

SOUTHWESTERN UNION

# Record

JUNE 2010

*Preparing for*  
**Success**



FOCUS ON SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY



*In this Issue...*

**DEPARTMENTS**

President's Perspective . . . . . 3  
 CREATION Health . . . . . 4  
 Shades of Grace . . . . . 5  
 Pass It On . . . . . 6  
 Visión Hispana . . . . . 7

**FEATURES**

The Southwestern Experience . . . . . 8  
 The Road to Success . . . . . 11  
 Training For Life . . . . . 12  
 Financing Your Education . . . . . 13

**NEWS**

Arkansas-Louisiana . . . . . 14  
 Oklahoma . . . . . 17  
 Southwest Region . . . . . 20  
 Texas . . . . . 23  
 Texico . . . . . 26  
 Southwestern Union . . . . . 29

**ETCETERA**

Classified Ads . . . . . 32  
 Announcements . . . . . 34  
 Milestones . . . . . 36  
 Obituaries . . . . . 36  
 MyFaith . . . . . 38  
 For the Record . . . . . 39



# The Southwestern Experience

## Summer Camp Contest Winners

**F**reddy the Ferret is ready to announce the winners of this year's Summer Camp Contest. He has randomly selected one boy and one girl from each local conference to receive a free week at summer camp. Here are the winners:

**Arkansas-Louisiana Conference**

- Michaela Moore, Harrison, Ark.
- Brian Fitzgibbons, Lake Charles, La.

**Oklahoma Conference**

- Madison Schieberl, Tulsa, Okla., First
- Alex Murcia, Edmond, Okla.

**Southwest Region Conference**

- Shakeira Evans, Baton Rouge, La., Faith
- Elton Caldwell, Dallas City Temple

**Texas Conference**

- Riley Bowman, Longview, Tex.
- Richie Chan, Arlington, Tex.

**Texico Conference**

- Zakeya Swenson, Reserve, N.Mex., Bilingual
- Jesse Smith, Midland, Tex.



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## On the Cover

Rhyz Arante is a 2010 nursing graduate from Southwestern Adventist University. Her class was blessed with a 100 percent pass rate on their nursing boards. The cover image, along with all the photography from the Southwestern Adventist University pages, was taken by Jair Alcon, senior psychology major from Bentonville, Ark.

# President's Perspective»

BY ERIC ANDERSON » SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT



## Not For Everybody

**The Marine Corps advertises that it is looking for “a few good men.”** As much a warning as an appeal, it is a surprisingly successful way to attract recruits. “This may not be the place for you,” the slogan says, in effect. “You may not be good enough for us.”

I am not planning to adopt similar tactics at Southwestern Adventist University, though the truth is, our school may not be the right place for everybody. It's not that we think we are too good or too tough for average folks, however.

“You won't like Southwestern,” we can candidly tell potential students, “if you want a secular environment, a place where religious commitment is mocked or silenced.” We are a distinctively Adventist school, and we are not embarrassed to talk about God's calling in our lives or to recognize the evidence that we live in an intelligently designed universe. We are skeptics and doubters when it comes to the certainties of a self-centered secular culture.

Southwestern is not the place for you, we could add, if you love anonymity and getting lost in the crowd. As I wrote to our students recently, “Remember that you are surrounded by people who know you and care about you. That's one of the advantages of a small campus.” Our students won't study Western Civilization in a class of 600 or be taught by graduate assistants rather than real professors.

Don't come to Southwestern, we ought to tell people, if you are snob, or if you look down on people who work with their hands. From the beginning, this school has worked to create opportunities for students. We have always honored industry and self-help and working your way through school. This is not a place that puts on airs.

Southwestern is also unlikely to attract a person who dislikes variety. If you like everything bland and predictable, this may not be the place for you. While there is a definite Texas flavor to our

culture, the campus is full of surprises. Students and staff come from a rich range of backgrounds. You might study the Old Testament guided by an Australian scholar who loves Indian food. You could befriend a 6' 8" Haitian student who seems to know everybody. Although we are united in our worship and faith, we relish a wide range of ideas and interests. Students tempted to pigeonhole Dr. Susan Gardner as a “typical writing teacher” are stunned to hear her vehement, well-informed opinions on professional basketball. Dr. Karl Wilcox can lead you through a discussion of medieval poetry—or a 50-mile bicycle ride. With his full white beard, Dr. Daryl Thomas could be mistaken for an Adventist pioneer, but when he is finished explaining a complicated issue in computer programming, he could take you for a plane ride.

You won't like Southwestern if you think college is going to be a vacation from real life, four years to play and be irresponsible. On our campus, we encourage another kind of student. We're looking for ones who study hard, wrestle with the

meaning of life, and act out of genuine idealism. And yes, some of them are successfully finding a Christian life partner.

A few good students? No, we want as many as we can find who share our vision: serious, open-minded education in a distinctively Christian environment—a place that values hard work and genuine diversity. If God is calling you to this kind of school, please get in touch with us right away. You would be in the right place.



Eric Anderson, Southwestern Adventist University president



# CREATION Health

BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN

## Live Life to the Fullest With Trust In God



**Our Desire.** According to the CRRUCS/Gallup Spiritual Index, 97 percent of Americans consider themselves religious. And 75 percent believe America's wellbeing is highly dependent upon the nation's spiritual health.

We realize our need for God; we desire Him. But how often do we rush through our day without taking time to connect and *really* commune with Christ?

This month we are exploring the CREATION Health principle of Trust in God. Trust creates sacred space in our life for God to dwell; this relationship makes us whole.

### UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

Dr. Bernie Siegel writes, "Unconditional love is the most powerful stimulant of the immune system. The truth is: love heals."

Research is confirming that feeling loved by God is associated with higher self-esteem, less depression, less physical disability, and greater self-rated health. God's unconditional love increases quality of life.

### LIVE BETTER

In one study people were asked, "How religious would you say you are?" The more religious that people considered themselves to be, the greater their psychological health.

Those who rated themselves as more religious had greater life satisfaction and happiness, were more positive, had a high level of emotional balance, and were healthier.

### PRAYING FAMILIES

Research involving 5,600 families found that families with a "religious allegiance" and who prayed together were happier and more satisfied. They were less likely to have physical illness, mental symptoms, and difficulty socializing.

In a similar study, high school seniors who attended church weekly and reported that religion was *important* to them, ate healthier, exercised more regularly, got adequate sleep, and engaged in less high-risk behaviors.

### TRUST HEALS

The Oxford University Press *Handbook of Religion and Health*, published in 2001, was a result of an extensive review of more than 1,200 published studies in physical and social health fields. The authors concluded, "Our systematic review revealed that the majority of studies indicate that religiousness is associated with less coronary artery disease, hypertension, stroke, immune system dysfunction, cancer, and functional impairment, fewer negative health behaviors, and lower overall mortality."

### LIVE LONGER

One research project revealed these fascinating results: people who attended worship services more than once a week increased their lifespan an average of seven years for Caucasians, and added potentially 14 years for African-Americans.

People who worship God and attend church live longer. Researchers studied 2,205 persons age 55 and older to see what factors would be the best predictors of longevity. Variables considered were income, education, chronic diseases, other illnesses, health habits, exercise, smoking, drinking, body fat, social participation, and psychological status. But none of these explained the results. Church attendance was still an independent and the strongest predictor of longevity. Dr. David B. Larson, president of the National Institute for Health Care Research, concludes, "According to these data, attending religious services increases chances for living longer."

Some theories for these wonderful outcomes include:

- Churches provide social connections and support.
- Faith in God gives members comfort, forgiveness, and meaning in life.
- Church attendees usually live healthier than non-church goers.
- Church support may help people cope better in times of stress.

### TRUST AND POWER

God's indwelling presence is a sustaining power that transforms us. Trusting Him improves every area of our lives. He is our internal gyroscope that keeps us stable and centered. Here are three ways to develop trust in God:

**Commune with Him.** Don't rush. Take time to hear His voice.

**Claim His promises**—give Him your worries. Millie Thomtom wrote, "Any concern too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be turned into a burden."

**Connect with a community of faith.**

Henry Ward Beecher penned this sage insight: "Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith."

Take hold of tomorrow with the handle of faith. Trust God. Enjoy His presence and claim Jeremiah 29:11 for your life, "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

That's CREATION Health!

Lynell LaMountain writes from Florida Hospital in Orlando, Fla. For information about hosting a CREATION Health program at your church, visit [www.CREATIONhealth.tv](http://www.CREATIONhealth.tv) or call 407.303.7711.

# Shades of Grace

BY MIKE TUCKER » SPEAKER/DIRECTOR, FAITH FOR TODAY



## What Does God Look Like?

**What does God look like?** Perhaps a better question would be: What does Jesus look like? At least some people actually saw Jesus while He was on earth. While they left no description of what He looked like, through the gospel accounts, we learn a lot about the personality and character of Jesus.

On a wall near the main entrance to the Alamo in San Antonio, Tex., is a portrait with the following inscription: “James Butler Bonham—no picture of him exists. This portrait is of his nephew, Major James Bonham, deceased, who greatly resembled his uncle. It is placed here by the family that people may know the appearance of the man who died for freedom.”

In a similar way, Jesus answered our first question: What does God look like? “Jesus saith unto him, ‘Have I been so long time with you, and dost thou not know me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; how sayest thou, Show us the Father?’” John 14:9 (ASV).

We see the Father by looking at the Son. What does God look like? Look at Jesus and you’ll see.

Now as we ponder this, let’s return to the passage we’ve been studying lately (John 1:14). “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father), full of grace and truth.”

Last month we spoke of Jesus’ decision to “tabernacle” with us. He didn’t just come for a short visit. He came to identify with us throughout all eternity. He is “Immanuel, God with us.”

As wonderful as that is, there is even more in this marvelous passage. It has to do with the word “glory.” The word John used here is the same word he heard when the Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament) was read in the temple or local synagogue. It was the word that was used for the Shekinah glory of God that appeared in the Tabernacle.

While the word Shekinah does not appear in Scripture, it was the word the rabbis used to refer to the presence or dwelling of Jehovah God on this planet.

The Shekinah glory was so brilliant that no one could stand in its presence. When the glory of God came upon the tabernacle,

no one could draw near. That glory would rest in the Most Holy Place over the Ark of the Covenant and radiate throughout the camp.

Because the Most Holy Place represented the dwelling of God, only one man could ever enter that compartment (the High Priest), and he could only enter it on one day a year (the Day of Atonement).

Moses spent time near the glory of God when he was on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments and instructions for building the tabernacle. When he came down from the mountain, the glory of God shone so brightly from his face that the Children of Israel could not stand to look at him. Moses had to veil his face.

So bright is God’s glory that when Moses asked to see God’s face, God told him that he could not look upon His face and live. So God arranged for Moses to catch a glimpse of His back (see Exodus 34).

What John is telling us in John 1:14 is that in Jesus, we are now able to view the Shekinah glory of God! God is accessible to humankind through the person of Jesus. Jesus is the Shekinah glory! Through Jesus, we accomplish what Moses could never do—we seek the glory of God.

The Apostle Paul confirms what John tells us. In Colossians 2:9 Paul writes: “For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily” (ASV).

But it gets even better! Since Jesus now dwells in those who believe on Him, and since it is Jesus’ plan to reveal Himself to the world through those who believe on Him, we can safely assume that the Shekinah glory of God can be seen in us!

What does God look like? It is God’s plan that we should be able to answer that question by looking in the mirror! Christ is in you and He is the Shekinah glory!



**Mike Tucker** is speaker/director for Faith For Today television. He writes from his home in Arlington, Tex.



# Pass it On...

A Monthly Focus on Evangelism in the Southwest

BY JESSICA LOZANO

## Reaching Children Through Evangelism

Jarrood and Eileen Purkeypile are recent graduates of Southwestern Adventist University who decided to dedicate two years of their lives to the mission of child evangelism in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Jarrod became familiar with Children With Hope Ministries when he was a student missionary in 2006 in Bolivia while working at an evangelistic television station. He met Susan Grady, who was working on the project at that time.

Grady became the administrative assistant to the president at Southwestern in 2007, where Jarrod was studying Radio-TV-Film and Eileen was studying theology. The two were married in 2008 after Jarrod's graduation, and they decided to approach Grady about going to Bolivia. They committed to taking on the mission after Eileen's graduation in May 2009.

The Purkeypiles settled into the East Bolivia Mission in September 2009, and went to work right away. The purpose of Children With Hope Ministries is to create centers for children to meet to have Sabbath School in impoverished neighborhoods in the city. There are now 10 centers where more than 500 children meet each Sabbath to fellowship and learn from the Bible. Two churches have been established from the centers, and there are hopes for more. Once a center has been established for two years, the goal is to turn it over to local volunteers.

They also network with local pastors to hold child evangelism campaigns at the same time as adult campaigns, and hope to engage the local church to take on the ministry.

The first children to be helped by this ministry were living in a prison with their mothers. One of the women in the prison was a woman named

Claudia. She had been wrongfully imprisoned for a crime she did not commit, but she became interested in the ministry that had come to her prison. When she was released, she took on the challenge of managing the program.

With Claudia's help, and the help of many local volunteers, the Purkeypiles are continuing the ministry, bringing their fresh perspectives and youthful energy to the project. They are providing for the physical needs of the people by providing baskets of food. And they are trying to also reach them spiritually through evangelistic meetings and weekly Sabbath School classes. So far, dozens of children have been led to baptism and a church has been established in the very neighborhood to which they began providing food baskets.

The Purkeypiles say they feel blessed that they are able to offer these seemingly hopeless children the hope that is found in the Bible, in the Gospels that tell of Jesus Christ, and the truths that are found in the story of Creation and the Ten Commandments.



► Eileen Purkeypile and her husband, Jarrod, are helping to create centers in impoverished neighborhoods in Bolivia where children can meet for Sabbath School.

# Visión Hispana

UN BRÉVE NOTICIERO MENSUAL DEL SUROESTE

## Una Celebración Inolvidable

La Primera Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día Hispana de Robertson en Houston, Texas tuvo una celebración única e inolvidable del 20 al 23 de enero de 2010. Fue el 50° aniversario de la congregación, el 50° aniversario de la obra hispana organizada en Houston, y la ceremonia de dedicación del templo libre de deudas. Más de 700 asistentes se reunieron para este evento, incluyendo a varios pioneros de la obra adventista hispana en Houston. Entre ellos estuvieron algunos miembros de la congregación hispana original como Lydia Herrera, Alicia Martínez, Juan y Angelita Alvarado.

