending church services every Sabbath morning.

Community-wide Health Outreach Begins

As a result of God's providential leading, Veres met the health coordinator for a major social organization at a local store, and this encounter led to his appointment as the major coordinator for community-wide health outreach for Key West. The first community-wide health fair was well-attended. As a result, Veres put together the infrastructure for continual community-wide health events throughout the Florida Keys. In addition, approximately 40 people signed up for the church's health outreach follow-up programs.

The Holy Spirit is the KEY to the Keys

At this point, God has continually built this ministry that started just a year ago with a Conference dream, five people, and prayer for the Holy Spirit. There are 25 people now attending church services every Sabbath morning, and the group is still growing. 📌

BY STEVE VERES

what the Holy Spirit had shown during the 10 days of prayer was confirmed yet again. Beginning with a small weekly program, the ladies of the church put on the Eight Weeks to Wellness program by

Don Hall, and healthy lifestyle programs were held monthly. Now, up to 20 people regularly attend. In November the first health interest was baptized, and others are currently studying the Bible.

Hope Continues to Resonate in Apopka

Hope came to Apopka through the We All Have Hope evangelistic series recently presented at Apopka Church. The speaker for the meetings was Roger Hernandez, director of ministerial and evangelism for Southern Union Conference. More than 200 guests, including the mayor, attended the meetings during the weeklong series that saw lives changed and decisions made for Christ.

In addition to outstanding sermons and music presented by various Christian recording artists, the Church honored local legends with an award presentation each night. These local legends included AMI-



Roger Hernandez, director of ministerial and evangelism at the Southern Union Conference, was the guest speaker at "We All Have Hope" evangelistic series presented at Apopka Church.

kids of Orlando, Good Neighbor Place, Loaves & Fishes, Harbor House of Central Orlando, Cornerstone Hospice, Apopka Pregnancy Care Center, and the Police Athletic League of Orlando. Special offerings exceeding \$3,400 were collected to benefit these local ministries.

Hope continues to resonate from the meetings as individual Bible studies continue and members are added to the family of God. 📌

BY ROBERT BROOME

Soldiers Eat Thanksgiving Feast at Grovetown Korean Church



SUBMITTED BY: CHEOL SOO HAN

Forty-eight soldiers accepted an invitation to have Thanksgiving dinner with the Grovetown Korean-English Church in Georgia.

Members of the Grovetown Korean-English Church in Grovetown, Ga., were anticipating a very special day. There was music in the sanctuary and a welcome sign next to a well-lit Christmas tree at the church entrance.

Forty-eight U. S. Army soldiers from Fort Gordon, Ga., filed in to the church, along with the chaplain, captain, major, and lieutenant colonel. They seemed to fill up the small Grovetown sanctuary. The evening started with a beautiful song from the Golden Bell quartet, and a message of thanksgiving from Cheol Soo Han, church pastor. Then the Thanksgiving meal was shared together with much chatter, happiness, and laughter from the church members and the soldiers.

Many soldiers went for seconds, thirds, and even fourths. The food that was prepared by the church members served as a reminder of home. Some soldiers even said it was the best food they had tasted in awhile.

After stomachs were filled, a wonderful message was delivered by John Calvin Alberty, a nationally certified counselor and author of 16 books. Alberty also served four years in the United States Air Force. He told the soldiers of his



SUBMITTED BY: CHEOL SOO HAN



SUBMITTED BY: CHEOL SOO HAN

own military experiences, and gave them strength and cheer.

When the service was over, one soldier went up to Han and said, “Please invite us again.” Han replied they’d be happy to.

The large bus carrying the soldiers drove off into the night, honking three times as a good-bye to the waving church members. After their departure, the church members cleaned with light hearts. There was a positive atmosphere in the church.

The members worked tirelessly from

the beginning to the end of the event. They prayed together and expressed gratitude for one another. Through serving the young soldiers, the Grovetown Korean-English Church members felt as if they were serving in God’s mission.

Neil S. Hersey, United States Army major general, wrote Han a letter saying, “Your continued support is refreshing, and reminds us why we serve each and every day.”

BY CHEOL SOO HAN

HHES Thrives, Celebrates New Facility in Georgia

To better serve the needs of the growing publishing ministry, Home Health Education Services (HHES) has relocated to a newly renovated 11,000-square-foot office warehouse in Dalton, Ga. They celebrated with a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Monday, December 2, 2019. Ed Wright, former Georgia-Cumberland Conference president, led out with a devotional giving God the praise for leading and blessing.

HHES services the needs of the literature evangelists in four conferences, including full-time literature evangelists (LEs), a large group of summer student workers, a Spanish-language outreach called Light American, academy industries, and Southern Adventist University. They also ship material internationally to multiple countries, and regularly to New Zealand, Canada, England, and Puerto Rico.

The transition to the new facility reflects a new concept in literature evangelism. The new HHES facility includes several offices, and a warehouse with \$2 million in inventory. Tim Leffew, Conference publishing director, stated, “We have one goal that controls our vision. That is to provide excellent service and materials to our literature evangelists, so they can reach more people for the Kingdom with the printed page.” HHES has developed several new books designed to appeal to a new generation. They use technology to make the LEs’ work easier, and add a new level of outreach to the public.

Though HHES operates under the Georgia-Cumberland Publishing Department, it is a partnership of the Carolina Conference, Gulf States Conference, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, and Georgia-Cumberland Conference. Each conference partners in the ministry and share in its oversight.

One of the largest changes in the HHES operating vision has been the pro-



PHOTO BY: BRIAN YOUNG

Ed Wright, former Georgia-Cumberland Conference president, cuts the blue ribbon for the newly located Home Health Education Services that services the literature needs of Georgia-Cumberland and three other conferences. Also holding the ribbon is Tim Leffew (left), Conference publishing director, and Gary Rustad (right), president of Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

duction and development of their own printed materials. The majority of titles the literature evangelists now carry have been developed specifically to meet their needs in the field. An example is their partnership with Remnant Publishing in 2014, to create a new children’s Bible story series entitled Children’s Century Classics, now in its third printing. Although first printed in English, the set has recently been translated into Spanish, and will be ready for distribution in early 2020. The new children’s series has updated images, shorter stories, an audio version, online games, puzzles, and Bible studies, and refers to Ellen White’s books like *Patriarchs and Prophets*, *The Desire of Ages*, and *The Great Controversy*. Jim Wilson, HHES treasurer and assistant publishing director, said, “With the introduction of the Children’s Century Classics, we saw a 300% increase in sales of Spirit of Prophecy books because the children’s set points to the adult set.”

