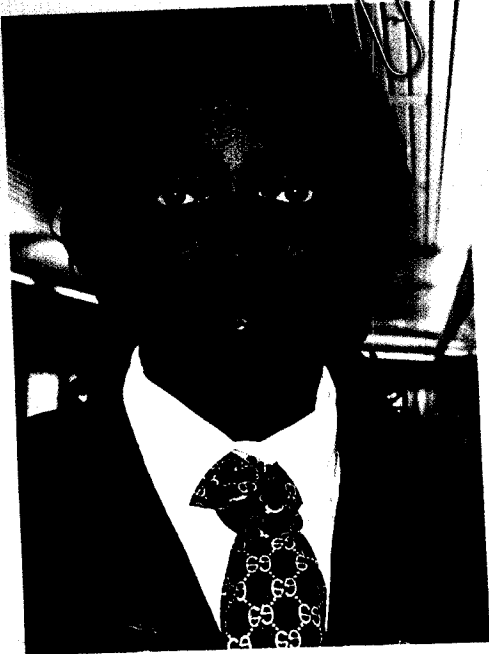


SOUTHERN

Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family

Fountain, Deborah
FLIGHT ATTENDANT

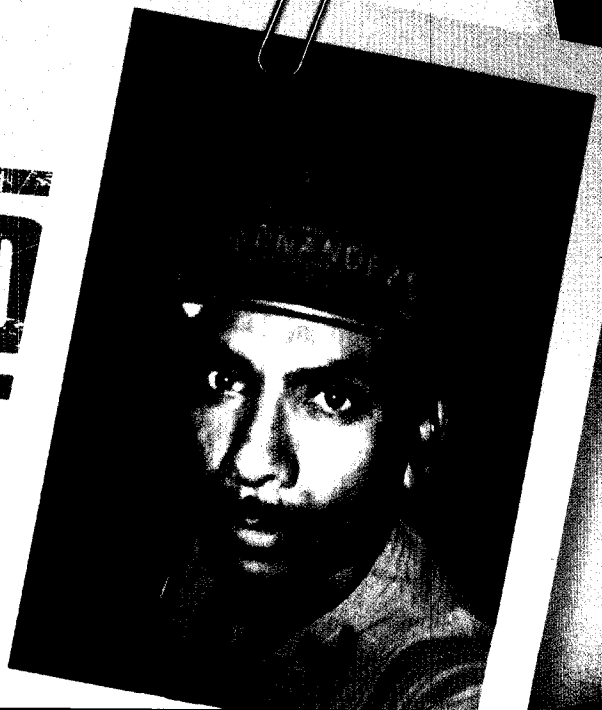


SUSPENDED

Hernandez, Miguel
COPPER MINER

FIRED

Religious
Liberty



Seek His Face Continually

How shall we begin a new year? I wonder if the words of David in I Chronicles 16:11 provide the agenda: "Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually." In *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 146, Ellen White shares that "Jesus longs to have you reach after Him by faith. He longs to have you expect great things from Him. He longs to give you understanding in temporal as well as in spiritual matters."

Some time ago I listed, from various sources in the Spirit of Prophecy, specific and vital things to pray for:



Gordon Retzer
*Southern Union
President*

1. Baptism of the Holy Spirit
2. Christ-likeness of character
3. A converted tongue
4. Greater power in the work of ministry
5. Help and strength to resist temptation
6. Salvation of our children
7. Salvation of our neighbors
8. The discouraged and hopeless
9. The salvation of souls
10. Transformation of character
11. Those living in large cities
12. Understanding of the times in which we live
13. Wisdom
14. Power to do God's work
15. Workers to reach the harvest

This is not an exhaustive list, and you will have many things to pray for as you open your heart to God as to a friend. I invite each member of our Southern Union family to enjoy communion with Jesus every morning. I invite you to seek the Lord and His strength. I invite you to seek His face continually.

FEATURES

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Everyday People on the Frontlines of Religious Liberty

BY AMIREH AL-HADDAD

My phone rang just as I sat down to write this article. It was the *Liberty* Magazine office telling me that they had received a request for "a prettier poster and a happier ending to the stories" you see on the cover of this magazine.

Unfortunately, when you are dealing with Sabbath accommodation problems, the picture is rarely pretty.

If you are an individual who has experienced a Sabbath accommodation problem, you know what I mean.

If you have never experienced a Sabbath accommodation problem, then imagine one day being secure in a well paying job with benefits and all the bonuses, and then suddenly finding out that you were about to be fired because of your religious beliefs and practices. Imagine the anxiety church members facing these problems experience. I know church members who have not only lost their jobs, but their homes and

families because of their commitment to God and His commandments.

The Southern Union religious liberty department handles more than 120 Sabbath cases each year. Not all of these stories have a happy ending.

The two individuals featured here have stories typical of the Sabbath accommodation problems found across the North American Division.

No Security

Deborah Fountain was a flight attendant who was suspended because she refused to do two things: she refused to lie when someone suggested she just call in sick, and she refused to allow her employer to force her to work

on Sabbath.

Deborah was suspended from work fairly quickly after those decisions were made. She remained suspended for months, even after she contacted her religious liberty department.

Through valiant efforts made on her behalf by the Church, Deborah was eventually returned to her position at the airline, but without an

accommodation for her Sabbath work schedule.

Today, Deborah works like many Church members—without an accommodation, and dependant solely upon her ability to bid on a schedule that allows her to be off on the Sabbath. She receives no assistance from her employer in getting this accommodation. Deborah lives with the possibility that she could find herself in the same predicament should she fail to successfully bid an accommodating schedule.

Still Fighting

Miguel Hernandez is another committed Seventh-day Adventist who faced Sabbath problems. Miguel and his family immigrated to the United States years ago.

He came searching for the American dream: a job with benefits, a nice house, a good education for his children. Who would have thought he would be fired from his job because of his religious beliefs and practices?

Miguel worked for more than 10 years with a mining company, always getting Sabbath off. When the mining company changed management, his accommodation, job, and dreams were taken away almost overnight. Miguel's case is in litigation, but since the start of the case, the mining company is now in bankruptcy and the outcome is still uncertain.



Sabbath accommodation problems are not pretty, and every story does not have a happy ending. Deborah and Miguel are real church members, just like you. And just like you, Deborah and Miguel could never have imagined that one day they would tell their story before members of Congress.

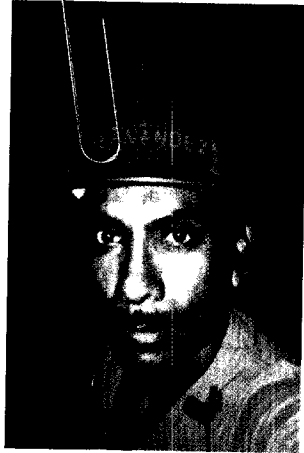
In October, 2005, both Deborah and Miguel traveled to Washington, D.C., to be ambassadors for the Sabbath and for Church members throughout the United States who are facing or might face a similar Sabbath work problem. They presented their story during a press conference before members of Congress, in an effort to move the Workplace Religious Freedom Act forward. They are just everyday people who trust in God, keep His commandments, and who were compelled to act on faith.

The third angel of Revelation tells of two kinds of people, those who worship the beast and his image, and "they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus," Revelation 14:12.

We cannot treat Sabbath accommodation problems casually because each time one of these cases arises, the authority of God is challenged. Adventists should use every opportunity available to show others the truth and share the three angels' message. But, while we should use these opportunities, we need to remember that everyone has the right to refuse to believe. That right is a God-given right to religious freedom.

Religious freedom is a fragile right. It requires balance of thought and application. America's religious freedom is closely tied to the Constitution and the First Amendment.

For Seventh-day Adventists, religious freedom is also closely tied to our understanding of prophecy and end-time events.



Just as it was in Jesus' day, there will always be religious people who refuse to understand the three angels' message. There will remain people who seek to have the government enforce religion because of those who refuse to believe what they believe, whether that belief is true or false.

Of all the glimpses we have of Heaven before the fall, we should realize that the one

thing that was present in Heaven was religious freedom. How else could Lucifer have been allowed to rebel? When Adventists defend religious freedom, we do so because of the insight into how God treats citizens of His Kingdom. Moreover, as Adventists, we have a unique perspective of worldly religious freedom issues. We present to the world a balanced approach to the understanding of religious liberty that no other denominational organization presents.

Understanding a balance lies in our ability to freely exercise our religious beliefs, without government legislation or interference of that right.

"But today in the religious world there are multitudes who, as they believe, are working for the establishment of the kingdom of Christ as an earthly and temporal dominion.

They desire to make our Lord the ruler of the kingdoms of this world, the ruler in its courts and camps, its legislative halls, its palaces and market places. They expect Him to rule through legal enactments, enforced by human authority. Since Christ is not here in person, they themselves will undertake to act in His stead, to execute the laws of His kingdom. The establishment of such a kingdom

is what the Jews desired in the days of Christ. They would have received Jesus, had He been willing to establish a temporal dominion, to enforce what they regarded as the laws of God." *The Desire of Ages*, page 509

Presenting a balanced approach to religious freedom comes from an unique Adventist understanding of biblical truth, prophecy, and constitutional guarantees. It also requires that we share in the work God has ordained in order to develop a character like Christ's.

While there will always be people who refuse to obey God's commands, there will also be those who uphold His commandments. As a result, there will always be Sabbath accommodation problems. But, as a Church committed to religious liberty for everyone, we will continue to fight to preserve the heavenly rights of mankind.

Amireh Al-Haddad is the director of public affairs and religious liberty for the Southern Union Conference.

Balanced Understanding and Application

Religious liberty within the Adventist church presents balance and understanding for the Christians' relationship with the state. Ellen White writes in *The Great Controversy*—

"To protect liberty of conscience is the duty of the state, and this is the limit of its authority in matters of religion," page 201.

The state has an obligation to protect our right to freely exercise our religious beliefs. So at times, we apply to the state to ensure this happens. Other times, the state forgets it has no authority over religious matters, and it oversteps its boundaries. During these times, it is our responsibility to remind the state of its limits and make sure those boundaries are protected. This approach dictates more actions taken by the religious liberty department of the Church.

Charleston's Fun Run Reaches the Community



What started out as a way to participate in a nonSabbath running event turned into a witnessing event in Charleston, S.C. The Charleston church held its first "Beat the Tide" disaster relief 5K fun run/walk at Folly Beach on October 1.

Conditions were picture-perfect as more than 30 runners and walkers participated in the event held on the beach. While the race attracted participants from the Beaufort and

Lexington congregations, it also generated the interest of a number of nonAdventist runners.

One man noticed a flyer in an area running store. Feeling that the race would be less competitive than other area runs, it gave him the courage to participate. He was so impressed with the event, he vowed to run again next year and bring some friends.

Another man was having breakfast on his balcony when he noticed the event

organizers setting up the course. He inquired about the event and decided he, too, would sign-up.

A woman walking by inquired about the run. When told a money box was needed, she volunteered to get one from her home. In addition, she made a financial donation and asked about the church.

So many activities are based on the church grounds—this event brought the church to the

community. As a result, the Charleston church family was able to share about the church and some of the things they are doing. One woman was so impressed that she promised to visit the church in the coming days.

Proceeds from the event will support disaster relief. The Charleston church plans to make this an annual event. Plan on joining them next year.

—BY SHARLENE LECLERC

Church Planters Celebrate 60 Years Together

Lewis and Virginia Stubbs were married December 22, 1946, in the Capital Memorial church in Washington, D.C. And, in the 60 years since, they have been working hard,



especially when it comes to planting churches for the Lord.

Moving to Melrose, Mass., in 1951, the couple worked at New England Sanitarium and Hospital until relocating to Florida in 1957 to work at the Florida Hospital. In 1959, they established Stubbs Pharmacy. Those who attended Forest Lake Academy or lived in the area in those days can recall fond memories of Stubbs Pharmacy on the corner of the

Academy property.

