

T Southern TIDINGS

MAY 2021



BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

NURSING AND THE
WHOLE PERSON

MARANATHA COMPLETES THIRD
RENOVATION PROJECT AT CAMP KULAQUA

PROMOTING
HEALTH BEYOND
OUR CAMPUS

The Invitation



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

“He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day,” John 1:39.

In writing his Gospel, John quickly gathers an aura of mystery and divine purpose about Jesus. He declares Jesus to be the eternal Word who became flesh and dwelt among us.

Then he adds the prophetic figure, John the Baptist. We hear John describe Jesus as the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.

Then suddenly we are with the ordinary humdrum of life. Or are we? It seems a simple enough question as Andrew and John asked it: “Where do you live?” And a simple enough answer as Jesus replied, “Come and see.” But, John has purposes behind what he writes.

Jesus first asks, “What seek ye?” A few moments later He says, “Come and see.” John chose these words carefully. They give us his motive for writing the Gospel. The Gospel of John puts Jesus on display. It explores His origins, records His teachings, and documents His actions. Look, says John, this is Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world.

In recording Jesus’ teaching, John paid special attention to what Jesus said of Himself. “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” The whole purpose of John’s Gospel is to reveal who Jesus is.

Andrew and His friend went home with Jesus and spent the day with Him. Where was He staying? We do not know. What we know is that their visit made a great impression on the pair. They began to witness about Jesus. In the other Gospels, we wait many months before Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah. In the Gospel of John, Andrew perceived Jesus to be the Messiah after just a few hours.

John filled his Gospel with Jesus so that we might witness of Him. What Jesus said in invitation becomes the invitation of all His disciples. In his witness to Nathanael, Phillip used Jesus’ words, “Come and see.”

Faith cannot be taught by logic or scientific reasoning. John the evangelist knew that. Further on in his Gospel he calls all to “behold the Man.” Faith comes from seeing Jesus, knowing what He is, what He does, how He can help. How better could He welcome us than to say, “Come and see”?

“It is through Christ, by the ministration of His heavenly messengers, that every blessing comes from God to us,” *The Desire of Ages*, p. 143.

Men, women, boys, and girls who once were a part of the Christian fraternity of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, who have meandered away from us, are prime candidates for the invitation.

Can you conceive circumstances that could foster the extension of the invitation to a missing brother or sister to “come and see”?

Are we not all, this day, prodigals asked to come to our senses? Every day, even the most holy of us waste the inheritance of faith and sins against the Father. Only as we know ourselves as we truly are and come each day for the embrace of love and the Father’s gifts, can we be His obeying children. Accepting His invitation, returning to Him, and experiencing such a reunion yields the greatest of Love Feasts. -RCS



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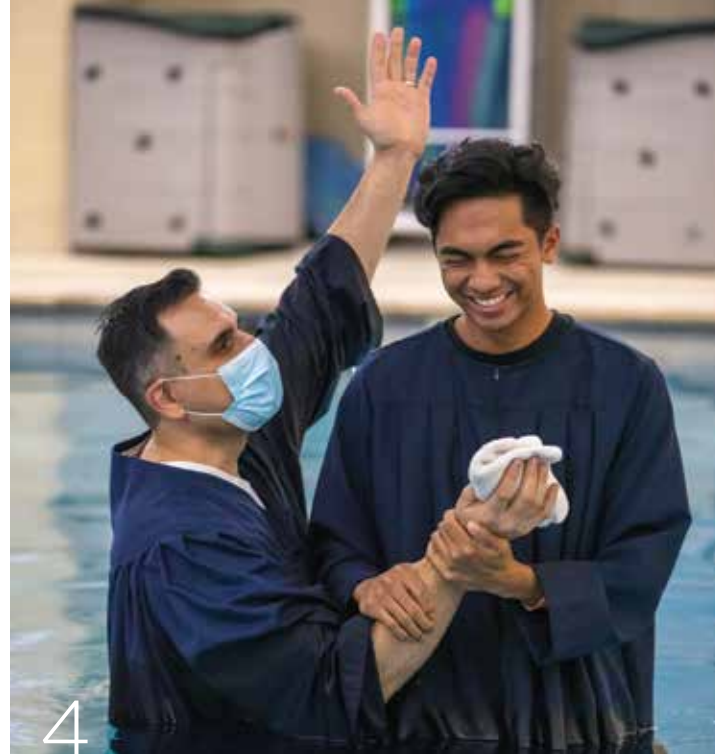
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COVER PHOTO:

Addison Garcia (right), senior nursing major, is one of many students who have committed their lives to Jesus while at Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tennessee.



BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

BY ANGELA BAERG

Raising young adults has always been hard work, but in an age of global pandemics and incessant social media, the process is more challenging than ever. Parents find themselves working extra hard to help their children make wise choices now and for eternity. Although there are no easy solutions, Adventist education can provide a safety net for students at all levels of learning as they make their way along the precarious tightrope of growing up in this era.

Phil Wilhelm, principal of Fletcher Academy in Fletcher, North Carolina, compares raising a child to nurturing a delicate plant. For example, if you put a young plant directly out into the elements, conditions can shock the plant, sometimes killing the root system outright.

“As Adventist educators, our goal is to protect students until they develop a solid root base of knowledge, understanding, and love in Christ,” explains Wilhelm, a 1997 graduate of Southern Adventist University. “That way, when they are older, they will be more prepared to handle attacks of the enemy.”

Eternal Connections

Attending an Adventist school provides many ways for students to naturally connect with Jesus. Classroom worships and prayers provide frequent opportunities for students to refocus on what is truly important in the midst of busy days. Krystal Bishop, Ed.D., a 1975 graduate and professor in Southern’s School of Education and Psychology, models this for her teachers-in-training, prayerfully planning daily

devotionals to share with her students, and looking for meaningful spiritual connections in every topic she teaches.

For Robby Raney, a 2016 Southern graduate, every subject is a goldmine for discussing his faith with his students. Currently a teacher at Jellico Christian Academy in Jellico, Tennessee, Raney loves being able to dive into Bible stories with his students, and explore the deep history of sacred music that was written to honor and glorify God. One of his favorite memories from his time at Southern was when the late Jan Haluska, Ph.D., professor, showed him how he could minister to others even through secular literature.

“Dr. Haluska taught me that you can use something like Beowulf to teach the Gospel to someone who will never crack a Bible,” Raney remembers. “Our ultimate mission as Adventist educators is that, wherever we are or whatever we’re teaching, we need to be working toward our end goal: being with our students under the Tree of Life at a grand old potluck in Heaven.”

A Place to Belong

In a confusing world filled with conflicting messages, Adventist schools can be a safe place where young people are able to find a sense of belonging. Wilhelm still remembers when he switched from attending public school to Bass Memorial Academy in Lumberton, Mississippi, and discovered he would no longer have to choose between keeping the Sabbath and having a social life with his classmates. He had missed out on many events before and

“My teachers genuinely cared about me and did all they could to assist me during my time at Southern.”

Rachel Myers

was happy to finally be part of student life without sacrificing his beliefs.

Additionally, because they are typically smaller than public institutions, schools in the Adventist educational system can offer a family environment where every student matters. This allows teachers to meet the learning needs of individual students and help them feel valued. Young people also have the opportunity to make lasting friendships with like-minded individuals. Rachel Myers found that experience at Southern, describing her professors and classmates as becoming like family to her.

“My teachers genuinely cared about me and did all they could to assist me during my time at Southern,” she remembers. “Even now that I’ve graduated, they still listen to me, advise me, and help me however they can.”



Addison Garcia (right), senior nursing major, is one of many students who have committed their lives to Jesus while at Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tennessee.



Attending Adventist schools completely changed Beatrice Ngugi's life.



A Christ-centered education prepares young people not just for their careers but for eternity.

Myers, a 2017 graduate, particularly appreciated the many opportunities she had at the University to be involved in student ministries, including spending a year abroad as a student missionary to the Marshall Islands. There she discovered her true calling: teaching. Upon returning to campus, her professors aided in coordinating the rest of her classes so that she could graduate on time. They even offered independent studies when the courses she needed didn't fit into her schedule. Myers now teaches at Forest Lake Education Center in Apopka, Florida.

Forever Grateful

As an indifferent teenager, sitting through required worship at Maxwell Adventist Academy in Kenya was not Beatrice Ngugi's idea of fun. Eventually, however, her idle curiosity blossomed into a desire to have a more personal relationship with God. She was on the fence about where to attend college until one day when she had an inspiring Skype conversation with a friend.

"She told me about Southern and how everyone there was so in love with God," Ngugi remembers. "She said she had never seen so many outdoor Bible stud-



For Fletcher Academy principal and Southern alum Phil Wilhelm (left), helping young people grow in Christ is extremely rewarding.

PANDEMIC INSPIRES INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES



Universally, educators have faced extreme challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. For many, an abrupt change to virtual learning pushed them to new depths of creativity, including those currently training at Southern to become teachers.

Faced with doing his student teaching virtually, Grant Hagen, senior liberal arts education major, looked for new avenues to engage his students. In lieu of in-person interactions, he instructed them to submit lessons and video chat through Google Classroom. He also used the app Nearpod to assess students' understanding. The students loved being able to choose their own avatars and compete on a scoreboard to answer lessons correctly as the lesson progressed.

Given similar circumstances, Casey Goldring, also a senior liberal arts education major, used Google Jamboard to create a virtual whiteboard and explore primary sources with her students, pretending that they had discovered a time



Employees and students regularly gather at Southern’s flagpole to pray together.

ies and so many students praying, and she felt stronger in her faith just from the setting she was in.”

Ngugi completed her bachelor’s degree at Southern in 2019 and stayed on to pursue her master of social work. Along the way, she was baptized, surrounded by her Southern family.

“Here, I feel like I’ve truly found my people,” Ngugi says. “The support I received from classmates and University employees along the way was overwhelming — it still is! I am forever grateful that I chose to go to school in an environment where I could learn from my peers and instructors both professionally and in my spiritual walk.”

Supportive school environments, combined with a loving home and a vibrant church, form a trifecta of faith that gives young adults their greatest opportunity to develop Christian habits and values. As Ellen White said, “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world!” *Education*, p. 271. 📖

Angela Baerg is a Montessori preschool teacher who graduated in 2006 from Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee.



During her year as a student missionary to the Marshall Islands, Rachel Myers discovered her passion for teaching.

capsule. The children were able to make virtual sticky notes with their observations and build a virtual bulletin board together. Even as classes return to in-person learning, both Hagen and Goldring plan to continue incorporating these interactive resources as much as possible.

“Back when I was taking the Technology in Education class, I didn’t realize just how relevant it would be or how soon I would have to implement it,” Goldring says. “The teachers I’ve worked with this year have been so resourceful and tireless in spite of everything. I’m excited to be graduating and joining their ranks soon.”

DID YOU KNOW...? GRADUATES OF ADVENTIST UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES ARE:

- Four times more likely to experience friends who positively influenced their walks with Christ.
- Seven times more likely to develop a deeper personal relationship with Jesus.
- Five times more likely to develop a stronger commitment to their church while in college.
- Seven times more likely to experience friends who attended worship services with them.
- Five times more likely to develop a deeper desire to be involved in their churches.

For more interesting insights on the benefits of Adventist higher education, visit southern.edu/100reasons.

NURSING AND THE WHOLE PERSON

BY SHANNON HILL

The average nurse walks about 16,394 steps a day, according to Healthline. They are on their feet from the moment they arrive on their unit to the moment they end their shift.

In 2020, research results published by Gallup, a global analytics and advice firm, recognized nursing as the most trusted and ethical profession in the United States. Past research results from the same study display a growth in the research responses and not much change in consumer trust in the nursing

profession. Nurses truly are incredible.

“I decided to become a nurse because I found the work challenging and my days were always interesting,” said Trish Celano, AdventHealth’s chief nursing executive. “The start of a 12-hour shift sometimes felt like walking onto the stage of a play that had already started. I was not just walking into a patient’s hospital room, but into their entire lives. It was amazing to me that I could go from not knowing someone, and then within a few minutes be right there in the mid-

dle of their world, which typically was crashing down. I couldn’t help but ask myself, ‘Was there something that patient or family needed that I was going to provide?’”

From the chief nursing executive, to the front-line, bedside nurse, AdventHealth nurses at all levels of the organization step into the lives of those they serve, providing whole-person care in body, mind, and spirit.

Mentoring the Workforce of the Future

Jessica Hubert, medical-surgical nurse at AdventHealth Gordon, was working the night shift at the completion of 12 weeks of orientation. She and another nurse on the floor were finishing their tasks, experiencing things they never encountered during orientation as they sought to provide care to their patients. Hubert said the moment seemed ordinary, but it was in this hospital, AdventHealth Gordon, that she knew she was called to be a nurse.

It’s been four years, and Hubert still remembers the moment where she felt God whisper to her, “This is what I have for you.” As she ponders her past, she said she remembers what it was like to start as a nurse, and knows that she was called to mentor younger nurses in the field.