Remnant Publishing CEO Dwight Hall attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony, and said working with HHES is an answer

to prayer. “They have sold thousands of these books. Number one is facelift, and number two is shorter stories.”

Leffew summarized, “Publishing is the ‘Go ye’ of the Gospel commission. They are going to homes who will not come to us. God has blessed this ministry beyond our dreams, but the harvest is great and the laborers are few. God is in these last days laying the ‘Go ye’ burden upon the hearts of people who are joining the publishing team to take His message to others through the printed page.”

Wright shared a quote from Ellen White’s book *Colporteur Evangelist*, that belonged to his mom: “As long as probation continues there will be a need for the canvasser to work.” Wright added, “As long as people make decisions for Jesus, there is a need for the canvassing work. HHES does not push back against other technologies; all are good, including tracts, and the Internet. Yet, all of these things cannot undo the printed page.”

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT WATSON

Church Utilizes School for Community Outreach



Attendees of the Family Fun Fest play volleyball as part of the “Let’s Move Day” event.

Central Church in Huntsville, Ala., has been utilizing their school facility, Big Cove Christian Academy in Owens Cross Roads, Ala., to impact the surrounding community gently.

Central’s health ministries team invited not only the church family, but also the community to participate in the annual celebration of the national “Let’s Move Day” with a Family Fun Fest at the school on September 15, 2019. It was a beautiful Sunday with near-perfect weather, which brought children, along with children-at-heart, to enjoy games such as a giant parachute, frisbees, workout dice, volleyball, basketball, and ping pong in the school gym. They also planned activities to incorporate the school playground. Attendees were

treated to some Southern foods with a vegetarian twist, like BBQ, hotdogs, and potato salad. Healthful desserts included a variety of fresh fruits as well as vegan brownies. Attendees were blessed with the time of fellowship, and door prizes were additional bonuses.

Big Cove held its semi-annual yard sale on October 6, 2019, on the large front lawn on the school property, which is situated on busy Highway 431. This event allows community residents to participate by displaying their wares, or to come in and browse. Some attend each spring and fall, and are getting acquainted with church members. Due to the prominent location of the school, the yard sale attracts many passers-by as well. In addition to the tables of pri-

vate vendors, the school displays and sells items that have been donated. A plate lunch is sold by the school as an additional fundraiser. The fall yard sale raised more than \$1,000 for the school.

While members agree that the Family Fun Fest and the yard sale involve planning, organization, time, work, and expense on the part of the church and school, they also believe that breaking down prejudices is more valuable. By inviting the community onto school property for fun times, and mingling with and getting to know the members, it will pay off when they invite them to something more spiritual later on. 📌

BY KATHY LAMSON

Former Member Baptized after Decades of Departure



A “spiritual birthday” cake is presented to Sue Hernandez (center) following the church worship service.



Andre Weston, pastor of Bass Memorial Church, prepares to baptize Sue Hernandez as a result of her completing Bible studies.

It is a good day in the Lord and a very high day on this Sabbath for the Bass Church. God’s Kingdom is growing, and this church is facilitating that growth. Sue Hernandez has decided to follow Jesus all the way through the watery graves of baptism,” stated Andre Weston, pastor of Bass Memorial Church in Lumberton, Miss. Hernandez was raised as an Adventist; however, decades ago, she went to the church she was attending at the time to seek help with a burden her family was carrying. She felt ignored and was hurt by the experience she encoun-

tered. This occurrence started a journey of drifting, and eventually Hernandez asked for her name to be dropped from the church books. However, she always knew the Adventist Church was home, and remained near to Adventist churches throughout her life, wherever she lived. In September of 2019, Hernandez responded to a call for Bible studies and baptism during one of Weston’s sermons. Hernandez was faithful in her studies and eager to learn and grow in Christ. For her, one of the most transformational things the church did was make sure each per-

son feels valued, heard, and loved. She joined the church membership through baptism on November 16, 2019. “It was a joy to study with her and be part of her story,” said Weston. In celebration of the occasion, a birthday cake inscribed with “Happy Spiritual Birthday, Sue” was served after the worship service. ●

BY VALYNDA BAILEY

Lebanon Church Burns Mortgage

On October 12, 2019, there was much happiness, thankfulness, and praising God among the members of the Lebanon, Tenn., Church, as they celebrated the burning of the mortgage note. Steve Haley, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference president, accompanied by his wife, Malinda, delivered the message and enjoyed the special day with the congregation.

Organization of the group into the Lebanon Company took place on March 15, 1997. The company officially became the Lebanon Church on December 5, 1998. The small congregation raised \$200,000 by December 2006, and purchased a near-



ly 3-acre lot. The Southern Union Revolving Fund agreed to loan the church an additional \$200,000, and construction began in February 2007.

The construction company finished the building and presented the keys to the chair of the building committee on December 10, 2007. They worshiped for the first time in the new church on December 15, 2007.

It took approximately 12 years to pay the 20-year note in full. The congregation thanked and praised their heavenly Father for making this possible. 🙏

BY HERMAN Q. L. MONTGOMERY

Memphis-Raleigh Church Holds CHIP Classes

After a series of free, plant-based cooking and wellness classes at a public library in Memphis, Tenn., the Memphis-Raleigh Church decided to offer the Complete Health Improvement Program (CHIP) to the community and the area churches. Attendees from the library programs have been excited to be able to get more in-depth training at the Memphis-Raleigh Church. The participants took hold of the program with gusto! Many saw great improvements in weight loss, blood pressure, inflammation, cholesterol, triglycerides, blood sugar, and irregularity in heart rhythm, as well as inches off their waistlines. Whole-food, plant-based food samples were served, and then followed by lots of smiles and laughter in group exercise.

The most reluctant participant slowly became more engaged, and ended up having the biggest overall improvement. He told the group his cardiologist does not smile at him, but last week, she was all smiles and asked, “What are you doing?”

CHIP is a comprehensive program, almost like attending a college course for



CHIP attendees

wellness. One of the community participants is telling others about CHIP and the library classes, and has asked another library in Memphis to sponsor classes in Cordova, which they seem eager to do.