In 1974, the Stubbs moved to South Carolina. Always looking to advance the work, in 1975 they assisted in spawning a church there in the town of Westminster.

Virginia began a community service ministry in Westminster in 1976. Lewis continued work as a pharmacist, serving for more than 52 years. He was chief pharmacist at Stephens County Hospital from 1976 to 1989. Vir-

ginia has been president of the Carolina Conference Skyland Community Service Federation for many years.

The two were again instrumental in starting a church in Clemson, S.C., in 1998. They are thankful to still be active, working for the Lord who has richly blessed them.

They have four children, 13 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

“Bags of Love” Prepared for Children



Women's ministries leader Norma Couch (right) presents a Bag of Love to Eva Rogers (center) and Kirsten Poythress at the Wilson First church.

The police come, charging through the house with guns drawn. A frightened child watches his caregivers being arrested and driven away. He feels alone, taken by strangers to a strange place, leaving all his possessions behind in the toxic methamphetamine lab he used to call home.

Members of the Wilson First church decided to do something for these unfortunate children. They create “Bags of Love,” filled with toys, a stuffed animal, a handmade comforter, and personal hygiene items—all designed to help displaced children adjust to their new environment.

Eva Rogers and Kirsten Poythress were presented 10 Bags of Love by members of the church's women's ministries, which prepared each of the age-specific bags through the

support of its missions department. They will be stored and later distributed to the children who need them.

When police arrive on the scene of a meth lab, the home is often condemned due to contamination from the drug manufacturing process. Once a child is removed from the home, they are placed in the custody of DSS, and, through a court order, assigned to a “guardian ad litem.” Guardians serve as advocates for neglected or abused children in court.

“This will fill a great need because their environment is very toxic, and they cannot take their things with them,” said Rogers, the district administrator of the guardian ad litem program. “They will know there are people in the community who care.”

“This is a hug from the community,” said Poythress, a child protective services social worker with the Wilson County Department of Social Services.

The 10 bags are only a start for the church, which plans to continue giving the bags to DSS as needed. “I don't know why, but I have a burden for them,” said Betty Cox, a member of the church.

“If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:17-18

By caring for these neglected children, the Wilson church is definitely “loving with actions.”



Doctor and Wife Work Together

George and Fay Mills are a team—not just in their marriage of 60 years, which they recently celebrated, but in their ministry and profession as well. After nearly 60 years of practicing medicine, Mills is still at it, and his wife, works as his nurse.

They met in Loma Linda, Calif., in 1945, when George was in medical school and Fay was studying nursing. They were married in 1946.

Mills set up a practice in Memphis, Tenn., and the couple started a family together—two sons and two daughters. They now reside in Monroe, N.C., and were involved in planting a new church there in 1999.

Though in their eighties, Mills still works for Union County giving disability physicals. Fay works as his nurse, preparing the patients for their assessment. They both make it their mission to share Jesus with anyone who will hear.

As Mills often says, “Nowhere in the Bible does it say, ‘Thou shalt retire.’”

Church Participates in Festival of Families

The Forest Lake church reached out to the community by participating in the City of Apopka's 7th Annual Festival of Families, November 11, 2006. The festival, held in Apopka's Kit Land Nelson Park, brought together business, civic, and church organizations for a day dedicated to families and their needs.

"It was our first time to have a booth at the festival, and it won't be our last," says Sabine Vatel, Forest Lake church discipleship pastor. "This event was a wonderful way to connect with our community and let them know we're here to minister to them."

Forest Lake church ministries spotlighted at the festival included Shepherd's Hope Medical Clinic for the uninsured of central Florida; Young-At-Heart seniors group; Adventurer club; Ezekiel's Wheels Motorcycle Club;



Prayers and Squares volunteer June Davis (seated) and Sabine Vatel, Forest Lake church discipleship pastor, greeted festival goers. Inset: Apopka Mayor John Land with Anna Jean Ambbs, winner of the quilt created by the Prayers and Squares ministry.

and Prayers and Squares quilting ministry.

Prayers and Squares brought two special quilts to the festival. The first

quilt was displayed in the Forest Lake booth to recognize the November 11 Armistice holiday. Visitors were invited to sign a jour-

nal with names of loved ones serving in the military. These names will be embroidered on the prayer quilt that hangs continuously in the Forest Lake church lobby.

The second quilt on display was part of a gift package presented to the winner of Apopka's Grandmother of the Year contest. The winner, Anna Jean Ambbs, was also named the festival's grandmother with the most grandchildren—89, including the greats and great-greats.

"As you can see, I have plenty of people to pass this quilt along to in the years to come," she said. "Thank you, Forest Lake, for such a lovely memento of this very special day. I will treasure this quilt. Every time I look at it, I will think of your church and all the love that must have gone into its creation."

—BY TERRY HALL

Members Celebrate Family Life



Howard and Marie Sanderford

A celebration of family life was experienced by 350 members and guests during the August 12, 2006, worship service at the Fort Myers, Fla., church.

A vow renewal ceremony followed a homily, "The Christian Home and Commitment," by George Whitsett, pastor. "Today, we are celebrating the providence of God's leading and sustaining of faithful Adventist homes," he stated.

Fort Myers member Marie Sanderford envisioned this Sabbath service to not only celebrate 50 years of marriage with her husband, Howard, but to share the history of their life and commitment to each other even through a serious illness. They were joined at the altar by their sons Richard and Ron; daughters-in-law, Kathy and Lisa; and grandchildren.

Eight couples renewed

their wedding vows with the Sanderfords: Richard and Kathy Sanderford, Ron and Lisa Sanderford, Gordon and Debra Brandt, George and Reba Crawford, Larry and Rita Gavin, Henry and Frances Habich, Frank and Betty Kane, and Simon and Cynthia Witter.

The celebration continued with a reception in the decorated fellowship hall where guests were offered refreshments, which included wedding cake.

Two Central Florida Churches Merge

The Seminole Meadows church in Sanford, Fla., and the Winter Springs, Fla., church are now one congregation.

The idea to merge the churches had been considered for more than "15 years, off and on," according to David Graham, pastor of the former Seminole Meadows church. Three years ago, church leaders and members revisited the idea; however, they did not feel led by God to pursue joining together.

This past year, thoughts of uniting resurfaced as growth in the Winter Springs church pushed them to capacity levels with no space to expand. Meanwhile, members of the smaller Seminole Meadows congregation—four miles away—were considering how a combined effort with Winter Springs could provide a greater witness in the northeast section of the Orlando area.

On July 17, 2006, Mike Cauley, Conference president, chaired a meeting with leaders from both churches where God's presence was felt as a vote referred discussion and action back to each respective church boards.

One month later, both congregations voted to join together, and a transition team was selected to begin the merger.

The next big step came on October 7 when members of the Seminole Meadows congregation met at the Sanford campus



Pastors and lay leaders of the combined congregation knelt for a prayer of dedication.



Seminole Meadows pastor David Graham; Balinda, his wife; and their children were welcomed by Winter Springs church senior pastor Ric Pleasants (left) and Nancy, his wife (right).

before Sabbath school to form a caravan and slowly drive to the Winter Springs campus. They were met with a warm welcome led by Ric Pleasants, senior pastor. During the church service, a unity candle was lit and the two congregations became one in vision and purpose, combining its many outreach ministries.

Plans are underway to sell the Winter Springs

campus and build a new church on the Seminole Meadows property. Research has also begun to study the feasibility of reopening an elementary school in the former church school building/auditorium that in recent years served as the Seminole Meadows church. Currently, the facility is a thriving preschool and daycare center during the week that has the ca-

capacity to serve 150 children in the community. This location is also the new home to the Pathfinder and Adventurer clubs of the combined congregation.

At a December 2 church business session, 150 members in attendance voted to retain the name "Winter Springs" as long as the congregation meets for worship services at the current location. A new name will be chosen at the time a move is made into a new facility at the Seminole Meadows site.

The new Winter Springs church is under the leadership of Ric Pleasants, senior pastor; David Graham, associate pastor; Orlando Lopez, youth pastor; Nick Zamfir, Bible ministries coordinator; and Julius Garner, M.D., chairman of the church board.

—BY TED BAIR

Adventist Heritage Ministry Celebrates Milestone

"Vision to Victory" provides an inspiring theme for the 25th anniversary celebration of Adventist Heritage Ministry (AHM) hosted by the Florida and Southeastern conferences, February 23-24, at Forest Lake church in Apopka, Fla. The event is one of six to be held in the United States that will feature the 25-year milestone.

The weekend will feature spirit-filled presentations about Church history and how God led the Adventist pioneers, with emphasis on Christ's soon coming. Significant with the AHM mission is the saving, restoration, and replication of historic Adventist landmarks and the establishment of educational/evangelistic centers.

Appropriate for the occasion is a performance on Saturday evening at Forest Lake Academy by the award-winning Battle Creek Academy Concert Band from Battle Creek, Mich., birthplace of the first Adventist school. The band members' quest for excellence inspires listeners to recognize that the future of Adventist education is in

tune with God's leading in Church history.

Program guests include Jim Nix, AHM board chair and director of the Ellen G. White Estate in Silver Spring, Md.; Tom Neslund, AHM president; as well as Stanley and Ruth Cottrell. Stanley is director of Historic Adventist Village in Battle Creek.

—BY BETTY KOSSICK

Adventist Heritage Ministry

25th
Anniversary
Coming To Central Florida

February 23-24, 2007



From Vision To Victory
www.adventistheritage.org

Feb. 23 • 7:30pm • Forest Lake Church

Discover a deeper connection with your Adventist heritage as Jim Nix, Ellen G. White Estate director, tells stories about our Church pioneers and leads early Advent hymns.

Feb. 24 • Morning Worship Services

Speakers will participate at several Orlando-area churches.

Feb. 24 • 3:00pm • Forest Lake Church

Tom Neslund, Adventist Heritage Ministry (AHM) president, Jim Nix, and special guests highlight evangelistic opportunities at historical AHM sites.



Jim
Nix

Tom
Neslund

Stanley
Cottrell

Feb. 24 • 7:30pm • Forest Lake Academy

H.H. Schmidt Performing Arts Center

Battle Creek, Michigan, is home to Adventist Heritage Village and the Battle Creek Academy Concert Band. Recently, this group was recognized as the best overall band at the Festivals of Music in Atlanta, Georgia, where 15 high schools were invited to compete.

The concert is free to the public, and the best seats in the house may be reserved on a first-come basis at westfall1930@juno.com



Battle Creek Academy Concert Band
Michele Stark, director

Why is my *Southern Tidings* so late?

With all the latest technology, it has never been easier to publish the *Southern Tidings*. However, with all the high-end "work-made-easy" soft-

ware comes some fearful moments. This past month was one of those times. Your January issue is late simply because much of the information

was lost when a controller destroyed hard drives where the *Tidings* data is stored.

We apologize to our readers and advertisers

for any inconvenience this may have caused.

—INTERIM EDITOR

ADVENTISTS IN THE SOUTHERN UNION JOIN THE MOB

BY DAVID KLINEDINST

North Carolina resident Martha McNeill recently joined the MOB. In fact, more than 110 Adventists in 30 states, including 27 Adventists in the Southern Union, are working with the MOB—and they love it.

Christian Record Services, the Adventist ministry to the blind, based in Lincoln, Nebraska, has created a personal ministries program called Missionaries Of the Blind (MOB), and people everywhere are joining the MOB.

Missionaries Of the Blind offers local church members the opportunity to visit and minister to blind people in their local communities. More than 23,000 blind and visually-impaired individuals in the United States receive Braille, large print, or audio publications from Christian Record Services on a regular basis. Christian Record is looking for Adventist volunteers who are willing to spend one or two hours a month visiting the blind, building friendships, praying with them, and perhaps inviting them to church. Christian Record provides the names. Volunteers provide the visits.