“There is a girl who is a senior in nursing school, and she is in her clinical rotation right now,” Hubert said. “She was assigned to my floor, and everyone is doing their best to educate and men-



In observance of National Nurses Week in May, nurses at AdventHealth reflect on why they chose to pursue nursing and how their work extends beyond the bedside in an effort to provide whole-person care.

tor her. I feel like it all goes full circle because I was in her shoes once. I want to be an educator in nursing school. There is so much to learn about the nursing world, and graduating nursing school is just the beginning.”

Nursing may be one of the most trusted professions, but with that trust comes great responsibility. Many people look up to nurses, and view them as effective and strong problem solvers when it comes to a crisis or challenging case.

“I feel like with nursing, sometimes we won’t know all the answers, but the important thing is that we show up for our patients and do what we can to help them feel whole,” said Hubert. “More importantly, we must work with the research that we do have to identify the best possible outcomes for our patients.”

Hubert had a patient a few months prior who was very sick but did not know what the problem was. The patient’s clinical tests consistently came back negative, and the staff were perplexed on ideas for next steps as the man’s condition progressed. Even so, he and his wife were appreciative of the nursing staff for their dedication.

“I was overwhelmed by how appreciative the patient and his wife were to our



medical staff. I could see how he desired to take ownership of his own health. When I see patients listen to our advice, it’s one of the most rewarding parts about being a nurse,” said Hubert. “With this situation, consistent consultations with specialists and hospitalists helped us to rule out more serious conditions. Eventually we were able to diagnose the patient and he returned home within a three-week time frame.”

Hubert is strong in her faith, and con-

tinues to compassionately provide care despite the challenges this past year has brought to the health care profession. She stated that her faith and church family have sustained her during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is one way she practices self-care while continuing to provide compassionate care to her patients.

No doubt the past year has been a challenge for nurses and other health professionals across the world. Understanding this, Celano stresses the importance of self-care to all her colleagues at AdventHealth as they carry out the important mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ.

“I practice self-care and encourage nurses at AdventHealth to do the same. Personally, I like taking time with my family and doing things that I enjoy, like reading, cooking, camping, and fishing,” said Celano. “I dedicate daily devotion time which is fundamental to my spiritual and mental health. At AdventHealth, we encourage nurses to prioritize self-care through proper nutrition, rest, and exercise as important components to feel whole.” ●



Shannon Hill is the corporate communications resident at AdventHealth.

MARANATHA COMPLETES THIRD RENOVATION PROJECT AT CAMP KULAQUA

BY JULIE Z. LEE

For the third consecutive year, Maranatha Volunteers International organized a work project at Camp Kulaqua in Florida. This year, January 6-16, volunteers focused on the construction of a 40×60-foot outdoor pavilion which will provide a gathering place for picnics, meetings, and other events. Additionally, the team cut and cleared a dozen trees on the property, cleaned and created horse trails, painted decks, and laid 1,500 feet of water line.

“The reason we keep asking Maranatha to come back is the value they bring to the camp — their work ethic and just the energy that they bring,” says Michael Hopkins, building maintenance director at Camp Kulaqua. “In my line of work, it’s pretty easy to get bogged down with all the different small things that are happening, plus the projects that we try to accomplish. And so, having Maranatha with us, it feels like taking a big leap in those responsibilities and the goals that we’re trying to reach.”

Hopkins first invited Maranatha to Kulaqua in 2018 after hearing a presentation at the Association of Adventist Camp Professionals convention. When he learned that Maranatha offered assistance to churches, schools, camps, and other organizations in North America, Hopkins

arranged a meeting and filled out an application. A few months later, 78 volunteers arrived at the camp ready to work.

“I was just blown away by that first year and the work ethic that people come with. You know, if you’re not



Maranatha volunteers are shown in front of a new 40×60-foot outdoor pavilion being contracted for Camp Kulaqua in Florida. Masks were removed briefly for the photo.

keeping [the volunteers] busy, they start to get frustrated with you, and that’s a good problem to have,” says Hopkins, with a smile.

The group ended up constructing 18 decks on several cabins, painting, making repairs, landscaping, and building 1,300 linear feet of fencing — labor that was valued at more than \$136,000. Since then, having Maranatha at the camp every winter has become a bit of a tradition.

“Now, we’re three years into this, and it feels like friends are coming back each time. I know this event — I think about half the volunteers are returning and then half are new. And it feels a lot more comfortable, like they’re coming and they’re part of the family at this point,” says Hopkins. “So that’s a really neat relationship to have there, and to have the support of an organization that wants to come and invest in us is just a huge benefit.”

Camp Kulaqua is located on 800 acres in High Springs, Florida. Established in 1953, it is the largest summer camp and retreat center in North America and boasts horse trails, a water park,

and even a zoo. Maranatha’s project at Camp Kulaqua is one of many at camps, schools, churches, and other entities in the United States and Canada. ①

Julie Z. Lee is vice president of marketing at Maranatha Volunteers International in Roseville, California.

NORTH AMERICAN PROJECT ASSISTANCE

While the majority of Maranatha’s mission trips take place outside of North America, there is a long history of Maranatha projects within the United States and Canada. To learn more, visit www.maranatha.org.



Michael Hopkins, building maintenance director at Camp Kulaqua, is shown overseeing construction of the new outdoor event pavilion.

Maranatha volunteers follow the call in Ecclesiastes 9:10 which says, “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might...” as they work on projects at Camp Kulaqua.



Decks painted



Prepared to work



Damaged trees cut down

PROMOTING HEALTH BEYOND OUR CAMPUS

BY LISA DALRYMPLE, PH.D.

Oakwood University's, Huntsville, Alabama, campus-wide health initiative, Healthy Campus 2020®, marked its five-year anniversary in the year 2020. As part of "Vision 2020" encompassed by Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood University, and whose vision came to life by Prudence LaBeach Pollard, Ph.D., vice president of quality assurance, research & faculty development, Healthy Campus 2020® achieved its primary goal of making Oakwood University the healthiest campus in America.

This momentous accomplishment was marked by receipt of the 2018 Crystal Apple Award, bestowed by our partner, Partnership for a Healthier America®. During the past five years, we have worked to transform our campus to a

healthier environment for our students, employees, and visitors using a three-prong approach addressing nutrition, physical activity, and campus programs. With Phase 1 completed and now in its maintenance and sustainability stage, Oakwood is looking toward Phase 2, Healthy Campus, Healthy Community, where we intend to promote health beyond our campus, and address the needs of our community members — one neighborhood at a time.

As part of the Phase 2 initiative, our long-awaited Mobile Market was officially launched on February 2, 2021. This initiative is part of an effort to address food insecurity faced by many residents of north Alabama residing in food deserts, and to also combat diet-related health disparities and co-morbidities

which plague so many residents in the deep south, particularly in northwest Huntsville communities.

Through a grant funded by the State of Alabama, and the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA), the initiative "Health in the Deep South: An Effort to Combat Health Disparities and Food Deserts in the Deep South," is designed to take fresh fruits, vegetables, and health education to underserved communities of the deep south via a state-of-the-art, customized traveling Mobile Market and Health Education unit.

It is through our community initiative the following outcomes are now being achieved: (1) providing health and nutrition education, and (2) providing access to healthy, affordable foods to



PHOTO BY: OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY IMPR



Oakwood University held its Mobile Market launch and ribbon cutting on February 2, 2021.

several identified food deserts and underserved communities.

Direct and indirect support of innovative programs such as this is necessary. The Mobile Market is an extension of Oakwood University's Community Health Action Center and Clinic (CHAC), the latest community structure that is currently under construction and scheduled for completion in late Spring 2021. This facility will be the site of many community engagements and activities that will address community needs from health, wellness, and nutrition, to tutoring and fall prevention. The CHAC will allow for continuous efforts to meet the many challenges and health needs facing our communities. Completion of the CHAC will serve dual purposes, including a site for training of our HC2020® Student Health Ambassadors and providing resources to our communities.

The Mobile Market is a creative and innovational concept for transporting healthy foods for the expansion of choices and accessibility to fresh food while addressing food insecurity, which has been exacerbated by the current pandemic. As seen thus far through our

community health initiative, this can be accomplished and will improve the quality of food in areas of food deserts and food swaps. Our goal is to decrease food insecurity for residents that reside in food deserts and those residing in underserved, low-income communities.

Our fully equipped traveling Mobile Market officially launched on February 2, 2021, in north Huntsville, aimed at safely delivering affordable, fresh, pesticide-free, locally grown produce for all on a biweekly schedule. We have successfully partnered with local stakeholders to optimize the success of our community health initiative. Thus far, we have partnered with the offices of Community Action Partnership® of Huntsville, Madison & Limestone Counties, Inc., the American Heart Association®, and the Huntsville Housing Authority. We look forward to expanding our efforts to build partnerships for the continued success of our program, and the opportunities that are ahead.

Oakwood students are an integral part of Oakwood University's mission and standing legacy. Advancement of our students in training and technical skills

“Through our community initiative, it is our intent to lower health risk...and empower residents of our community to make healthier food choices.”

as the next generation of leaders, medical professionals, and missionaries are molded every day. Student Health Ambassadors are trained in Oakwood's eight Principles of Health, STANDOUT®, and will be equipped to provide service locally, nationally, and internationally. Health Ambassadors will take the lead in providing nutrition awareness and health education

to community residents and members, as part of their service-learning activities with the Mobile Market. Students will engage in promoting the consumption of healthy foods through healthy-cooking demonstrations, healthy recipe distribution, and providing resources and education on how to live a healthier life. Health Ambassadors will also conduct educational supermarket health tours for interested community residents, which is intended to (1) assist in informing the most effective way to shop for healthy foods, and (2) inform on how to choose foods that will provide the most nutrients and benefits to their daily diet. Residents will become more familiar with healthier choices available for purchase in their local grocery stores, and on the Mobile Market to promote a healthier lifestyle.

North Alabama consists of Huntsville City, Madison, Morgan, and Limestone counties. Huntsville is a city located in Madison County and extends west into neighboring Limestone County, and south into Morgan County. Huntsville's population is 200,574 according to the latest figure from the U.S. Census Bureau. The average income for Huntsville residents is \$35,634 per year, and approximately 16.8% of the adult population lives below the federal poverty line. The goal of the Mobile Market is to serve low/fixed-income residents and senior citizens by ensuring prices are affordable, and optimizing opportunities for residents who receive public assistance to purchase healthy foods provided by our Mobile Market.

Part of the reason our communities are unhealthy is because they do not have access to healthy food options. Oakwood's vision for the Mobile Market is to bring healthier foods to community residents that are unable to access it. When residents are unable to access fresh fruits and vegetables because they cannot walk, ride, or drive to food sources, we intend to make accessibility easier. Through our community initiative, it is our intent to lower health risk associated with diet, lower incidence of diet-related preventable diseases, and



PHOTO BY: OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY IMPR



PHOTO BY: OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY IMPR

empower residents of our community to make healthier food choices.

Oakwood University's mission is to "Transform students through biblically-based education, for service to God and humanity," and our motto is "Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve." While our students are enrolled at Oakwood University, it is our hope that, through service-learning opportunities such as the Mobile Market, they will have the opportunity to observe the needs of their community and take an active part in

meeting the needs of their fellow man. Romans 12:13 NIV reminds us, "Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." So, let us be God's light in darkness, and be a help to those in need. 🕯

Lisa Dalrymple, Ph.D., is the program director for Healthy Campus 2020 and nutrition and dietetics associate professor at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama.

IT IS WRITTEN CELEBRATES 65 YEARS OF SOUL-WINNING MINISTRY

BY CASSIE MATCHIM HERNANDEZ

John Bradshaw, It Is Written president, held a Facebook Live broadcast on Thursday, March 25, 2021, to mark the 65th anniversary of It Is Written, Collegedale, Tennessee. The first It Is Written television program entered people's homes via television on Sunday, March 25, 1956.

After the Facebook Live broadcast, in which Bradshaw wore a necktie worn by It Is Written founder George Vandeman, It Is Written staff gathered in person at safe distances or by Zoom for a special devotional thought, dedicatory prayer, and light refreshments. During his devotional remarks, Bradshaw reminded the team that every ministry action was weighted with eternal consequences. He mentioned the men and women who started and propelled It Is Written to groundbreaking accomplishments over the years, and challenged the current staff to stay faithful to the goal of seeing souls saved. He closed with a dedicatory prayer asking God to bless the ministry until its work is done and Jesus returns.

Commenting on the anniversary, Bradshaw said, "My expectation is that when Pastor George Vandeman founded It Is Written 65 years ago, he did not anticipate we would still be here 65 years later. We don't want to mark another anniversary 65 years from now. We're looking to see the world reached with the Good News so we can go home!" And It Is Written is working as hard as they can toward that goal, joined by hun-



John and Melissa Bradshaw joined the It Is Written staff to celebrate 65 years of ministry.

dreds of people from around the world who make the ministry possible by their financial support.

"Ninety-eight percent of our funding comes from donors who believe in this work as strongly as we do," Bradshaw continued, "many having given since the days of George Vandeman and continuing faithfully today." In honor of the 65th anniversary, the ministry is offering a special book, *Turning Points*, that shares stories of lives changed through the ministry of It Is Written over the past 65 years. Donors can request a copy with their anniversary gift when they give at itiswritten.com/give65 through the end of April 2021.