CHIP facilitator Leslie Caza says, “I’m not sure who is more blessed, them or me. They were an amazing group of people who supported each other as they shared their victories and struggles.” Many are looking forward to monthly Club

CHIP follow-up sessions, and are already asking about dates for the next CHIP for their friends and family members who would like to attend. During the 18-session program, church members had opportunities for friendship evangelism, and shared the love of Christ in prayer, word, and deed. 🙏

BY LESLIE CAZA

Jackson Church Holds Ninth Annual “One Starry Night” Dinner



Each year, Christmas provides the opportunity to bring together people of all faiths to celebrate the birth of Christ and the gift of salvation. This year’s “One Starry Night” agape dinner on December 6, 2019, was the ninth year the Jackson, Tenn., Church has done just that. For the past three years, this event has been so successful there has been a waiting list for free tickets because the fellowship hall is at capacity.

The event is a creative and collaborative effort between John Baker, pastor, and his wife, Le Anne, and several volunteers. The decorations and menu for the event require months of planning,

and a full week of creation. This year, entering the fellowship hall, each guest was transported into a New England forest full of exquisitely decorated fir and birch trees, realistic birds, snow, and special lighting. The spiritual program that included stories interspersed amidst short video vignettes was uplifting. The soft music and forest settings tied the centerpieces, rustic manger, and cross together to make an unforgettable memory.

The special evening each year culminates with a touching communion service, a wrapped gift for each guest, and a pamphlet on what Adventists believe. Attendees included a former first lady of

Tennessee, nine community pastors and their spouses, as well as several community worship leaders. More than half of all the attendees were non-Adventists.

The menu is always designed to showcase that a vegetarian diet can be very appealing. The menu included vegetarian chicken cordon bleu in puff pastry, savory walnut meatballs, garlic mashed potatoes, maple-glazed baby whole carrots, spinach-orange salad, whole wheat dinner rolls, and soups: lemony lentil (vegan), Vermont broccoli cheddar, and winter minestrone. 🍴

BY JOHN BAKER

GAAA Gets Back to Eden



grade maintain good health and nutrition throughout their school experience.

The 4H Club; GAAA staff; Trees Atlanta, Inc., volunteers; the Atlanta United soccer team; Atlanta Berean Church representatives; community leaders Al Smith, George Hubbard, Noreen Whitehead, Sherwin Jack, D.Min., and Donovan Washington; and Andrea Boone, city of Atlanta congresswoman on behalf of Keisha Lance Bottoms, mayor of Atlanta, appeared and assisted. The city of Atlanta media team filmed the momentous occasion that will be a first of many environmental changes for GAAA.

The planting installation was led by Willette Jackson of Trees Atlanta, Inc. She gave the volunteers and supporters a tutorial on how to plant the trees properly. She used her demo plant to show how to make sure the roots were planted in the ground properly. She noted the importance of the roots and the significance of the connection with growth. “You have to cut off any circling of the roots to help water and nutrients to be able to nourish the tree so it can grow.”

Her lesson mirrored the spiritual application in establishing a relationship with growing in Christ. “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, is pruned so that it may bear more fruit,” John 15:1-6 NKJV.

The GAAA family wants to be fully rooted in God to grow in Christian experience, and to be nourished daily with nutrients through studying the Word, connecting with God through prayer, and connecting with others of the faith. They wish to truly be that tree that bears that good fruit because its roots are deeply planted in Christ.

“We shall be like trees planted by the rivers of water, that will bring forth good fruit in due season and whose leaves not wither,” Psalm 1:3. 🌱

BY TUNISIA HOBBS, M.ED., GAAA PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH INSTRUCTOR

This past October, the newly minted 4H Club of Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy (GAAA) in Atlanta, Ga., smartly attired in green 4H shirts, launched a “Green and Grow” outdoor theme with “Roots that Run Deep, so Go Green and Grow.” In their effort to get “back to Eden,” nearly 105 trees were planted across the campus in conjunction with Trees of Atlanta, Inc., in three installments, and in partnership with affiliates NMIAA (National Men in Agricultural Association) and NWIAA (National Women in Agricultural Association).

The Green and Grow environmental program vision is to develop the entire complex as a center of health and wellness through the green conservation of tree planting, greenhouses to enable food production, and environmental care. Students, the community, parents, and alumni will participate in gardening, sports/athletics, and supporting academic themes in physical and health participation. The establishment of the greenhouses is being spearheaded by Caroline

Lipham, GAAA science teacher/Back to Eden. Trees Atlanta, Inc., will give support, maintenance, and nurture for the next two years, to get the program fully on its feet, strengthened by a Toshiba Foundation grant which is enabling the students to alter the environment further by expanding the school’s vegetable garden base, and getting hands-on experience as a prime example of outdoor education.

The goals for Green and Grow are to grow the trees to maturity, maintain the green of the external campus by developing an arboretum, establish gardens with community support to produce food for the cafeteria, involve the alumni, and market GAAA as a vegan/vegetarian food center through the sale of vegetables and food. This initiative is being integrated into the curriculum as part of the entire work-study philosophy to create a campus that will nurture the health and nutrition of the students and community, and initiate scholarships through the affiliates. The overall complex vision is to ensure that students from preK to 12th

First Church Baptizes 27 Individuals

First Church in Fort Valley, Ga., and Mt. Sinai Church in Thomaston, Ga., combined their efforts with Gregory L. Stinson, pastor, and his wife, Carletta, to baptize 17 individuals on May 12, 2019, and then an additional 10 on November 16 and 23, 2019.

The evangelistic meetings began by the members knocking on doors and distributing Bible studies in the community in April for Thomaston Church, and again on October 21, 2019, for the Fort Valley Church. Who said that God needs a lot of time to get something done? These members found that what He needs is available people who will step out in faith to do the work in their community. It has been said that the work is too difficult to win souls in these last days, but Stinson begs to differ, and the groups' results speak to the contrary.

The team included members and Bible workers. They were met with challenges, but found God faithful to make a way and touch hearts.

Robin Harris and her family, originally from Miami, Fla., indicated that she had been fasting for 30 days that the Lord would guide them to the right church. She and two others from her family were baptized.

The summer and fall crusade teams worked diligently to invite people to God, and they continue to give great reports of the growth to strengthen their two churches. 🕊



BY CARLETTA STINSON

Shiloh SDA School Adopted by Mu Alpha Zeta Chapter Zeta Phi Beta Sorority



Pictured are Dwanette Dilworth, Ed.D. (left), Zeta Phi Beta Sorority member; Lywanda Bell, Shiloh principal; Barbara Davis, Ed.D., Southeastern superintendent of education; and Garreon Bailey, sixth-grade student.

One of the best ways to receive a blessing is to be a blessing to someone else. The Mu Alpha Zeta Chapter Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., has allowed the Lord to use them by giving in numerous ways. The sisterhood of women in the Ocala Chapter has ad-

opted Shiloh Adventist School in Ocala, Fla., and has been an excellent support for the students, parents, and staff.