McNeill, who attends the Gethsemane church in Raleigh, North Carolina, located in the South Atlantic Conference, ministers to Ellen, a blind woman in her 20s who receives Braille books and materials from Christian Record. They visit on the phone together. "Ellen enjoys the materials she gets from Christian



Adventist church for the blind in Chennai, India

Record," says McNeill. The two are developing a friendship.

When asked why she joined the MOB and wanted to visit the blind, she says, "Many blind people are bypassed and forgotten. It always gives me joy to talk to someone else about Jesus. It makes me stronger."

McNeill is no stranger to working with the blind. She has had Bible studies with blind people, and some have been baptized and joined the Gethsemane church in Raleigh. Both she and her husband have vision impairment themselves, and this helps them even more to understand the importance of reaching out to the blind.

People like McNeill are joining the MOB, making friends for Jesus, and receiving a blessing.

Christian Record is looking for more Adventist volunteers who will visit the blind. How about you? Would you like to join the MOB?

If you would like more information about Missionaries Of the Blind, contact the Personal Ministries Department at 877-288-1188 or email personalministries@christianrecord.org.

Visit the web at www.christianrecord.org/pm and click on Missionaries Of the Blind.

David Klinedinst, is the director of personal ministries for Christian Record Services



MOB volunteer Martha Valdez visiting Amanda

Greenhouse Workshop Teaches How to Reach Out

The Douglasville, Ga., church invited Bill and Jan Levin to conduct “Green-

naturally build relationships with those who don’t know Christ. The training provides simple, practical tools anyone can use to reach family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues for Jesus.

Sabbath morning began with the Levins and Priscilla Pruitt telling the story of the Crystal Cove group. Bill Levin

shared, “My wife and I were called to an un-entered area where we didn’t know anyone, applied the Greenhouse principles,

and have since had an “organic” church meeting there every Friday night for more than two-and-a-half years. The principles are easily adaptable, and work.”

Priscilla Pruitt from Crystal Cove gave her testimony on how Greenhouse changed her life, saying, “It gives me encouragement to want to get out [into other communities] even more.”

Randy Mills, pastor, who attended the event, said Greenhouse principles and Life Transformation Groups are “a normal, natural, spontaneous way to live for Christ. It’s not a gimmick, not a program to do ‘1-2-3,’ but uses plain, down-to-earth disciplines...I would recommend it to anybody.”

Carlos Carroll has

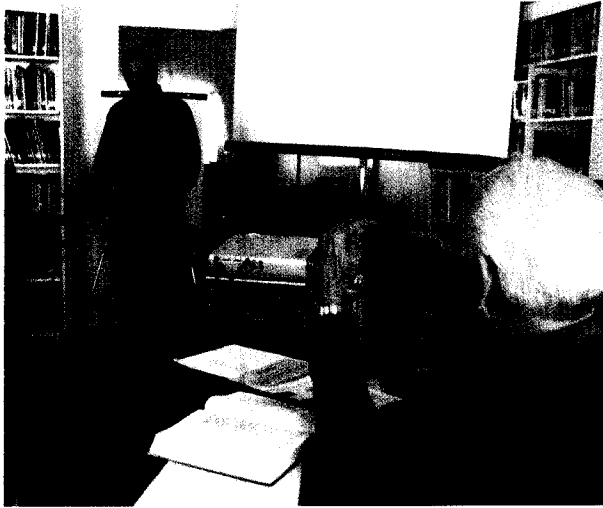
wondered, “How do you even approach someone? How, and what, can you do? [Greenhouse] gives me the courage to say, ‘Yes, I can do this.’”

Penny Louckx explained that she liked the idea that Greenhouse is about working where people are. “It’s harder to wait on God’s guidance, yet we have to be ready to go when the Holy Spirit is moving. [Greenhouse] takes ‘us’ out of the picture.”

As shared by Tom Carter, who attended, Greenhouse is “a very valuable tool and concept for those of us who feel we have a special message for this world at this time.”

For more information, please contact Bill Levin at wflevin@gccsda.com

—BY JAN LEVIN



Participants engage in a discussion led by Bill Levin at the training event.

house,” on November 4-5. “Greenhouse” is an interactive training experience based on Biblical principles which serve to

Heroes Unmasked in Canton

What happens when you have parents who want their children to enjoy Halloween without the ghosts and goblins, and you have a church of committed members wanting to do community outreach? You have Heroes Unmasked.

The Canton, Ga., church opened its doors to the community for an evening of fun and fellowship by utilizing the program Heroes Unmasked. Developed as a spiritual alternative to having children celebrate Halloween, Heroes Unmasked is an action-packed program bringing popular

Bible characters to life.

Activity areas included Elijah instructing children how to play the flying, flaming chicken race; Moses parting the Red Sea (miniature golf); and children pelting a 9-foot Goliath with marshmallows. A puppet show brought additional entertainment, and

the cotton candy and popcorn machines only added to the festivities.

Many members used the evening as an outreach

opportunity by inviting their friends and neighbors. Approximately 50 children and their families attended, the majority of whom were

visitors. The visitors asked questions about the church, and several said they would be back to visit during the worship service.

Todd Leonard, pastor, concluded, “The members worked tirelessly to put on a first-class event. But in the end, we all agreed it was worth it. I believe we accomplished what we set out to do—that is, to provide a fun evening for the children, and to introduce the community to the family-friendly atmosphere of the Canton Adventist church.”

—BY BEV OWEN



Many of the 50 children and their families who attended were visitors from the community.

Southern Deaf Fellowship Grows

On Sabbath afternoon, November 18, Jeff Jordan, pastor of the Southern Deaf Fellowship church in Atlanta, Ga., baptized two believers. This event was the first of its kind in the Southern Union and the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

Those baptized, Amaryllis Mendoza and Ezra Miller, are the first fruits of the Deaf NET 2006 evangelistic series, which Jordan conducted during four weekends in October.

This series of 14 sermons in sign language was streamed live online, spreading the good news of God's love for mankind to the deaf community around the world. Seventeen deaf individuals and seven children attended the main evangelistic site near Atlanta, and 42 visitors responded to watching Jordan online.

Jordan's sermons covered a variety of topics, including titles such as "Why So Much Suffering?" and "Deliverance from a World in Conflict."

People from at least seven states watched the webcast: Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, and California, along with the countries of Canada and Barbados.

"About two weeks into Deaf NET 2006, the number of hits doubled on the Southern Deaf Fellowship web site (www.deafchurchonline.org) over the previous comparable months," said Wayne Salhany, whose technical skills made the streaming possible. "This is the first time this has been done in our Church to my knowledge," he shared.

The idea of an Internet-based ministry for the deaf

was developed out of the need to reach those who desire to receive God's Word in their native language – American Sign Language. Only 2-4 percent of deaf people in North America attend church. It is estimated that fewer than 6 percent of American churches have any outreach to the deaf at all.

Jeff Jordan, who is deaf himself, is an ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastor in the Southern Union. His wife, Melissa, is a trained translator. In 1997, Jordan was called to begin a church for the deaf in the Atlanta area. The Southern Deaf Fellowship was organized on April 9, 2005, to reach the needs of



Jeff Jordan (right), pastor, baptizes Ezra Miller

deaf communities who are isolated across the Southern Union: North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, and Georgia.

A relationship with Jesus is an experience. Jordan wants to make "a difference in the lives of deaf people for eternity."

—BY MARTIN KNOPPER

Joe and Mary Green: A 50-Year Love Story



PHOTO ©2006 SUZANNE MATLAND

Joe and Mary Green live a life of love.

Fifty years ago, Joe and Mary Green began a love affair with each other, with their family, with their Church, and with their God.

Joe and Mary were both born and raised in Adventist homes. They met at Southern Missionary College in 1955, and were married at the Kress Memorial church in Winter Park, Fla., on August 30, 1956.

Joe and Mary spent most of their life together serving the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the publishing ministry. Joe spent more than 25 years as the director of Adventist Book Centers in the Oklahoma, Georgia-Cumberland, and Illinois con-

ferences. Joe also served in the treasury office of the Southern Union Home Health and Education Service; in auditing with the Illinois Conference; and in marketing with the Southern Publishing Association. Mary often partnered with Joe in working with the Adventist Book Center.

Joe and Mary have brought up three daughters, became grandparents to two girls, and, just this fall, became great-grandparents to a baby boy.

More than their hard work and dedication to

the ministry, Joe and Mary are known for their genuine love to everyone they know. This loving legacy was evident at their 50th anniversary party on August 27, 2006. Friends and family from all over the country celebrated two people who model the love of Jesus to everyone they meet.

Joe and Mary are currently active members of the Cherokee church in Woodstock, Ga., continuing to show what true love is all about.

—BY TODD LEONARD

Angel Team Helps with Home Projects

Grace Fellowship church's "Angel Team" ministry, located in Madison, Ala., is an outgrowth of a church mission trip to coastal Mississippi to help with home rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina.

Even before the week in Waveland, team leader Bill Noel was praying for God to help him start a home repair ministry as part of Grace Fellowship's ministries. His prayer was answered only a few weeks after returning from Waveland. Fire had damaged the teen-aged daughter's room of a church member who is a single mother. Insurance covered the cost of materials, but not the cost to hire a painter or electrician. An E-mail call-to-action sched-



Pictured are most of the 23 volunteers for the home winterizing project. They adopted the name "Angel Team" after several families they had helped called them angels.

uled a Sunday work bee.

"The response told me God was leading," Noel explains. "So many volunteered I had to tell several people that we had enough manpower to do all the tasks."

Besides the painting job, the team installed

AC-wired smoke alarms and fire extinguishers.

The team's main objective is to add muscle power, with the homeowner providing the materials, though team members aren't afraid to dig into their

own pockets to pay for needed items.

Electrician Aaron Wildman is the only team member with professional construction skills. The rest are amateurs who want to help others, and they are not afraid to tackle a challenge outside their comfort zone. Team leader Noel is a project manager for the federal government. Greg Parrish is a mechanical engineer for NASA. Edward Hartuno teaches management information systems at a local university.

One team project was building a handicap access ramp for an 82-year-old widowed church member who needed the ramp to have easy access in and out the front of her house.

Linking with the community service agencies has expanded the team's services to people

who are not church members.

On November 5, 2006, 23 volunteers helped winterize two homes for senior citizens in cooperation with CASA, an agency that focuses on helping the elderly. One of those houses needed extensive maintenance work. Before several windows could be covered with plastic, a number of windowpanes had to be re-put-

tied to keep them from falling out of the weathered frames.

Future plans include working with Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for the economically challenged, along with meeting whatever needs God brings to the team's attention.

—BY BILL NOEL



Michael Showater instructs the children on bagging leaves while others winterize the house.



Aaron Wildman, a licensed electrician, runs wires for an electrical outlet.

Evangelistic Series Held in Pensacola



The series began with a concert by recording artist Steve Green

More than 260 visitors crowded into the Saenger Theater, located in Pensacola, Fla., on July 29, 2006, for the opening night of an evangelistic series with evangelists Steve and Susan DeLong, and Hiram and Elizabeth Rester. This was a city-wide event combining the efforts of the University Parkway, Jordan Street, and Blue Angels churches. Presentations could be

attended at either the 5:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. session. Featured in the series were concerts by recording artists Steve Green, Trent DeLong, and Jaime Jorge, as well as Susan DeLong who performed several times during the crusade. Steve Green and Trent DeLong also performed together as a special presentation.

Through the preaching of the love and grace of

Christ, and the music, the crowd was motivated to return night after night.

This event was part of the vision of Michael Chulla's grandmother, who as part of her last will and testament left a significant portion of her estate specifically for an evangelistic meeting in Pensacola, Fla. The Gulf States Conference also contributed to the budget, as well as the area

churches involved in the crusade.