From one weekly program filmed in a make-shift television set in a living room, to 10 programs produced in a camera-ready studio in Collegedale, Tennessee, It Is Written has been sharing the Gospel through technology. The first religious television program to air

in color, It Is Written helped to pioneer satellite and virtual evangelism. Still the 10th longest running weekly television series in the country, It Is Written remains dedicated to sharing the Gospel with the world.

Today, It Is Written is more than just television programs. The ministry offers a full-time online television channel, It Is Written TV; an evangelism training school, SALT; a children's ministry, My Place With Jesus; a Spanish-speaking ministry, Escrito Está; a full-service warehouse providing sharing resources; humanitarian work impacting lives in countries around the world; and multiple annual evangelistic initiatives in cities across the globe each year. This year, It Is Written is offering ACTS 20:21, a full-cycle virtual and in-person evangelism program being used by hundreds of churches around the country seeking to reach their communities with the Gospel. 📌

Learn more about It Is Written:

itiswritten.com

My Place With Jesus:

myplacewithjesus.com

SALT: salt.training

Cassie Matchim Hernandez

is the marketing assistant at It Is Written in Collegedale, Tennessee.

AdventHealth, Seminole County Opens Opioid Addiction Treatment Center

In Seminole County, Fla., hard-hit by the opioid epidemic, an innovative treatment center is now offering a path out of addiction for patients struggling with substance abuse.

The Hope & Healing Center, located in Sanford, Fla., is part of a partnership between AdventHealth, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, Seminole County EMS/Fire Rescue, the Board of County Commissioners, and Wal-Mart. Launched in 2019, the partnership is intended to transform the way people struggling with opioid addiction are treated by the health care and criminal justice systems.

"This first-of-its-kind partnership is a unique opportunity for law enforcement and health care to address one of our state's most pressing issues," said Seminole County Sheriff Dennis Lemma. "We realized we needed an innovative, holistic approach to address this crisis which is affecting so many of our neighbors."

Like much of the country, Seminole County has seen the opioid crisis exacerbated over the past year by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Sheriff's Office, overdoses countywide increased by more than 50 percent from 2019 to 2020, growing from an average of 39 to 62 per month.

The Hope & Healing Center is currently offering intensive outpatient services, including individual and group counseling, substance-related and recovery-focused education, reflection and spiritual healing groups, and career assistance.

It is also housing 10 inpatient residents. Eventually the facility will be able to house 26 residents at a time for 30-day treatment programs. Patients will also be supported with services



The Hope & Healing Center in Sanford, Fla., part of a wide-ranging partnership between AdventHealth and Seminole County to address the opioid crisis, offers a range of counseling and support services.


that address their educational, vocational, behavioral, and housing needs upon discharge from the center.

"We are transforming how we view and treat people with substance-use disorders," said Tim Cook, CEO of AdventHealth Altamonte Springs. "We need to see the whole person, not just the addiction. By providing a comprehensive network of services and support, our goal is to break the cycle of addiction and set our patients on the path to recovery and long-term success."

In addition to the center, the partnership includes special training and education by the Sheriff's Office for ER staff at AdventHealth Altamonte

Springs, and dedicated substance abuse coordinators to navigate care for patients during and after their time in the hospital.

The Hope & Healing Center is funded in part by \$750,000 in grants from Wal-Mart.

"Wal-Mart is committed to fighting the opioid epidemic, here in Seminole County and around the country," said Monesia Brown, director of public affairs and government relations for Wal-Mart. "We are proud to work with our community partners and support this innovative approach." 

BY ADVENTHEALTH CENTRAL FLORIDA DIVISION

AHU Religion Professor Honored with Professor Emeritus Title



Ernest Bursey, Ph.D.

The Board of Trustees of AdventHealth University (AHU) have given Ernest Bursey, M.A., Ph.D., the title of professor emeritus, an honorary title conferred by the University to show respect of a distinguished career.

While Bursey's career as a minister and educator officially started five and a half decades ago, his roots as an informal educator go back to his high school years at Thunderbird Academy where he assisted the science and math teacher. During his senior year, Bursey also assisted the Bible teacher and sometimes even filled in as instructor. After graduating from Thunderbird Academy, Bursey went on to attend Pacific Union College (PUC) with the aim of becoming an academy science teacher. While studying at PUC, he found himself in the familiar role of lab instructor in the Chemistry Department. However, the memory of teaching Old Testament history to 30 freshmen in academy never strayed far from his mind. He decided on a double major in religion and chemistry.

Bursey earned his bachelor's degrees in chemistry and religion at PUC, and his master of divinity at Andrews University. He started pastoral ministry in

several California churches. After six years, he returned to the classroom as a religion teacher at San Pasqual Academy and then Walla Walla University. While teaching at Walla Walla, Bursey earned a second master's degree and a doctor of philosophy in New Testament Studies from Yale University. His 24 years at Walla Walla were spent serving in several different capacities, culminating in the role of dean of the School of Theology.

In 2001, Bursey accepted a call to AHU as the first full-time religion professor. For the next 20 years, he played an instrumental role in selecting and mentoring members of the AHU religion faculty. He also spent 18 years as chair of the University's Faculty Rank and Promotion Committee that, with the University administration, developed the standards for academic excellence that have guided the school from its early years as a junior college to its present standing as a health science university offering doctoral degrees.

Prior to Bursey's arrival, the University already had courses that were foundational in the development of a future health care professional. Building on those courses, he incorporated classes that taught a wider view of the cultures and belief systems a health care provider might encounter in the clinical setting. When the University started its first graduate program in 2008, there was a conscious decision to embed religion courses into the curriculum. It was recognized that, like the undergraduate religion courses, these should have true impact and meaning in shaping a health care provider as they move into positions of leadership.

"The religion courses created for our master of healthcare administration [MHA] degree give me a great sense of accomplishment. In our undergraduate degrees, we require the Philosophy of Healthcare class that

gives students a perspective on who they are in their health care journey. In our MHA degree, we extend that journey by requiring courses such as the Role of Fidelity and the Exercise of Power, and Identity and Mission in Faith-Based Healthcare. These courses are meant to keep our graduates grounded in mission as they further their health care careers," said Bursey.

Over the last 20 years, Bursey's contributions have extended beyond AHU. He is a past president of the Adventist Society for Religious Studies; is founder and president of the Central Florida Chapter, Association of Adventist Forums; served for more than 15 years on AdventHealth Central Florida's Bioethics Committee; and currently serves on AdventHealth's Professional Advisory Board for Clinical Pastoral Education and Mission Governance for the Central Florida Division. He is an accomplished speaker and author, including writer of the commentary on the Book of Romans for Andrews Bible Commentary.

"The AHU leadership and Board of Trustees recognize that Ernie's contributions to Adventist higher education are deep and impactful. His distinguished service, scholarship, and contributions to the teaching profession have earned him the title of professor emeritus, but his dedication to mission and commitment to provide students a transformational experience is what sets him apart. We have truly been blessed by having him shape so many lives in a positive way," stated Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D., AHU president.

Whether you're a student or a colleague, Bursey is much beloved because of his supportive and nurturing nature. His way of being and his spirit is characterized by the simple tagline in his emails, "Cheering you on." ●

BY S. ERIC CADIENTE, AHU MARKETING/
PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Charlotte Myanmar International Company Becomes a Church

February 13, 2011, Vum Lian and family showed up at the Sharon Church. There was snow on the ground and they were wearing sandals. Candace Alvarez saw them and started asking questions.

Transportation to the local churches on Sabbath began, but Alvarez quickly realized that it was not meeting their needs for worship. On April 6, Te Nee opened his apartment on Sabbath for the group to meet. Michael Alvarez and Keith Menez had the worship service, and Nee would translate. Richard and Angel Hambley had recently moved to

the area from Kentucky, and were looking for a small church or plant group in which to serve. When Alvarez and Menez left a couple weeks later to start the Fort Mill group, Richard Hambley became the leader.

On August 17, 2013, as they discussed what to name the group, they thought “Burmese Church” might leave some people out, and that “Karen/Chin group” might also alienate even some of their own culture. With the wide cultural diversity within the group and five different languages, the name Myanmar International Seventh-day Adventist Church

(MISDA) was adopted. On September 5, 2013, they received group status.

The group was growing quickly and the small apartment soon became crowded, so the search for a new worship location began. An office building was the first place they checked because of its location. The old Bar-Tending School suite seemed to be perfect because there were several office rooms to be used for Sabbath School classes, and a bathroom within the suite. They had a work bee on November 24, 2013, and started worshipping there in December 2013. They were voted company status on December 12, 2015.

In 2017, the Mizo Language group joined MISDA. In February 2019, they moved to the New Heaven Church for worship. They then had 70-plus attending each Sabbath as they moved toward church status.

MISDA had the honor to host the North American Division Myanmar Ministries yearly meeting. They hosted local church leaders from all over the United States

During COVID-19 they were doing small groups in homes. In August 2020, MISDA reopened for in-person worship. They started with about 12 or so, but have grown to 30-plus each Sabbath now.

In February 2021, they moved again to the Adventist Christian Academy gym, and on February 6, MISDA held its church organization.

In March 2021, the Mizo language started meeting as a group. They had begun talking about starting a group back in 2019, and plans finally came together. It was MISDA’s first church plant.

The MISDA family is planning and praying for their first evangelist endeavor, with a seminary intern as speaker, this summer, and they ask for your prayers. 🙏



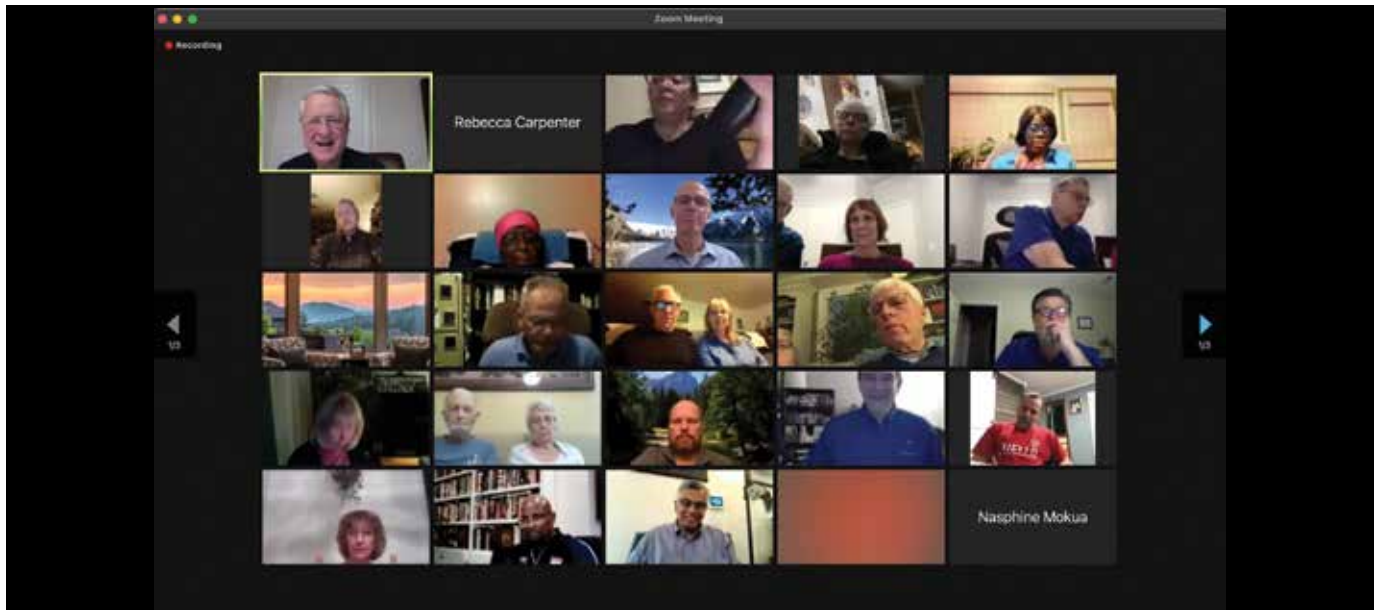
PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTED

BY RICHARD AND ANGEL HAMBLEY

Reclaiming Seminar 2021 Hosted



The Carolina Conference hosted a Zoom presentation on reclaiming Church members on February 18, 2021, entitled, “Making God’s House a Home.” More than 70 people joined the virtual event to hear Jim Davidson, executive secretary for the Southern Union Conference. The information he shared was eye-opening and caused a moment of soul searching and reflection for each listener.

Davidson shared that people just don’t wake up and say, “This church that I’ve been going to for 15 years, I just don’t want to be there anymore.” It’s a process. And, there are as many reasons for leaving as there are people who leave.

Some of those reasons include the following.

- Theological differences such as music, worship style, applause in church, and eating out on Sabbath can become points of contention.

- Unrealistic expectations: expecting the pastor or members to be “perfect.”

- A wounded heart: they have been hurt by someone in the Church.

- Unequally yoked: of those individuals who marry a non-Adventist, 70%

end up leaving the Church.

- Not being involved in the work of the Church: this leaves them on the “drop-out track.” Anyone who decides to “take a year off” is giving out a danger signal.

- Guilt: bad habits keep them away.