A fines de los años cincuenta un pequeño grupo de adventistas trabajó arduamente promoviendo un ministerio de habla hispana en Houston. Después de mucho esfuerzo, sacrificio y oración, sus sueños se hicieron realidad y la Primera Iglesia Hispana de Houston fue organizada el 1° de enero de 1960. Cincuenta años más tarde, la Primera Iglesia Hispana de Robertson ha dado origen en la actualidad a 25 congregaciones de habla hispana en Houston y sus alrededores, y la obra ha crecido hasta incluir hoy a miles de miembros hispanos pertenecientes a la Asociación de Texas.

El pastor Ronaldo Marsollier, 9° pastor de Robertson, llegó a fines del año 2008 y después de repasar la historia de la iglesia presentó la iniciativa de celebrar la bondad y la gracia de Dios obrando durante los últimos 50 años de obra hispana, y también la bendición de un préstamo totalmente pagado. Más de un año de planeamiento y preparación resultaría en un evento de cuatro días que incluyó una mirada al presente, al pasado, y al futuro de la iglesia. Entre las ofrendas musicales presentadas por iglesias hijas hubo una de la Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día Hispana de Rosenberg, la primera hija de la Iglesia de Robertson.

“Fue una experiencia inolvidable,” dijo uno de los participantes, agregando que “fue un privilegio ser parte de este evento.” Los pioneros hispanos de Robertson se gozaron al revivir la historia de la iglesia mediante una compilación de fotos y poemas. “Al ver a cada pionero ofreciendo su alabanza a Dios,” dijo un miembro, “pude sentir la presencia del Señor. Es maravilloso ver cómo

Dios ha estado con esta iglesia a través de tantos años y cómo su Santo Espíritu continúa guiándonos.”

Ysis España, cuyo mensaje ha recorrido el mundo por medio del don de la música, asistió como invitada especial. Durante el concierto ella expresó sus propios recuerdos de la iglesia. “Robertson es muy querida para mí porque fue la primera iglesia a la que asistimos cuando nos mudamos de Cuba a los Estados Unidos.” Ella recibió un botón conmemorativo de reconocimiento por el 50° aniversario en representación de su padre, Ramiro Alonso, quien fue el tercer pastor de la Iglesia de Robertson durante 1965-1967. Otros que recibieron botones de reconocimiento fueron Alicia Martínez (esposa de Frank Martínez, pastor durante 1963-1965), Orlando Záceta (pastor durante 1991-1998), Víctor Aispuro (pastor durante 1999-2008) y Ronaldo Marsollier (pastor desde el 2008 hasta el presente).

El pastor Leighton Holley, presidente de la Asociación de Texas de los Adventistas del Séptimo Día, fue un invitado de honor que ofreció la oración de dedicación. Él dio un cálido reconocimiento a los pioneros que mediante su perseverancia compartieron el evangelio y permitieron que fructifique hasta llegar a ser hoy en día

una representación significativa de la Asociación de Texas. Otros invitados de honor que asistieron fueron el pastor Errol Eder (tesorero), el pastor Doug Kilcher (secretario ejecutivo), el pastor Carlos Craig vicepresidente) representado a la Asociación de Texas, y el pastor Eduardo Canales (vicepresidente para ministerios hispanos) en representación de la Unión del Suroeste.

El evento fue una bendición al igual que un llamado de rededicación y compromiso total con Cristo y su misión. Celebrar la gracia y la bondad divinas fue fundamental durante el fin de semana del 50° aniversario de la Primera Iglesia Hispana de Robertson al proveer una vislumbre de aquel día glorioso cuando los hijos de Dios se reúnan para entrar en su reino celestial por la eternidad.

April Herrera, Steve Herrera, y Ronaldo Marsollier





# The Southwestern

**C**helsea Evans always knew she was going to be a teacher. She also knew that she would be attending Southwestern Adventist University since she was in the sixth grade.

Coming from the small town of Hennesy, Okla., where she and her family were one of a handful of Adventist families, Evans attended a public high school and wanted to complete her education in an Adventist environment. Her mother had attended Southwestern and there was never any question in her mind about where she would be attending when the time came.

About to begin her senior year at Southwestern, she's majoring in English, taking a minor in history, and completing her teacher certification. She plans to be a high school English teacher, and hopes to help young people develop their own interests by sharing her own love of English.

Evans considers herself a bookworm, and adores her English classes, especially Victorian Literature. This year, she reluctantly tried out for a part in the annual spring play when her roommate dragged her to tryouts. Persuaded to audition, she was amazed when she landed the part of M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*.

She also relishes her religion classes. Coming from a public school, she says, she never really thought about how she approached her own spirituality, but now she reads her Bible differently, listens differently at church, and she says her relationship with the Lord has changed tremendously.

Evans is also a member of the honors program at Southwestern, and enjoys the honors courses, such as Philosophy of Science with Dr. Arthur Chadwick. She says that the level of learning and thinking is different from regular classes. She's been able to take advantage of many opportunities of the program, such as attending plays and exhibits, and she is currently in Greece, along with other honors students and faculty, as a part of the honors curriculum.

Evans delights in the knowledge she's gained, and says she's been able to put her knowledge to good use as an English tutor. Though confident in her abilities, she is humble and grateful for the opportunities and support she's been given at Southwestern, and is especially grateful to her professors in the English department, for their caring attitudes, and for pushing her to do more than she thinks she's able. She's also grateful to have been the recipient of the Thomsen Family Scholarship this April, an award given only to honors students who are working to support their education. She says the award was a blessing from God, and that she hopes to be able to give back some day to another student.

**Smith Castillo's** family immigrated to New York City from the Dominican Republic when he was a baby. His father, who'd never gone past the second grade, worked hard as a cabdriver to support his family and give them a better life and opportunities he'd never had. Raised an Adventist, Castillo says he

dreamed of becoming a minister since he was very young, but because of a leg deformity and a stutter, he thought he'd never be able to be a pastor.

When he was 12, his father was murdered while driving his cab. His family went through some difficult times, but Castillo's mother always reminded him that his father wanted a better life for him. His family moved to Florida when he was 18, and Castillo took general classes at several different area colleges, but dropped out after becoming bored. The desire to be a minister was pushed to the background. He was active in his church, though, and began his own business. He met and married a young woman. But within a month of the wedding, she told him she'd made a mistake and filed for a divorce. Soon his business began to fail, and within a year, it, too, was gone.

His mother encouraged him to keep active and make new friends. He signed up for [adventistsingles.com](http://adventistsingles.com), and made a friend who lived in Dallas, and he also kept the commitments he'd made to his local church by attending the August 2009 Oshkosh Pathfinder Camporee with his Pathfinder group, and it was there, while listening to the theme, "Courage to Stand," that he decided he needed to follow God's calling for him to be a minister.

"As soon as I got home, I asked God where I should apply. I was impressed to apply at three places, and Southwestern was one of them. I told God that I would attend the school that called me first to let me know I'd been accepted."

The day after he submitted the application, his friend, Rosalba, dropped off a cousin at Southwestern's campus for the beginning of the fall semester. While she was there, she asked an enrollment officer to contact Castillo.

That call cemented his decision. Within days he was enrolled, but there was a problem.

"I didn't have any money, because my business had failed. I checked my bank account two days before registration and there was a negative balance. I got on my knees and prayed and I could hear God telling me to check the account again. I did, and there had been a deposit in just the right amount that I needed."

"I love being at Southwestern. I'm enrolled in the student pastor program, and they introduced me the first Sabbath at my new church as an associate pastor. I didn't know how to take it—if they would accept me with my disability. I've joined the spiritual development team also, and will be helping with programs on campus, and I'll be the student association religious vice president next school year.

Castillo says that Southwestern helped him discover his two great loves, the ministry, and Ro-



# Experience

salba. They married in December of 2009, and she is also now a Southwestern student. Castillo says that after he graduates, he'll do whatever God wants for him, he's done putting obstacles in God's way.

**Sarah Osborn** was born to be a world-traveler. She's a senior at Southwestern majoring in social science with an emphasis in international relations, and is currently in Suriname working as an intern for the U.S. State Department.

Osborn explains that her upbringing is what interested her in her educational path and career goal. While she considers San Antonio her home base, as part of a military family, she's lived on various international and U.S. bases.

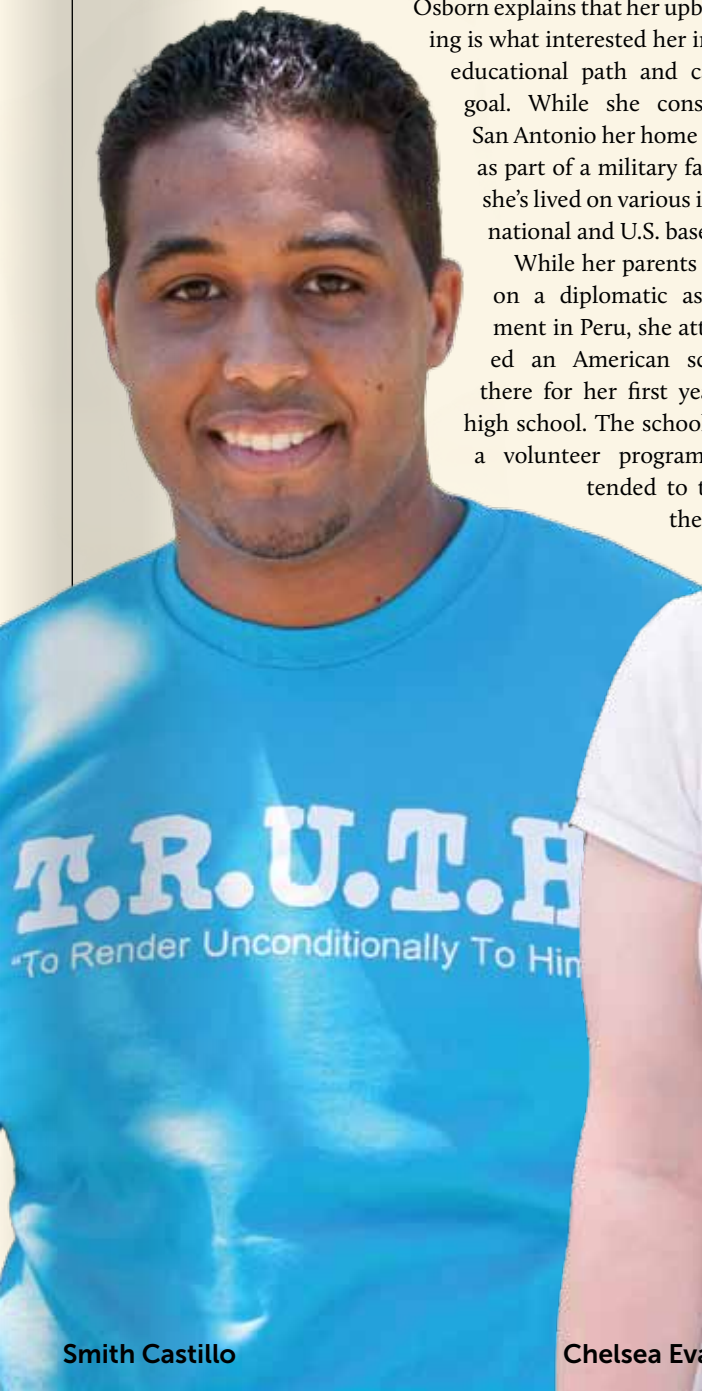
While her parents were on a diplomatic assignment in Peru, she attended an American school there for her first year of high school. The school had a volunteer program intended to teach the stu-

dents about the life of the impoverished.

Osborn's maternal grandmother was Panamanian, and Osborn says the stories she heard about the abject poverty her grandmother experienced also influenced her decision to study history and social science, with the ultimate goal of helping people in places where help and access to basic human necessities are limited.

After graduating from a public high school in San Antonio, she planned to attend a public university, but at her father's insistence, she attended Southwestern. "At first, I didn't like anything about Southwestern because coming here wasn't what I'd wanted to do. Now I'm so very glad I came here."

Osborn says she realizes how lucky she is to get the personal attention she does at Southwestern. Osborn explains that the mentorship she's received from her teachers was one of the reasons her feelings changed about Southwestern. "My teachers don't necessarily



Smith Castillo



Chelsea Evans



**Sarah Osborn**

know that I've adopted them as my mentors, but there are several who I really admire and who've changed the way I look at things."

Though she was a social science major, she says she intentionally took a course from biology professor Arthur Chadwick, one of her adopted mentors.

"He taught me that there is beauty in science, and that God and science make sense in the same sentence." Osborn says that her experience in public school science courses frustrated her, because teachers ridiculed Christian beliefs. She says that while Chadwick taught the concepts of popular scientific beliefs, he presented a solid intellectual and spiritual basis for students to stand up for their belief in Creation.

Her relationship with God has changed completely since coming to Southwestern. She says she realizes how being in a distinctively Adventist environment has been a blessing.

She's recently become engaged and says her fiancé understands what she calls her traveling "disease," and her desire to help others. She wants God to lead her in all decisions, and says that after graduation, "I'll go wherever God tells me to go."

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**Jessica Lozano**, Southwestern Adventist University  
marketing and public relations director

# The Road to Success Begins at Southwestern

Students choose an Adventist college for two core reasons: they desire solid educational instruction and they want a Christian environment. But at Southwestern Adventist University we recognize that a third component is also necessary. We are working to prepare Adventist students for life success.

This is not new, of course. Southwestern has always been about success, as attested by the thousands of alumni who have enjoyed fulfilling lives of service. But our new Student Success Initiative aims higher.

This initiative recognizes that achievement in life involves more than native intelligence or knowledge. Real success is built on certain personal values and habits of daily living and what the Bible calls “wisdom.” Every generation has to understand these practices that mark successful men and women—and make them second nature.

What are these values and habits?

Integrity. Service. Respect.

Resourcefulness. Discipline. Perseverance.