Michael Chula traveled from Dallas, Tex., to help organize the meetings. In these meetings pastors James Mangum and Jeff Westburg from the Gulf States Conference, and Gary Collins from the South Central Conference, and many of the members in the respective churches supported the series. A spirit of cooperation between the area churches grew stronger throughout the entire seminar.

At the last night of the series, 44 individuals had already been baptized, with 22 in the South Central church expressing an interest for baptism, and 37 additional baptismal interests were noted. Many are attending follow-up classes.

—BY STEVE DELONG

Pathfinders Gather for Camporee

Pathfinder clubs throughout the Conference gathered at Camp Alamisco October 19-22, 2006, for the annual camporee. On Thursday, vans and buses full of enthusiastic young people began arriving at the Camp. Soon the sound of laughter mingled with the pounding of tent stakes as more than 20 clubs prepared for the four-day event.

Ben Roy, from the Science Zone, was the guest speaker. Pathfinders and adults watched enthralled as Roy demonstrated,

through science, the marvels of God's creation. Marching and drilling exercises were judged Friday morning, followed by field events in the afternoon.

Field events included a pioneer race, a button sewing relay race, and a camp site inspection to find errors in the site. The events focused on the camporee theme, "Pioneering for Christ."

One of the highlights of the camporee was the Saturday night talent program performed by the Pathfinders. The talent show was followed by the



A record number of Pathfinders attended the Camporee

presentation of camporee event ribbons to the participating Pathfinders, and then the yearly trophy awards were given to the

clubs. Scoring for the awards is designed so that every one can receive a top award.

TANA Selects Bowen for Award

The Tennessee Association of Nurse Anesthetists (TANA) presented Bernard V. Bowen, CRNA, founder and first president of Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia (MTSA) its lifetime achievement award. The honor was presented to Bowen on Friday, October 20, 2006, at the 69th annual TANA convention by Association President and MTSA graduate Mike Morel, CRNA (class of 1980).

Bowen was escorted down the center aisle of the Marriott Hotel Ballroom in Franklin, Tenn., by MTSA President Phil Hunt as the room of CRNA peers honored him with a standing ovation and extended applause.

Bowen received his nursing degree from Paradise Valley Sanitarium & Hospital School of Nursing, National City, Calif., in 1945. He graduated

from Norwegian-American Hospital School of Anesthesia in Chicago, Ill., in 1948. He received a B.S. in nursing education from Madison College, Madison, Tenn., in 1956. His most recent educational achievement occurred when in 1994 he was awarded a doctor of science, DSc (honoris causa), by the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia in Madison, Tenn.

In 1950 Bowen founded the Madison College School of Nurse Anesthesia. In 1964 the name changed to Madison Hospital School of Anesthesia, and in 1980 became the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia. Today MTSA is one of the largest schools of anesthesia in the country awarding master's of science degrees to registered nurses completing the 28-month



Mike Morel (left), CRNA (class of 1980), presented the TANA Lifetime Achievement Award to Bernard V. Bowen, CRNA, MTSA founder and first president.

program. Current enrollment now totals more than 200 nurses.

Awards and tributes to Bowen are plentiful and numerous. He has seemingly held every TANA office and committee chairmanship, including president, in addition to serving

a term as chairman of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists in 1977.

Service to others has been a focus of Bowen's life as he has served as visiting professor and teacher of anesthesia at various universities, clinics, hospitals, and other settings worldwide, including, Thailand, Zambia, Malaysia, and Africa, to name just a few.

Bowen is a welcomed highlight to the MTSA campus when he occasionally visits and shares stories with "his kids" in the now new classroom teaching theatre. Plans are underway to celebrate his 90th birthday this month.

For more information regarding MTSA, please visit the school's website at www.mtsa.edu or call 615-868-6503.

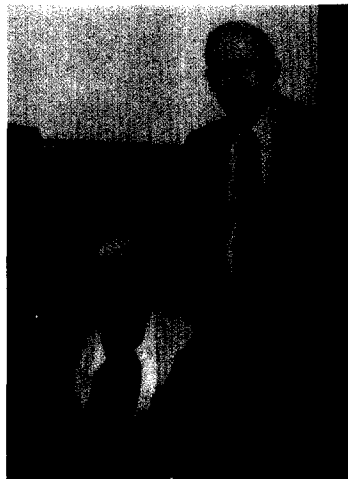
—BY JIM CLOSSER

Stearns Member Celebrates 100 Years

The Stearns church in southern Kentucky celebrated the 100th birthday of Fannie Neal on November 1, 2006. Not only is she the oldest member of the church, but she is the oldest person in McCreary County. Fannie, pictured with Gary Shepherd, pastor, joined the Stearns church more than 60 years ago with her husband Anthony Neal.

Shepherd remembers going to church with the Neals when he was a young boy. "Fannie has been very faithful to the church through the years," says Shepherd, who is now the pastor of the Stearns church. She also was honored by the community on November 5, 2006.

—BY GARY SHEPHERD



Seeds Planted in Dyer County

God truly worked to enable the Dyersburg, Tenn., church's presence to be seen and felt at the Dyer County Fair. Just two weeks before the fair, the church learned that the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference disaster van was available and could be set up to furnish a place for providing health information and blood pressure screening to fair goers.

It seemed highly unlikely that the church could get space so close to the opening day. However, when the chairman of the Dyer County fair board was contacted, space was available.

Many behind-the-scenes tasks had to be done in a short time: driving the van, acquiring appropriate health literature, getting badges prepared, transporting equipment, etc. In addition, volunteers were needed to be present during the hours the fair was open. The church family responded wholeheartedly, and there were ample volunteers.

Not only did the chairman of the fair board make space available, it was the best space on the entire fairground. It was visible to every fair visitor as they walked up the hill approaching the gate and to the carnival goers as they exited the carnival area.

Volunteers had the opportunity to talk with many people, and shared health literature with many more. Almost everyone was interested in health, and

those who stopped to talk and pick up literature seemed appreciative that we were exhibitors at the fair.

Two incidents stand out in the minds of the volunteers who manned the exhibit.

There was a middle-aged man whose blood pressure was extremely high, although he was taking medication for it. He was instructed to see his physician right away, and return to the exhibit the next day for a recheck of his blood pressure. He reported the next day that he had called his physician who told him to double his medication dose that day and come to



Louise Osborn (left), community services leader, looks on as one of the fair goers has his blood pressure checked.

the office the next day for follow-up.

A 19-year-old man stopped by the exhibit. His blood pressure was extremely high, especially for a young man his age. He was instructed to see his physician as soon as possible, and it was suggested that he return the next day to have it checked again. He did return the next day, along with his girlfriend

and her mother. His blood pressure was still elevated. His girlfriend's mother promised that she would make sure he received medical follow-up for the problem.

The Dyersburg church is so thankful for this learning experience that God sent to them, and then enhanced with the best possible ex-

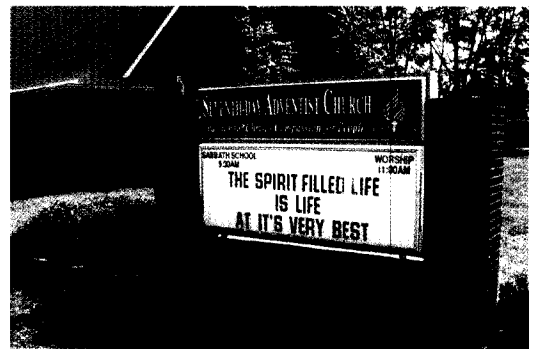
posure. Plans are already in progress for next year's fair. Members believe, "God provides us with the seeds. If we would only scatter them wherever opportunities arise, He will provide the water, the sunlight—all things necessary for growth. Our job is to plant; God will take care of the harvest."

—BY GRACE COX

Pewee Valley Dedicates Church Sign

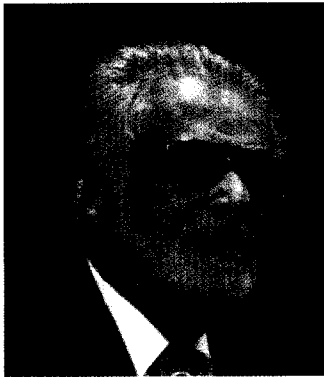
The Pewee Valley, Ky., church dedicated its new sign on Sabbath, October 14, 2006. Richard Teller, pastor, officiated, assisted by the elders of the congregation. The sign is prominently located on Kentucky State Highway 146, in front of the church edifice.

The sign was erected in memory of Bill and Fern Hampton, who left funds for the project in their estate. The Hamptons were head elder and clerk, respectively, for many years in the Pewee Valley church. Many people in the community have already made positive remarks regarding the new sign.



—BY E.H. ROY

Former South Atlantic President Remembered



Warren Banfield, Sr., speaks at the South Atlantic camp meeting during the 60th anniversary celebration.

Warren St. Clair Banfield, Sr., was born in Charleston, W. Va., on April 16, 1922. As a preacher's child, with his three siblings, he was privileged to move from city to city and state to state which gave him an opportunity to make friends in many places.

Banfield attended Oakwood Junior College and completed his college work at Pacific Union College in Angwin, Calif. After graduation, he was hired as an intern in the South Atlantic Conference. He worked faithfully for more than three years (a portion of that time under the guidance and direction of evangelist Earl E. Cleveland) pastoring churches in Greensboro, Durham, and Raleigh, N.C.

He became restless for more education, and, not having enough money to enroll in the seminary, which was located at that time in Takoma Park, Md., he sold his car and left for

Maryland. Upon arriving he met a young woman who had just graduated from Oakwood College. He won the love of Gerri Poole and asked her to marry him on January 1, 1950, New Year's Day, so "I won't forget our anniversary." And, he never did even after 56 years of marriage. To this union two children, Warren, Jr., and Karren were born. Years later, they were blessed with three grandchildren.

After the marriage, Banfield pastored churches in Atlanta, Ga., Miami, Key West, and Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Winston-Salem and High Point, N.C., and Tampa and Sarasota, Fla.

In 1962, he was elected president of the South Atlantic Conference. A part of the enjoyment of this position was being able to hire and mentor young men entering the ministry. After six years he accepted the position as associate secretary of the Southern Union Conference. In 1975 he accepted the invitation to become the associate director of the office of regional affairs at the General Conference. Later he was encouraged by the president to create an office that would address the

needs of all members seeking recourse or assistance in resolving conflicts resulting from personal and/or church-related issues. He developed the office

of human relations and remained in this position until he retired in 1989. Also, prior to retiring, he encouraged and assisted the women of the Church in organizing the women's ministries department

Banfield believed in living his life for God and for his fellowman. During his ministry, he did all he could to make the world around him a better place. He always found time to be of service. He joined ministerial alliances in the cities where he pastored. He had a sincere working relationship with ministers of all denominations. He invited them to his



Warren Banfield (right) is pictured with other South Atlantic officials: L.S. Follette (left), R.D. Singleton, and Frank Jones.

churches, and he attended theirs as well. He worked and held offices in the local urban leagues and the NAACP, even becoming president of the Tampa, Fla., branch while he pastored in that city. He participated in marches and sit-ins that led to making life better for many people of color.

Shortly after retirement, Banfield was diagnosed with leukemia. After many years of treatment, the disease went into remission. After moving to California, however, he was diagnosed with cancer. Even during his battles with illness, he continued to work on projects, keeping his mind busy and occupied until his death on . His courage and faith remained high, and he continued to trust God each day. God blessed his ministry and his efforts. He truly loved his God, his Church, and his family. And, he was loved in return.

—BY JAMES LAMB



Ralph B. Hairston (left), former South Atlantic president; Vanard J. Mendingball, current president; and Warren S. Banfield and Robert F. Woodfork, former presidents.