Most of the people who leave the Adventist Church still have a strong connection, and only one in six end up joining another denomination. Most plan to reenter the Church later in life, which is all the more reason why this reclaiming ministry is so vital. To add to the issue, Barna studies show that a good number of faithful attendees will not come back to church after this pandemic.

The first step in reclaiming members is to truly understand grace. Less than 70% of Adventists worldwide have the assurance of salvation in their heart. Graceful churches are those who perceive prodigals as a blessing to have return. Only by love is love awakened.

Churches need to be more than “Foyer friendly.” If members can be just 1/10 as loving as Jesus, people will be drawn to the Church. A Christlike life is the most powerful argument for Christianity. People will be much less likely to

believe what the minister preaches, but instead what the Church lives.

Keep in touch — be aware. It is a lot easier to reconnect with someone who has not been there for five weeks than someone missing for five years. We cannot command or force them to return, but we can love them, and when we do, love will be a way into their heart.

They may not be friendly. They may unload all of their sadness and anger. Do not try to defend the Church, but instead empathize and validate their feelings. Let the Lord work on changing their way of thinking if that is necessary.

When people do return, they are generally apprehensive about how they will be received, but we can ensure that when they do come back it is a positive and joyful experience.

More than 80% of those who leave say they have never been contacted after leaving the Church. If they are important to God, they need to be important to the Church. They are not numbers or a project; they are of infinite worth. 📌

BY REBECCA CARPENTER

Plantation Church Holds Day to Serve the Homeless

Children’s ministries of Plantation Church, Fla., endeavors to teach children, teenagers, and youth to be good stewards of their time by serving others. “There are people out there who need us to be Jesus’ hands and feet,” said youth leader Nicky Cameron.

According to the latest statistics, there are 2,800 homeless people in the surrounding area of the church, so it was easy to find a target audience. “God has called us to serve,” said Nicole Loiten, children’s ministries leader. In thankfulness for God’s blessing, the idea to give to those less fortunate and hold a day to serve the homeless was born.

There was something for every young person or adult to do in preparation and on the day itself. Those who could not attend prayed for the event. Some folks put their talents for cooking to good use and prepared packaged meals to be handed out. Blankets, clothing, shoes, and toiletries were donated. One woman made 30 blankets which were part of the 100 blankets given away, and



People of all ages worked to serve the homeless.

100 pair of shoes were also distributed.

Not only did other departments of the church attend and sponsor a booth, but



Free haircuts by local stylists were available for the homeless.

children’s ministries paired with other foundations to meet the needs of the homeless. One busy place was the hair-cutting area with many stylists at work. A local self-contained shower bus was also available for use.

“I do believe children, teenagers, and youth learn empathy by serving,” said Cameron. “Jesus was always a servant leader, and I am very passionate about making sure we’re mentoring that for the youth to see what it means to truly serve and give of themselves.”

“I believe children learn by example,” said Judy Smith, director of children’s, family, and singles’ ministries for Florida Conference. “Serving others is a great way to teach them about stewardship.”

BY NICOLE LOITEN

Orlando Junior Academy Students Learn in God's Paradise

Every year, sixth-graders at Orlando Junior Academy (OJA) look forward to experience Outdoor Education at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, Fla. This year, science was the focus for the week, featuring hands-on learning such as breadmaking, ax-throwing, communicating in morse code, and rock climbing, to name a few.

Mark Swaisgood, Lakeland and Plant City district pastor and keynote speaker, challenged the students to use the scientific method while exploring activities around the camp. He encouraged them to develop a sense of wonder of God's creation as they observed, hypothesized, and tested their hypotheses.

Students joyfully applied the principles during the ax-throwing activity. They began by observing their throwing stance, balancing the strength with which they threw the ax, and how they positioned it in their hand. Kenny, an OJA student, quickly learned how to hypothesize and develop a better way to accomplish the activity, and was successful in hitting the target the most times.

Many students shared that the week



was especially meaningful because they conquered their fear of heights on the Tower of Faith. On the tower, students experienced rock climbing and the Leap of Faith, which is a 50-foot Powerfan free-fall simulator. This experience, along with the other activities of the week, challenged students to grow their knowledge of the world as well as their social and emotional stamina. It also strengthened their faith in Jesus.

As the sun set every evening at camp, the students witnessed something truly marvelous — a star-filled sky! Many OJA students live near downtown Orlando where light pollution hides the stars at night. This stargazing experience left

students in awe and wonder as many of them saw the night sky so clearly for the first time. Students learned that there are countless stars in the sky, yet God took special care in creating each one. Just like the stars, God created all the people in the world, and He crafted each one there — beautiful and unique.

Outdoor Education is one of so many amazing things students experience as part of their academic journey in Adventist schools. For more information and to find schools near you, visit adventisteducation.org. 📍

BY GABRIEL SALDAÑA

Audits Complete For All Conference Entities



The audit team includes Susan Medley (left), Sally Garrido, Linda McCabe, Larry Doran (back row, left), Greg Leavitt, and Devon Smith.



PHOTO BY: BRIAN YOUNG

Susan Medley (right) worked on an audit with Carla Wilcher (middle), treasurer, and Connie Woods (left), assistant treasurer, at the Macon, Ga., Wimbish Road Church, the morning of March 2, 2021.

SUBMITTED BY: GREG LEAVITT

The Georgia-Cumberland Conference (GCC) Auditing Department achieved an important milestone on December 31, 2020, by completing audits on all Conference entities within the preceding two-year period. This is the first time in more than 10 years that this has been accomplished!

Realizing the department was understaffed, the Conference administration voted in October 2018 to hire a fourth full-time auditor and a second contract auditor. As a result, the team audited 293 GCC entities in two years. Now all audits can be maintained on a two-year cycle.

What is an audit? It starts with a scheduled meeting between the auditor and the church or school treasurer. A questionnaire is completed during the meeting, giving the auditor much of the needed information. The rest comes from the computer and treasury records the treasurer provides.

A step-by-step “Audit Program” guides



Linda McCabe, audit team member, uses her home office to give training and support to extraordinary treasurers, which is her specialty.

PHOTO BY: LINDA MCCABE

the process. Local practices that protect the donations and the treasurer are reviewed. Accuracy of data entry and recordkeeping are tested. Bank balances are verified. Compliance with GCC, federal, and state policies is assessed. Financials are analyzed. Then the audit report is prepared. Each audit is reviewed by the au-

ditting director and then issued to the leaders of the audited entity, to be presented to their board for review and implementation of recommended changes.

The audit team also provides training and support for the entity treasurers — during audits; by phone and email; and, most recently, by 83 new training videos on the auditing section of the GCC website. Regular emails called “Treasurer Tips” provide resources to the church treasurers. These emails and videos have been so successful that several other conferences are using them to help train their own treasurers.

The members of the audit team love working together, and they feel privileged to serve with the dedicated team of Georgia-Cumberland Conference treasurers. 📌

BY GREG LEAVITT

Collegedale Members Create “A Better Way”



SUBMITTED BY: JUCINTA ROME

Last July, members from the Collegedale, Tenn., Church started “A Better Way,” wanting to do monthly service projects for local children and their families. They gave Christmas gifts to 51 children.

Jucinta Rome, a member of the Collegedale Church on the campus of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., along with other church members, started a new outreach ministry in July 2020 called “A Better Way.”

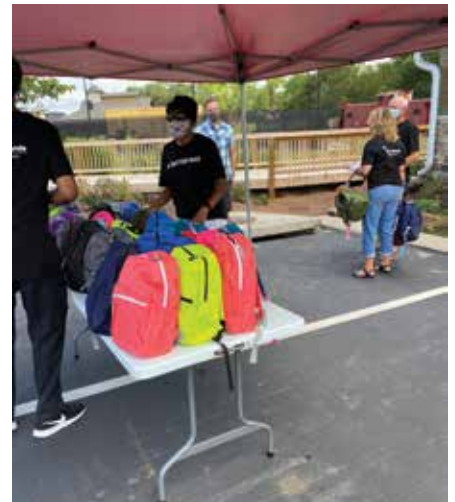
A Better Way’s mission is to make new friends for God’s Kingdom through acts of service.

In July they started doing monthly projects for children and their families who were impacted by the April 2020 tornado that struck the Chattanooga area as well as helping families who were impacted by COVID-19.

Even with the current pandemic, it is still the Church’s mission as Christians to share Jesus’ love with others. Those ideas are why members of the Collegedale Church decided to do just that. They did not allow the pandemic to stifle their desire to demonstrate the love of Jesus, but found creative ways to serve their community.

A Better Way is sponsored by the Collegedale Church Evangelism Department, and has provided monthly lunches for 45-50 children and their siblings who attend one of the local Collegedale area elementary schools. During the August service project they partnered with the Connect Worship Service, and donated 43 book bags filled with various school supplies. In November, A Better Way partnered with the local Publix grocery store to provide 19 boxes of food for families that the ministry currently serves. The staff at Publix were so impressed with the outreach effort that Publix donated a \$25 gift certificate to each family.

With the support of the church’s pastoral team, the women’s ministries team, and several other church members, A Better Way ended the year providing 51 children with Christmas presents. They intend to serve the local community in a greater way during 2021, continuing to act as the hands and feet of Jesus. 📍



SUBMITTED BY: JUCINTA ROME

“A Better Way” members filled backpacks with school supplies last August. They help 45-50 children and their siblings in the local Collegedale area elementary schools.

BY JUANITA NAYLOR AND JUCINTA ROME

Conference Launches Mobile App



The new app is available on iOS and Android devices.

The Gulf States Conference Communication Department released a mobile application on the Apple app store and Google Play store on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. The app aims to provide Church members with a quick and easy way to receive the latest updates from around the Conference, and serve as a church directory and companion app for live events, among other things.

Development of the app began in late 2020 when the department was researching how to improve Church members' connectedness to the Conference as a whole. Despite efforts on social media, direct mailings to homes and churches, and video production, there were still too many members that were seemingly left out of the loop.

What helps to make mobile apps more effective in getting messages across to the target audience is push notifications. While no one likes to be bombarded with useless notifications, an occasional update about something significant could be well-received. These notifications stay front and center on the device until acknowledged or ignored, helping the news to reach the people.

The app also features a Conference church directory, and will automatically show you which churches are closest to you based on your device's GPS location. Once you select a church, you can select a navigate option that opens your device's default mapping app. Another potential benefit to the location service option being enabled is to receive special notifications based on your location.

Perhaps you could receive the digital version of the Camp Meeting program when you drove onto campus, or maybe receive an ACS Disaster Response request if you're in the area.

Tithe and offering is another feature built into the app, a couple of quick presses in the menu, and you're taken to Adventist Giving, where you can select your church and give online. The Communication Department hopes to continue adding valuable features to the app to keep Church members engaged and receptive to the notifications. Watch a video and learn more about the app at www.gscsda.org/app.

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Teen Assists with Disaster Response

An EF-3 tornado traveled for 10 miles through northern Jefferson County in Alabama on January 25, 2021. While the width of the tornado was only 900 yards at its widest point, it left a considerable amount of damage, including a loss of life. Part of the tornado path came through the neighborhood of the Pinson Hispanic Company near Birmingham, Ala.

In the wake of the disaster, the church sprang into action under the banner of Adventist Community Services and set up a tent in the middle of the damaged neighborhood. They were also able to set up cooking stovetops quickly, and began meal distribution right away. The church continued to offer several meals a day for more than a week, all from the same location. Their tent was immediately recognized as a point of distribution, and donations began to pour in. These donations needed to be organized for distribution, and that's where the Hernandez family came in.

Angela Hernandez, a junior at the local Pinson Valley High School, accompanied her parents as they began working on the area's disaster response. While Hernandez isn't a church member, she, along with her family, has been involved in Bible study small groups and other community services with the local Adventist church. As the donations continued to arrive, Hernandez began taking note of the contributions and who brought them. She also assisted with distribution, keeping track of which family had received each item.

While Hernandez assisted with the project for several days, her school continued to operate, and there was concern whether she would be in trouble for missing the classes. When the school learned about her situation's details, she was offered grace for the missed time. Hernandez's involvement inspired her



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETTLER

Angela Hernandez learned about disaster response organization from her parents, and took opportunities to practice it through Adventist Community Services.



Donations continued to arrive for several days following the tornado, and the neighborhood supplies were plentiful.

school to make a meal donation to the neighborhood, and inspired the local mayor to acknowledge her community service commitment.

The church continued working in the

neighborhood until everyone had a significant start to their recovery. 🕊

BY SHANE HOCHSTETTLER

Highland Elementary Holds Forest Kindergarten

Pre-K and kindergarten students at Highland Elementary School are participating in Forest Kindergarten. Teacher Shannon Armantrout received training several years ago at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn.

Forest Kindergarten began in Denmark and has spread throughout Europe since the 1950s. The program is designed to get children to learn in a natural environment by exploring nature.

The children learn from an emergent curriculum that is initiated by capitalizing on their interest. For example, Armantrout described a rainy-day hike recently, when the children started playing in a stream of water and trying to divert it in another direction. This activity turned into a lesson on dams, beavers, and civil engineering. The unplanned curriculum resulted in the children building a dam with mud as they learned from nature.