Conflict resolution. Imagination and intellectual curiosity.

These are among the qualities that will be reemphasized to students beginning next fall. Students will encounter a campus culture that intentionally emphasizes mature Christian behavior and high achievement. It has long been known that colleges and universities that cultivate a strong set of campus values are those that are most appreciated by students and most in demand for attendance. Southwestern has an opportunity, we believe, to do what no other Adventist institution has attempted.

How will this program be implemented? There is a blue-ribbon campus taskforce of faculty, staff, and student leaders to shape and promote the Student Success Initiative. They are identifying the most promising strategies for lasting impact on student lives.

During freshman orientation in August, new students will be introduced to college as not simply thirteenth grade but as the beginning of a life-changing experience. Returning students will see greater accountability on their part to meet classroom obligations. Assembly programs will focus on attributes of success. Academically, a new emphasis will be given to off-campus internships, which are unparalleled opportunities to learn real-life work

responsibilities. On campus, a new program called Southwestern Fellows will offer a select number of higher-paid jobs that require greater responsibility and independence. These are just the first few of many ideas about to be implemented.

At the heart of the Student Success Initiative lies a simple proposition: We wish to change expectations. We want to see rising student expectations about what college requires, of what constitutes true excellence, of what Christian maturity means. At the same time teachers and staff may need to raise their own expectations about our own accountability and consistency.

Southwestern Adventist University administration and faculty are realistic. We recognize that eighteen- and nineteen-year-olds are, in the nature of things, often immature and lacking in self-direction. But it is precisely this condition that offers Christian educators a wonderful opportunity.

These are the years when habits are developed, values set. This is why a structured Christian environment is so important. Southwestern wants students who are serious about this kind of systematic preparation for success.

Southwestern needs your help to spread the word of our commitment and to help us identify every qualified potential student who desires what we offer. And we ask every believer in the Southwestern Union to hold us accountable for accomplishing what we set out to do. We are determined to renew the Adventist vision of education. We are committed to helping our students succeed, both now and for eternity.

**Dr. Benjamin McArthur**, Southwestern Adventist University academic dean





# Training for Life at Southwestern

**B**ill Kilgore, Southwestern's vice president for spiritual development, has often said that the university is not interested in only providing training for a specialized field; one of its main focuses is to provide each student training for his or her life's calling, what Kilgore likes to call a "vocation." Career training is only a part of what a student receives at Southwestern. The university's goal is that each student is prepared not only for his or her first job, but also for the life that comes after graduation, which can be fraught with difficult personal and spiritual decisions.

"Students are encouraged to thoughtfully consider their career choices, and match them with the calling that they've been given," he says. "Sometimes a student gets caught up in something for the wrong reason, and we encourage them to step back and see where their decisions may take them."

Tina Bottsford, director of enrollment at Southwestern, says one of the top questions she hears from potential students is "I really like this major, but what kind of job can I get with it?" It's a question that can be answered with simple job titles, but Bottsford gives examples of what actual Southwestern alums have gone on to do, and how they've applied their life training in their careers, as well as all other aspects of their lives.

**Leandro Bizama ('03)** was a student missionary in Majuro. His wife, **Jennifer Goley Bizama ('03)**, was a student missionary in Japan. After the two graduated, he with a degree in theology and she in social science, they went back to Majuro as missionaries, and he was a chaplain. While they were in Majuro, Leandro was offered the music director position at Ozark Adventist Academy. He accepted the position, and recently completed his masters in music. Jennifer teaches at a public school nearby.

**Loren Seery ('02)** was a biology pre-med major, and went as a student medical missionary to a hospital in India that specialized in eye surgeries. By the end of his year as a missionary, he was performing

all types of routine and emergency surgeries. As of June he'd completed his ophthalmology residency at the Mayo Clinic and is moving into a fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis.



◀ Brendy Brehm ('04) is second from left, and Tom Cromwell ('05) is second from right.

**Miguel Serrano ('08)** was a pre-med history major and while at Southwestern, he was the religious vice president for the student association, and a member of the biology club. He is now at Loma Linda University where he is working on a combined M.D./Ph.D program, where he is researching physiology and focusing on diabetes.

**Buster Swoops ('06)** was a theology major and student association president during his time as a student. He now pastors the Philadelphia Seventh-day Adventist Church in San Antonio, and is a chaplain at Hays Nursing and Rehab Center in San Marcos, Tex., where he lives with his wife, **Lauren Them Swoops ('06)**, who is an elementary school teacher.

**Anne-Marie Jacobs ('10)** graduated with a degree in elementary education. She was active in the student association, senior class president, a resident hall assistant, and she also worked in the Office for University Advancement. Since graduation, she's had the difficult problem of deciding which teaching job offer to accept.

**Elinor Santos Angier ('06)** was a student association officer and an elementary education major at Southwestern. She was hired to be the principal and a teacher at the Waianae Seventh-day Adventist School in Waianae, Hawaii, right after she graduated. She is now the principal and a teacher at the Martinsville SDA School in Martinsville, Va., where she lives with her husband, **Matt Angier ('06)**.

**Kristin Netteburg Priest ('98)** was a corporate communication major and is now the associate director of programs at Philanthropic Services for Institutions in Silver Spring, Md. She got her start in philanthropic work as a student worker in Southwestern's Office for University Advancement.

**Travis Clegg ('02)** graduated with a business administration degree in marketing and e-commerce. He and his wife, **Hannah Raymer Clegg ('03)**, a corporate communication graduate, moved to Portland, Oreg., where she is now marketing coordinator at the Adventist Health Center, and he is the site administrator for Gresham Imaging Station, part of Adventist Health. They both recently completed MBAs at Portland State University.

**Neila Arouca ('05)** came to Southwestern as an ESL student and graduated with a degree in computer science. She now lives in Brazil, but telecommutes for a local Internet Service Provider in Cleburne, Tex.

**Brendy Brehm ('04)** worked as an ESL tutor while she was a student at Southwestern, and graduated with a degree in elementary education. She now works alongside **Thomas Cromwell ('05)**, who received both theology and English degrees, and his wife, Yesenia, in Chiapas, Mexico, at Linda Vista University teaching English.

"A well-trained person in any field has nearly limitless options," says Kilgore. "Southwestern provides whole-person training—something that goes beyond a singular skill. Our alums' successful careers—and successful lives—are a testament to that."

# Financing Your Education at Southwestern

“Many high school seniors who desire to go to college and have a proven academic record won’t apply because they or their families don’t think they can afford it.” Patricia Norwood is assistant vice president of student financial services at Southwestern.

One of the most important aspects of financing an education is for the individual to understand his or her options, and for him or her to then determine whether they are willing to apply the needed effort. Norwood says students who come to her with special financial situations are given options for paying their college expenses, and she offers them the following suggestions:

## FAFSA

Fill out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) to begin your search for financial aid online, and have the results sent to Southwestern. This will tell the school how much government financial aid you are eligible to receive, and will let you know how much you should be able to receive in loans and grants.

## Grants and Loans

Grants are mostly need-based and do not need to be repaid. School loans usually have a much lower interest rate than other loans and do not have to be repaid until you graduate or withdraw from school. Some veterans or their eligible family members also have 100 percent of tuition paid.

## Scholarships

Incoming freshmen or transfer students at Southwestern are eligible for renewable scholarships for up to \$6,000 per school year. Current students can also qualify for need-based or academic-based scholarships. Southwestern awarded \$1,940,000 last year in endowed and awarded scholarships.

## Special Programs

Southwestern offers many ways to cover the cost of tuition for earnest students. Southwestern gives music and honors program scholarships, and matches 75 percent of summer earnings from summer camp, canvassing, or witnessing ministries.

## Student Employment

Southwestern makes a unique promise to students—any student who wants to work can have a job. Student employment makes up a large portion of the workforce in all aspects of the campus—food service workers, cashiers, tutors, photographers, lab assistants, and dinosaur bone lab technicians are just a few of the jobs available.

## Depend on God

Most student aid officers would not mention what Norwood says is the most important way to finance your education—partnering with God. She has countless stories of students who arrive at Southwestern with limited resources, but somehow manage to graduate four years later.

“My advice to students is to make that commitment to themselves to get a college education, apply for aid, work during the summer and the school year, study to make the grades, and watch the miraculous ways in which God fills in the gaps.”





## Yesterday's Memories Are Still Realities Today

The moment was almost magical. I stood in the doorway of Elder William Richardson's office and took another long look at everything in that little room. No one else was around, and I had come to turn in my key. Elder Richardson had instructed me to place it on his desk when I was finished with everything, and to be certain the door was locked when I went out. I was about to close the door behind me for the last time, but I found myself tarrying as I relived memories of events that had taken place right there in that office that school year.

I had just graduated as a theology major from Southwestern Union College (now Southwestern Adventist University). Besides being a resident assistant for the dean of men, I had also been a reader for Elder Richardson. He had entrusted me with a key to his office so that I could come in and grade papers from his Life and Teachings of Jesus and Greek I classes. It was a job I thoroughly enjoyed. But what was even more enjoyable was the opportunity to sit and visit with Elder Richardson about ministry. Many hours were spent in that office, not just grading the papers of other students, but getting to know something about the realities of the life of a minister. I learned a lot from my other professors, but I also learned much from those quiet moments with my mentor as he shared with me from the wealth of his experience. That time was priceless; and that's why it was so hard to walk out of that office for the last time.

That was 38 years ago, yet the memories of my experience at Southwestern are still etched into my mind as the finest of all my years of formal education. The reasons are simple. I found dedicated teachers focused on distinctive Adventist education yet at the same time they were keenly interested in my success, both as a student and in my chosen profession. I found a culture

of genuine friendliness and acceptance all over campus in which I was challenged to always strive for my highest potential. As a frequent visitor on the campus of Southwestern Adventist University, I am pleased to testify that those same qualities and dynamics still exist today.

Stephen Orian, president

## Women's Ministries Hosts Week of Prayer

**POCAHONTAS, ARK. »** On Sunday, February 28, the women of the Pocahontas church joined the women of the Mammoth Spring and Jonesboro churches for a prayer luncheon that would precede the church's Week of Prayer. Rita Neptune, from the Mammoth Spring church, was the guest speaker for the day. Following lunch the women took a "prayer journey," during which they passed by various stations that are typical of things that might hinder



our conversations with Jesus. Each station corresponded with a topic for the Week of Prayer that followed.

Monday night's presentation was given by Elaine Jones, women's ministries leader, and focused on relationships and how the golden rule fits into every relationship in our lives. On Tuesday, Margie Gearhart, church treasurer, discussed finances and how to alleviate some of the pressures they bring. On Wednesday evening Sarah Brandt focused on health and wellness for ourselves and our families. On Thursday, Gayle Thomas presented the topic of sin and repentance—with the certainty of God's saving grace. Friday evening was about thankfulness and praise, by Jamey Cheadle, who blessed us with her music, and then the evening was topped off with a concert by the group Simply His.

Each woman received a wonderful blessing by attending the Week of Prayer and also by presenting these topics. "Lift Him Up" was the theme that we will take into our community as we represent Him every day. If you would like to take the prayer journey at your church, contact [elaine\\_dee@hotmail.com](mailto:elaine_dee@hotmail.com).

Lainee Denton-Jones



▶ Top right: Rita Neptune spoke at the women's ministries luncheon that kicked off Week of Prayer at the Pocahontas church.

▶ Right: Simply His provided music at the women's ministries prayer luncheon.

ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

# New Pastoral Family Takes a “Pounding”

**BATON ROUGE, LA. »** The Baton Rouge church celebrated birthdays in the month of February—everyone’s birthdays! The annual Birthday Bash was a big hit, with everyone participating according to his or her birthday month. For each month’s birthdays, a table was set with snacks and a cake planned by a coordinator whose birthday was celebrated that month. What a great time we had finding out who was born in the same month! Regina Wilson headed up the event and announced who was the oldest and youngest at each table. The youngest man at the February table said, “At age 50, I’m happy to be the youngest anywhere!”

The church used the Birthday Bash to welcome their new pastor, Warner Gil, and his lovely family with a “pounding.” Members brought pounds of gifts for the pastor, which included everything from beans to flour, sugar, and even a pound of aspirin! Pastor Gil has wasted no time in taking the reins and leading us with inspiring, motivating messages. We are excited for what the future holds.

Hal Gould



▲ Top: Members of the Baton Rouge church celebrated birthdays at a Birthday Bash where they welcomed their new pastor, Warner Gil, with a “pounding.”

▲ Bottom: Pastor Warner Gil and his wife, Elizabeth, at the pounding.

## 2010 Camp Meetings

### Ozark Family camp meeting

**When:** June 1–5  
**Where:** Ozark Adventist Academy, 20997 Dawn Hill East Rd., Gentry, AR  
**Main Speaker:** David Asscherick, director, ARISE Institute; Ron Halvorsen, Sr., evangelist  
**Contact:** Gentry church secretary, 479.736.8808

### Springtown Cowboy camp meeting

**When:** June 16–19  
**Where:** Springtown Adventist Church, 12444 Fairmont Rd, Gentry, AR  
**Contact:** www.springtownchurch.org

### Northwest Arkansas Spanish camp meeting

**When:** July 16–17  
**Where:** Ozark Adventist Academy, 20997 Dawn Hill East Rd, Gentry, AR  
**Contact:** Robert Eubanks, 504.376.4325

### Ark-La-Tex camp meeting

**When:** July 21–24  
**Where:** Jefferson Christian Academy, 3060 FM 728, Jefferson, TX  
**Main Speakers:** Leighton Holley, president, Texas Conference;  
**Contact:** Robin Tullock, 903.665.3973

### Bonnerdale Cowboy camp meeting

**When:** October 1–2  
**Where:** Bonnerdale Adventist church, 709 Adventist Church Rd, Bonnerdale, AR 71933  
**Main Speaker:** Mike Tucker  
**Contact:** Pastor Ryan Long, 870.356.7978

## Camp Yorktown Bay Schedule

Camp	Ages	Dates
Cub	7–9	June 6–13
Junior	10–12	June 13–20
Tween	11–13	June 20–27
Family	All ages	June 27–July 4
Xtreme Camps	14+	June 27–July 4
Blind	All ages	July 4–11
Teen	13–18	July 11–18

**Contact:** For more information, call the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference Youth Department at 318.631.6240, or visit [www.campyorktownbay.com](http://www.campyorktownbay.com).