The women have donated their time, supplies, and finances to the school. The organization has provided supplies for the students and the teachers. The sup-

plies include books, pens, pencils, paper, crayons, paper clips, backpacks, tape, paint, and so much more. The secretary of the sorority called to see if there were any more items that the students needed. The principal stated that there was a need for more headphones. Without hesitation, a check was presented to the principal to purchase headphones.

The Mu Alpha Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority has been generous with their time. When they volunteer, they do so with great enthusiasm. For the past two years, they have been judges for science fairs. The women have been present and helpful at awards ceremonies. An excellent way to get children interested in reading is to read to them. This group has volunteered to come in and read to all of the students in grades K-8 on various occasions. They presented the students the opportunity to pack lunches for the homeless, and the children were very excited for the task. 📖

BY LYWANDA BELL, PRINCIPAL

Southeastern Women Evangelize for God's Kingdom



Evangelist Beverly Kinsey

The women in Southeastern Conference stand strong in evangelism.

The Women's Ministries Department conducted three evangelistic series in 2019. In July, Dwanette Dilworth, Ed.D., teamed up with other departments to meet the needs of the community, and conducted a two-week series in Ocala, Fla. During the month of September, Patricia Pates conducted a two-week series

in Winter Garden, Fla., with the theme "Rescued by Love."

The third series was the NET '19 Bible Explosion, led by Mithra Williams, Southeastern women's ministries director, and hosted by the Mt. Olive Church in Apopka, Fla. During the opening night, the congregation was blessed with an inspirational musical treat by gospel recording artist Lisa Page Brooks. This



Praise team performers



Mithra Williams (right), Southeastern women’s ministries director, welcomes a first-time guest to the event.

experience set the tone for the powerful heaven-sent messages preached by Beverly Kinsey, evangelist, during a two-week series from October 19 to November 2.

As a result of the three evangelistic

efforts, 35 individuals were brought into the fold, accepting Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. To date, a total of 38 individuals have been baptized by the women’s ministries workers in Southeastern.

The Southeastern Women’s Ministries

Department is on the move, and invite others to join the movement, because the best is yet to come! 📌

BY VANESSA TAYLOR AND MITHRA WILLIAMS

AHU Donor Jean Riley Leaves Legacy of Love, Generosity

Since 2013, the AdventHealth University (AHU) Joseph L. Riley, M.D., scholarship has provided financial support to caring, altruistic, and service-oriented students in the nurse anesthesia program. The scholarship was established by Jean Riley, longtime friend and donor to AHU, who embodied a lifetime of nurturing and faith.

After several months of illness, Jean Riley passed away on Thanksgiving morning, November 2019. Her legacy of fostering student growth began in memory of her late husband, Joseph Riley.

The Rileys married at the end of their freshmen year at Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in Berrien Springs, Mich. Upon earning his pre-med degree, Joseph Riley was accepted to Loma Linda University School of Medicine, graduating in 1954. Soon after, he established a practice so that the young couple could settle down in a house with their burgeoning family.

After 14 years of family practice, Joseph Riley wanted a change, and decided to seek specialization in anesthesiology. Seeking a warmer climate, he applied and was accepted to the University of Florida's two-year nurse anesthesia program as a resident at Shands Hospital. Three years later, he was invited by administration from Florida Hospital (now AdventHealth) to lead their Nurse Anesthesia Department as they were introducing an open-heart surgery program.

The family, now including three children, moved to Orlando, Fla. The couple was active in the Adventist community, and part of the founding members of the Markham Woods Church. Riley worked tirelessly in his role at AdventHealth for



Jean Riley (center) poses with volunteers at the AHU Food Pantry.

18 years until he retired in 1989. His group grew into a corporation, and upon his retirement the company was named in recognition of his influence in the central Florida anesthesiology community.

In 2010, Jean Riley lost her husband to illness after 62 years of marriage. To honor her husband's influence, she established the scholarship in his name, choosing AHU as the recipient for her generous donation. The University's connection to the place her husband dedicated much of his professional life to seemed the right place for the scholarship.

Riley said about her husband, "He loved his work, and ... gave his life for [Florida Hospital], and I am so proud to honor him in this way." The scholarship recognizes Joseph Riley's lasting contributions to the practice of nurse anesthesia in the Orlando community.

Allison Frederick, 2019 recipient of the scholarship, said of Jean Riley, "The generosity and caring attributes that she possessed literally brought tears to my eyes when I accepted the scholarship. She and her family's generosity made a tremendous impact on my entire family ... I am blessed to have met her."

In addition to the scholarship, Jean Riley became a devoted benefactor for AHU in other ways. AHU has a food pantry which exists to help students facing financial difficulties. When she learned of the student pantry, she was reminded of the struggles she had faced early in her life as a college student. She frequently donated carloads of nutritious, vegan foods to the AHU student food pantry to make sure it was well-stocked for students who needed it. "She never wanted students to go hungry," said Carol Bradfield, director of grants, alumni, and philanthropy at AHU, "Jean's kindness will be remembered by the many students whose lives she impacted through her charitable spirit."

Riley was one of many people who support AHU's food pantry and its scholarships. According to AHU's 2018 president's report, gifts made it possible to award almost \$300,000 worth of scholarships to 105 students. "Our students are blessed with generous donations from many contributors, including AHU employees, who share resources to advance our mission and enhance our learning community," said Bradfield.

The gift of education is truly one that continues to give. When she wrote about establishing the scholarship, Jean Riley credited a physician who helped fund her husband's medical education decades earlier. Joseph Riley used that gift to bring healing to his patients and, eventually, to an entire community through his work. Jean Riley continued, as do hundreds of AHU donors, that tradition of giving to advance AHU's mission to develop skilled professionals who live the healing values of Christ. 🕊

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Diverse Student Body Enriches Southern Experience

Over the past several years, the Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tenn., student body has grown increasingly diverse. In 2019, Southern was recognized as the most diverse university in the Southern region by *U.S. News* and *World Report*.

In addition to having no ethnic majority, students come from nearly every state, as well as from 43 countries. In fact, the 2019-2020 school year marks a record enrollment of international students at Southern, with 145 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled from other countries. The four nations with the most representatives at Southern are Bermuda, Canada, Kenya, and South Korea.

Sheryl Kambuni, junior psychology and business administration double major, traveled halfway around the world to attend Southern.

“Back home in Kenya, we don’t really have a lot of psychologists, but there’s a big need for mental health care that is not being met by anybody because nobody really believes in psychologists,” Kambuni said. “I decided to come study psychology, along with business, at Southern so I can take it back home and help people.”