Students participate in the Forest Kindergarten on Tuesdays and Thursdays, often staying outside in the forest for three hours. The children have named certain areas on the trail, such as the seesaw area where they have created a seesaw out of a log. This turns into a lesson on simple machines, emphasizing the fulcrum.

A special area is the jungle-gym area



where they climb on the branches of a fallen tree. They have gathered stones in another area to make a fire ring where they build a fire once a month. A lesson on vibrations happened when a buck running in front of the children caused them to feel the vibrations. The changing leaves on the trees initiated a discussion of the earth turning on its axis, causing the trees to prepare for the winter. They might turn a stone over to study the insects and other bugs underneath the stone.

The children go outside unless the temperature is below 32. According to Armantrout, there is no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing. She teaches the parents how to layer the children's clothing on cold days.

“Going out in all-weather teaches them survival skills, and techniques to stay warm,” Armantrout said. “It also teaches them resilience, and that it’s okay to go outside when it is not perfect.”

There are seven children in this year’s class. Armantrout said her largest Forest Kindergarten class was 12. Often in the past, parents were invited to come along on the hike, but this year, due to COVID, it is just the children and their teacher walking in the forest on the school campus learning something new every day from nature. 📍

BY BONNIE FUSSELL,
THE PORTLAND SUN

Hewitt Joins Kentucky-Tennessee Conference

After much prayer, and several months of discussion and review, upon the recommendation of the Administrative Committee, the Executive Committee of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference was pleased to extend

an invitation to Mike Hewitt, to join the staff as the new vice president for administration. Hewitt comes to this position with an extensive background in pastoral and administrative ministry.

He grew up in Salem, Va., and at-

tended the Adventist elementary school in Roanoke, Va. He is a third-generation Seventh-day Adventist. Both his paternal and maternal grandparents joined the church after attending evangelistic meetings.

Following high school, Hewitt entered the field of law enforcement, serving for 10 years in the Roanoke County Sheriff's Department. After experiencing a renewed calling from the Lord to pastoral ministry, Hewitt became an active leader in his local congregation, and eventually was invited by the Potomac Conference to devote his life to full-time pastoral service. After a decade of pastoral ministry at the Potomac Conference, the Hewitts were invited to serve in administration in the Mountain View Conference. In 2016, he joined the Mountain View Conference as executive secretary and ministerial director. In 2017, he became president and served there until joining the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

Hewitt has an associate's degree in

criminal justice, a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership from Bluefield College, a master's degree in pastoral ministry from Andrews University, and is currently a newly enrolled doctoral candidate at Fuller Theological Seminary. His wife, Brittan, serves in the Treasury Department at the Mountain View Conference. The Hewitts have two children who are students at the Parkersburg, W. Va., church school: Jewell, who is in the ninth grade, and Levi, who is in the second grade. The Hewitts will be joining the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference later this spring. Everyone at the Conference looks forward to welcoming them! 📍



Mike Hewitt

BY STEVE HALEY,
CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

Highland Academy Students Extend Community Services

Highland Academy students were blessed with the opportunity to reach out in the community in a positive way during the Spring Week of Spiritual Emphasis. Every year students are divided into small groups with a faculty member, called faculty families. These groups met together the week before the community service to come up with an idea, and planned to be of service to those in the local community.

On Wednesday afternoon, students were dismissed from classes to carry out their service projects. The projects included cleaning up a yard for someone who had been ill, taking baked goods to police officers and firefighters, painting the elementary school cafeteria, working at a food pantry, writing notes of cheer, working on projects for the summer camp horses, and distributing *Steps to Christ* and cookies to neighbors.

Students had fun working together on their projects, but more importantly, they felt the warm glow of knowing they had spread Jesus' love in a tangible way. The mission of Highland Academy is to develop Christ-like characters and lifelong learners, and, through serving others, they become more like Him. 📍

BY KIMBERLY ROTH, HIGHLAND
ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR



Matias Mena (left), Chance Foster, Aliyah Lane, Daniel Manns, Tony Verderaime, Johanna Shimel, and Chantz Koonce



Magaly Bran-Rodriguez (left), Victor Reynoso, Christian Flores, James Smartt, Michael Dure, Dominic Murrell, Adriel Garcia, Daniel Stringfellow, and Verne Sherman



Students make special cards that will make someone happy.

Women Leaders Virtually Present “Born to Save the World” Christmas Cantata

Born to Save the World” is the story of the celebration of the advent of the Lord. The women of the South Atlantic Conference under the direction and production of Patricia Campbell, blessed thousands in a virtual production, as they experienced the story, music, dance, and the retelling of the night that Christ was born.

Eula Winston, South Atlantic Conference’s first lady, opened with a heart-warming welcome and also offered closing prayer. Praise and worship was provided by Lolo Harris, singing evangelist. Many were blessed by an inspirational musical selection by Kenesha Ryce, violinist, with Canon in D. Sarah Grant, flutist, blessed many as she provided the Spirit-filled ambience for the production with her rendition of “Mary, Did You Know.”

Serving as narrators were Rosia Parker, Conference women’s minis-

tries director; Hannah Walker-Johnson, South Carolina assistant women’s ministries leader; and state women’s leaders P. LaVerne Anderson for Georgia, Joyce Hairston for North Carolina, and Cynthia Clark for South Carolina.

Traditional Christmas carols were sung by Lolo Harris to begin the Cantata. Viewers enjoyed the score which was created specifically for the show by Jonathan Curry. The Godhead was represented by William Green Jr., pastor, as The Father, Carl Brown as The Son, and Luther Rowland as The Holy Spirit. April Watling Smith, Conference women’s millennium leader, as Mary, mesmerized the audience by singing “Be Born in Me.” Kevin Sampson provided a stellar performance with “Joseph’s Lullaby,” with baby Jesus, Christian Brevett, in his arms.

The Angel, which heralded the glad tidings of joy, was played by Sonya

Floyd, with shepherds Keywayoka Benton, Eric Cook, David Jeter, Colin Lloyd, Leon Wesley, and Ferris Riggins.

The Three Kings, portrayed by Avrey Anderson, pastor, Gregory Clemons, and Eddie Parker, followed the star and arrived from the East to bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh to present to King Jesus. Additionally, Herod was played by John Hathaway.

To welcome Jesus, dancers from both Atlanta Maranatha and New Jerusalem churches, clad in white, provided a breath-taking performance of “O Come, O Come Immanuel.”

The sacrifice of Jesus “Who was Born to Save the World” was the most dramatic aspect of the show as three tenors, Gregory Clemons, Henry West Cantrell III, and William Luby III, provided a harmonious rendition of “We Three Kings.”

The original Women’s Voices Virtual Choir performed, with an assortment



of soloists from all three South Atlantic states: Sopranos - Valerie Best, Prentiss Henry, L'Tonya Jackson, Shirley McClendon, April Smith, and Celeste Thompson; Altos - P. LaVerne Anderson, Charlotte Dunlap, Teresa Hairston, Hannah Nelms, Tresa Norwood, and Shona Robinson; Tenors - Idella Miller, Shayla Parker, Kathy Parks, and Audrey Hogan, ended the show by singing "Handel's Messiah

Soulful Celebration." Earlier they sang "Angels We Have Heard on High," both under the direction of maestro Gregory Clemons. The virtual choir parts were mastered by musical engineer Haldane Henry.

Assistant producer, videographer, assistant videographer, sound technician, costumes, and stagehands were William Floyd Jr., Cornell Gayle, Kevin Sampson, Miykal Curry, Allison Hathaway, Serena Benton,

Diane Hackney, and Eddie Parker.

Script for the show was taken from the Gospels and *The Desire of Ages* by Ellen G. White. The premier showing was on Christmas Eve. 📺

BY ROSIA A. PARKER

Women Evangelists Present "His Name in Her Voice" Series

Marvel's Endgame movie captured the hearts, minds, and attention of many around the world. This blockbuster movie, one of the most expensive films ever made, became the highest-grossing film of all times. Endgame has many parts that have been highlighted as highpoints of the movie.

One of those moments was when Spiderman was instructed to give the gauntlet with the infinity stones over to Captain Marvel. The nervous and scared hero looked to this shero and wondered out loud, "I don't know how you are going to get through all of that!" The camera pans the enemy charging the good side, and at that moment, the women appeared on the screen one at a time, saying, "Don't worry! She has help!"

Many staggered into the new year of 2021 feeling the effects of the pandemic. Many have taken a beating and are struggling. In fact, many have reviewed what the enemy had lined up against in 2020, and are tensing up for what is expected in 2021, wondering, "How in the world are we going to get through all of that?" Well, friends, God sent some powerful women ministers to provide powerful reminders of the name of Jesus through the New Hope District's ending evangelism series in December 2020.

The New Life Church in Rock Hill, S.C., and the Door of Hope Church in Pageland, S.C., (collectively known as the New Hope District Church) accepted this unique and challenging mission of sponsoring the first known all-women's evangelistic series.

The pandemic opened this opportunity to feature dynamic ministers who preach God's Word with power and effectiveness. Evangelism is about connecting all to Christ, and allowing them to experience His love. So, just like in Endgame, when the world needed to be delivered from what the enemy had lined up, there were some of God's daughters to provide life-changing messages for thousands who have been impacted emotionally, financially, physically, spiritually, and socially in 2020. These women doubly had the mission to soothe hearts and minds as all entered 2021. God chose eight women to do this great thing for such a time as this. The theme presented was "His Name in Her Voice," and from this series, 11 Bible studies are taking place.

Additionally, the churches connected with a young woman who watched the series, not knowing that New Life Church was four miles away from her mother. The Lord also blessed the Door of Hope's Food Pantry, as an any-



mous donor gave \$5,000 toward the community service project the church provides every week to 250 families. Please keep the New Hope Church District in prayer as they impact different communities with preaching, teaching, and reaching. 📺

BY PASTOR MONTE NEWBILL SR.

Operation Impact 2020 Continues

Due to the great financial blessing the Lord had showered upon South Central, the Treasury Department in October 2020 came up with a plan to assist their struggling schools, churches, and members. It was quickly approved by the Executive Committee, and they called it Operation Impact.

With the help of appropriations from the Southern Union and the North American Division, South Central put together a stimulus program to provide assistance to its members in all five states: Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, and the Florida Panhandle. The assistance was organized into three general categories: school payroll, church assistance, and financial relief for church members.



South Central students

South Central Church Schools

Because of God's blessings, the Conference was able to pay the total amount of teacher salaries for four months instead of the usual two months. In total, the schools received in excess of \$360,000 for the teacher salaries from the stimulus program. The money enabled schools to cope with the loss of tuition due to a decrease in overall enrollment.

South Central Churches

Operation Impact provided financial assistance with grants that churches could use for capital improvements, such as roof repair, HVAC repairs, restroom upgrades, and carpet cleaning. Churches could also use the funds to meet safety inspection standards. In addition, each church that applied received a \$500 appropriation for technology assistance, a much-needed help in the growing reality of virtual worship. In total, South Central churches received improvement grants totaling more than \$280,000.

South Central Members

Perhaps the most impactful and rewarding element of Operation Impact was in what the program was able to provide



South Central Conference office

for individual church members and their families. Any member of a South Central Conference church that qualified, could receive help for mortgage assistance, rent assistance, utility bills, and grocery gift cards. Through this God-ordained program, 440 families were blessed with financial aid at a critical time when they needed it most. In total, the families of South Central received \$99,896.20 through the Operation Impact program. In total, for the schools, churches, and families, Operation Impact awarded more than

\$669,000 in grants. To God be the glory!

This year, the Conference looks to repeat this program in some form, as the financial effects of COVID-19 continue to impact the members. They look to God for His continued guidance and provision as South Central administration partner with Him in taking care of each other through the covenant of sacrifice. 🕊

BY BENJAMIN JONES JR., JOHN NIXON SR., AND SONJA CRAYTON

Ken Shaw to Become Southern's 27th President

The Southern Adventist University Board of Trustees voted unanimously on February 28, 2021, for Ken Shaw, Ed.D., to become the 27th president of the University. He will assume office on June 1.

Shaw graduated from Southern in 1980 with a bachelor of arts in mathematics, and will be the University's first alum to return as president. His wife, Ann, and their two children also earned degrees at Southern.

"Ann and I cherish our memories from Southern," Shaw said. "Returning to campus is like coming home for us, and we're delighted to be part of this institution. I really admire that Southern is still fundamentally centered on its mission and on the core values that the institution has been about for 129 years."

For the past seven years, Shaw has served as president of Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Tex. Previously, he worked at Florida State University for 25 years in various capacities,



Ken Shaw, Ph.D., will be Southern's first alum to serve as president.

from assistant professor of mathematics education, to campus dean of Florida State University Panama City, and ac-

ademic dean of the College of Applied Studies. His track record as a leader in higher education includes increasing enrollment, establishing new academic programs, and improving institutional financial stability.

"I am pleased that Dr. Ken Shaw has accepted our invitation to be the next president of Southern Adventist University," said Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., chairman of Southern's Board of Trustees and president of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "We thank the Lord for His providential leading."