## OAA Students Experience the Unexpected In Peru

**GENTRY, ARK.** » After two days of traveling, 21 tired, sweaty Americans arrived in Pucallpa, Peru. As we stepped off the airplane at five o'clock Friday morning, we experienced the first wave of humidity and heat. We kissed goodbye to flushing toilets, air-conditioning, and Taco Bell, and the adventure began. One of the student missionaries from AMOR Projects helped us load all our belongings onto a bus, and an hour later we arrived at our work site. Our tents were set up as fast as our sleep-deprived bodies could move and we fell asleep before our heads hit the pillow. The student missionaries (SMs) knew we were in a bit of culture shock so they graciously allowed us to have a relaxed day, getting to know each other and figuring out how to breathe in 100 percent humidity. I'm so glad that God gave us the ability to adapt to new situations!

Sabbath morning we experienced our first bucket showers! As unappealing as they sound, we were so grateful to have them and eagerly welcomed the refresh-

ment they brought. For church we split up into three different groups and did church services with the help of a translator. Santa Elvita, one of the three churches, is comprised largely of children and we had a great time singing songs and playing Bible games. The kids love to do individual special music, so half of the church service was filled with solos from the precious children. It is interesting how eager the children are to learn about God and to be involved with



▲ OAA students helped to construct a medical building for a mission project in Pucallpa, Peru.

◀ Students from OAA enjoyed singing songs and playing Bible games with the children in Peru during their recent mission trip.



the service. We learned that after someone performs up front, a four-finger wave is appropriate for expressing praise. In the afternoon we did in-home visitation and an afternoon church service. We were happy to go to sleep early.

Sunday was our first work day, and wow—we were in for a big surprise! We were told that our work project was to build onto a medical building, so I was slightly confused when I was handed a

machete—and the next thing I knew I was traipsing through the jungle and cutting 4-foot circles around lemon trees. I remember thinking more than once, “What in the world am I doing here?” And trust me; using a machete is not as easy as it looks. I can definitely give lessons, because I now have plenty of experience! On the way back to eat lunch, I started talking to Keith, one of the student missionaries on the manual labor team. I asked him how he was able to be so positive while he worked in the hot sun all day. He told me that he was here to serve and while he wasn't always directly working with the Peruvians as the medical team did, he knew that his work contributed to the project as a whole and that inspired him to work hard. His positive attitude, selflessness, and willingness to serve made me do a serious self-check and sent me into “working mode.”

Throughout the rest of the week, our group did numerous things, including more machete clearing, working in the yucca fields, digging holes and planting coconut trees, building a bathroom, and clearing ground and constructing a large gazebo. We also held a VBS program every night and I just fell in love with the kids. Being there definitely inspired me to pay more attention in Spanish class, because language barriers are no fun. There is so much you want to tell the kids, but you have to settle for hand motions, lots of smiles and hugs, and using whatever Spanish you can remember.

After VBS ended in the evenings, we got to spend time with the SMs. They were such a wonderful group of people who embraced us and taught us so much through their positive attitudes and willingness to let Jesus use them. After being there for four days, we found out that the “Spanish only” cook, Jose, knew perfect English, was born in Connecticut, and attends Southern University. We all had a good laugh.

This mission trip truly enriched my life and helped me see life in a whole new light. It also made me realize that I would love to be a student missionary in the future. Helping others is so rewarding and I wouldn't trade my experience in Peru for anything!

**Karissa Knobloch**, OAA student



## Seven Good Reasons to Attend Southwestern Adventist University

Why should Seventh-day Adventist students attend a Seventh-day Adventist college or university, especially Southwestern Adventist University? The reasons are many, but here are some of the *most important*.

**First**, students are taught the biblical/Christian worldview and why it is superior to the secular/atheistic worldview. In a public university, students are taught only the secular/atheistic worldview, while the biblical/Christian worldview is usually undermined, if not mocked. What a student is taught is crucial because, ultimately, that worldview becomes the student's as he or she moves into adulthood, and quite often, for life.

**Second**, in a Christian institution, students are taught that everything that exists is a result of God's creation, not chance. They also learn that this world was created by God in six days and that God rested on the seventh day. It is tremendously reassuring to know that we exist by God's creation and that male and female are created in God's image. I cannot begin to imagine what it would be like to believe that I am a product of chance rather than God's loving choice.

**Third**, students at Southwestern are given the opportunity to become involved in the mission of the church, whether on campus, off campus, or through mission trips. Students learn that we must follow Jesus, who came not to be served, but to serve.

**Fourth**, students develop friendships with faculty members that continue long after graduation. These friendships provide mentoring and advice to students as they move through life.

**Fifth**, every year, students commit their lives to Jesus Christ and are baptized while at Southwestern.

**Sixth**, students make Christian friends they will have for life. The value of Christian friends cannot be underestimated. The Christian friends I made at Southwestern during the mid-1970s have been a great blessing to me.

**Seventh**, students often find a spouse while in school. A Seventh-day Adventist Christian spouse is invaluable.

Does it cost to attend a Seventh-day Adventist college or university? Indeed it does. But in my view, it is not an expense, rather, it is an investment in our young people!

**Vialo Weis, Jr.**, Planned Giving & Trust Services director, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty director, Secretary (Corporation), General Counsel

## We're Proud of Our Pathfinders

**OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE** » Pathfinders is a marvelous tool of the church for training our young people to be like Jesus. Each year I serve these Pathfinders, I am more amazed at the job that God has called us to do. These youth will have to live in very challenging times, so their training spiritually, physically, emotionally, and socially is so important.

One of the arms of Pathfinder training is the Bible Bowl Achievement, which is held each year throughout the North American Division. A specific book of the Bible is chosen for an "information recall feast." Jeremiah was the selected book for 2010.

This has been an exciting year for the Oklahoma Pathfinder clubs that partici-

pated in the area and conference Bible Bowls. The Arbuckle View Pathfinder Club took it a notch higher by earning a first-place finish at the conference level and then was able to compete with three Texas Pathfinder Clubs in Davis, Okla., for the Union Bible Bowl hosted by the Oklahoma Conference. Praise the Lord! The Arbuckle View Pathfinder Club from Oklahoma, along with the Houston United African club, the Houston International club, and the Edinburg club, all from Texas, took first place, allowing them to go to the Division Bible Bowl in Berrien Springs, Mich., April 16-18, 2010! Congratulations, Pathfinders!

But, the fun, excitement, and congratulations didn't stop there. The Arbuckle View Pathfinders of Oklahoma, the Houston United African Pathfinders of Texas, the Houston International club of Texas, and the Edinburg club, also of Texas, went to the Division Bible Bowl in Michigan, bringing the total count of participating clubs from around the NAD to 19. At the end of the evening, the four teams from the Southwestern Union were in the top nine teams to win first place! Congratulations, Arbuckle View, Houston United African, Houston International, and Edinburg clubs!

Oklahoma has been blessed with four teams in the past 20 years to go to the highest level of the Bible Bowl Achievement. According to the NAD records, the four clubs are: Claremore Mustangs and Wewoka War Ponies in 2000, the **MORE** »

▼ The Oklahoma Pathfinder clubs have performed very well in the area and conference Bible Bowls, not only this year, but over the past 20 years.



Claremore Mustangs again in 2001, the Green Country Blazing Mustangs in 2002, and now the Arbuckle View Warriors for 2010.

The challenge is now to *all* Pathfinders: open the Word and study. Each of you has the opportunity and responsibility to learn and be ready while you can.

**Jung-Wook (Apple) Park**, Oklahoma Conference Pathfinder/Adventurer director

## The Centurion

**OKMULGEE »** The Okmulgee church presented a very special Easter program

Wednesday evening, March 31. We were enthralled by the beautiful voice of Elizabeth Montgomery as she sang



several selections from her CDs.

Then we were spellbound as Pastor Harvey Gil drew us into the Passion of Christ through his portrayal of The Centurion who witnessed the trial, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus.

The presentation was followed by a time of socializing and refreshments. One attendee remarked, "We need to do things like this more often!"

**Gloria Treanton**

## Seminars Focus on Music and Worship

**OWASSO »** On the weekend of April 16-17, the Three Angels church enjoyed a seminar on music with Karl Tsatalbasidis, who pastors in Buchanan, Mich. He is pursuing doctoral studies at the Andrews University seminary.

Pastor Karl spent years as a professional musician, playing and studying the drum set. After giving his life to the Lord, he became convicted about, not

only his lifestyle, but also what it means to praise the Lord through music.

On Friday night we learned about "The Shaky Foundation of Contemporary Worship and Music: The Impact of Vatican II" and "A Solid Ground for Christian Worship and Music: The Blueprint from the Sanctuary." On Sabbath there were four more very informative seminars.

Pastor Karl has written an enlightening book entitled *Drums, Rock, and Worship*. He is devoted to teaching people the biblical truths about music and worship in the church, as well as in our daily lives.

On Sabbath evening, we enjoyed a concert by the family. His daughter, Sophia, 14 years old, sang several beautiful solos. She sang her first solo in church before age three and started singing for 3ABN's *Kids Time* before the age of four. Sophia and her brother, Dino, 12 years old, performed violin solos and duets with their mother, Lily May, accompanying them on the piano. It was truly a Sabbath of blessings!

**Neilita Martin**

◀ Far left: Pastor Harvey Gil portrayed The Centurion at the Okmulgee church's Easter program held on March 31.

◀ Left: Christian singer Elizabeth Montgomery enthralled members of the Okmulgee church during an Easter program.

▼ Pastor Karl Tsatalbasidis and his family blessed the Three Angels church with a music seminar by Pastor Karl and performances on the violin by 14-year-old Sophia, 12-year-old Dino, and a piano accompaniment by their mother, Lily May.





▲ An auction held at the Choctaw church brought a lot of fun and funds—\$1,108 to be exact—for Investment.

## Choctaw Investment Auction Earns Record-Breaking Total

**CHOCTAW** » A few months back, the Choctaw church held its annual Investment Auction. Each year church members bring “white elephants” and baked goods from home to be sold to make money for Investment. It’s amazing what people can find in their attics if they look around a little bit!

The evening began with a haystack supper that raised \$253 for our worthy student fund. We had seven students at Parkview Adventist Academy during the 2009-2010 school year!

After the nice meal, everybody settled in for an evening of intense—but friendly—bidding on the many items that had been brought for sale. By the end of the auction, we had raised \$1,108 for Investment, which our treasurer, Linda Lambeth, says is a record for us! Everybody seemed to have a good time, and we all went home with full stomachs and the satisfaction of having provided a good home for some homeless knickknacks!

Robin Sagel



▲ Oklahoma Conference president John Moyer and his wife, Donna, celebrated their Golden Anniversary at the Oklahoma City Central church.

## A Golden Celebration for a Treasured Couple

**OKLAHOMA CITY** » On Sunday, April 18, 2010, John Moyer, president of the Oklahoma Conference, and Donna, his bride of 50 years, celebrated their Golden Anniversary at the Oklahoma City Central church.

After weeks of planning and work by a dedicated team from both the Oklahoma Conference office and the Central church, the Moyers were able to celebrate this grand affair in the midst of family, colleagues, and friends representing many churches in the Oklahoma Conference.

Elder and Mrs. Moyer renewed their vows with Mike Lawlor, pastor of the Oklahoma City Central church, officiating.

Six of the Moyers’ children were able to attend, and their daughter, Heidi, joined the festivities through live video via Skype.

Lots of healthy food and beautiful table arrangements were provided by Odessa Griffin of the Lawton church and everyone expressed appreciation.

We want to praise God for this wonderful occasion and pray that He will give the Moyers many more years together, and in His service.

Terry Lawlor

## Southwestern Union Evangelism Training Camp Meeting

July 7–12, 2010

Do you need a revival in your Christian experience? Do you need new ideas and creative ways to reach your community? Native Ministries and the Southwestern Union are combining their resources to provide both pastors and laity a time of revival and evangelism training,

Topics include:

- The Holy Spirit and the Latter Rain experience
- Overcoming the “dry bones experience” in your church and personal life
- Reaching your community leaders
- Meeting and ministering to the needs of your local community
- Increasing the effectiveness of your evangelistic outreach
- More effective marketing of your church to the local community
- And much more

You will not want to miss this experience! Contact the Oklahoma Conference office for reservations and registration information at 405.721.6110.

## Decisions! Decisions! Decisions!

You have just completed high school. Summer is just around the corner and you are wondering, "Where will I go to college? What university will I attend?" Well, friend, you don't have to wonder anymore. I have the answer for you! There is a Seventh-day Adventist University nestled in North Central Texas that is second to none. It offers quality education in a Christ-centered environment shaped by Seventh-day Adventist and Christian values.

If you want to belong to the best of the best in the Southwest, then Southwestern Adventist University is the place for you! Southwestern is located in the town of Keene, Tex., about 25 miles south of Fort Worth, and 45 miles southwest of Dallas. Come, bring a friend, and enjoy undergraduate studies at a high spiritual and academic level. Southwestern's curriculum provides a balanced education, combining classes in English, religion, science, mathematics, computer science, physical education, the social sciences, and foreign languages.

So, if you are looking for a place like no other for your Christian education, then Southwestern is the place to be! How do I know? I am a 1970 graduate of this great institution, and it is the best.

Spiritual life was always a priority for the college—from lectures in the classroom to daily evening dorm worships, weekly chapels, Friday Vespers, Sabbath School discussions, Sabbath worships, and Sabbath vespers.

Friday vespers were always a favorite time for me. Students, faculty, and staff gathered at the Keene church and welcomed the Sabbath through song, prayer, and a timely word from the chosen speaker. I enjoyed all the musical groups, but my favorites were the quartets. I loved their rich harmony. Following vespers, many of us would go to Afterglow, where we would sing, share testimonies, give thanks to God, and close by joining hands and singing a meditative song that sent us to the dorm reflecting on God and His graciousness to

us. These wonderful spiritual excursions will forever be etched in the memory bank of my mind.

Just as the focus was on the spiritual when I went to Southwestern, so it is today.