She was grateful for Southern’s help in figuring out all of the logistics associated with being an international student, such as securing her United States visa, but she found that the caring attitude didn’t end there. The University’s Student Success Center — which offers helpful resources to all students — provides specialized support and programming to assist international students as they integrate into this new culture. This includes a customized orientation;



outings to explore downtown Chattanooga, Tenn.; meals at local restaurants; and fun activities, such as breaking out of an escape room together.

They also have the opportunity to join students from across campus to participate in a broad range of cultural worship experiences on or near the University — SuCasa Spanish-American Church, the Korean Church, the Merge multicultural service, and a Chinese church service, to name a few.

With a tradition of celebrating other cultures, Southern is also home to a variety of cultural clubs, including the Latin American Club, Black Christian Union, and Asian Club, as well as niche organizations such as the Oceania Islander Club and the African Student Union. Open to any student, these groups not only provide a community for international students and those represented by the names of the clubs, but they also introduce others on campus to the beauty, cuisines, and richness of other cultures.

Arleny Weddle, international admissions adviser, recognizes that while students from other countries may come to

Southern to benefit from the academics and spiritual environment, the campus actually benefits even more from their diverse worldviews and perspectives.

“It brings a whole different level of diversity,” Weddle said. “We could be diverse with just our students from the United States, but our international students bring their cultures and languages. I think they bring some extra fun to our campus, too.”

When it comes to serving a diverse student population, Southern’s goals are to empower effective leaders for local as well as global societies. When looking at things from a larger perspective, Stephanie Guster, senior adviser to the president for diversity, believes the presence of foreign students only further emphasizes the biblical foundations of Southern’s mission.

“International students are an incredible gift to our campus,” Guster said. “They are a reminder of how diverse the body of Christ is and that He desires us to live, to worship, to serve, and to grow together in harmony.”

BY TIERRA HAYES

PHOTO CAPTION CORRECTION

Additional information is included for the Southern Adventist University news article photo caption at the top of page 35 in the November 2019 *Southern Tidings*: Executive producer Je-Anne Berry (left) and journalist Hank Klibanoff (center), who was the host of the winning podcast, stand with David Barasoain, who received a Peabody for his work on the podcast “Buried Truth.”



Let Us Help People Find Your Church

THE SOUTHERN UNION CHURCH IDENTIFICATION SERVICE WILL HELP
PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS LOCATE YOUR CHURCH OR SCHOOL.



TYPES OF SIGNS AND MATS

- Highway Directional Signs - Helps others locate your church.
- Marquee Signs - Helps to identify your church.

LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE

Wholesale prices to Southern Union churches.
You cannot beat our prices!

FREE SERVICES TO HELP YOUR CHURCH

Sign Location - Assist with permits for signs to be erected.

Sign selection - Help determine which signs will work best in your locale.

Sign Maintenance - Upon request, the Sign Engineer will replace poles, vandalized or faded signs at cost to the church.

CALL 770-408-1800, X130 FOR FREE ESTIMATES

SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE CHURCH IDENTIFICATION SERVICE
302 RESEARCH DRIVE PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA 30092

TAKE THE LEAD IN THE FIELD OF NURSING

Graduate Nursing at Southern Adventist University



Master of Science in Nursing

Enjoy the confidence, respect, and career opportunities that come with an MSN degree.

- Classes meet one day each week, so you can manage work and other responsibilities. Full- and part-time options allow for a personalized study plan.
- Choose from an MSN, accelerated RN to MSN, a post-master's certificate, or dual MSN/MBA degree and a variety of NP or other emphases.

Doctor of Nursing Practice

The DNP is designed for nurses seeking a terminal degree in nursing practice and offers an alternative to a research-focused doctorate.

- Campus programs meet one day each week; some programs are available fully online. Scheduling is flexible.
- Choose from BS to DNP or Post-master's DNP programs (single or dual emphases), NP certification tracks, nursing education, administration, and lifestyle medicine options.



1.800.SOUTHERN • southern.edu/DNP

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ADVERTISING

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

RATES: Southern Union: \$40 for 20 words or less, including address. \$45 for anything longer than 20 words up to 45 words. \$1.30 per word beyond 45. Accepted as space is available. Ads may run in successive months as space permits.

Southern Tidings makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertising, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns, or for typographical errors.

PROPERTY AVAILABLE

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

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

FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT independent living is owned by the Florida Conference and is right here in the Central Florida area. Sunny beaches, golf courses, the best medical care and shopping are all close by. Renovations and upgrades are constant in our units. The 13.5 acres of property are well maintained and give you the open, country style of living. Call Nancy today: 407-862-2646. You will be glad you did! [2, 3]

ENJOY WORRY-FREE RETIREMENT at Fletcher Park Inn on the Fletcher Academy campus near Hendersonville, NC. Spacious apartments available

now. Ask about our limited rental units and villa homes. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our vegetarian buffet when you tour. Call Lisa at 1-800-249-2882 or 828-209-6935 or visit www.fletcherparkinn.com [2-7]

COLLEGEDALE AREA - Pikeville dream homesite awaits! 5 acres of mountain top views \$140,000, also non-view wooded lot nearby for family to build: 10 acres \$50,000. 5 minutes to SAU, new home on Silver Stone with 2600+ square feet for \$377,000. DixonTeam.com, Keller Williams office: 423-664-1800, call the Wendy Dixon Team for info: 423-702-2000. [2]

YOUR GO TO REALTORS in the Collegedale and Chattanooga, TN area - Daniel and David Bissell, 423-505-4764 or 423-284-6945. "Helping people get from where they are to where they want to be." www.intouchrealtors.com [2]

TN/GA REALTOR - Buying or selling a home in the Chattanooga, North Georgia or surrounding areas? Howard Karst, Realty Specialists, Ooltewah is your best partner for experienced professional service. 301-332-8471, tsrak@msn.com. [2]

BROW LOT overlooking Savage Gulf State Natural Area in gated wildlife sanctuary community in middle Tennessee. 10.66 level wooded acres on cul-de-sac. Beautiful, quiet and private. Modest CCR and low annual HOA. \$189,000. Contact 423-432-1001 or drlmd@juno.com [2, 3]

SDA REALTOR IN FLORIDA - Searching to buy or sell in the Orlando area or anywhere in the U.S.? I look forward to helping you! Sandra Da Silva, Realtor: 407-840-8500 (call/text). Service provided in English & Spanish. [2-7]