Shaw will succeed David Smith, Ph.D., who announced in October 2020 that he will retire at the end of May after five years as president and 22 years of total service at Southern Adventist University. 📍

BY STAFF WRITER

University Partners With County for COVID-19 Vaccine Event

Southern partnered with the local county health department on March 28, 2021, to offer a community COVID-19 vaccine event on campus at the Collegedale, Tenn., Church. Led by the School of Nursing and staffed primarily by volunteer students, faculty, and staff, the drive-through event served approximately 550 area residents. This was the first of several similar events planned at Southern this spring.

"We wanted to do something that

would make a difference for our community, to serve as Christ would, and to give those in our community a sense of relief," said Jill Buchholz, D.N.P., nursing professor and organizer of the event. "The event went so well, and I saw multiple people crying from relief — they were so happy to be vaccinated! I'm thrilled and can't wait to do this again." 📍

BY STAFF WRITER



More than 500 people received COVID-19 vaccinations during Southern's drive-through event.

Janet Cobb Celebrates 40 Years at Southeastern



PHOTO BY: I4PERFECTION

Janet Cobb celebrates 40 years of faithful service to Southeastern and the constituents.

The Southeastern Conference was established in 1981. Around that same time, Janet Cobb graduated from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) and was hired by Southeastern to work with the Sabbath School Department. Cobb celebrated her 40th anniversary at Southeastern on February 1, 2021.

When she began work on February 1, 1981, one of her goals was to enhance the development of the Sabbath school Department under the leadership of I. L. Harrell. “Every department that I have

worked in, I looked to make the job run smoother,” said Cobb.

Cobb has supported the following ministries during her tenure: adult Sabbath School, children’s ministries, personal ministries, inner city, disabilities, community services, disaster response, youth, national service men organization, family, health, religious liberty, publishing, and part-time treasurer filing clerk.

Ecclesiastes 9:10 NIV, says, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.” God has blessed Cobb’s work at Southeastern. She continued her formal education and graduated with her MBA in healthcare management in 2012.

Cobb shared that the culture of the Conference during the years was well balanced. The office was more of a family atmosphere, and everyone worked well together. One of the highlights of her career was attending officer’s meetings. There she got the opportunity to get out and meet the constituents and put faces to their names.

When asked how she has seen the mission of Southeastern evolve during the past 40 years, Cobb shares, “The main mission has always been to save souls for the Kingdom of God, and that mission has not

changed. We are now finding new ways to reach individuals through technology.”

Cobb would not do anything differently. She does have some words of wisdom to give administrative professionals. Listen more and speak less. When you disagree with a process, talk it over with your director and come up with a solution. Always remember to return calls to the members, and if you don’t know an answer, follow through and get back to that person. Get all information in writing and keep a copy.

2 Timothy 2:15, NIRV, “Do your best to please God. Be a worker who doesn’t need to be ashamed.” Cobb has done her best for the Lord. When asked what her next steps are, she states, “I am going to do some traveling and maybe some volunteer work.” The Conference administrators, directors, and staff wish to express congratulations to Janet on achieving this great milestone. Michael K. Agyei Owusu, D.Min., Conference president, especially thanks Cobb for her tireless service to Southeastern and its constituents. ●

BY KEITHA HATCHER

AdventHealth Donates Hand Sanitizer

Recently, Monty Jacobs, AdventHealth director of the Global Mission work in Altamonte Springs, Fla., informed Southeastern Conference on January 27, 2021, that they had ordered more hand sanitizer than they could use, and wanted to donate pallets of excess to non-profit or-

ganizations. This was a great blessing because hand sanitizer is still a great need in the communities when it comes to infection control.

Southeastern was proud to partner with AdventHealth to deliver seven large pallets of hand sanitizer to strategic areas around the Conference on February

24 and 25. Each pallet contained 2,500 8-ounce bottles of sanitizer, helping to achieve clean hands.

Robert Moore, Southeastern ACS director of community services, and David Peay, pastor and former ACS director, loaded a 26-foot Penske truck, and traveled the length and breadth of Florida to drop

off the pallets of sanitizer from Orlando to Tallahassee, Tallahassee to Jacksonville, Jacksonville to West Palm, West Palm to Ft. Lauderdale, Ft. Lauderdale to Miami, and finally Miami back to Orlando.

Southeastern operates more than 50 registered food pantries, and the local directors were notified to go to the distribution sites to pick up sanitizer for their pantries and churches. They also distributed sanitizer to Southeastern church schools and inner-city doctors'

offices, to be passed out to their lower income clients.

Southeastern thanks ACS federation presidents, pastors, and churches that opened their facilities to be distribution centers for the donated gift from AdventHealth; and David Peay, who took the long drive to help deliver the hand sanitizer. 📍

BY ROBERT MOORE JR.,
SOUTHEASTERN ACS DIRECTOR



PHOTO BY: ROBERT MOORE JR.

The ACS team traveled throughout the Southeastern territory to distribute AdventHealth's gift of hand sanitizer.

Women's Ministries Celebrates 30 Years of Excellence

In 1990, the General Conference established the Women's Ministries Department. Southeastern's women's ministries was then organized into five districts, appointing two leaders in each district. The year 2020 marked the 30th anniversary of women's ministries in Southeastern, but also the beginning of a global pandemic — a bump in the road. For nearly a year, Mithra Williams, Southeastern women's ministries director, and her staff had been planning a celebration event. Determined not to delay, a panning weekend packed with face-to-face activity had to be restructured into a virtual event.

"The Best Is Yet to Come," scheduled for November 7, 2020, was a full day which celebrated Southeastern's 30 years of excellence in women's ministries. The day honored past leaders and recognized current leaders for outstanding service to their church and community. Williams said, "It is a blessing to have reached this milestone and it deserves to be celebrated. The pandemic will not stop ministry."

The anniversary celebration was full of memorable moments. The morning began with a dynamic Sabbath School presentation led by women's ministries youth coordinators Ronika Dilworth, April Edwards, and Daphane Rivera. Under the leadership of Gale Murphy,

the anniversary praise and worship team helped usher in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Included were warm greetings by General Conference and Southern Union women's ministries directors; special tributes; a powerful word preached by Kim Logan-Nowlin, Ph.D., of Detroit, Mich.; an afternoon concert by gospel recording artist Maranda Curtis; and a formal reception to end the celebration.

Former Conference directors were honored — Vanessa Melton, first director, served until 1997. Melton passed away just before the celebration and was honored posthumously. She is credited with laying a firm foundation to empower Conference women for personal growth and spiritual development. Melton planned the first Conference women's retreat, which would serve as a model for the future of the ministry.

The second leader, Nicole Brise, was a full-time teacher at Miami Union Academy and a ministerial spouse. She served the women of Southeastern for 20 years, and the Adventist Church for a total of 54 years. "Her tireless efforts of nurturing and empowering women, as well as fostering relationships in the community, have taken women's ministries to much greater heights," Williams said about the trailblazer. "Elder Brise has preached the

Gospel of Jesus Christ across the globe, winning scores of souls to the Kingdom of God ... she raised the bar of excellence for all women."

During an awards ceremony several received recognition in categories including Outstanding Nurturer, Outstanding Empowerment, Outstanding Outreach, and Above and Beyond, echoing the primary goals of the ministry to "nurture, empower, and reach out."

The SECTV program "No Limits" began its second season during the anniversary. First aired on Mother's Day, May 10, 2020, it was developed to keep women connected to the ministry and one another, and has evolved into an empowerment tool, broaching challenging topics relevant to women not just in the Church but in the broader community as well. It can be seen weekly on Sabbath afternoons at 4 p.m., on Southeastern's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Under the current leadership, the Southeastern Women's Ministries Department has begun a bold new adventure in ministry. Reflecting on 30 years of excellent service, truly the best is yet to come. 📍

BY WILLIE MAE MUSGRAY AND
DEBORAH WILSON



CLARK, DR. ANN RORABAW, 93, born Feb. 19, 1927, died Jan. 16, 2021. She worked for many years in the English Department at Southern Adventist University. Ann was a tiny giant who touched the hearts of many in the community. She was a member of the Collegedale Church.

Survivors include her two children: Alice Clark of Franklin, TN, and Daniel (Wendy) Clark of Chattanooga, TN; eight grandchildren: Tommy, Cheryl, Andrew, Ramona, Natasha, Leslie, Spencer, and Nicholas; two great-grandchildren: Drake and Emilia; several nieces; and nephews. A graveside service was held Jan. 21, 2021 at Collegedale Memorial Park. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jerome L. Clark, and son, Jerry W. Clark.

NORTHCUTT, JACK MARTIN, 89, born April 10, 1931 to the late Otis and Edith Northcutt in Donna, TX, died Feb. 11, 2021 in Hendersonville, NC. He was the oldest of four children, Jack received his B.S. in nursing in 1953 from Union College, Lincoln, NE. He served as a nurse in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, while stationed in Germany. He became a certified nurse anesthetist while attending Madison College, Madison, TN, and later completed a master's degree in healthcare administration at Trinity University, San Antonio, TX. He served as a healthcare executive for several decades—first in New Braunfels and then San Marcos, TX, and later at Florida Hospital, Orlando, FL. Jack became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church while in grade school. As an adult, he enjoyed teaching small group Bible studies. Some of his favorite pastimes included global travel, road trips, visiting the North Carolina Arboretum, gardening, reading a good book, cooking, and caring for people.



He is survived by his two children: Heather Brownlow of Seneca, SC, and David Northcutt of Maitland, FL; four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews. In addition to his parents and siblings, he was preceded in death by his spouse, D. Lois Yvonne (Sharpe).



OH SOOK, DOROTHY LEE, 88, born Sept. 10, 1932 in Gangwon Province, South Korea, died Feb. 4, 2021 at Mission Hospital, Asheville, NC. She was member of the Fletcher Church in Hendersonville, NC.

During the era when Japan occupied Korea, she became a Seventh-day Adventist through her brother who later became a prominent pastor. She was probably one of the most intelligent young women in the Korean Mission at that time. She graduated from Ewha Girl's High School, one of the elite schools in Seoul. She studied linguistics at Seoul National University, which is the most prestigious institute in South Korea. She could have chosen a secular graduate school and a job that would offer worldly success, but she decided to attend the seminary at Samyook College, the only Adventist higher education institute which was in its development Alstage at that time.

She served the Church as an educator for more than 20 years in Korea, including as an English teacher at Seoul Samyook Academy and Adventist Nursing School. Later she was a Hebrew instructor in the Theology Department. In 1958, at the age of 25, she married a seminary student, Jae Yoon Oh. She came to the United States in 1961, as her husband attended graduate school at Andrews University. They went back to Korea and continued their work at Adventist schools. Having no biological children of their own, they regarded their students as their family.

In 1975, it was a pivotal year for her life when the couple immigrated to the United States. She studied nursing at Loma Linda University and became an ICU nurse. As a pastor-nurse duo, they planted and served many Korean churches in Spokane (WA), Denver (CO), Atlanta (GA), and Chicago (IL) over the next two decades. They found their retirement home in 1997 in Fletcher, NC, but even during their retirement years, they organized and ministered to the Korean Asheville Group, which they served for 18 years, without compensation.

Even after her husband's death in 2015, gloom or loneliness could not find any place in her life. Her last five and half years were the continuation of an active lifestyle, full of service and cheerfulness. She joined Transylvania Choral Society, which had biannual concerts including Handel's "Messiah" at Carnegie Hall. As an ardent horticulturist who always maintained an immaculate garden, she used her talent to beautify gardens and create flower arrangements for many individuals and churches.

God blessed Dorothy even to the last day of her life on Earth. On Feb. 3rd her last activity, according to her neighbors, was pruning trees in the afternoon. Several hours later she suddenly developed acute pain. She told her friend that she was ready to die, but there was no sign of panic or remorse on her face. Her voice was very calm, confident, and even pleasant when she recorded her last words on the friend's cellphone in the Emergency Department. Within 15 minutes after the recording, she suddenly lost consciousness, never to regain it, and died shortly after midnight. The hospital's only Adventist chaplain happened to be on-call that night and he prayed for her.

She will be laid to rest next to her husband in Montecito Cemetery in California until the resurrection morning. Dorothy will be greatly missed.

OLSON, ALTHEA LORRAINE KINNEY, 99, born March 26, 1921 to the late Pastor C. Ray and Esther (Osterblom) Kinney in New Orleans, LA, died Feb. 3, 2021 at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Beverly and Lennart Wahline in Cleveland, TN. She was member of Fletcher Church in Hendersonville, NC.

Later, the family, which included her older sister, Merle, moved to Mississippi and then to Illinois where her father pastored several churches before becoming the conference evangelist.

In 1934, Lorraine enrolled at Broadview Academy in La Fox, IL, where she graduated in 1938. She later attended Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University) in Walla Walla, WA, Home Study Institute, and Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, MA. While attending Walla Walla College, her brother Reed was born.

On March 12, 1942, she married her academy sweetheart, Franklin W. Hudgins in Cheyenne, WY, where he was stationed during World War II. It was there that their two oldest daughters, Barbara Jo and Sondra Kay were born. When the war was over, Franklin and Lorraine moved to Lincoln, NE, where Franklin attended Union College, graduating in 1950. On New Year's Day of that year, their third daughter, Beverly Dawn, was born.