Students, parents, I challenge you to make Southwestern Adventist University your choice. Find out more at [www.swau.edu](http://www.swau.edu). Love you!

**Billy Wright**, president

## The Prodigal Comes Home

**CORSICANA, TEX. »** On March 20, two days after his twenty-ninth birthday, Cyrus James Stiggers preached the Word of God at the Bethel church and rededicated his life to the Lord through baptism. His father, Pastor Norman Stiggers, performed the baptism. When Cyrus was seven years old, he would pretend that family members were his congregation and that he was the preacher, as he recited scriptures that he had memorized. At age of 12 he would make up his own songs about Jesus and try to play them on his guitar. He was actively involved in Pathfinders, sang in the choir at the Mt. of Blessings church in Amarillo, and enjoyed fun activities with other youth. His favorite song was "Jesus, You're the Center of My Joy."

As a "preacher's kid," Cyrus has attended 12 different schools (home schools, private schools, church schools, and public schools), and moved at least as many times, experiencing and observing much.

Cyrus was a child who would appear not to listen or pay attention to what is being done or said, who would seem to be in his own little world, but if asked to explain the four conversations going on at one time, he could give detailed responses about each. He graduated from Ozark Academy in 1999, later attended Oakwood College, and is currently pursuing a degree in history at the University of Alabama. One of his God-given talents is communicating with people old and young, rich and poor, and making them feel relaxed and comfortable, as though he has known them for years. He believes that his mission is to help others.

Cyrus's message for the worship hour was entitled "Christ in You," and emphasized God's commission to love the Lord with all your heart, body, mind, and soul, and to love your fellow man, which he refers to as the basic "will of God." He reminded the congregation that pretend-

ing we are Christians is not enough. On Sabbath afternoon, Tracy Satterwhite praised the Lord in testimony and song, singing with such power and conviction that, when the concert



► Cyrus Stiggers, the 29-year-old son of Pastor Norman Stiggers and his wife, Lorraine, was re-baptized and preached the morning message at the Corsicana Bethel church on March 20.

was over, everyone present came to the altar to re-consecrate their life to the Lord. God is, indeed, still on the throne. Praise His holy name!

Lorraine Stiggers

## Berean Eagles Pathfinder Club Volunteers at the Chevron Houston Marathon

**HOUSTON** » On Sunday, January 17, the Pathfinder Club from the Berean church participated in an amazing race—the Chevron Houston Marathon. Some of the younger volunteers passed out snacks, such as bananas and yogurt. Pathfinder H. Langston Swinton and his team chanted “Bananas! More energy, less cramps!” as they passed out bananas to the tired runners. The older Pathfinders helped pass out T-shirts and medals to the finishers. They had a few challenges, according to Pathfinder Zoe Cartwright, but everyone enjoyed meeting runners from all over the world.

▼ Pathfinders from the Berean church in Houston passed out yogurt and other snacks to tired runners at the Chevron Houston Marathon in January.

While the Pathfinders were working hard behind the scenes, several Berean church members were running the amazing race “with patience.” Pathfinder director Pamela Dugano-Daphnis finished the half-marathon for the third year in a row. Hurt and Carol Porter, creators of the Kid-Care, Inc., program, also finished the half-marathon. Other church members to run the 13.1 mile half-marathon included Herman Daphnis, Taran Simmons, and Marion Williams.

Former Berean health ministries leader Forbes Barnwell ran the full marathon (26.2 miles) for the fourth year in a row. Exhausted, Dr. Barnwell said he was running out of steam toward the end of the race. At that point, he looked up and saw some of his church members in the crowd shouting his name and cheering him on. “That was just the motivation I needed,” said Dr. Barnwell, “to get re-energized and make it to the finish line!”

So it seems there’s a role for everyone at an amazing race like this one. If you can run a full marathon, go for it! You might be someone’s inspiration. If you can’t run 26.2 miles, maybe you can run the half marathon or even the 5K. If you’re not ready to run, consider volunteering behind the scenes or just standing on the route to cheer the runners on. Whether you’re facing a marathon

or just the daily challenges of running the Christian race, the guidelines are the same: “Lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset you, and ... run with patience the race” (Hebrews 12:1).

Ardis Griggs

## God Never Fails

**NEW ORLEANS** » Hezekiah Brinson has been a Seventh-day Adventist all his life. Baptized when he was 12 years old, he is a very talented and accomplished musician and well-known in the United States and Europe. Presently he is the music coordinator for Westbank United church and an ordained elder. He is married to the former Yulanda Barnum.

Hezekiah uses his talent as a band teacher in the public school system in Jefferson Parish and is well loved by all of his students. He performs in churches as well as at public festivities. While teaching in the public school, he always shared his faith with his students, taking them regularly to the Westbank United church. Whenever there was an evangelistic meeting, his students were always present. One night he brought 50 students to the Amazing Facts seminar.

One day at the school where Hezekiah was teaching, there was a change in administration, and a new principal took charge. The new principal noticed that whenever there was an activity at the school on Sabbath, Hezekiah was never present. Calling him to the office, she asked him why he was always absent for events on Fridays and Saturdays. He replied, “I attend church on Saturday,” adding that there was a letter of support in his file, stating that he is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian and that, as part of God’s commandments, he observes the Sabbath. The principal did not like Hezekiah’s answer and told him that she would look into the matter. A few weeks afterward, Hezekiah received a letter from the principal insisting that he come to work on Sabbath. Hezekiah refused. Remembering the fourth commandment, which says, “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy,” Hezekiah said, “It is better to obey God than man.” Then he decided not to go to work on **MORE** »



Sabbath. Shortly afterward, on January 10, 2010, he was dismissed from his teaching position. Assured that God would take care of him, Hezekiah wasn't worried. Then in March, he received a call from the Jefferson Parish to become the music director for the parish. "When one door is closed, another opens," Hezekiah said.

Hezekiah's students have so many good things to say about him. Here is just a sampling of their comments:

"Mr. Brinson always goes out of his way to help others."

"Mr. Brinson encouraged me to apply to college."

"Mr. Brinson cares about all of us."

"Mr. Brinson helps you make the right choices."

"Mr. Brinson takes us places that you never thought you would go."

## Pastor and Wife Celebrate 50 Years of Marriage

**BATON ROUGE, LA. »** This past February marked 50 years since Berean's interim pastor, Alfred Booker, Sr., and Louise Victoria first said their "I do's."

"And with God's blessings, we were determined to say them again," says Booker. "God has been so good to my wife and me that it was only fitting that we demonstrate His goodness again and again, and again," he continued. This was no ordinary renewal of vows as evidenced by the elaborate detail that went into every phase of the event. Family and friends, from as far away as New York

and as nearby as New Orleans, attended.

Conference president Billy Wright officiated at the elaborate ceremony and festivities that followed, which represented the concerted effort of all four Booker siblings along with other family members. According to those who attended both the first wedding and the silver anniversary celebration, this was the most ornate yet. Replete with the pomp fit for a first-time celebration, in addition to an array of music, the wedding party included a matron of honor and a best man, a junior bride and junior groomsman, six bridesmaids and their corresponding groomsmen, a flower girl, and a Bible bearer. Of course, all these paled in comparison to "bride" Louise, who, wearing a gold-colored flowing gown complemented by a long-sleeved lace bolero, and escorted by her brother, made her entrance down the white aisle runner. Her husband, Booker, said that his wife, Louise, was as radiant—if not more – than fifty years earlier.

The evening continued with an elegant reception, where guests mingled and enjoyed a scrumptious sit-down dinner prepared by Berean's own resident chef (and first elder) Robert Landry. As the evening drew to a close, the Bookers' children and guests expressed gratitude for having witnessed a Christian example of a couple who has vowed to remain together "until death do us part." The Berean church rejoices in the Bookers' happiness.

**Evelyn Edwards**

▼ Family, friends, and church members gathered for the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebration of Alfred and Louise Booker, interim pastor of the Berean church in Baton Rouge, La.



▲ Hezekiah Brinson with a few of his students.

"He is like a father to me."

"He helped me to get involved in school activities."

"Mr. Brinson helped me spiritually."

"Mr. Brinson has impacted my life."

Hezekiah told me at the end of our interview, "God is good to me. You need to serve Him with all your heart. Make a request to Him. He will respond. God never fails."

**Mathieu Cherenfant**





## Why I Chose Southwestern Adventist University

I am a proud, two-time graduate of Southwestern Adventist University, who recently returned to work for this place where God met me and took our relationship from a friendly acquaintance to a deep and abiding love. Here are just a few reasons why I came to Southwestern initially and why I returned.

Having attended public school just about all my life, the idea of coming to a place where my spiritual commitment was nurtured, celebrated, and a part of the norm as opposed to being a spectacle to be defended or gawked at was particularly pleasing.

I gained a real-world perspective because of the multicultural environment that exists here. It forced me to learn and embrace the many cultures that our world is made of. I discovered that although there are many differences, we can do more than merely coexist; we are better for being together.

When I was younger, I was capable, but reluctant to lead. I would much rather blend in with the crowd than stand out front. The faculty and staff at Southwestern first recognized the leadership potential in me and then refused to let me hide. They provided with me with training for my gifts, motivation to take my place as the leader God had in mind and, gave me opportunity to lead until I could feel comfortable with leading.

I also received a quality education that prepared me for work and life after college. It gave me the ability to see life with eternity as my priority. I learned here that if I live my life to serve God, He would "add all these things unto [me]."

**Keith L. Gray**, vice president for enrollment, SWAU

## Touching Lives in Kerrville

**KERRVILLE** » Outreach ministries are alive and well at the Kerrville church, where members are fully dedicated to reaching those in the community. Each volunteer uses their gifts and talents in a variety of ways to help those in need.

Personal ministries leader Carolyn Northcutt and part-time church school teacher Barbara Foster voluntarily work with the Christian Women's Job Corp, providing spiritual guidance and educational classes for the young women of Kerr County. Many are coming out of abusive situations or legal issues, and need to be trained to enter the job force and to also learn that God is always there to lead and guide. More than 200 volunteers are trained to provide the necessary support, guidance, and educational needs of these women for a 12-week period, after which they receive a diploma and assistance in locating positions in the community.

Church members Edward Collins and George Guyatt conduct Prophecy Seminars in Bandera. Since meeting facilities are limited, they were offered an extra space in a popular restaurant without charge, providing a place for their small group weekly Bible meetings to continue.

These two Bible teachers use Amazing Facts Bible Prophecy lessons. Following Ellen White's counsel to teach in small groups, they've found people to be very receptive. As they study the Word of God together, the experience fosters friendship and fellowship and bonding with one another.

The community services leader, Ila Peterson, along with Lorle Stacey, started a special project called "Bags-of-Love" for the children of K-Star Child Protective Service. Children removed from from a dysfunctional home are placed in K-Star and stay up to 90 days before being

returned to their parents or put in foster care. Inside each special bag is a quilt, personal items, toys, and a book. Having something that belongs to them personally gives the children a sense of security and love. The volunteers dedicate many hours constructing a dozen bags each quarter for these unfortunate, traumatized children. Christian love always goes the second mile to help others.

Members Alan and Molly Johnson have a goal of pursuing a healthy lifestyle and sharing the Creation Health Program developed by Florida Hospital in Orlando. The Creation Health approach is biblically based, easy and practical to follow, and encourages participants to make healthy choices.

Women's ministries leader Sara Kendrick started the Women In Touch program, which presents a challenge to be intentional about inviting women from the community to church. This has been a very successful program with 27 non-Adventist women from the community attending. It is so important that every woman reach her full potential in Christ, while helping others along their spiritual journey. Sara, who has been inspiring women to do just that, is very dedicated to her children and the church.

**Betty Blair**

▼ Members of the Kerrville outreach ministries group. Back Row: Carolyn Northcutt, Ed Collins, Alan Johnson. Front Row: Lorle Stacey, Ila Peterson, Molly Johnson.



## First Pathfinder Camporee at Lake Whitney Ranch

**LAKE WHITNEY** » On Sabbath, April 3 church members joined Texas Conference officers and more than 3,500 Pathfinders and staff for an open house and dedication program at Lake Whitney Ranch. The Texas Conference is developing youth camp facilities on the property. The April 2 dedication marked the first youth ministries event held on the property. It is the first of three club ministry camporees to be held on the site this year.

Visitors were given tours of the Lake Whitney Ranch property and shown the areas that will be developed. Pathfinders participated in a variety of activities throughout the weekend, including a church service on Sabbath. During the afternoon Pathfinder drill teams gave demonstrations for the guests.

During the dedication ceremony, Texas Conference leaders acknowledged God's leading in the acquisition of such an ideal property for conference events and activities, as well as success in securing the necessary permits. Current and former youth leaders were also acknowledged at the event, several of whom spoke to the significance of youth ministry and the importance of a youth camp facility.

▼ Pathfinders give a drill exhibition during the first camporee at Lake Whitney Ranch April 2-4. Adventurers and Master Guides will hold camporees at Lake Whitney Ranch later this year.



Adventurer, Pathfinder, and Master Guide directors gave presentations during the dedication ceremony. Each outlined the growth of their ministries and expressed the benefits Lake Whitney Ranch will provide. The property's size and infrastructure will accommodate a growing and vibrant Texas Conference Youth Ministries Department. At full capacity, Lake Whitney Ranch will accommodate 5,000 campers in its six pavilions.

For more information about the Lake Whitney Ranch project, visit [www.texasadventist.org](http://www.texasadventist.org).

## Bible Students Earn Certificates

**SAN ANTONIO** » On February 6, 2010, 16 students at the Fil-Am International Church received certificates after completing a variety of Bible studies. Several elders and trusted members served as teachers.

Four members of the Gomez Family (Edwin, Angelica, Nicole, and Camille) and Rodolfo Florendo completed the Doctrinal Class. Lillian Coleman, Deborah Treviño, and Stephen Ávila completed the "It is Written: Search for Certainty" series.

▼ "San Antonio Fil-Am International S.D.A. Church Bible Study students hold their certificates, accompanied by their teachers, Pastor Balbino David, Elder Sam Palomero, Elder Bryan Jennings, Sadie Coleman, M.D. and Personal Ministries Coordinator, Diane Watts."