BUSINESS INCOME AND RESIDENCE: Hendersonville, NC. Beautiful mountain setting, 2300' elevation, two small lakes, 14 rental cottages on 20 acres. Currently used as vacation rentals but has potential for lifestyle ministry, family compound or spiritual retreat center. \$1.5mil. Call 828-767-9094. [2-3]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking qualified candidates for the following positions: **Teaching Faculty-English** and **Teaching Faculty-Physics and Engineering**. For full description and qualifications please visit: southern.edu/jobs [2]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a **full-time faculty member for the School of Computing**. The ideal candidate will have an earned doctorate in computer science, information technology, information systems, or a related area. Qualified candidate would teach graduate and undergraduate courses, develop course materials, advise students academically, serve on university committees, and perform other duties expected of full-time faculty. For a full job description and desired qualifications please visit: southern.edu/jobs [2]

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is seeking a full time **Mens/Womens Soccer Coach**. Major duties include management of all operations for soccer intercollegiate teams, provision of leadership and direction to support student athlete success, familiarity with NAIA governing rules. Must also have willingness to

travel for competitions & recruiting, & work with NAIA and California Pacific Conference. Bachelor's degree required; Master's degree preferred. *For more information or to apply, please call Human Resources at 707-965-6231 or visit our website at <https://www.puc.edu/campus-services/human-resources/current-job-postings/head-soccer-coach,-mens-and-womens> [2]*

UNION COLLEGE seeks committed SDA candidate for tenure track **faculty position in instrumental music** beginning June 2020. Responsibilities include overseeing instrumental program, directing instrumental groups, advising undergraduate music majors, and teaching undergraduate courses and instrumental lessons. Masters degree in music required, doctoral degree preferred. *Complete application at <https://ucollege.edu/employment/> and upload cover letter and resume/CV, and provide 3 references. For further information, email Bruce Forbes, chair, Division of Fine Arts bruce.forbes@ucollege.edu. [2]*

LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST needed for the ProHealth Wellness Center at the Hulsey Wellness Center. Flexible schedule, good salary, friendly environment. New graduates welcomed, no experience required, willing to train. Part time and full time positions available. *Email resume to dkch7@yahoo.com or call us at 706-625-3585. [2-6]*

MCKEE FOODS CORPORATION, best known for Little Debbie® snack cakes, seeks **Director of Shareholder Engagement**. The family-owned company is headquartered in Collegedale, Tennessee. This role acts as a liaison between the family shareholders and the company to nurture relationships, achieve alignment and further business growth. The ideal candidate will have

experience in one or more of the following areas: family shareholder relations, trust management, wealth advisement, legal management, estate planning, insurance planning, or lease management. Bachelor's degree is required, graduate degree is preferred. *Full job description: www.mckeefoods.com/careers. [2]*

DENTIST NEEDED - This is a fantastic opportunity, part-time or full-time, for private practice associateships in Centerville or Lawrenceburg, TN. Provide high level/modern care, enjoy rural TN and make a great income. Visit us at www.wellnessfamilydentistry.com. *Contact Erik Andersson at anderssonabe@hotmail.com [2-4]*

MISCELLANEOUS

RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the best! *Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist [2-12]*

AUTHORS OF COOKBOOKS, HEALTH BOOKS, CHILDREN'S CHAPTER AND PICTURE BOOKS, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. *Find our new titles at your local ABC or www.TeachServices.com, used SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com [2-4]*

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

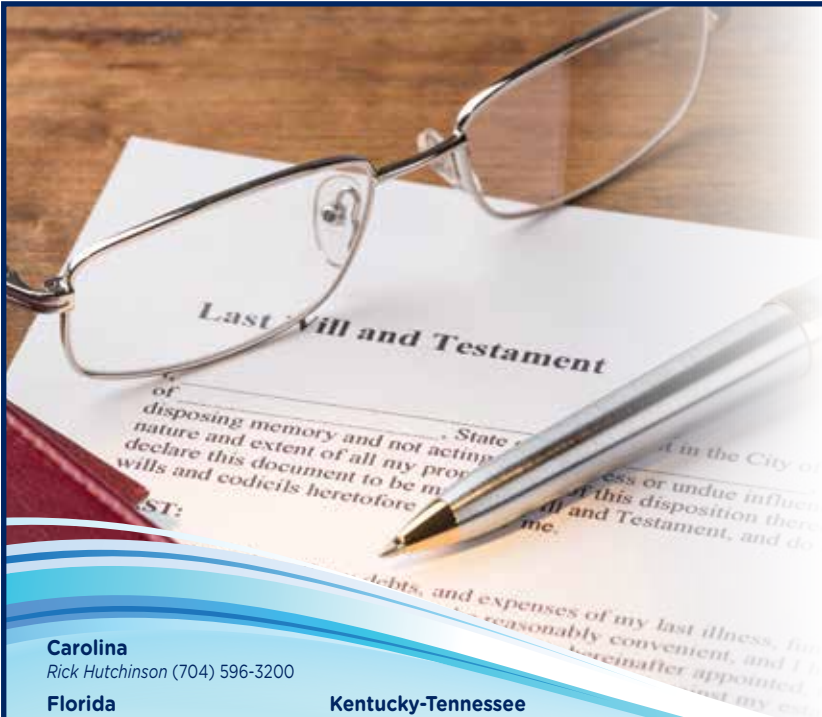
WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in biology; cinema, religion, and worldview; education (including special education); and social work. Flexible completion times and in-person, hybrid, and fully-online formats may be available. Financial aid may be available. *For more information call 509-527-2290 or visit wallawalla.edu/grad-studies [2-6]*

SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? Meet compatible SDA's from USA ages 18-98. Each provides: birthday, marital status, race, occupation, interests, goals, year baptized, lots more! Safe, confidential, effective, fun! *For information, application and current catalog, send \$30 to: SDA Pen-Pals, PO Box 734, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. [2]*

EGYPT TOUR: December 28, 2020 - January 6, 2021 with Dr. Carl Cosaert of Walla Walla University. Discover the Pyramids ,the Valley of the Kings, the Exodus, a Nile cruise and much more. Wonderful weather, meals and accommodations \$2,565 plus airfare. *For information contact info@adventtours.org [2-6]*

ATLANTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY offers excellent Adventist education locally (Atlanta, GA) as well as virtually through our live online program for homeschoolers and distance campuses. *To enroll your student, become a partner campus or receive more information, call 404-699-1400 or visit aaa.edu/admissions. [2-4]*

WORKING WITH AN ARCHITECT on intentionally designing an expansion to a small, private older adult living environment. Quiet farm-country setting bordering a state park. Relationships, community, wellness and service valued. SDA communities nearby. Interest and design thoughts welcome. *Olderadultliving@gmail.com [2, 3]*



Continuing the Legacy

Jean loved the Lord and she loved her Church. She had been blessed financially and wanted to make sure her legacy of support continued until the Lord returned. She decided to leave her estate to an endowment created by her Last Will and Testament.