After graduation, Franklin accepted a call to the Missouri Conference where he was later ordained. Lorraine worked beside him as his secretary in Missouri, where their son, Lon Harvey, was born, and in Oklahoma, where their youngest child, Steven Douglas, was born. They would later work for the Ohio Conference, Faith for Today (FFT), and in southern California. While working at Faith for Today, Lorraine wrote two 30-minute dramas which were aired on FFT's weekly telecast.

In 1974, Lorraine accepted the position of administrative assistant to Elder H.M.S. Richards and his son, H.M.S. Richards Jr. at the Voice of Prophecy. When Franklin was called to the Columbia Union Conference in Takoma Park, MD, in 1977, Lorraine worked at the General Conference as the administrative secretary to Duane Johnson in secretariat and later for A. J. Patzer and Neal C. Wilson in presidential. While there, she was active in the General Conference women's auxiliary, sang in the GC sextet, and was president and chair of the Spiritual Life Committee.

When Lorraine and Franklin were called back to southern California in 1983, Lorraine served as the Bible School supervisor at the Voice of Prophecy in Thousand Oaks before retiring with Franklin on Dec. 31, 1985. After retiring, they moved to Glendora, CA, where they lived for 10 years. It was there that she wrote and published two books of poems before moving to Loma Linda, CA, in 1997. Shortly after moving into Linda Valley Villa, Franklin was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. After caring for him for two years, he was transferred to the Care Center on the Villa Campus where they continued to spend as much time together as possible before he passed away on Dec. 23, 2001.

On June 9, 2002, Lorraine married Dr. Charles B. Hirsch, a long-time friend and colleague who had also experienced the loss of his wife due to Alzheimer's. He passed away 18 months later on Christmas morning in 2003.



Little did Lorraine know that another marriage was in her future. This time, to a former Broadview Academy school mate and principal's son, Dr. Robert W. Olson (former director of the Ellen G. White Estate at the General Conference) on May 7, 2009.

The next four years were spent happily at the Villa in Loma Linda, CA, among friends and colleagues, and later at Fletcher Park Inn, an Adventist retirement residence owned and operated by Fletcher Academy in Hendersonville, NC, where they had moved in July, 2011. Sadly, their years together were cut short when Bob died on April 15, 2013, leaving Lorraine a widow once again.

Lorraine was a talented painter, poet, and writer, having co-authored pageants for two General Conference Sessions—Dallas in 1980 and New Orleans in 1985. She also produced the New Orleans presentation entitled "The Worth of a Soul," which was later presented at home and overseas under the title, "Is My Name Written There?"

Lorraine will best be remembered for being a prayer warrior for her family and friends. Every morning, she got up at 4 a.m. to pray for her children, grandchildren, and many close friends who had specific needs.

Lorraine is survived by her five children and their spouses: Barbara Stevens and husband, Ray, of Cleveland, TN; Sonnie Harp and husband, Herman, of Ringgold, GA; Beverly Wahlne and husband, Lennart, of Cleveland, TN; Lonnie Hudgins and wife, Barbara, of Aliso Viejo, CA; and Steve Hudgins and wife, Sherri, of Burtonsville, MD; 12 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews.

Interment will be in the Riverside National Cemetery in California.

BLOCKER, KEITH R., 65, died on Oct. 1, 2020 early in the morning in Tallahassee, FL. Keith loved his life. He enjoyed fresh air, and sunshine. Keith was a loving husband, son, father, brother, uncle, and friend. Keith never met a stranger. He could be heard saying "what's happening" or "what's up?" When Keith was asked about his wife, Faith, he would sometimes say "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things unseen." Keith attended Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools and graduated from Myers Park High School in 1973. Prior to relocating to Tallahassee, he was employed by Bethlehem Center, and Charlotte Mecklenburg School BEH Department. Keith was also in charge of summer camps in Charlotte, NC. After relocating to Tallahassee, he was employed by Big Bend CARES, and the Florida Department of Health. Keith was employed by the Gadsden County Health Department as a Senior Prevention and Training Consultant until his early retirement in 2012 due to medical reasons. Keith's area of employment included prevention of HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases. He also taught sex education classes in the schools in

an effort to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and unplanned pregnancies. While living in Charlotte, Keith shared his skills of rock climbing and white-water rafting, and assisted in planning trips to the mountains and rivers for interested members of the Charlotte Berean Church. Keith loved sports and the outdoors. He played basketball with the church basketball team. He umpired softball, and officiated basketball. Keith had a special love for golf. Keith served as a deacon, choir member, treasury staff, soloist, and Pathfinder leader. He was the initial leader of College Ministries, and he loved his Maranatha Church family. He leaves to cherish his memories, his loving wife, Faith Pearsall Blocker; his mother, Alberta Blocker Massey; two sisters: Sheryl Massey, Phyllis Blocker, and Harriet Blocker-Adams (Matthew); one daughter, Devian Blocker Clowney; three grandchildren: Kaleb Sandoval, Shiloh Sandoval, and Louis Phillips; two aunts; one uncle; a host of cousins; nieces; nephews; and friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Howard Blocker.

BRYANT, ANN M., 92, born June 30, 1928 in Louisville, KY, died Jan.

27, 2021. She was a member of the Louisville First Church in Louisville. Ann was a nurse's aide at the Franciscan Health Care Center for more than 10 years. She is survived by her daughter, Darlene (Jeff) Snyder; son, Steve (Sandy) Taylor; two stepchildren: Barbara Sworin and Bill (Becky) Bryant; many grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. Ann is preceded in death by her husbands: Ernest L. Taylor and Dr. William C. Bryant; two grandsons: Denny Clemmer and Bryant Sworin; stepson, George Bryant; daughter-in-law, Marie Taylor. She was the last of seven children born to the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dearing.

BURNETT, HELEN ELIZABETH HOOVER, 89, born Dec. 9, 1931 in Louisville, KY, died Jan. 23, 2021 in a local hospital. Helen was the daughter of Ralph Hoover and Lilian (Lambert) Hoover Lester. Helen retired from Parkview Memorial Hospital in Brunswick, ME, as director of medical records. She was also a member of the Collegedale Church. She is survived by her son, Douglas (Rae) Horton; and twin granddaughters, Marie and Shannon Horton. Funeral services were held Jan. 31, 2021, at the Collegedale Church with Pastor

David Ferguson officiating. A private burial for the family followed at the Collegedale Memorial Park. Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Burnett; daughter, Dana Burnett; and son, Steven Burnett.

COOK, NANCY LYNNE, 72, born June 28, 1948 in Port Huron, MI, died Feb. 1, 2021 at her home. Left to cherish her memory are two sons: Mark (Jennifer) Cook and Thomas (Kori) Cook; two sisters: Peggy Schron and Lonni (Dennis) Hughes; one brother, Alan (Gwen) Bishop; four grandchildren: Owen, Anna, Riley, and Hudson; two aunts: Donna Klaus and Barbara Terpstra; several nieces; and nephews. Ann was preceded in death by her parents: Clifton and Willo Bishop; and her son: Stephen Cook.

CROSS, HOYETT WAYNE, 84, born Dec. 6, 1936 in Ooltewah, TN, died Dec. 14, 2020. He was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Hoyett's parents were the late Wilbur and Marguerite (Smith) Cross. He was married to Anna Patricia (Friberg) Cross. He grew up in Chattanooga and Cagle Mountain, TN, and later moved to Altamonte Springs, FL, where he spent most of his life with Anna. In later years, they moved to Nashville, TN which was their final home on Earth. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the lights of his life. He had a special relationship with each one, and looked forward to the visits, calls, photos, and notes. Hoyett was a devout Seventh-day Adventist, and spent much of his time studying the Bible and sharing his knowledge. He loved gardening, farming, painting, giving advice on life matters, and always eager to share his proud southern heritage. He is survived by three children: H. Walter (Mary Lou) Cross, H. Wayland (Jana) Cross, Heather (Chris) Young; eight grandchildren (in order of age): Walter (Summer) Cross II, Amber (Jonathon) Young, Ash-

ley Cross (Tony) Koskovich, Cassee Young (Joel) Doren, Carson (Taylor) Cross, Chandler (Hannah) Young, Wyatt Cross, and Chloe Young; and seven great-grandchildren (in order of age); Brandon Young, Bradley Young, Kyler Cross, Rebekah Koskovich, Timmy Koskovich, Aiden Cross, and Adeline Cross.

DOW, JOHN, 69, born Dec. 1, 1951, died Feb. 3, 2021 in Meridian, MS. John was a kind friend and treasured member of the Community Church in Meridian. He is survived by his wife, Cheryl Dow of Collinsville, MS; one son, Jeremy Dow of California; step-daughters: Shelly Owen and Mandy Ford, both Atlanta, GA. A funeral service was held Feb. 14, 2021 at the Meridian Community Church, with Pastor Stanley Luntungan officiating. Interment followed the service at Zion Baptist Cemetery.

FILLER, DR. JUDSON CLEMENTS, 91, born Sept. 28, 1928, died April 20, 2020. He practiced personalized, family medicine for more than 50 years in the tri-state area of Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee. He had his own style, his own pace, and a deep love for the practice of medicine. Jud and Carlene lived and were involved in the Sand Mountain/Trenton community their entire working careers and beyond. He had a special love for their churches: Ownbey Chapel in Ider, AL, and Floral Crest in Bryant, AL, and the local church school their children attended, Floral Crest School. Judson was survived by his wife of almost 68 years, Carlene Ownbey Filler (who passed away Nov. 26, 2020); his sister, Martha Webb of Lompoc, CA; one son, Steven Judson (Kay) Filler of Birmingham, AL; three daughters: Cynthia Filler (Thomas) Vann of Bryant, Karen Marie Filler of Harrison, TN, and Melissa Michelle Filler of Trenton, GA; five grandchildren: Harrison (Rebekah) Filler, Tyler Williams, Vladimir Purdey, Ilya Purdey, and Andie Purdey. He was preceded in death by his parents: Clem-

Filler and Flora May Caylor Filler; one brother, Calvin Filler; and four sisters: Gwenda Brown, Betty Clark, Jean Snyder, and Phyllis Ray Barber.

FILLER, CARLENE RICE, 88, born Aug. 1, 1932, died Nov. 26, 2020 in Bryant, AL. A natural, talented pianist, Carlene had a lovely touch when playing and rarely utilized sheet music. For many years she skillfully and faithfully played piano and organ for church services. Family and friends enjoyed many songs in her home through the years. Carlene is survived by her son, Steven Judson (Kay) Filler of Birmingham, AL; three daughters: Cynthia Filler (Thomas) Vann of Bryant, Karen Marie Filler of Harrison, TN, and Melissa Michelle Filler of Trenton, GA; five grandchildren: Harrison (Rebekah) Filler, Tyler Williams, Vladimir Purdey, Ilya Purdey, and Andie Purdey. She was preceded in death by her husband of almost 68 years, Dr. Judson C. Filler; her parents: Roscoe E. Ownbey and Grace Marie Ownbey, and her brother, Idris E. Ownbey.

HANSEN, ARTHUR H., 91, born July 15, 1929 in North Bergen, NJ, died Aug. 13, 2020 in Wauchula, FL. He was a member of the Wauchula Church. He was a U.S. Navy Korean War veteran. He served as a surgical assistant at a hospital on Long Island, NY. He worked at the Lileco Lighting Company on Long Island, and as a Hardee County truck driver. He is survived by his wife of more than 44 years, Winona; three sons: Robert of Santa Clara, CA, Richard of Lake City, FL, and Roscoe (Elizabeth) of Davenport, FL; one daughter, Wendysue (Anthony) Neji of Benson, MN; and one grandchild. The service was conducted by Pastor J. O'Conner, and interment was at Sarasota National Cemetery.

KELLY, CAROL ANN, 80, born April 9, 1940 in Syracuse, NY, died Jan. 21, 2021 in Hendersonville, NC. She was a member of Fletcher Church in Hendersonville, NC. Carol was a

faithful Seventh-day Adventist and served in many youth outreach groups. Having a great love for children, she and Bill, her husband, took care of numerous children all of their lives, and in the summer would teach Vacation Bible School in their home for those in the neighborhood. During her life, Carol was not only a homemaker at times but was an integral part of many family-owned small businesses, including Photography, Carpet Installation & Cleaning, Convenience/Grocer/Gas Station, Electronics/Computers, Repair shop. Carol retired as a cook after more than 15 years with the Nutrition and Food Department of AdventHealth (formerly known as Park Ridge Hospital). Carol was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, always putting the needs of her family before her own. Carol never met a stranger, was loved by all who knew her, and will be greatly missed by her family. Carol's legacy is left to live on in her children; Brenda Kelly (J.J. Mathis), John Kelly (Michelle), James Kelly (Kristy), Carolyn Gasperson (David), Kimberly Davenport (Diana) and Jessica Kelly (Jonathan Jones); 16 grandchildren: William "Billy" Corn, Nikole "Nikkie" Jones (Marion), Erica Buckner (Jeremy), Ryan Kelly (Staci), Joanna Kelly (Kat), Shelby Kelly (fiance' Ryan), Cody Jones, Cindel Jones, Lily Kelly, Leah McLaughlin, Alex Kelly, Adam Kelly (Miranda), Andy Kelly, William "Bubba Luke" Kelly, Jordan Kelly and Kai Jones and Kinsley Jones; nine great-grandchildren: Tyler, Taylor, Faith, Aiden, Walter, Ward, Belle, Conner, and Nolan; and siblings: Jean Barlow (Ed), Joan Flynn (Jim) and David Cowburn (Anne). She was preceded in death by her parents: Charles and Anna Kosloske Cowburn; her husband, Bill; grandson, Arthur Ray Corn III; and brothers: Robert and Charles Cowburn.