Ralph and Myrna Sample completed the “A Reason to Believe” study. Most amazingly, six children each diligently completed six different studies, over a period of months. They are Godwin Joy, Sonia Joy, Ning Lun, Sheldon Getfield, JoEllen Baca, and Elizabeth Reyes. They faithfully studied “Amazing Facts: Amazing Adventure,” “Good News for Today,” “It’s My Choice,” “Making Jesus My Best Friend, Part I,” “Making Jesus My Best Friend, Part II,” and “In His Steps.”

Several of the participants are newly-baptized members. They each dedicated themselves to studying God’s Word as they each drew closer to Him as their Savior and Friend.

**Phyllis Domingo**

## Thirty-three Make Healthy Beginnings

**JEFFERSON »** Life took on new meaning for 33 Jefferson residents on February 18, as they completed a 10-session program on how to modify their lifestyle to improve their health and lower their risk for many chronic degenerative diseases. Classes began January 19 and were presented by Dr. Hans Diehl via video recordings, with live presentations by Dr. Mike Weber from the Jefferson Academy church and Dr. Judith Jamison, a former Jefferson resident. An added feature was the exercise component of the program provided by Jefferson Life Fitness Center. During the five weeks each registrant had full access to the exercise equipment with a trainer.

Each of the class participants lowered one or more of their body parameters: blood pressure, body weight, percent of

body fat, or waist and hip ratio. Current scientific studies suggest that by lowering these factors, one can lower the risk of heart disease, cancer, diabetes, hypertension, and obesity. Dr. Hans Diehl stated that one pound of excess body fat decreases a person’s life expectancy by one month. According to this calculation, the weight that was lost by the group during the five-week period represented an additional 8.3 years of longevity.

“Healthy Beginnings” is an introductory version of the Coronary Health Improvement Project known as CHIP. This program was hosted by the Jamison Community Center of Jefferson, Tex., which is run by the Jefferson Academy church. Follow-up programs are being planned to provide opportunity for the Jefferson community to increase their awareness of the importance of lifestyle and disease risk.

**Shirley Tucker**



◀ Jefferson residents participate in a five-week Healthy Beginnings program.

▼ Keene Adventist Elementary School students show off a \$500 check for Haitian relief. Students raised the money during a week of service projects.



## Students Focus on Giving

**KEENE »** Students at Keene Adventist Elementary School are full of spirit, both school spirit and a spirit of service. February is known as I Love KAES Month, and this year Home and School leader Louann Habenicht encouraged students to focus on giving back. For one week students were invited to participate in service activities each day. Students volunteered each day for activities such as collecting food for a local food bank, recycling, and raising funds for Haitian relief.

During the weekly chapel service, KAES proudly presented a Haitian relief check for \$500 to the Texas Conference. Students loved having the chance to help others and make a global impact.

**Donna Berkner**, KAES principal



## Do Not Be Troubled— God Is Leading

As I write these thoughts I am completing the last week of a six-week, seven-weekend evangelistic program in Rio Rancho. I'll be preaching tonight. People are responding to the gospel message but not without struggle. It is not easy to unite with a church that keeps the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus when most of the world has abandoned these biblical principles. My wife and I felt this struggle when we became members, and many of you probably had a similar experience.

The disciples of Jesus had this same experience. When Jesus told them he was going to die on the cross and would be leaving them, they were troubled. Their faith was tested. Is God leading? they wondered. Jesus gave them some telling words in John 14:1-3. He said, "Let not your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me." The disciples had doubts that God was leading. Jesus recognized they believed in God but they were struggling with faith in Him as the Messiah. They had doubts about their decision to follow Him. Was God leading them to follow Jesus or were they just caught up in the moment and deceived?

I find this in every evangelistic meeting. People wonder how so many people can be wrong and we can be right. They must decide whether God is leading. In other words, they must decide whether they believe in us and in what we have discovered through the study of the Word. I simply say, "In my Father's house are many mansions. My Savior, Jesus, is preparing a place for us and He is coming soon, so that we all can be together, with no troubles and doubt for all eternity."

There are people in and out of the church who are troubled—wondering if God is leading. My friends, the Word of God makes it plain: He is leading and He will bring about His plan for our redemption that was set in motion before the foundation of the world.

No matter what besets you, remember, Jesus is coming to redeem us from this sin-

sick earth. One day we will look up to see the culmination of His leading when He comes with all His holy angels. With all our troubles in the rear view mirror, we will look up and say, "This is our God, we have waited for Him and He will save us." God is leading.

**Jim Stevens**, president

## Constituents approve sale of Sandia View campus

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.MEX.** » Members of the Texico Conference Association met on Sunday, April 25 for a constituency meeting to decide whether to sell the Sandia View Academy campus.

Of the 270 members present at the Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid conference center, 65 percent cast votes in favor of the decision to sell and rebuild a new campus nearby.

This issue has been the focus of discussion and controversy in the wake of a lengthy legal battle initiated by concerned church members seeking to block the sale. A settlement agreement stipulated that an association membership meeting be called for April 25, 2010. During the meeting, each side was allowed 30 minutes to present their views, followed by discussion from the floor.

After one hour of orderly discussion, a motion to call for a vote was approved by a margin of greater than two-thirds. The General Conference Auditing Service oversaw the counting of the ballots.

Jim Stevens, Texico Conference president, said, "We are pleased with the decision today. We have been convinced from the beginning that the Lord brought us this opportunity."

The sale of the existing campus to a long-term care facility will net \$8 million, which is significantly more than the appraised value of the Sandia View property. It will provide funding to build a new state-of-the-art conference center and day academy complex approximately three miles from the current campus. The conference has allotted \$4.95 million of the proceeds for the construction of a new facility, with the remaining proceeds earmarked for evangelism, educational endowments, and other building projects around the conference.



▲ On the left of the picture is the conference office; in the middle is the multi-purpose gymnasium/conference center; and on the right is the administration/classroom building. (Artist's rendering)

TEXICO CONFERENCE

# History Comes to Life at CCA

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.MEX.** » Classrooms at Crestview Christian Academy came to life as The Museum of Living History on the evening of Thursday, February 25. Students from pre-school to eighth grade dressed in costumes as American history characters. Standing in front of interesting backdrops, they told about their lives and why their place in American history is important. The students were divided into categories, ranging from the presidents and first ladies to the Wild West.

In the exhibit called *Making a Difference*, students portrayed such women as Clara Barton on the Civil War Battlefield, Rosa Parks on a bus stop bench and Susan B. Anthony at the podium at Seneca Falls. Nancy Hart, portrayed by Amanda Kear, stood in the forests as she relayed her harrowing experiences with the British army. Down the way, Annie Sullivan was teaching Helen Keller to sign the word *water*.

In the Wild West exhibit, Brandon Perez, a seventh-grader, chose to portray Billy the Kid. He said, "It was really entertaining and I learned a lot and had fun being Billy the Kid." He joined the likes of Daniel Boone, Sacagawea, Lewis and Clark, Pocahontas, and Annie Oakley.

The exhibit Sports and the Arts included Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Laura Ingalls Wilder, Mary Cassatt, and Mildred Didrikson. Their backdrops included a golf course, a baseball diamond, an art gallery, and a covered wagon. America's Firsts gave the emphasis to the Americans who dared to go first. Women such as Amelia Earhart and Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman doctor, were joined by Sally Ride. Standing by these women were Neil Armstrong and Alexander Graham Bell.



▲ Zina Yroc, a fifth-grade student at Crestview Christian Academy, portrayed Molly Pitcher during the school's Museum of Living History program.

It would not be a museum without an exhibit of presidents and the heroes of American wars. The stories of Chester Nimitz, Robert Gould Shaw, and Matthew Brady were showcased along with Deborah Sampson, Molly Pitcher, and Sybil Luddington. Metzger Camacho and Hiram Marquez, portraying Betsy Ross and George Washington, did a short dialogue that kept the visitors captivated. The presidents' exhibit also displayed first ladies. Abraham Lincoln was joined by a very regal Mary Todd Lincoln and George Washington, who shared the stage with Martha Washington.

Not to be outdone, the kindergarten class did a presentation on Christopher Columbus while dressed as his loyal crew. Down the hall the pre-school class reminded us of that fateful evening when colonists dressed as Indians threw tea into Boston Harbor. It was history in the making as we watched our three-year-olds reenact this scene while chanting, "No taxation without representation."

Many of the visitors to the museum were surprised at the length of the monologues the students committed to memory and the attention they paid to their costumes. For many tireless hours parents worked with their children, either sewing the costumes or scouring the thrift stores and costume shops.

When Melissa Galetti, principal and Social Studies teacher, first approached the teachers with this project, they were interested but couldn't visualize the finished product. As time went by, the enthusiasm of the students and the creativity of the teachers made the program the success that it was. "I know it was hard for the teachers to imagine, but I'm pleased that they were willing to venture into the unknown," says Mrs. Galetti.

Melissa Galetti

## 2010 Texico Camp Meeting and Youth Festival!

**"FEED MY SHEEP"**

→ **June 15-19, 2010** ←

**Albuquerque Convention Center**  
401 2nd Street NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Main Speakers**  
*English:*  
**Dr. Ron Smith**, Vice-President of Southern Union  
*Spanish:*  
**Pablo Partida**, Presidente de la Asociación de Sonora

**Special Musical Guests**  
*English:* **Steve Darmody**  
*Spanish:* **Rudy Micelli**

**DON'T MISS IT! HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!**

## Prophecy Seminar Brings New Members

**RIO RANCHO** » The Rio Rancho Prophecy Seminar wrapped up with the addition of many new members to the church family (nine baptisms, one profession of faith, and eight rebaptisms). Night after night during the six-week series, visitors and members alike were captivated by Jim Stevens as he delivered messages from the Bible. Quite a few youth who attended expressed a desire for baptism.

Included among the baptismal candidates were a grandmother and her two



▲ Jim Stevens, president of the Texico Conference, recently conducted a six-week prophecy seminar at the Rio Rancho church in New Mexico that resulted in several baptisms and many who look forward to baptism.

young adult grandsons. It was interesting to hear how they first heard about the meetings. Prior to the start, they were in a laundromat, and on the floor, they noticed a brochure telling about the upcoming seminar. Picking it up and browsing through the information, they decided to check it out the first night to see what it was all about. Enjoying the first night, they continued to attend the remainder of the series. It was great to hear their excitement as they told about sharing what they were learning throughout the meetings with their family members and friends.

Another family came faithfully night

after night, resulting in a mother and her 14-year-old daughter making the decision to be baptized on the last Friday night of the series. The father was in the valley of decision and was not yet ready to make that commitment. The next day, which was Sabbath, and the final day of meetings, another baptism was held with individuals committing their lives to Christ by baptism and profession of faith. Dr. Stevens made one last appeal for others to make the decision for baptism and the father sprang to his feet. It seemed he was ready to head straight to the baptistery. Dr. Stevens asked him if he wanted to do it now and nodding his head in agreement, he bolted to the side of the church and made his way to the tank. It seemed there was hardly a dry eye in the church, as it was such a touching

moment to see this man's struggle come to an end in submission to the will of God. His wife and daughter were surprised and overjoyed at his decision.

Many more continue to move toward the decision for baptism. Pastor Eric Redic is conducting a follow-up Revelation Seminar to help members and visitors continue to learn and

strengthen their faith.

**Sue Hinkle**, Texico communication director

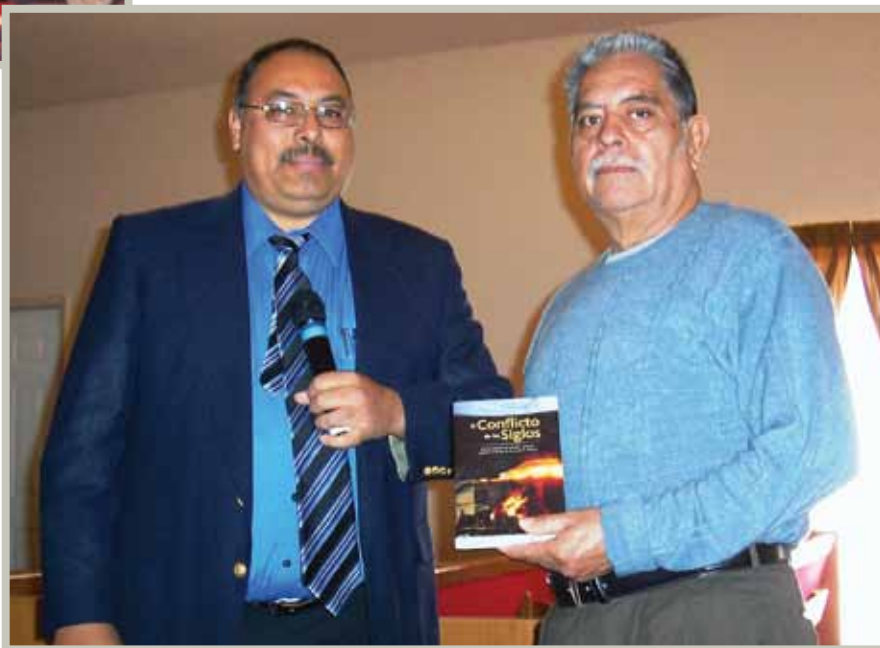
## Lay Evangelism Series Held

**CLINT, TEX.** » The Clint church sponsored a lay evangelism campaign from March 22-27 during which several lay preachers shared the Word of God with 25 to 30 attendees each day. Gifts of literature, such as *Conflict of the Ages*, were shared with those who attended the meetings.

Lay preacher Arturo Acosta, battling with a sickness and currently under treatment, was an example and inspiration to us. Arturo, who is currently living in El Paso while he receives medical treatment, is a Theology student from Mexico City.

The campaign concluded with a special presentation from the children's division and a Lord's Supper ceremony. On Saturday night about 80 to 90 youth from churches in the El Paso area gathered at the local YMCA to play a variety of sports. We are grateful for this opportunity and look forward to our next event.

**Manuel Pena**



▲ Those who attended the lay evangelism campaign at the Clint church received gifts of literature. Pictured is a Bible study student receiving the book *El Conflicto de los Siglos* (*Conflict of the Ages*).