Jean has been gone for several years now and the proceeds from her endowment are carefully dispersed to projects that are deemed most life impacting. That's a win-win for everyone.

▶ Please contact your Panned Giving and Trust Services Department today to see how your legacy of love can continue until the Lord returns.



SUSDAGift.org

Carolina
Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200

Florida
Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland
Ray Hartwell (706) 629-7951

Gulf States
David Sigamani (334) 272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee
Silke Hubbard (615) 859-1391

Oakwood University
Lewis Jones (256) 726-7000

South Atlantic
Merkita Mosely (404) 792-0535

South Central
Sonja Crayton (615) 226-6500

Southeastern
Juan Gonzalez (352) 735-3142

Southern Adventist University
Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818

YOUR NEWS

Anywhere.
Anytime.



WWW.SOUTHERNTIDINGS.COM



ADVENTIST
WORLD RADIO®

AWR
ANNUAL OFFERING

MARCH 14, 2020

Write "AWR" on the offering line
of your tithe envelope so lives like
Wisam's can be transformed!

"NO MAN DID THIS!"

Wisam's story bears evidence to
God's miraculous intervention.

Wisam belonged to a powerful Muslim family.

When he converted to Adventism, they tried to stone him to death. Years later, when he returned to his hometown as a pastor, a hostile mob of relatives confronted him. One of his cousins grabbed a butcher knife and lunged at Wisam in a murderous rage. Miraculously, the knife bent, tearing his shirt twice as the blade entered and exited the garment without touching him. The astonished mob fled in fear and the news of the miracle spread far and wide. But that's not the end of the story! Watch our video to find out what happened next—and learn how through AWR360°, God is doing things far beyond our imagination! **See it here: awr.org/wisam**



📞 1-800-337-4297

🌐 awr.org

📘 [/awr360](https://www.facebook.com/awr360)

📷 [@awr360](https://www.instagram.com/awr360)

🐦 [@awr360](https://twitter.com/awr360)

📺 awr.org/videos

12501 OLD COLUMBIA PIKE
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20904 USA



NO WALLS. NO BORDERS. NO LIMITS.

CAROLINA

EVANGELISM IMPACT - Feb. 6-9. Myrtle Beach, SC.
ROMANCE @ THE RANCH - Feb. 14-16. NPR.
HISPANIC ROMANCE @ THE RANCH - Feb. 21-23. NPR.
VBS WORKSHOP - Feb. 23. Carolina Conference Office.
ALIVE YOUTH RALLY - March 7. Spartanburg, SC.
MPA SPRING BREAK / MISSION TRIP - March 12-22.
PATHFINDER WORK-BEE CAMPOUT - March 13-15. NPR.
HISPANIC CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP - March 15. 10 a.m. Charlotte Spanish Church.
COMMUNITY SERVICES RETREAT - March 20-22. NPR.
RE-GENERATE! CAROLINA SEEDS CONFERENCE - March 20, 21. Hendersonville.
COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD MEETING - March 21, 22. NPR.
ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL RETREAT - March 27-29. NPR.

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE - floridaconference.com/events
A BETTER CHOICE / FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER - Altamonte Springs: 407-644-4255. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: floridaconference.com/abc or order by email: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com.
FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER EXPRESS DELIVERY SCHEDULE - Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a scheduled location. Orders must be made by phone or e-mail before noon on the Thursday prior to a scheduled Sunday delivery.
 Feb. 9. East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, Port Charlotte.
 Feb. 15. Florida Keys Camp Meeting at Big Pine Key.
 Feb. 23. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)
 March 1. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami

Springs, Maranatha in Miami Gardens, Sunrise, Mid-port.

MICHIGAN BOARDING ACADEMY FLORIDA CHAPTER ALUMNI LUNCH GATHERING - March 7. 1 p.m. Florida Living Retirement Community Dining Hall, 600 Edgehill Place, Apopka. Hosted by Great Lakes Adventist Academy for alumni also from Adelpian, Cedar Lake, and Grand Ledge. De-tails/RSVP: tmorgan@glaa.net or 586-770-7603.

MEN'S MINISTRIES CONVENTION - March 13-15. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212th Ave., High Springs. Theme: Ready for Take-off. Cost: depends on accommodation and meal choice. Featured speaker: Robert Stevenson. Registration: campkulaqua.com.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

PATHFINDER TEEN EVENT - Feb. 14-16. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

"POWER FROM ABOVE" PRAYER CONFERENCE - Feb. 14-16. The speakers will be Derek and Bodil Morris. Derek is president of Hope Channel and Bodil is a nurse practitioner. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA

HISPANIC CHURCH TREASURER TRAINING SEMINAR - Feb. 16. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN.

Hispanic Couples Retreat - Feb. 21-23.

PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE (PBE)/ CONFERENCE LEVEL EVENT - Feb. 22. Pathfinders memorize Scripture and are tested on their knowledge. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR HEALTH AND PERSONAL MINISTRIES LEADERS - Feb. 22. 3-6 p.m. Ooltewah Church, TN.

CRAVE ACF RETREAT - Feb. 28-March 1. CRAVE will explore who we are as human beings and be presented by Adventist Christian Fellowship students. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

HEALTH RALLY - Feb. 29. 2-5 p.m. Battlefield Community Church, GA.

REGENERATE (YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT FESTIVAL) - March 7.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR HEALTH AND PERSONAL MINISTRIES LEAD-

ERS - March 7. 3-6 p.m. Macon Church, GA.

HEALTH RALLY - March 14. 2-5 p.m. Lakeview Church, GA.

HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT - March 20-22. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

PATHFINDER PRECISION DRILL TEAM DAY - March 22.

Register for events on the conference website, www.gccsda.com.

GULF STATES

ADVENTURER FAMILY FUN DAY - Feb. 16. Camp Alamisco. This is a day of fun for the whole family! Activities, learning about Jesus, games, and a parade! www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events.

BATTLESHIP LOCK IN - Feb. 29, Mobile, AL. Boys only, ages 10 and up! Spend one night on the USS Alabama. www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events.