LANDERS, ALVIN TERRY, 82, born Feb. 11, 1938 to the late David and

Nannie Landers in Acworth, GA, died Feb. 2, 2021 in Columbia, SC. He was member of Columbia First Church in Lexington, SC. He was the fourth of six children, raised in Duluth, GA, and graduated from Duluth High School in 1956. He served in the United States Army as an artilleryman, and was deployed to Germany during the Korean Conflict. Al met and married the love of his life in 1962, Audrey Evans Landers, by whom he is survived. He was formally trained in heating, ventilation, and air conditioning and established A & R Service, Inc. in 1973. He and Audrey went on to operate Landers Properties in the latter part of his life. He devoted much of his time to the principles espoused by his faith. An avid philanthropist, he became a foster parent to several children, traveled to Estonia and Costa Rica as a missionary, and gave back to his community every opportunity afforded him. He enjoyed dressing up as Colonel Sanders to visit local nursing homes residents to add cheer to their day. Al was a man of great humor and passion and enjoyed spending most mornings with his friends at his "breakfast club" to get his day started. He rarely missed a Sunday at the flea market looking for rare finds and fresh produce to share with his family. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his daughters: Pamela Landers (Tommy) Edwards of Lexington, and Amy Landers May of Charleston, SC; granddaughters: Allison Helms and Ashley Helms both of Lexington; grandsons: Finnegan May and Landon May of Summerville, SC; sons-in-law: H. Michael (Terrie) Helms of Columbia, and Jon C. May of Summerville; daughter-in-law, Amy White Landers of Lexington; sisters: June Starnes and Mary Ann Kenerly; brother, Billy (Mary) Landers, all of Atlanta, GA; brother-in-law, Franklin (Mildred) Evans of Columbia; more than 30 nieces; nephews; as well as his faithful dog, Skeeter. His

son, Jason Todd Landers, brother, Neal Landers, and sister, Marie Powers, preceded him in death. Following a private interment, a Celebration of Life Service was held February 21, 2021 at Columbia First Church in Lexington.

MONTALVO, ALBERTO, 65, born June 1, 1955, in Lajas, Puerto Rico, died Oct. 6, 2020 in Sebring, FL. He was the head deacon at the Avon Park, FL, Church. He is survived by three daughters: Jessica Wainwright of Hiram, GA, Annette Montalvo-Santiago of Avon Park, Catherine Montalvo of Hiram; four sisters: Nilsa Castro of Blainstown, GA, Maritza Montalvo of Hollywood, FL, Maria Figueroa of Sebring, and Mirea Montalvo of Avon Park; and five grandchildren. His wife of 48 years, Carmen, predeceased him on Sept. 16, 2020. The service was conducted by Pastor J. P. O'Conner on the outside of the Avon Park Church.

MONTALVO, CARMEN M., 61, born Aug. 20, 1959 in Fort Benning, GA, died Sept. 16, 2020 in Sebring, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park, FL, Church. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Alberto; three daughters: Jessica Wainwright of Hiram, GA, Annette Montalvo-Santiago of Avon Park, and Catherine Montalvo of Hiram; three sisters: Olga Matos of Melbourne, FL, Ruthie Green of New York, NY, and Nidza Gonzalez; and five grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor J. P. O'Conner on the outside of the Avon Park Church.

MONTALVO, SANTA E., 81, born Sept. 26, 1938 in Lajas, Puerto Rico, died Aug. 26, 2020 in Sebring, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park Church. She is survived by three daughters: Maria Figueroa, Nilsa Castro, and Maritza Montalvo; countless grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and great-great-grandchildren.

NEGRÓN, ZACHARY “ZACH” MATIAS, 18, born July 31, 2002, died Dec. 17, 2020 from injuries sustained from an automobile accident. Zach was a freshman at Southern Adventist University majoring in accounting. He was an adventurous young man and had a great passion for athletics. He played soccer, softball, and was a remarkable gymnast. Zach also enjoyed concept cars as a hobby. He is survived by his parents, Dennis and Jennifer Negrón; and sister, Marisa Negrón, all of McDonald, TN; grandparents: David and Faith Kneller of Dunlap, TN; grandmother, Maria Negrón of Chattanooga, TN; several uncles; aunts; and cousins. A memorial service was held Dec. 22, 2020 at the Collegedale Church with Dr. Greg Gerard officiating.

SILVER, BOB WADSWORTH, 88, born Nov. 12, 1932, died Jan. 9, 2021.

SNIDER, RETTA, 93, passed away peacefully Feb. 11, 2021 in Tampa, FL. She was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. Retta was born in the Philippine Islands to American missionary parents, and spent almost three years as a teen with her family as Japanese POWs. Rescued from the Los Banos Internment Camp in Feb. 1945, she returned to the United States to complete high school. After music classes and undergraduate work at Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University), she completed an RN degree in nursing from Loma Linda University in 1953. She married Kenneth Snider, a 1958 graduate of LLUSM. She worked until they had four children: Heidi, Sondra, Ross, and Burton. After having children, Retta worked as a homemaker in her own “pediatric” department. The family lived in Colorado and Massachusetts before doing three years

of mission service in Thailand in the 1970s. They moved to Tennessee in 1982, where Retta became a much-loved member of the Madison community as a tireless caregiver. She played organ and piano, baked wonderful bread, cooked healthfully, and sewed for family and the community service center. She is survived by her four children, their spouses, and nine grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband: Kenneth; parents: William and Esther Riffel; one brother, Gordon; and one sister, Dorothy. She awaits the resurrection beside her husband at the Nashville National Cemetery in Madison.

SCHWAB, ARDEN G., 89, born June 25, 1931 in St. Paul, MN, died Sept. 17, 2020 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka for nine years and an Adventist her entire life. She was a cradle roll leader for 20 years, Pathfinder leader for seven years, marriage encounter leader, and Camp Arrowhead Ranger at the Nebraska Conference for 13 years. She also worked as a key punch operator and in data processing. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Leland; one son, Larry Rhodes; three daughters: Cindy, Linda, and Diana; two stepsons: Kern and Barry Schwab; one stepdaughter, Debbie Kaiser; one brother, Paul (Audrey) Zummack; three sisters: Joyce Lampson, Mary Parrett, and Dorothy Redmon; 15 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

WOOLSEY, CHALLIS REBECCA, 88, born Sept. 6, 1932 in Takoma Park, MD, died Dec. 16, 2020. She was the daughter of Harry and Anna Jennings. She had two brothers, Alfred and Jerry, and three sisters, Anna Jean, Marilyn, and Joylyn. Challis graduated from Takoma Academy in the spring of 1950. She pursued a nursing career at Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) and Washington Adventist College (now Washington

Adventist University), where she graduated in June 1955. She and her husband, Raymond, a pastor, served in the Mississippi Conference (now Gulf States Conference) and as missionaries in Burma (now Myanmar). Their three daughters were born during their time abroad: Cheryl Lynn, Marcella Jean, and Linda Marie. The family later settled in Takoma Park, and Challis worked in the Maternity Department of Washington Sanitarium and Hospital until 1965, when Raymond was called to be editor of the Philippine Publishing House near Manila, Philippines. While there, Challis did volunteer work for the Philippine Union Mission, helping in the early childhood area. In 1971, Raymond was called to the Book Editorial Department of the Review and Herald Publishing Association, located at the time next door to the General Conference office on the border between Washington, D.C. and Takoma Park. Challis found permanent employment at the Sanitarium, working again in the Maternity Department. In 1982, the Review moved from Takoma Park to Hagerstown, MD, and the family moved too. Challis eventually took a job as assistant librarian at the Review. After a few years, she changed to helping in the Review’s kitchen, from which she would later retire to care for her and Raymond’s mother. After their mothers’ deaths, Challis compiled two books, *Our Way and Mothers in Love*. In 2007, she and Raymond bought property in Greenbriar Cove in Collegedale, TN, where they would eventually build a home and move to early Dec. 2014. Challis had her own workroom in the new house and spent time writing to friends. She also enjoyed entertaining family on various occasions and having grandchildren visit. Late in Dec. 2019, she had to go to the hospital. From there, she was moved to a nursing home in Cleveland and later to a nursing home in Collegedale. She was moved to her home May 1, 2020, with hospice care; Challis had developed dementia.

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LOCATION:	MAY 7	MAY 14	MAY 21	MAY 28	JUNE 4	JUNE 11
ATLANTA, GA	8:26	8:31	8:36	8:41	8:45	8:48
CHARLESTON, SC	8:06	8:11	8:16	8:21	8:25	8:28
CHARLOTTE, NC	8:14	8:20	8:25	8:30	8:34	8:38
COLLEGEDALE, TN	8:31	8:36	8:42	8:47	8:51	8:54
HUNTSVILLE, AL	7:36	7:42	7:47	7:52	7:56	8:00
JACKSON, MS	7:46	7:51	7:56	8:00	8:04	8:08
LOUISVILLE, KY	8:40	8:47	8:53	8:58	9:03	9:06
MEMPHIS, TN	7:51	7:57	8:02	8:07	8:11	8:15
MIAMI, FL	7:55	7:59	8:03	8:06	8:09	8:12
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:31	7:36	7:41	7:45	7:49	7:52
NASHVILLE, TN	7:40	7:46	7:51	7:56	8:01	8:04
ORLANDO, FL	8:04	8:09	8:13	8:17	8:20	8:23
TAMPA, FL	8:08	8:12	8:16	8:20	8:23	8:26
WILMINGTON, NC	8:01	8:06	8:11	8:16	8:20	8:24

CAROLINA

Virtual Hispanic Camp Meeting – May 14, 15. A. Cruz, A. Bullon, R. Hernandez.

MPA Graduation – May 21-23. MPA.

Virtual Camp Meeting – May 30-June 5. See Schedule at carolinadasa.org.

FLORIDA

Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL [Details: www.campkulaqua.com].

Cub Camp (ages 7-9) – **June 6-13.**

Junior Camp (ages 10-12) – **June 6-13.**

Teen Camp (ages 13-17) – **June 6-13.**

Horsemanship Specialty Camp (girls ages 11-16) – **June 6-13.**

Cub Camp (ages 7-9) – **June 13-20.**

Junior Camp (ages 10-12) – **June 13-20.**

Teen Camp (ages 13-17) – **June 13-20.**

Horsemanship Specialty Camp (girls ages 11-16) – **June 13-20.**

Cub Camp (ages 7-9) – **June 20-27.**

Junior Camp (ages 10-12) – **June 20-27.**

Teen Camp (ages 13-17) – **June 20-27.**

Horsemanship Specialty Camp (girls ages 11-16) – **June 20-27.**

Family Camp – **Sept. 3-Sept. 6.**

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Health Rally with E.W. Dempsey – May 22, 2-5 p.m. Mountain City Church, TN.

Women’s Ministries Leaders’ and their Team Meeting – May 25, 6-7:30 p.m. Online.

Collegedale Camp Meeting and Upper Cumberland Camp Meeting are canceled for 2021.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp in Crandall, GA, options for June 2021.

Junior I and Paintball Camp I – **June 6-13.**

DiscipleTrek – **June 6-27.**

Junior II and Paintball Camp II – **June 13-20.**

Adventure Camp – **June 20-25.**

RAD Horse Camp and Wakeboard Camp I – **June 20-27.**

Junior/Tween and Paintball Camp III – **June 27-July 4.**

Hispanic Women’s Ministries Retreat – June 18, 19. This event is free but registration is required. Online.

Retiro de Damas del Ministerio Hispano – 18 al 19 de junio. GRATIS - Registración es requerida. Online.

Women’s Ministries Leaders’ and their Team Meeting – June 22, 6-7:30 p.m. Online.

Father/Son Appalachian Trail Adventure – June 24-27. A 4-day backpacking trip across the Roan Highlands of northeast Tennessee on the Appalachian Trail brought to you by Men’s Ministry.

Register by June 18. Roan Mountain, Cherokee National Forest, TN. Please check our website for the latest information, www.gccsda.com.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Virtual Academic Summer Camps – June 14-16. High school students can enjoy an interactive camp experience from the comfort of home this summer. Southern is hosting several academic camps online, with topics such as computing, journalism, photography, vegetarian culinary arts, and video production for social media. For more information and to register, visit southern.edu/camps.

SmartStart Begins – July 26. New students at Southern can earn three credit hours for free during the summer — a savings of \$2,145. To learn more, visit southern.edu/smartstart.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE WOMEN’S CONVENTION – Sept. 8-11, 2022. Orlando, FL.

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S CARE, ICC, a member of the General Conference Adventist Possibilities Ministries, operates in 13 countries providing high-quality care, including Christian education, for orphans and vulnerable children from infancy through University. To learn more, contact ICC Southern Union regional coordinator, Deborah Zirakian, at 423-647-1826, or deborah@ForHisKids.org.

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