## Mike Furr Appointed Associate Director of Education

**Carolyn Early named early childhood education and care assistant**

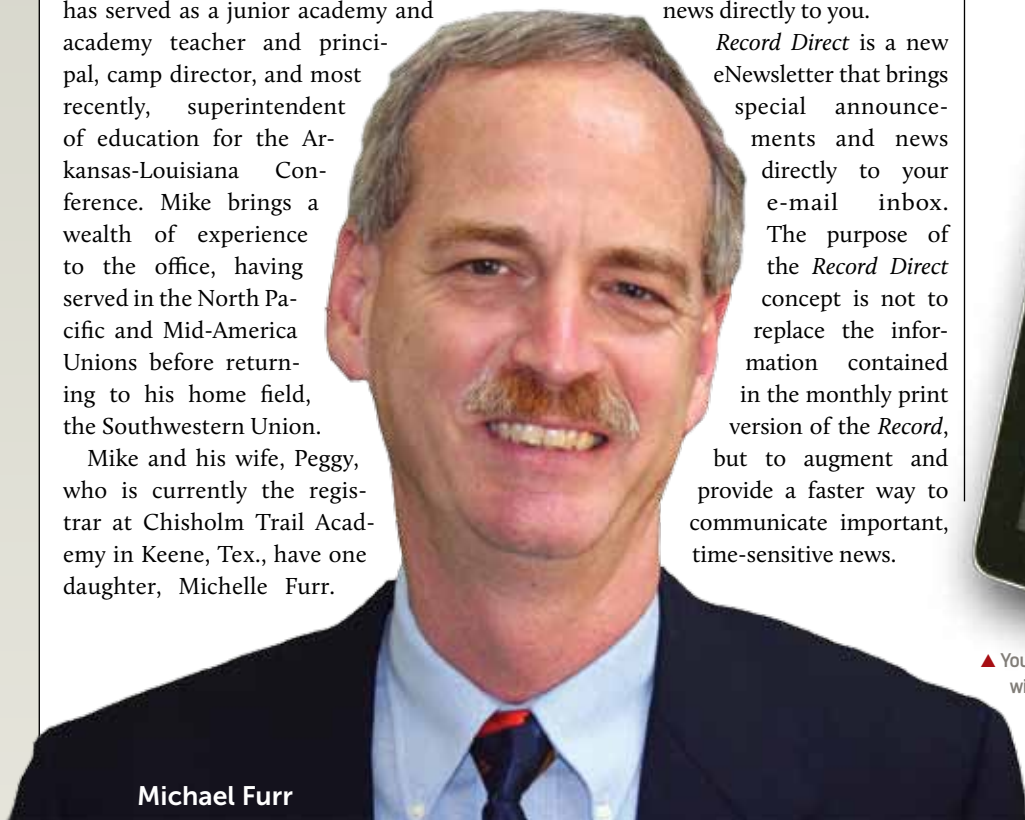
**Michael (Mike) Furr** has recently accepted the invitation to serve as associate director of education for the Southwestern Union Conference, beginning June 1. Mike holds a bachelor of science degree from Southwestern Adventist University and a master of education degree from East Texas State University. Over his 28-year career in Adventist education, he



Carolyn Early

has served as a junior academy and academy teacher and principal, camp director, and most recently, superintendent of education for the Arkansas-Louisiana Conference. Mike brings a wealth of experience to the office, having served in the North Pacific and Mid-America Unions before returning to his home field, the Southwestern Union.

Mike and his wife, Peggy, who is currently the registrar at Chisholm Trail Academy in Keene, Tex., have one daughter, Michelle Furr.



Michael Furr

Michelle graduates from Andrews University in August 2010 with a doctorate in Physical Therapy.

**Carolyn Early**, a retired educator from the Texas Conference, has joined the Southwestern Union Education Department as the assistant for early childhood education and care, effective June 1.

## Record Direct Brings Breaking News to Your Inbox

**Connect with us at  
[www.RecordDirect.org](http://www.RecordDirect.org)**

The *Southwestern Union Record* has been delivering news and inspiration to the members of our territory for nearly 110 years, but the way it has been sharing information hasn't changed much over the years. Since the beginning, the process has included putting ink on paper, and then delivery via a partnership with the U.S. Postal Service. Though we don't have any plans to discontinue using "snail mail" to bring the *Record* to your doorstep, we are excited to announce a new way to bring news directly to you.

*Record Direct* is a new eNewsletter that brings special announcements and news directly to your e-mail inbox. The purpose of the *Record Direct* concept is not to replace the information contained in the monthly print version of the *Record*, but to augment and provide a faster way to communicate important, time-sensitive news.

"One of the unavoidable downsides to a monthly publication is that by the time we edit, design, print and mail—the news you receive is at best a month old when you are reading it," shares Mark Bond, editor.

Mark continues, "Our goal with starting an eNewsletter is to make important news available immediately. If, for instance, a tornado rips through an Oklahoma Conference elementary school, but miraculously, no one was injured, we want to be able to quickly share that news. If a hurricane brings urgent needs to our coastline, we can share the need now. And if one of our conferences holds a special constituency meeting, we can report the results on the day it happens, not a month later when it's old news."

To increase awareness about the new service, a contest is underway. A new Apple iPad will be given to one lucky person who subscribes to the *Record Direct* eNewsletter. If you are interested in signing up for the free eNewsletter, visit [www.RecordDirect.org](http://www.RecordDirect.org). To be entered in the drawing, you must subscribe by October 1, 2010.



▲ You could win an Apple iPad just for signing up for the *RecordDirect* e-mail newsletter at [www.RecordDirect.org](http://www.RecordDirect.org) before October 1.



# Let's Get Connected!

**Subscribe to *Record Direct* and you could win an iPad!**

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Visit [www.RecordDirect.org](http://www.RecordDirect.org) and register for your chance to win.



**Also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.**

Contest available to Seventh-day Adventist members from the Southwestern Union who are 18 years and older and are not employees of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Visit [www.RecordDirect.org/rules](http://www.RecordDirect.org/rules) for more information.





## Did You Know?

- » Anyone can set up a scholarship fund or endowment in their name.
- » You must determine the amount to start the fund.
- » You must state how the fund will be used.
- » You must determine what qualifications a recipient must meet.
- » You and others can add to the fund at any time.
- » You will receive a charitable deduction up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income.
- » You can fund the scholarship with cash, real estate, or securities.



**Vialo Weis Jr., lives in Youkon, Oklahoma where he is director of Planned Giving & Trust Services and legal counsel for the Oklahoma Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.**

**His parents, Vialo Sr., and Ruth, were married June 1953 and raised four children, educating them in Adventist schools.**



Vialo and Ruth Weis

### » They Never Stopped Giving

My parents, Vialo and Ruth Weis, were passionate supporters of Seventh-day Adventist Christian education. My father did not attend Adventist schools but my mother attended Ozark Academy and Southwestern Junior College, now Southwestern Adventist University.

Vialo worked for O.M. Franklin Company and Ruth taught church school in the Oklahoma and Texico conferences.

From 1961 through 1984, they invested a small fortune in our Seventh-day Adventist Christian education. They believed that a Seventh-day Adventist Christian education was not an expense, but an investment in their children.

That commitment allowed my brothers and sister, Harry, Ella, Alan, and me, to attend Amarillo Junior Academy, and Sandia View Academy, and to graduate from Southwestern Adventist University. After we completed our education, Vialo and Ruth continued to support Adventist education and decided to set up a scholarship fund. Rather than wait to make a charitable testamentary gift through their estate plan, my parents chose to make an immediate gift.

The “Weis Heritage Scholarship” at Southwestern Adventist University assists students working their way through college. While my parents funded the major portion of the scholarship, my siblings and I have also contributed and we conti-

une to contribute as Christmas gifts to each other. Before my parents went to sleep in Jesus, they had the joy of seeing students benefited by their scholarship. Since 2003, eight scholarships have been awarded.

Their passion for education has been an inspiration to us children. By funding the Weis Heritage Scholarship with an immediate gift, my parents were “Giving»Forward,” investing in students to build up the kingdom of heaven.

—Vialo Weis, Jr.

## Q&A

**Q:** “What is a Scholarship Fund?”

**A:** A scholarship fund is designed to support individuals who are obtaining an education or some training. If the scholarship fund is endowed, the principle is never spent. The scholarship fund can be in the name of the donor or another individual whom the donor wants to memorialize. Usually, a scholarship committee makes recommendations on award distributions from applications submitted by potential recipients. If IRS guidelines are followed, donations to scholarship funds are tax deductible. However, there are some scholarship funds that do not allow tax deductible contributions.



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Planned Giving &  
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### [EMPLOYMENT]

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### [MISCELLANEOUS]

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## Announcements

**Amateur radio operators,** the quinquennial business and fellowship meeting of the Adventist Amateur Radio Association International will be held June 27, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., in room B-317 (building B), in connection with the General Conference Session in Atlanta. All radio amateurs are welcome to attend. Visit us during the session in the exhibit area, booth 1738, Adventist World Aviation. For

more information, visit [www.aarai.org](http://www.aarai.org).

**Arminianism and Adventism: Celebrating our Soteriological Heritage** will bring together top scholars to explore issues relating to a biblical understanding of human nature, free will, God's grace, atonement, and predestination. The conference is October 14-17, 2010 at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. Plenary conference speakers include Roger Olson, Barry L. Callen, George Knight, Hans K. LaRondelle, Woodrow Whidden, and Denis Fortin. Participants can register at [www.PlusLine.org](http://www.PlusLine.org). For more information, visit [www.andrews.edu/arminianism](http://www.andrews.edu/arminianism) or e-mail [arminiansymposium@andrews.edu](mailto:arminiansymposium@andrews.edu).

**The Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians 2010 Conference,** "Libraries 2020: Visioning and

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Planning for the Next Decade," will be held June 16-21, 2010 at Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala. Librarians of all specialties are invited to visit <http://www.asdal.org> for conference information. Contact Joel Lutes at [jlutes@puc.edu](mailto:jlutes@puc.edu) or 707.965.6674, for more information.

**Attention SDA Church employees and delegates** attending the Atlanta GC Session. Kettering Health Care and GC Ministerial are again co-sponsoring a free counselor-in-residence program for you. Pastors, teachers, administrators, staff members, delegates, and their spouses are invited to utilize this program. Schedule a consult or get info by contacting program coordinator Dr. Bob Peach at 866.309.9715, [bob.peach@khnetwork.org](mailto:bob.peach@khnetwork.org), or [www.khnetwork.org/gccnl](http://www.khnetwork.org/gccnl).

**Generation of Youth for Christ in Spanish** (GYC en español) will be held June 3-6, 2010 at Southwestern Adventist University, Keene, Tex. For more information, go to [www.gycesp.org](http://www.gycesp.org) or call 630.687.1074. Participate in seminars, devotionals, and evangelism. Connect with ministries and young people who share a passion for souls and a vision of finishing God's work in this generation!

**Join the Adventist Race for Health** 5/10K on Sunday, June 27, 7 a.m., during GC Session at Centennial Park in Atlanta, Ga. For information, sign up at [www.Adventist-RaceForHealth.org](http://www.Adventist-RaceForHealth.org).

**Joshua SDA 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.** The Joshua Seventh-day Adventist Church anniversary celebration will be held June 12 at the church, 1912 Conveyor Drive, Joshua, TX, beginning at 9:15 a.m. All friends and former members

are invited to join us for a day-long program of activities highlighting the church's history, as well as a fellowship luncheon.

**Louisville Adventist Academy** invites all former students, faculty, staff, and supporters of Louisville Junior Academy to its second annual alumni celebration July 23-25. Please contact Chris Juhl, principal, at: [echrisjuhl@yahoo.com](mailto:echrisjuhl@yahoo.com) or call 502.550.6787. We hope to see you there!

**The Madison College Alumni Homecoming** will be held June 18-20, honoring classes of 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, and 1960, and those attending, including Friday evening, Sabbath, and Sunday breakfast, all at the Madison Academy Campus. For more info, contact Jim Culpepper, secretary/treasurer, at 615.654.3311.

**The New Hope Seventh-Day Adventist Church Homecoming** will take place June 19, 2010 at 21357 Texas Highway 77W, Marietta, TX. Services will begin at 9:30 a.m. Plan now to attend and enjoy the services and fellowship with family and friends.

**The SHARE! student exchange program** is seeking local volunteer families for international exchange students for the 2010/2011 school year. Students from over 25 countries around the world will live with host families and attend local high schools for either one semester or a full school year. Host families provide a bed, meals, as well as friendship, understanding, and a genuine desire to share the American way of life with a youngster from overseas. For more information about hosting, contact Yvette Coffman, SHARE! director, at 800.941.3738 or visit [share-southwest.org](http://share-southwest.org).



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**Walkers**, if you are planning to attend the GC Session, you are invited to enjoy the **InStep trail** Friday, June 25 and Monday-Thursday, June 27-July 1, 7:00 a.m., at the fountains in Centennial Olympic Park in Atlanta, Ga.

## Milestones

### RETIREMENTS

On Sunday, February 7, members and friends of the Tenth Street church in Oklahoma City, Okla., showed their appreciation to **Joe Ellis**, pastor, and his wife, Shirley, by celebrating their retirement and the birthday of Pastor El-



Joe and Shirley Ellis

lis. The celebration took place at the Midwest City Community Center. Although the weather prevented many of their former church members and friends in other areas from attending, the event was well-attended. Among the guests were Ellis' brother, Eugene Ellis and family, who traveled from Arlington, Tex.; a niece, Marilyn Lang and her husband, Ronald, from Huntsville, Ala.; and their daughters, who came from Dallas, Houston, and Atlanta, Ga., for the special occasion. Southwest Region Conference executive secretary Terrell McCoy, along with his wife, Beverly, presented the honored couple with awards

and gifts from the conference and the Shepherdess Association. Many people publicly shared their appreciation for the couple, noting their humble and caring spirit over the years. The Ellises are thankful for the expressions of love shown toward them and praise God for what He has done through their ministry.