Prison Ministries Federation Day Celebrated

Churches throughout North Carolina joined in worship at the Berean church in Charlotte, N.C., on Sabbath, October 7, 2006, for the annual state-wide Prison Ministries (PM) Federation day. The day's theme was, "Life Beyond Bars—Changing Prisoners Through Jesus Christ."

After the energetic and enlightening study of the Sabbath school lesson, James Johnson, Federation president, whet the interest of the congregation as he shared, during the personal ministries segment of the program, tidbits from the afternoon's informational seminar. These presentations were prepared for prison ministries departments, as well as churches with strong programs already in place.

Betsy Davis and personal ministries leader Georgia Dixon were the program's coordinators. Under their leadership the Berean church provided a wonderful, spiritually

uplifting service through prayer, hymns, offerings, and special music. Some of the platform participants represented various North Carolina churches: Donald Belton (High Point) gave the welcome and roll call. Bobby Braham (Winston-Salem) read scriptures. Elizabeth Watson (Greensboro) presented the children's story. James Johnson was recognized for devoted active service of more than 40 years with the Prison Ministries Federation. He was honored with a plaque.

Carl Nesmith, pastor of the Berean, N.C., church introduced the divine worship speaker, Patrick Carter, pastor of the Anderson, S.C., church. Using the life of Joseph, Carter reminded the congregation that God sometimes allows us to be stopped in our tracks for His purpose of blessing others.

Not only did Davis and Dixon organize the federation, they also prepared and served lunch. Imme-



Carl Nesmith, pastor of the Charlotte Berean church

diately after the meal, the afternoon seminars began. James Johnson presented information and gave handouts from the Crimeless Club on several topics: "Vital/New Issues in Prison Ministry," "The Female Offender," and "the Homosexual Inmate and Church Membership." Supplementing the facts with his own personal story, he captivated the audience and equipped them for more effective intervention services. Avon Bailey, who, while in prison, was ministered to through the witness of Johnson, shared his testimony and his cur-

rent involvement with the Crimeless Club, an agency that has joined hands with the Adventist North Carolina State Federation of Prison Ministries. The final presentation, "Crime and Justice", was given by Elizabeth Watson. She specifically looked at the plight of adolescent girls—female juvenile delinquents who are incarcerated. Involving the entire congregation, she led in a discussion of the challenges girls/teens face, reasons they break societal mores, and their needs that are different than those of their male counterparts.

At the end of the day, the representatives from the various churches expressed that they found the information useful; they reported being better equipped to serve; and they were more willing to be God's physical head, hands, and heart to the hurting and disenfranchised, especially those dealing with the criminal justice system.

—BY ELIZABETH WATSON



Pictured are James Johnson (left), North Carolina prison ministries president; Elizabeth Watson, presenter; and Patrick Carter, guest speaker and pastor of the Anderson church.



Federation attendees enjoying the fellowship dinner

New Life is Newest Church Family in South Central



Posing for the group picture are Benjamin Browne, Conference president; Fred Moore, Maranatha pastor; Alfred Miller, Jr., Conference evangelist; Bible workers; and the baptismal candidates.

Benjamin P. Browne, Conference president, communicated his vision for evangelism to Alfred Miller, Jr., Conference evangelist; Fred H. Moore, Jr., pastor; and the congregation at the Maranatha church in Tuscaloosa, Ala. As a result, they aspired to make the president's vision a reality.

The "Real Truth Concept" evangelistic team literally took Tuscaloosa by a storm. Starting six weeks prior to the Revelation Seminar, the team of six, in the hot summer heat of August, began knocking on doors and providing Bible lessons to the receptive homes they entered.

One young man, by the name Corey, had been on the Maranatha church Bible Bowl team

as a youth. He lost contact with the church when he moved, he reported having some difficult years as he completed school. He stated he felt stability when he was attending



Pictured are Fred Moore, Jr., (left), Maranatha pastor; Benjamin Browne, Conference president; and Alfred Miller, Jr., Conference evangelist.

church and while on the Bible Bowl team. He also reported how close he felt to the church members at Maranatha, though neither he nor his mother were

members. When the evangelistic team came to his home, he eagerly assisted his grandmother with the lessons, and also completed lessons for himself. On opening night, he returned to the place where he says he felt security as a child to begin the Revelation Seminar.

Linda, another student taking the Bible lessons, says she prayed to know what is true and what church practices Bible truth. Shortly after she ended her prayer, a knock was heard on her door, and when she opened it, it was one of the Bible workers. As the Bible worker began revealing Bible truths with Linda, she began asking questions about the Sab-

bath, and said she only knew a little about the Sabbath. Her Baptist pastor, who has a membership of more than 1,000, told them one Wednesday night that Saturday is the Sabbath, but we keep Sunday because everybody else does.

Sabbath morning, October 14, was a high Sabbath in Tuscaloosa. Following the worship service with Browne in attendance, more than 200 individuals observed as the candidates were immersed in baptism at Freeman's public pool.

Not only did the president's vision come to fruition with 32 baptized converts, but also a new congregation, the New Life church was organized. Since that time, more individuals have taken a stand for baptism. New Life is the second South Central church in Tuscaloosa.

—BY BARBARA RYANS
BARNES AND GLORIA
HAMMOND

Youth Evangelism Really Works



New Covenant 2006 youth evangelism team

Someone once said, "If we do the same thing, the same way, with the same negative results—that is the definition of insanity." The youth and young adults of the New Covenant church in Memphis, Tenn., decided that they would not sit back and watch the devil destroy the youth in their church and community. The church made a decision to invest resources into youth evangelism.

They organized and planned an evangelistic crusade where the target group would be young people. Lynton Powell, who serves as the youth ministries

minister; Jeffery L. Watson, pastor; and the youth council decided they would pitch a tent for Jesus. They brought in Fred Whitlow to lead out in the crusade and David Lee to be the guest evangelist.

The "No More Dirty" Crusade began July 9 and

ended July 29, 2006. The theme was "The Ten Commandments," where Lee expounded from the Word night after night. The young people did everything. Music was provided by Romans/John Youth & Young Adult Choir, Stric'ly Jesus Camp, and other tal-

ented young people from the community.

The highlight every evening was to witness young people writing on the "PRAISE" wall the powerful blessings of God, and then writing their prayer/victory request on the "DELIVERANCE" wall and spray painting those requests with red spray paint symbolizing victory in the blood of the Lamb. This effort resulted in 20 young people being baptized into the New Covenant church.

—BY JEFFREY WATSON



Jeffrey Watson invites community youth to the evangelistic crusade

Experiencing the Savior in His Word

BY D. WAYNE DAVIDSON

It was quiet in the halls and in the sanctuary of the Emmanuel-Brinklow church, located in Brinklow, Maryland. Hushed were the voices of triumphs and the accolades that had reverbed through this hallowed place just seven hours prior, as the 24th annual National Bible Bowl games came to an end and the champions were presented.

It had been a



South Atlantic's junior team: Coaches Dale and Karen Wongk (left); Victor Wongk; Andrew, Jeremy, Sylvia, and Nathaniel Ashley; Nicole Wong, captain; and Nina Ashley, coach; are from the New Life church in Warner Robbins, Georgia; and D. Wayne Davidson, Bible Bowl coordinator for the South Atlantic Conference.

weekend filled with challenges for the members of Emmanuel-Brinklow. With arms stretched open, from the executive planning meeting on Friday to the closing of the church on the night after the Sabbath, they fulfilled every challenge and task asked of them in order to make the event a success.

By evening, 32 teams within the North American Division had registered in four different divisions



South Atlantic's senior youth team: Rena Olivierre (left); Joshua Haynes; Merriah Haynes; Nidia Haynes, coach; Kassimier Haynes, captain; and Joel Legall are from the New Hope church in Ellenwood, Georgia; posed with D. Wayne Davidson.

to participate in the games. They came because they had studied the Scriptures, desired to be approved by God and man, and demonstrate that they knew how to rightly divide the Word of Truth. The teams, with its coaches and well-wishers, judges, QuizMaster operators, and moderators, came to Brinklow in their quest of being conferred the title of champions.

Representing the Southern Union were 10 teams from the Southeastern, South Central, and South Atlantic conferences. Each team came to testify that, regardless of the outcome of the games, everyone is a winner because of they studied the Word of God and had hid it in their hearts.

It was late in the evening on Sabbath that the final games were played in the senior youth division. The moderator was no stranger to this ministry. Trevor Baker, president of the Northeastern Conference and a veteran moderator. He was give the inspiration by God to develop this unique ministry of speed and quick recall as a means of motivating youth and young adults

west Region Conference moderated the young adult final. In this final, Northeastern took Greater New York to task and was declared the champions. In rapid succession, the adult division followed, moderated by Thrifine Rowe of Ontario, Canada.

This time South Atlantic gave way to Northeastern's claim for its second championship spot for the evening.

The final game of the evening brought the junior teams from Greater New York and South Atlantic to the front. Moderated by Alex

Turner from the South Atlantic and Northeastern. Two teams that invariably challenge each other for the championship spot. At the end of play, Northeastern gave way to South Atlantic being declared the champions in this division. Maurice Turner from the South-

west Region Conference moderated the young adult final. In this final, Northeastern took Greater New York to task and was declared the champions. In rapid succession, the adult division followed, moderated by Thrifine Rowe of Ontario, Canada. This time South Atlantic gave way to Northeastern's claim for its second championship spot for the evening. The final game of the evening brought the junior teams from Greater New York and South Atlantic to the front. Moderated by Alex Turner from the South-

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South Atlantic's adult team: Michelle Clark (left); Petal Peters, coach; Perl Camel; Ron Jackson, Sr.; Acquennette Jackson, captain; Ruth Peters; and Marilyn Shaw are from the Mt. Olive church in Atlanta, Georgia; posed with D. Wayne Davidson.

Adventist Elected to Serve as State Representative

Ronald Brise was elected by the residents of District 108 (North Miami, Fla.) to serve as state representative, by garnering 81.5 percent of the vote on Tuesday, November 7.

Brise, an elder at the North Miami Tabernacle church, is the first Seventh-day Adventist Haitian-American to serve as state representative for the State of Florida.

Tabernacle played a vital role in his campaign. "We are so very proud of him," stated his pastor, David Peay.

Brise, a graduate of Miami Union Academy and Oakwood College, did not hide the fact that he is a Seventh-day Adventist. In fact, in interviews and campaign literature, he proudly stated that fact.

He is the son of Roland and Nicole Brise. Brise is the pastor of Smyrne Haitian church in Winter Haven, Fla. Nicole Brise, is the director of women's ministries and prayer ministries for the Conference.

Brise, who speaks three languages (English, French, and Spanish) won the Democratic nomination on September 5, when he defeated four opponents with 42 percent of the votes.

Prior to running for office, he served as community liaison for State House District 108 and served as a member of the planning commission for the city of North Miami.

A devoted family man, he is married to Jo An Salomon Brise and has a ten-month-old son, Ronald

Anthony Brise, II.

In an era where the moral character of politicians today is being questioned, Brise is a breath of fresh air. And like Joseph, he stands out from the crowd.

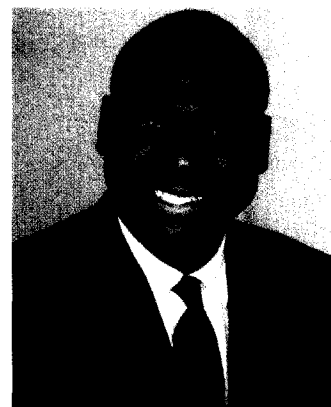
Brise states, "I am humbled by the privilege bestowed upon me by the residents of District 108, and I commit myself to serve and address the issues affecting their lives and seek to improve the well being of all members of the great state of Florida community—one community, one voice."

While many Adventists today question whether or not an Adventist should hold a political office, Brise joins John Street, mayor of Philadelphia; Barry Black, U.S. Senate chaplain; and

Judy Hawkins, judge for Leon County, Fla.; as Adventists who serve as civil servants.