TEEN INVITATIONAL: BACKPACKING - March 6-8. www.gscsda.org/youth-ministry-events.

BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - March 27-29. www.gscsda.org/events.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

EVANGELISM BOOT CAMP - Feb. 7-9. Indian Creek Camp.

"REGENERATE" EVENT - Feb. 14, 15. Boulevard Church, Nashville, TN.

7UP CAMPOUT - Feb. 14-16. Indian Creek Camp.

HISPANIC PASTORS'/ELDERS' RETREAT - Feb. 21-23. Indian Creek Camp.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD - Feb. 27. Highland Academy.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES CERTIFICATION/VBX TRAINING - Feb. 28, 29. Highland Academy.

MUSIC FESTIVAL - March 5-7. Highland Academy.

EASTERN KENTUCKY CAMP MEETING - March 13, 14. Prestonsburg, KY.

MEMPHIS FESTIVAL OF FAITH - March 27, 28. Memphis, TN.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - April 7. Conference Office.

BOARD OF EDUCATION - April 9. Conference Office.

HISPANIC PATHFINDER DISTRICT CAMPOUT - April 9-12. Paradise Ranch.

PASTORS'/ELDERS' MEETING/SEEDS CONFERENCE - April 17-19. Indian Creek Camp.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER RETREAT - April 19. Paradise Ranch.

HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD - April 23. Highland Academy.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT - April 24-26. Indian Creek Camp.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MUSIC POPS CONCERT - Feb. 15. Southern's Wind Symphony, Jazz Ensemble, Steel Drum Ensemble, and Ringtones handbell choir will perform in concert at 8 p.m. in Ackerman Auditorium. Admission is free. For more information, visit southern.edu/musicevents or contact 423-236-2880.

PREVIEW SOUTHERN - Feb. 17. 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.

SOUTHERN 6 TRAIL RACE - Feb. 23. Come participate in the 10th annual 6K run through wooded trails on Southern's campus, open to anyone age 10 and older. For free registration, visit the Adventure Programs page at southern.edu/outdoor.

I CANTORI CONCERT - March 1. With Genevieve Brown-Kibble conducting, Southern's I Cantori vocal ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. in Ackerman Auditorium. Admission is free. For more information, visit southern.edu/musicevents or contact 423-236-2880.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MICHIGAN BOARDING ACADEMY ALUMNI - March 7. Please join us for a lunch hosted by Great Lakes Adventist Academy at the Florida Living Retirement Community Dining Hall in Apopka, FL. Enjoy food and fellowship with your fellow alumni from Adelpian, Cedar Lake, and Grand Ledge. Details: Call Tracy Morgan at 989-427-2460.

ELIM CHURCH CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY - March 27, 28. All are invited to this very special once

in a century event. Please, clear your calendar of any scheduling assigned for this time; Save the Date!!! You would be doing yourself and us a disservice by not being here. The address is: 4824 Second Avenue South, Sunshine City, St. Petersburg, FL 33711. Call: 727-350-3531 / www.elimfl.adventistchurch.org. The Friday evening service will start at 7:15 p.m. Sabbath School-9:15 a.m. Divine Worship Service-11 a.m. Guest speaker: U.S. Senate Chaplain Dr. Barry C. Black. Enjoy a sumptuous fellowship dinner, we would not be comfortable having you to attend the concert Sabbath afternoon/evening on an empty stomach. It would be our pleasure to have you presented during this august occasion.

UNION COLLEGE HOMECOMING - April 2-5. Honor classes are 1950, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1980, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2010. For more information, contact the alumni office at 401-486-2503, 3800 S. 48th St., Lincoln, NE 68506, or alumni@ucollege.edu.

ENTERPRISE/GREAT PLAINS ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - April 10, 11. Enterprise SDA Church, Enterprise, KS. Honor classes graduating years ending with 5s and 0s. For more in-

formation, email: ea.gpa.alumni@hotmail.com or check the school's website: ea-gpa-alumni.com.

SINGLES WILL BE HAVING THEIR ANNUAL SPRING RETREAT - April 17-19. At Fall Creek Falls, TN, State Park. Details: Contact Single Ministries at southerninglesministries@gmail.com.

"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION - JUNE 5-7. For alumni and schoolmates of 1970 and earlier at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, MI. Honor classes: 1940, 1950, 1960, 1970. Details will be sent by mail. You may contact GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181 or http://www.glaa.net.

IT IS WRITTEN CHILDREN'S APP - It Is Written's "My Place With Jesus" is excited to introduce a brand new mobile app designed to help children learn about Jesus and the Bible in a fun, interactive way. Players can customize their character, enjoy fun Bible lessons, hang out in the tree house with friends, earn badges for their backpacks, gather collectibles that unlock fun mini-games, and so much more! Explore a world of fun and learning with "My Place With Jesus!" Download it for free now. Available for both Android and iOS devices.

	FEB 7	FEB 14	FEB 21	FEB 28	MAR 6	MAR 13
ATLANTA, GA	6:14	6:21	6:27	6:33	6:39	7:44
CHARLESTON, SC	5:58	6:04	6:10	6:16	6:21	7:27
CHARLOTTE, NC	5:58	6:04	6:11	6:18	6:24	7:30
COLLEGE DALE, TN	6:15	6:22	6:28	6:35	6:41	7:47
HUNTSVILLE, AL	5:21	5:28	5:35	5:41	5:47	6:53
JACKSON, MS	5:39	5:46	5:52	5:57	6:03	7:08
LOUISVILLE, KY	6:12	6:20	6:28	6:35	6:42	7:49
MEMPHIS, TN	5:35	5:41	5:48	5:55	6:01	7:07
MIAMI, FL	6:08	6:13	6:18	6:22	6:25	7:29
MONTGOMERY, AL	5:24	5:30	5:36	5:42	5:47	6:52
NASHVILLE, TN	5:20	5:27	5:34	5:41	5:47	6:53
ORLANDO, FL	6:09	6:15	6:20	6:24	6:29	7:33
TAMPA, FL	6:15	6:20	6:25	6:29	6:33	7:37
WILMINGTON, NC	5:47	5:54	6:01	6:07	6:13	7:18

SEE FOR YOURSELF

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

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

See Southern for yourself.

Upcoming **FREE*** PreviewSouthern events:

February 17, 2020

March 26-27, 2020

April 24-25, 2020

**Includes free meals and lodging for students interested in attending Southern. Student families are encouraged to visit, too.*



Collegedale, TN



To arrange your visit, call 1.800.SOUTHERN
or go to southern.edu/visit.