### Obituaries

**BINDER, Olga Lois Martha Hase**, born December 10, 1918 in Cleveland Ohio, and died January 25, 2010 in Bowie, Tex. A member of the Bowie church, Binder was laid to rest in Bowdle, S.D. Olga played piano and organ for churches in Lubbock and Plainview Tex., Leola, and Bowdle S.D. She was preceded in death by three husbands, a son, a brother, and an infant sibling. Survivors: daughters, Beverly Binder and husband, Lloyd, of Leola S.D.; Judy Laws and husband, Danny, of Bowie, Tex.; seven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, several nieces, great-nieces, and nephews.

**BURTON, Sarah Ellen (Ward)**, born June 7, 1917, in Gatesville, Tex., and died March 23, 2010 in Vinita, Okla. An active member of the Ketchum church in Oklahoma, she loved cooking for family and friends and enjoyed several hobbies, including sewing, knitting, and crocheting. Survivors: daughter, Ella L. Hammond and husband, William, of Buellton, Calif.; son, Harold Burton and wife, Florence, of Cleburne, Tex.; daughter, Betty Brautigam of Vinita; 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by four husbands, Orben Rawlings, Hugh Manes, Otha Lus-

ter, and Ray Burton; a brother, and three sisters.

**CHAPMAN, Ruth Evelyn Russel**, born November 4, 1921 in Hewitt, Minn., and died November 12, 2009 in Perryton, Tex. She was a member of the Liberal, Kans., church. She served as registrar at Sandia View Academy for 12 years and as a secretary at the Texico Conference for 23 years. She loved Jesus, her family, and friends. Survivors: daughter, Karen Carver of Corrales, N.Mex.; son, Bill Chapman of Perryton, Tex.; brothers, Dr. Charles Russell of Pequot Lakes, Minn., and James Russell of Chandler, N.C.; sisters, Nina Pulver of Aurora, Minn., Nettie Momb of Detroit Lakes, Minn., Addie Olson of Fort Ripley, Minn., and Alvina Peterson of Baxter, Minn.; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her

husband, Paul Chapman, and two sisters.

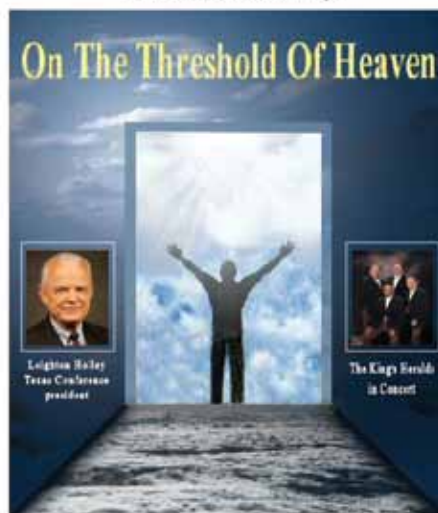
**COGGSHALL, Franeona JoDawn**, died March 8, 2010 in Fort Worth, Tex. Survivors: mother, Catherean BillieJo Coggeshall of Cleburne, Tex.; grandparents, Charity and Charles Coggeshall, Jr., of Cleburne, Tex.; great-grandparents, Bill and Donna Dailey of Cleburne, Tex. and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

**DURICHEK, Goldie Lucille**, born July 8, 1913 in Nevada, Iowa, and died March 1, 2010 in Luralbrook, Tenn. Goldie was a nurse and teacher at Madison, Hinsdale, and Loma Linda Hospitals. She taught nursing education in Chattanooga, Tenn., and served for eight years as a director at Knapp Medical Center. Survivors: sons, Peter Durichek and wife, Phyllis, of Cleburne, Tex.; John Durichek and

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wife, Helen, of Collegedale, Tenn.; James Durichek and wife, Martha, of Collegedale, Tenn.; sister, Florence Rogers of Ames, Iowa, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**EVANS, Gretchen Boggs**, born May 20, 1917 in Searcy, Ark., and died March 17, 2010 in Rose Bud, Ark. She was a charter member of the Searcy church and held membership there for about 80 years. She served in various church offices, including that of ordained elder. Survivors: four daughters, Nedra Reeves and husband, Tommy, Brenda Holleman, Rebecca Evans, and Phyllis Singleton and husband, Doyle, all of Rose Bud; sister, Eulurl Godfrey of Rodgers, Ark., nine grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 11 great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Farris L. Evans, brother, O. B. Boggs, two sisters, Ferrell Wisdom and Lenora Boggs, one grandson, one granddaughter, and two sons-in-law, Lloyd Kennedy and Thomas Holleman.

**EVERETT, Robert**, born August 22, 1933 in Trenton, New Jersey, and died April 4, 2010 in Harrison, Ark. A member of the Harrison church, he was laid to rest in Harrison. A former pastor and conference departmental director/administrator, he served the Chesapeake, Iowa, Central California, Illinois, Florida, Texas, and Arkansas-Louisiana conferences. He retired from full-time ministry on October 31, 1998, with over 33 years of service, after which he served as a stipend pastor until 2001. Survivors: wife of 58 years, Dorothy Jean Everett; daughters, Jennifer Everett and Corinne Parker, all of Harrison; two other daughters, Marlene Hardaway and Margaret Tooley; son, Robert

Everett, Jr.; sister, Ruth Weatherman of Almagordo, N.Mex.; eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

**KLUZIT, Jean**, born at Songa Mission, Belgian Congo on August 17, 1932 and died March 13, 2010 in Jerseyville, Ill. Jean and her husband, Victor (deceased), were missionaries at Bethel School, South Africa, and at the conference office in Nairobi, Kenya. They retired from mission work in 1975 and settled in Keene, Tex., with their three daughters, Dorayne, Avril (deceased), and Corinne. Jean worked for a number of years as secretary at Southwestern Union College/University and then at Huguley Hospital. Survivors: daughters, Dorayne Jones and Corinne Kluzit, sister, Doreen McDaniel, brother, Ken Simnett-Pratt; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**KRAFT, Donald Gene**, born on August 2, 1938 in Shattuck, Okla., and died April 19, 2010 in Vinita, Okla. Married to Mary Ellen (Burton) Kraft, he spent most of his life as a farmer and enjoyed spending time with his family. He was a member of Ketchum, Okla., church. Survivors: wife, Mary; three sons, Gary Kraft and Kevin Kraft of Vinita, and Brian Kraft and wife, Nicole, of Parsons, Kans; brother-in-law, Harold Burton and wife, Florence, of Cleburne, Tex.; sister-in-law, Betty Brautigan of Vinita; six nieces, 10 great nieces and nephews, and two aunts. He was preceded in death by a sister, Cornelia Faye Kraft.

**ST. JUST, Marie F.**, born September 10, 1921 in Ontario, Calif., and died March 20, 2010 in Fort Worth, Tex. She was a member of the Hot Springs, Ark., church. A retired missionary, she has

served in Africa, and as a conference worker in Texas, North Carolina, and Arkansas-Louisiana. Survivors: son, Steven Fletcher of Little Rock, Ark.; daughter, Susan Absalon of Hurst, Tex.; stepsons, Fritz St. Just and Michael St. Just; sister, Charlene Jenkins of Okeechobee, Fla.; sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Al Houston of Puryear, Ind.; 17 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

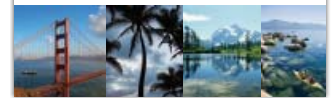
**MCGINTY, Woodrow Wilson**, born June 15, 1913 in Pilot Point, Tex., and died March 18, 2010 in Simi Valley, Calif. A member of the Hillsboro church, he was laid to rest in Fort Worth, Tex. Survivors: wife, Dorothy J. McGinty of Simi Valley Calif.; daughters, Lee McGinty of Chicago, Ill., and Leslie Casper; stepson, Lyndol James, and foster son, Marty Woody.

**SCHAEFER, Karen Maureen**, born April 4, 1951 in Lincoln, Neb., and died Saturday, April 17, 2010 in Langley, Okla. Karen was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and a registered dieti-



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cian who worked at Adventist hospitals in Phoenix, Ariz., and Shawnee Mission, Kans. After retirement she moved to Langley and taught math and science at the Adventist school. She enjoyed crocheting, reading, lap stitch, photography, working with stained glass, and teaching children. Survivors: her parents; one sister, Kathy Lorenz, and husband, Barney, of Okeene, Okla.; one niece, two aunts, and many cousins.

## SABBATH SUNSET CALENDAR

	JUN 4	JUN 11	JUN 18	JUN 25	JUL 2	JUL 9
Abilene, TX	8:43	8:46	8:49	8:50	8:50	8:49
Albuquerque, NM	8:17	8:20	8:23	8:25	8:25	8:23
Amarillo, TX	8:58	9:02	9:04	9:06	9:06	9:05
Brownsville, TX	8:19	8:22	8:24	8:25	8:26	8:25
Dallas, TX	8:32	8:35	8:38	8:39	8:39	8:38
El Paso, TX	8:08	8:11	8:14	8:15	8:16	8:14
Fort Worth/Keene, TX	8:34	8:37	8:40	8:41	8:41	8:40
Gallup, NM	8:26	8:30	8:33	8:34	8:34	8:33
Galveston/Houston, TX	8:19	8:22	8:24	8:26	8:26	8:25
Gentry, AR	8:32	8:35	8:38	8:40	8:40	8:38
Little Rock, AR	8:19	8:22	8:25	8:26	8:26	8:25
Muskogee, OK	8:34	8:37	8:40	8:41	8:41	8:40
New Orleans, LA	7:58	8:01	8:04	8:05	8:05	8:05
Oklahoma City, OK	8:41	8:45	8:48	8:49	8:49	8:48
Roswell, NM	8:04	8:08	8:10	8:11	8:12	8:11
San Antonio, TX	8:31	8:34	8:36	8:37	8:38	8:37
Shreveport, LA	8:19	8:22	8:25	8:26	8:26	8:25
Tulsa, OK	8:37	8:41	8:44	8:45	8:45	8:44

BY ANN-MARIE JACOBS

## Life Lessons Learned at Southwestern

**ONE OF THE MANY THINGS I'VE LEARNED IN MY YEARS AT SOUTHWESTERN** is that there are items that I must take with me on my journey down the road of life.

When we started this journey as freshmen, we didn't know what it would be like. What it has been, I see now, is one of a kind. There were days when everything seemed absolutely perfect, our tanks were full to the brim with God, and our finances, academics, and social life seemed just as it should be. Then there were days where we hit potholes or traffic jams of financial problems, or procrastination or time management. We'd get flat tires or major wrecks from academic failure or major family crisis. Sometimes it seemed as if our destination was impossible to reach. We asked ourselves if this journey was worth the trouble or if we were even on the right path.

As I've gone through my college career, I've kept my father's advice close to my heart. He once told me, "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail." With those words in mind, I've come to understand that being prepared can mean having the tools necessary to complete the journey. I discovered that I needed a map, a guide, something to show me the way. Use the Bible as your map. Read the Word, it will be your guide. It comes straight from our life's navigator, God. He knows the way because He is the way.

You might also need something to remember where you've already been, so taking a camera along on your journey will be helpful. There will be moments you'll want to remember forever, or moments you'll want to forget. But you can only move forward if you know where you've been. Be careful, though, because others are carrying their own cameras, and you never know when you might be in the background of a candid shot. Pray that if this happens, you are standing up for the values you hold dear.

We live in an age where nobody leaves home without a cell phone, and neither should you. Why? What if you get lost, or don't understand the directions? What if you break down on the side of the road? You need people in your life to help you out.



These people are your family, your friends, and your mentors. Stay true to them, and what they've taught you, and remember to call them often, even when you think you know where you're going. Remember to say 'thank you' for all that they've done for you. The same is true for God. Call on him daily. He is your navigator. Remember, he's already brought you this far. Thank Him, too. He will keep you safe from harm, and will get you past all of this journey's obstacles.

**Ann-Marie Jacobs**, a 2010 Southwestern Adventist University elementary education graduate, was president of her senior class and is from Ocala, Fla. This piece is an excerpt from her speech during the 2010 graduation ceremonies.



# For the Record »

BY MARK BOND » COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR, SOUTHWESTERN UNION

## Opportunity Knocks

**I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT OPPORTUNITY.** The kind of opportunity that comes with a good education. The kind of opportunity I've found as a graduate of Southwestern Adventist University.

I was blessed to learn skills at Southwestern that eventually allowed me to do what I enjoy and serve the Lord at the same time. It was at Southwestern that I discovered my passion for putting ink on paper. While working in the advancement department, I learned to write press releases and grant proposals. I learned how to design school calendars and graduation programs.

A glance at those early pieces in my old portfolio reveals that any talent I had was raw. But my professors and advisors saw potential. They gave me a vision for the future and presented me with the challenge that I could do anything I set my mind to.

Opportunity came knocking when my supervisor, Maryann Hadley, suggested that I apply for an internship with the Review and Herald Publishing Association. The friends I made during that

internship are my colleagues today.

I'm flying at 37,954 feet somewhere above the Pacific Ocean as I write. I just finished visiting some of our Adventist brothers and sisters in Beijing and at Scheer Memorial Hospital about an hour's drive from Kathmandu, Nepal. I won't tell you that I've had these kinds of opportunities because I went to Southwestern. And I won't say that Southwestern made me who I am today. But I will say that Southwestern had a huge part in setting the stage for my life and career.

Proverbs 3:5, 6 is one of my favorite verses: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths." Another favorite is Revelation 3:11, which says, "Behold I stand at the door and knock..."

When I took the opportunity to

attend Southwestern years ago, I was answering the knocking of Christ on my heart. I know He was directing my paths. He had unique reasons for taking me there, and I chose to follow.

I chose Southwestern because it was a little smaller than the other options. I chose it because it was more affordable than the other options. I chose it because of the godly teachers and faculty I met when I visited the campus. I chose it because it was the friendliest option. I chose it because Southwestern offered me opportunities to excel in my chosen field that were not offered me in other places. All of those reasons still exist today at Southwestern, and I'd do it all over again.

If you're trying to decide where to attend college, listen for a rapping sound in your heart. The Lord knows where you belong. Opportunity is knocking!

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# SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

the beginning of wisdom



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Founded in 1893, Southwestern is a Seventh-day Adventist Christian liberal arts university. Our mission-minded focus serves students from around the world, providing quality higher education in a Christ-centered environment.

## WHERE ARE WE?

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- Computer Science
- Education
- English
- History & Social Science
- Kinesiology
- Mathematics & Physics
- Music
- Nursing
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