Like them, Brise plans to make a difference. According to the residents of North Miami, he already has.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY



Ronald Brise, Florida state representative

Laymen Help to Establish Prayer Ministry

What began as a series of E-mails between Philippa Turner and Willie L. Taylor, president of the Southeastern Conference, has emerged into Southeastern's newest ministry—prayer ministries.

Turner, a member of the Lighthouse church, located in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., began a personal prayer ministry when her daughter left the Church.

After witnessing the power of prayer in her life, she was impressed by the Holy Spirit to establish a prayer ministry at Light-house.

Thus, she spearheaded the establishment of an early morning prayer group. With the assistance of Barry Bonner, pastor, the prayer group evolved into an official church ministry.

Afterwards, Turner was impressed by the Holy Spirit to encourage Taylor to establish a prayer ministry at the Conference.

In an E-mail to Taylor, Turner outlined her desire for the establishment of prayer ministry at the Conference.

After several more E-mails and prayer, Taylor established prayer minis-

tries in 2004 and appointed Nicole Brise to serve as the first director.

In the spring of 2006, Nicole Brise held Southeastern's first prayer conference at the Conference office in Orlando, Fla.

More than 200 prayer warriors attended the three-day event, which was conducted by Samuel Telemaque, prayer coordinator of the Caribbean Union Conference.

Telemaque, author of the

book, *The Power of Prayer in Evangelism*, argues that unless there is a movement of intercessory prayer at local churches, our evangelistic efforts will not be effective.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY



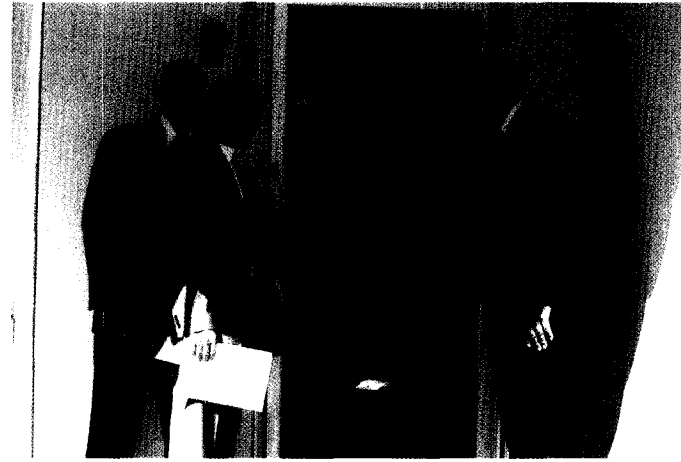
Prayer warriors at Southeastern's prayer conference form a circle to pray for Willie L. Taylor, Conference president.

Single-Parent Program Provides New Beginnings

Oakwood College officially opened New Beginnings, the first single-parent college program of its kind in the Huntsville/Madison County region of northern Alabama, on September 29, 2006. Susan M. Baker, DPTSc., a chemistry professor at Oakwood College, stated that a program of this type was well overdue. Each year many young adults were unable to complete their college degrees due to childcare responsibilities and lack of support.

The program is designed to address this need by providing single parents with free supportive services and resources that will empower them to successfully reach their educational goals and matriculate through college. Some of the services include counseling and direct case management, daycare assistance, parental workshops, scholarship assistance, work-study opportunities, resume writing, networking and friendship opportunities, and much more.

The program is housed in a facility that formerly functioned as the health services building. It was completely renovated to meet the needs of its new occupants and now includes a computer room, study room, childcare room, group meeting room, and outdoor play equipment for children. New Beginnings has received tremendous



Dedrick Blue (left), vice president of student services; David Sedlacek, New Beginnings program coordinator; and Delbert Baker, president of Oakwood College, participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony marking the official opening of New Beginnings.

financial support from Oakwood College, other local churches, business organizations, and the community at-large.

David Sedlacek, Ph.D., a social work professor at Oakwood College, is the program coordinator. He reports that the projected enrollment for the program was 10 to 12 individuals for the first year; however, the program will have more than doubled its initial target enrollment by the end of October 2006. "We have obviously addressed a need in which the magnitude and scope is larger than what we anticipated," denotes Helen Fischle, a social work professor at Oakwood College.

The program is a community partnership initiative for all single parents in the Huntsville/Madison County region in need of support services while pursuing a college education.

New Beginnings renders services to both male and female single parents, regardless of college or university affiliation. Already students from a number of local colleges and universities have enrolled in the program and are benefiting from the support system that the facility provides.

Tiffany Carter, one of the program participants

and a speaker at the grand opening celebration activity, stated that without such support, she could not have returned to school to complete her degree. She is deeply appreciative of the opportunity that Oakwood College has provided to assist in the achievement of her goals.

The grand opening event is a culmination of years of planning and hard work by faculty and staff members of the New Beginnings committee. The program derives its support from the generous gifts and financial contributions of the community at-large. Anyone desirous of contributing to the ongoing growth and maintenance of this program may do so by contacting David Sedlacek at 256-726-7607, or by E-mailing him at dsedlacek@oakwood.edu.

—BY GEORGE ASHLEY



Children at play on the playground of New Beginnings

Oakwood and Southern Unite in a Joint Social Justice Retreat

It was Theodore Roosevelt who stated, "Justice consists not in being neutral between right and wrong, but in finding out the right and upholding it, wherever found, against wrong." This famous quote formulated the background synergy in the development of a social justice retreat for social work students, educators, and professionals.

Valerie Radu, Ph.D., a former Southern Adventist University professor and current chair of social work at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, first conceived the idea. Radu noted that while the inclusion of social justice theory and knowledge is a curriculum requirement for all accredited social work programs, it is often

difficult for students to grasp its meaning in practice. She believed that in a world where the idea of promoting social justice seems to be eroding, it is crucial for social workers to be vigilant in pushing this concept to the forefront.

Her energy and commitment culminated in a social justice retreat for social workers. The event, which took place on October 9, was held at the New Life church in Chattanooga, Tenn., and was attended by local social work professionals as well as students and faculty from Oakwood College, Southern Adventist University, and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The event provided a variety of learning



Valerie Radu (right), professor at the University of Chattanooga; and George Ashley (center), professor at Oakwood College, along with students, faculty, and social work professionals, share a photo moment at the close of the retreat.

opportunities for students and professionals to grow in their understanding of social justice and how it can be applied within their professional practice.

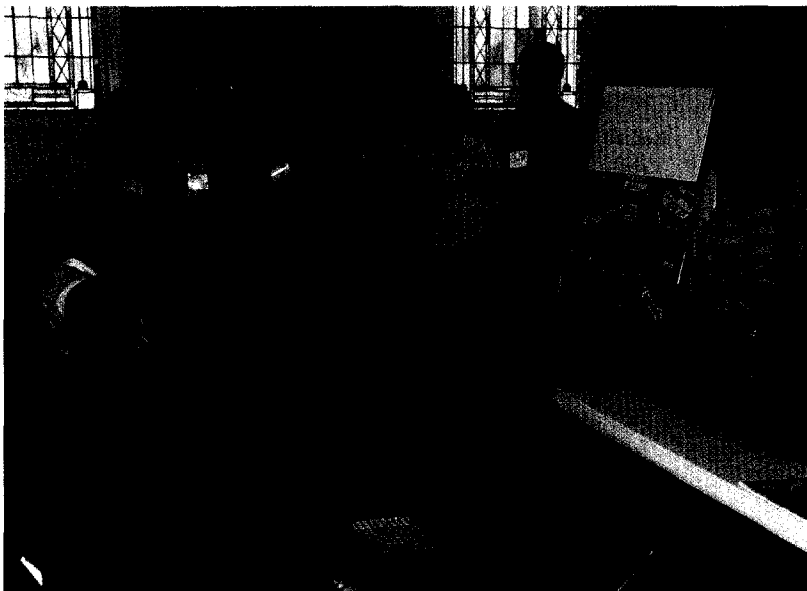
Some of the day's events included small group discussions on assigned topical areas and group knowledge-building exercises. One insightful experience was the oppression game, through which participants were able to see how general societal mores affected them personally, and how they compared to other ethnic,

racial, and gender groups. The day concluded with individuals sharing how the retreat had helped to improve their knowledge and understanding of social justice. More importantly, it clarified what they could do to ensure continued professional growth in the area of social justice.

—BY GEORGE ASHLEY

CORRECTION:

The byline for the Oakwood College article, "Student Honored for College Success," in the November TIDINGS, on page 24, was omitted. It should have been credited to George Ashley.



Students share their perspectives on the importance of social justice in a contemporary society.

Oakwood Church Renders Unconventional Sabbath Service

An estimated 2,000 mourners made up of family, classmates, school administrators, faculty, Huntsville city officials, and community supporters squeezed into the pews with members of the Oakwood College Seventh-day Adventist Church on Sabbath morning, November

25, to remember 17-year-old Tanesha Estella Hill. Tanesha, whose senior portrait was illuminated on banners flanking either side of the platform, was one of four Lee High School students who lost their lives in a tragic school bus accident Monday, November 20, on I-565 near downtown Huntsville, Alabama.

The school bus was transporting students to an area technical center when a red car driven by another Lee High student allegedly sideswiped it. The bus ended up barreling through the concrete overpass railing and nose-diving about 30 feet onto Church Street below.

Craig Newborn, Ph.D., Oakwood's pastor, was one of several ministers, chaplains, and counselors who converged on Huntsville Hospital to comfort more than 30 Lee High School



Oakwood media writing students: LaTeka Camel, Melissa Lee, and Eddie Saylor, bow their heads in prayer at the scene of the bus accident.

students and their families who were grief-stricken and in shock following this tragic incident. Two teenage girls died at the scene, and two more passed to their rest later in the hospital.

After speaking with the Hill family and learning of their need for assistance in making and financing funeral arrangements, Pastor Newborn seized the moment to exemplify Christian charity. Since a wedding was set for Sunday afternoon at the Oakwood church, he offered the non-Adventist family the opportunity to hold the funeral at the Oakwood College church at no charge and modified the regular Sabbath service meet their needs.

With many of Oakwood's students having left for the Thanksgiving break, church seating provided ample room to accommodate the outpouring of mourners. Church and community members made spe-

cial offerings, and a local funeral home donated the casket. In a reaction statement, Pastor Newborn said that regardless of one's faith, when it comes to death of this magnitude that carries with it such widespread community impact, "you are challenged."

Grasping their need for Christian community support, Pastor Newborn reached across the boundaries of traditional Adventist Sabbath-keeping to

involve the Oakwood community in meeting this family where they were hurting most. At the heart of his Sabbath sermon/eulogy message was the caution not to lose faith, and the need to "hold on" because "a better day is coming," expressed through the context of the trials of Job. The Oakwood Academy Choir, Oakwood vocalists Joyce and Robert Pressley, and other community choirs and soloists, were among those who contributed musical selections to the service, while family and friends tearfully recited poems.

Oakwood College president, Dr. Delbert Baker said, "What a tremendous loss. We come together and surround them with love. In this time of darkness, gloom, and grief, it's all we can do."

Mayor Loretta Spencer, City Councilman Dr. Richard Showers, and City Schools Superintendent

Dr. Ann Roy Moore, who taught Tanesha's mother, took turns expressing their condolence and words of encouragement in this unconventional church service.

To conclude the service, Moore presented a resolution from the school system to the Hill family, naming Tanesha a Five-Star General.

—BY MICHELE SOLOMON



Huntsville police officers scramble at the scene of the bus wreck just minutes after the accident.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HUNTSVILLE TIMES

Students Walk Organize Benefit Walk

Southern students organized a breast cancer benefit walk in November, raising more than \$4,000 for the Mary Ellen Locher Breast Center at Memorial Hospital.

The benefit, called PACE

(Personal Action for Cancer Elimination), was a three-mile walk at Collegedale's Wolfcreek Greenway.

The benefit was the first of what organizers hope will become an annual event.

"Breast cancer is the number one cancer diagnosis in Chattanooga," says Heidi Knecht, senior nursing major and one of the event organizers. "Being diagnosed with breast cancer is the

beginning of a long, difficult journey for the individual. We are excited to be able to help raise funds."

—BY ANH PHAM

Acrofest Participants Practice in New Facility

Southern Adventist University hosted Acrofest this year, showcasing the talents of 34 gymnastics teams from three countries. With the use of Southern's new gymnastics facility (built during the Phase 1 construction of the Wellness Center), participants were able to practice using the latest technology in acrobatic sports.

"Acrofest is a gymnastic clinic for Adventist schools

that have gymnastic programs," says Richard Schwartz, professor and Gym-Master's coach.

After two days of training, each of the teams performed a routine for the eager audience at the Acrofest show on Saturday night.

—BY JAIME MYERS



The foam pit in the new gymnastics facility gave Acrofest participants the opportunity to practice difficult stunts without the fear of injury.

Board of Trustees Votes on New Nursing Center

The Southern Adventist University board of trustees has voted to construct a new building for the School of Nursing. Former plans were to renovate and expand the existing Herin Hall.

In the past few years, the School of Nursing has rapidly outgrown Herin Hall. With nearly a quarter of Southern's student body studying nursing, classes have been held in almost every building on campus, including the Collegedale Church and residence halls.

"I'm thrilled that we will have a new top-rate

facility to meet the educational needs of our nursing students," says Barbara James, School of Nursing dean.

The new nursing center will be located between Daniells and Miller halls—in what is currently the Jones parking lot.

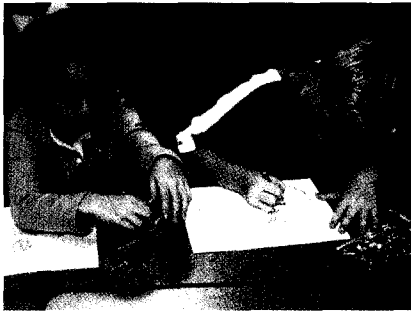
The Center for Nursing Education is part of the \$9.5 million Campaign for Health and Healing.

—BY JAIME MYERS



The new nursing building will make room for more students to enter the program.

Gordon Hospital Offers Healing Arts Program



Calboun elementary students create artistic masterpieces about germs

School children are learning about much more than just math and spelling these days. They're being taught basic health principles and the value of caring for their body through a fun, creative art program.

Gordon Hospital has teamed up with each school system to present the Healing Arts Program to local second graders.

Launched in 2005, the interactive program is a free service and includes a brief educational presentation on a particular health

topic, ranging from nutrition to handwashing and germs, by a Gordon Hospital staff person. After the presentation, each student is asked to complete a piece of artwork related to the subject matter. Once the

artwork is finished and collected, a hospital committee chooses several winners for display in the hospital's Healing Arts Gallery, which is prominently positioned in the main hallway of the hospital.

"Because every child deserves recognition for their effort, we give everyone a blue ribbon of participation," says Raina Sanford, Gordon Hospital director of radiology and Healing Arts Program committee member. "There are some very talented budding art-

ists out there."

Sanford adds that it's never too early to start teaching children about important health issues, and encouraging them to draw what they've learned helps them retain the information.



Raina Sanford distributes crayons and paper to the second grade class

Young Criminals Get Hope and Help from Florida Hospital's New Book

A 17-year-old teen is in jail, accused of a crime so serious that he is being tried as an adult. But, a new book by Florida Hospital is having a profound impact on his life. "It taught me to stop blaming people for my circumstances and take responsibility for myself and the future," said the imprisoned teen. The teen is one of nine boys in the "Literature n' Living" class at the Orange County Jail's Youthful Offender Program who has completed a workbook based on *Forgive to Live: How Forgiveness Can Save Your Life*, by Dick Tibbits, chief people officer at Florida Hospital.

The book teaches that

everyone has been hurt by someone or something, and what you do with that pain can dramatically affect your life. Program coordinator John Richter chooses books that will motivate the teens and broaden their experience to get them out of the street mentality. He plans to teach the book to dozens of other teens in the Youthful Offender Program, who are either awaiting trial or serving sentences of less than a year.

The teens stay at the jail for an average of four to eight months. Eighty-five percent are convicted and sent to adult prisons. The others go back into the community where the

choices they make will determine their future.

Whether serving a sentence in jail, or suffering in silence from a broken heart, lost friendship, or other grievance story, *Forgive to Live* teaches

that negative emotions like anger and aggression result from unresolved grievances and can linger for years, having negative effects on life and health. It is based on the first clinical study of its kind that demonstrated a



Author Dick Tibbits meets with young inmates who have completed a workbook program based on his book.

link between practicing forgiveness and better health, and offers readers a clear roadmap to uncover their grievance story, eliminate the unresolved anger they can and cannot see, and forgive for good.

Thanksgiving at Our House

BY DAN DAVIS

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Linda McWilliams (center) and her team of volunteers prepared a Thanksgiving meal for 150 people.

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Some of the guests and members who enjoyed Thanksgiving at Our House

From a Tent to a Sanctuary

BY LAUREN MAZZIO, GLADYS NEIGEL

Six years ago a small mission group from the Lake City, Florida, church stepped out in faith to hold tent meetings in Live Oak, 32 miles away. Additional members were added through evangelistic meetings. "God knows our wants, our needs, and our cares. He knows we need our own dwelling place," said Bible worker Iris Eastwood in 2003.

The church saved for more than six years, and with the help of a generous donor they were able to raise \$30,000 for a new church. Then someone donated acreage. In the meantime, they rented several different church facilities and established a presence in the little town of Live Oak with its population of 6,618.

At the ceremony conferring official status to the Live Oak company in April of 2006, Marvin Williams, ministerial field secretary for north Florida, challenged the members to "Go and tell someone about Jesus." The church was ready to do that, but they were perplexed about fulfilling the challenge from a rented location they only had access to on Sabbaths.

A church building on Highway 51 sat empty on seven grassy acres only three miles from town, but the asking price was \$280,000. Weeks of fervent prayer led the members to discover that if they could raise twice the amount they had on hand—\$30,000—they might be able to offer \$235,000 for the building. With other



Live Oak charter members in their new church

offers on the table, it seemed unlikely the seller would accept such a low offer, but the members decided to act in faith and placed their donated acreage on the market.

Ryan Wiggan, lay pastor, and Brendan White, Lake City pastor, met with the seller and his agent, but the offer was met with swift rejection. The group decided to pray, and the Holy Spirit seemed to take control of the meeting. When the pastors were asked to leave the room while the issues were discussed, a phone call brought the good news that the donated acreage had sold after only a week on the market.

After again praying for guidance, the pastors rejoined the seller as he said to them, "The offer, of course, is too low." Wiggan began to tell about the Live Oak company when the seller interrupted, "I know

who you are. I know where you rent."

Then the seller began to tell the group about his friend, who was sick with cancer, that lived behind the church the company was renting. He told of kind interaction of the church members with his friend and of a visit and prayer by the pastor and his family. Then he continued, "I want you to know that another church in town has already put an offer in for \$250,000. I wouldn't sell to them for that amount, but I will sell it to you for \$250,000."

While it had taken the congregation six years to raise \$30,000, they were able to raise the seemingly impossible goal of \$45,000 more in less than two short months. The down payment was made, the loan was obtained, and now in just six years the dream of a "dwelling place" became a reality.



Ryan Wiggan, lay pastor

SAC Convention—Tell the Story

BY MICHELE SOLOMON

Oakwood College juniors Cortnee Blayton, Danielle LaTouche, and Michael Vance took a long but worthwhile road trip from Huntsville to Baltimore in mid-October, 2006. They were chaperoned by Kyna Hinson, assistant professor in the department of communication at the College. The occasion was the annual convention of the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC), and this year's venue was the Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore in the historic district of Baltimore, Maryland.

The convention affords student participants the unique opportunity of learning trade secrets from experts in print and broadcast media. In between convention events, they are able to interact freely with prominent Adventist professionals and vendors in the field of their pursuit. For communicators, it is a chance for networking and sharing ideas about what works and what doesn't in the fast-paced professional arena.

Students and professionals alike attended several breakout sessions, which began early Thursday morning, October 12, and ended Friday afternoon. These sessions focused on the convention theme, "Story: The Heart & Soul of Communication." Featured presenters challenged Adventist communicators to embrace the peculiarities of its denomination and become emboldened to tell their story.

Sabbath was a time to relax and enjoy special presentations made by *Hope Channel*, *Mimic Ministries*, and guest speaker Miroslav Pujic, of the Trans-European Division, whose inspiring Sabbath message was "The Church and the Changing Society." Afterward, attendees gathered for a group picture just outside the hotel, then returned to the convention site for lunch.

Another Sabbath speaker, Michael Mennard, captured the essence of the convention theme, stating that the story is essentially the same age-old tale that has been repeated century after century. Still, readers never tire of reading it. "It's why we're attracted to stories in the first place. It's because it's the same story we've been reading and living for centuries. That's why we're drawn to happy endings—because the story we're in has one, and we know it... The genius of Adventism is that we took the Gospel and put it into the context of *The Great Controversy* and *The Desire of Ages*. The rest of the world only has profaned versions of [this story], and that's why we need to tell it. It's the concept that God has called us to do something really huge. How will we respond?"

Other featured guest presenters focused on current trends in branding and marketing to a diverse global community. Their sessions offered ideas on the most effective tools and

methods of telling the story, as well as making the best use of current technology. They also discussed how to get our stories across as Seventh-day Adventist communicators serving in a postmodern society.

"Today's audiences are attracted to a more direct, concise, authentic approach," said one such speaker, Eric Rhoads, who emphasized the challenges that communicators in

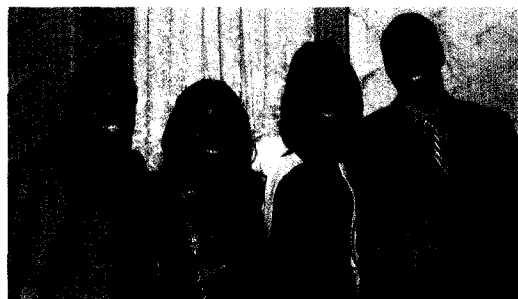
general, and Adventist communicators in particular, must face as we strive to reach a world that is no longer enamored by the hype that so often characterized the print and broadcast media stories of the past. In his presentation, "The World Changed Overnight," he stressed, "They want honest revelation, minus the slick elements. In other words, 'keep it real.'"

When they were not engaged in these presentations, student attendees were out enjoying convention tours designed particularly with them in mind. These included trips to the Maryland/District of Columbia Bureau of the Associated Press, local radio and television stations, and the *Baltimore Examiner*, a free tabloid newspaper that serves the Baltimore metropolitan area. Another specially

planned occasion invited all SAC participants on a trip to the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

An awards banquet emceed by John Torres and Oakwood alumna Frenita Buddy closed out the weekend's activities

on Saturday night. Guest artist and Oakwood alumnus Duawne Starling provided special music taken from his latest CD, "Carried Away." Other Oakwood alums in attendance included Stacia Dulan, SONscreen producer, who made a video presentation showcasing the work of aspiring Adventist cinematographers and videographers; and Michele Solomon, director of public relations.



Kyna Hinson (left), communication professor at Oakwood College, with Oakwood College juniors Cortnee Blayton, Danielle LaTouche, and Michael Vance.

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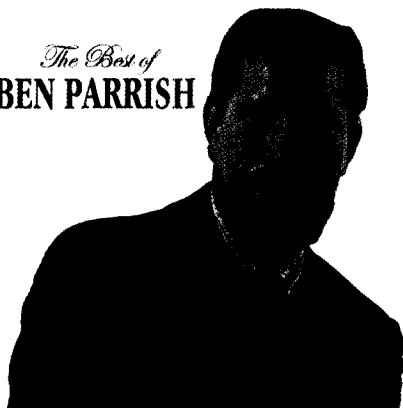
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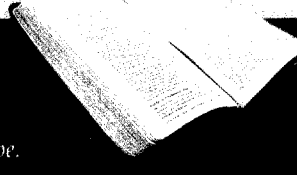
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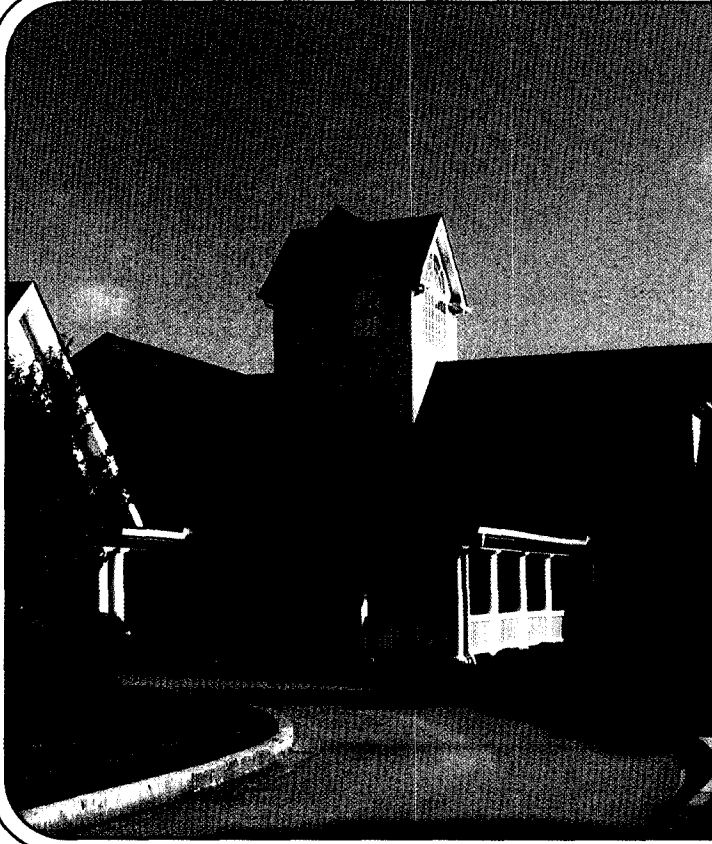
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Gulf States: Tul Pittman, 334-272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee: Lin Powell, 615-859-1391
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South Central: Michael Harpe, 615-226-6500
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Advertisements

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QUIET OAKS. A gracious retirement facility on a beautiful eastern Tennessee mountain estate, inviting SDA seniors to come and enjoy carefree country living with four seasons, SDA fellowship, walking trails, gardening, Adventist TV, etc. For one reasonable monthly fee, Quiet Oaks provides vegetarian meals, utilities, laundry service, medication monitoring, housekeeping, transportation to church, shopping, excursions, etc. Contact today: Quiet Oaks, 3872 Brayton Mtn. Rd., Graysville, TN 37338; 423-775-7658. (1-3)

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

WHITE MEMORIAL MISSIONARY COLLEGE. Distance education, not-for-profit, Liberal Arts College emphasizing health professions. Seeking faculty in all disciplines for health, non-health, and technical school majors/certifications. All faculty work from home. Visit www.wmmc.info for more details. (1,2)

SHAWNEE MISSION MEDICAL CENTER (SMMC), a Seventh-day Adventist community service, has a variety of openings for health care professionals interested in immediate placement. SMMC is a 383-bed acute-care facility located in beautiful Johnson County. This family-friendly community offers a safe and relaxed atmosphere, high quality schools, and easy access to museums, cultural arts, and professional sports teams. Please contact the job line at 800-845-6216, or click on Employment at www.shawneemission.org for a listing of open positions. Contact Brad Hoffman, Administrative Director of Human Resources at 913-676-2020 for more information. Resumes may be faxed to: 913-676-2019. (1)

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Mathematics and Physical Sciences Department is searching for a mathematician to fill a position opening in mathematics beginning July 2007. Must have PhD in mathematics, commitment to undergraduate Adventist education, including advising, committee assignments. Teaching experience desirable. As part of the application process, required documentation includes cover letter, transcripts, resume or CV and three letters of reference or contact information for references. Search will continue until position is filled. Contact Mitch Menzmer, Mathematics and Physical Sciences Department, Southwestern Adventist University, Keene, TX 76059; menzmerm@swau.edu; 817-202-6210. (1-4)

WALLAWALLA COLLEGE seeks applicants for marketing/management tenure-track position beginning September, 2007. See details at www.wwc.edu/services/. Contact Clarence Anderson, School of Business, Walla Walla College, 204 S. College Ave, College Place, WA 99324. andec1@wwc.edu (1)

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CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR sought by Union College, 07-08. Ph.D./ABD preferred; strong commitment to integrating Adventist faith, teaching, and scholarship, essential. Budget approval expected. Submit vita to Dr. Don Abbey, Division of Science, Union College, 4800 South 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506, doabbey@ucollege.edu. (1)

PSYCHOLOGY PROFESSOR sought by Union College, 07-08, as expected additional hire. Tenure-track. Strong preference for Ph.D. or ABD, with specialty in clinical practice. Send vita to Dr. Joseph R. Allison, Chair, Division of Human Development, 3800 South 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68506 or joallison@ucollege.edu. (1)

PARKVIEW ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER located in the heart of beautiful midcoast Maine. Parkview allows you the opportunity to get back to hands-on, caring, community-based nursing care. At this time, PAMC has openings for RNs. Requirements include Maine RN license or eligibility and BCLS; some positions may require ACLS. Prior experience required for all positions. We offer competitive wages, sign on bonuses, and relocation. HR Department, 329 Maine Street, Brunswick, ME 04011; Fax: 207-373-2188; E-mail: hr@parkviewamc.org; www.parkviewamc.org; EOE. (1-12)

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ADVENTIST MEDICAL CENTER in Portland, Oregon, is looking for a full-time Microbiology Supervisor. Must be ASCP registered or equivalent. Microbiology and supervisory experience required. Relocation assistance available. Visit www.AdventistHealthNW.com or call Katie at 503-261-6934 for details. (1)

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, an Adventist Health System 63-bed acute care facility located in beautiful southeastern Kentucky's Daniel Boone National Forrest, has various openings for mission-minded health care professionals. For current postings, visit www.manchestermemorial.org and click on Employment or contact the job line at 800-872-8616. Resumes and applications may be faxed to 606-599-2506. Contact Joe Skula, Human Resources Director at 606-598-4510; or joe.skula@ahss.org for further information. (1-5)

DIRECTOR, CLAIMS & LEGAL, Adventist Risk Management, Inc., Silver Spring, MD. Manage department that adjudicates all church property and casualty claims. Bachelor's degree in business related field, JD, CPCU, desirable. Minimum five years successful pertinent experience and supervisory/management skills required. Interested/qualified SDA church members contact: Dorothy Redmon, HR director at: dredmon@adventistrisk.org (1)

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TRUE SOUTHERN GOSPEL MUSIC performed by four Filipinos. The Mindanao Melody Boys (MMB) is an Adventist quartet doing church concerts in the Philippines, for two years now. MMB is the first ever "southern" gospel-style quartet native to the Philippines. MMB songs are being played on some Christian radio stations such as KKGM in Dallas. Their music will inspire you! For their latest CD project "Jesus Died for Me," send \$12.00 (S&H included) to Whelma Villaester, public relations manager of MMB: 1918 E. Grauwlyer, Irving, TX 75061. Email: usaphilfellow@yahoo.com, call 972-870-5019, x216 – evenings/weekends. (1,2)

MISCELLANEOUS

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FREE MISSION AVIATION STORIES!!! Contact Adventist World Aviation for a free quarterly newsletter. Write Adventist World Aviation, Box 251, Berrien Springs, MI 49103; or E-mail: info@flyawa.org, or register online: www.flyawa.org (1-6)

FREE BOOKS by the authors Ellen G. White loved and quoted (both history and gospel): Bunyan, Flavel, W. Jones, D'Aubigne, etc. Call 941-429-6070. (1,2)

VACATION on KAUAI, HAWAII, "The Garden Island." Kahili Adventist School operates a scenic mountain park with 1-4 room cabins, sleeping 2-6 persons. All have kitchens complete with pans, utensils, dishes, etc. See pictures and rates at kahilipark.org. Reservations: 808-742-9921. (1-12)

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Certification programs, which will provide training in a professional Christian-based environment. Students will be eligible to take the National Certification exam. Classes begin February 4, 2007. Call 800-658-5433, or www.bhhec.org for more information. (1)

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2007 GREAT CONTROVERSY TOUR. June 14 - 28, with Dr. Gerard Damsteegt of Andrews University. See prophecies of Daniel and Revelation come alive! Visit Rome, Italy, and Reformation sites in the Waldensian Valleys, Switzerland, Germany, and France. A most exciting experience! Call or fax 269-471-5172, email: gctours@mac.com (1)

OGDEN ADVENTIST TOURS. Russian River cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow, June 20-July 5, pre-cruise options Helsinki, June 10-15, Baltics June 14-21. Japan Tour, October 14-November 2, will include Tokyo, Mt. Fuji, Japan Alps, Hiroshima, and Kyoto. Contact Merlene Ogden, 269-471-3781; or ogden@andrews.edu; or Judy Zimmerman, 269-471-7004; or zim41634@aol.com (1)

WANTED SPRING BREAK VOLUNTEERS to the Amazon jungles of Peru. We are building

a Crisis Center and holding free medical clinics. Spanish and medical experience not necessary. All individuals or groups needed. Please contact Paul Opp at u4peru@aol.com, Sandi at 208-459-8522 or www.peopleofperu.org (1)

EXCLUSIVELY FOR HOME SCHOOLERS. You are personally invited to preview Union College in Lincoln, Neb., during Home School Sneak Peak, April 26-29. It's a FREE way (call for details) for you to experience Union's unique spirit. Call 800-228-4600; or Email: gofar@ucollege.edu; or visit us on the web at www.ucollege.edu (1-3)

DO YOU LOVE HORSES? Andrews University Agriculture Department is seeking people with horse experience to provide advice and information for the new program we are developing in Equine Science. Please contact Dr. Katherine Koudele at: koudelej@andrews.edu or 800-287-8502. (1)

ADVENTIST COUPLES NEARING RETIREMENT. Have you desired to participate in ministry while living on a rural farm near Collegedale, TN? Let's talk. Contact Mr. D.N. Lewis, 259 Killian Road, Old Fort, TN 37362; 423-338-2755. Please circulate this ad to your friends up north. (1)

Adventist Satellite System

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World Church: New Site for Adventist Lawyers ... The Office of General Counsel (OGC) at the Seventh-day Adventist Church's headquarters has launched a Web site to connect Adventists lawyers. The new site, www.adventistlawyer.org, will make it easier for church members to find Adventist lawyers in different parts of the world and allow the church to easily share pertinent legal updates with the Adventist legal community, says OGC General Counsel Bob Kyte. The OGC used to list the names of all the Adventists in a book, but Kyte says "the day it was printed it was out of date." The site now has the names and areas of practice for about 1,000 Adventist lawyers all over the world but Kyte anticipates much more to come because lawyers can now submit their information anytime. The Web site will also have articles, news releases, case updates and a roster for law students to register included on the site. [ANN Staff]

Events Calendar

Florida

Complete calendar online—<http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar.html>

Florida Pathfinder Events—<http://www.floridapathfinders.com/> or call 407-644-5000 x127.

Singles' Ministries Events and mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. <http://www.asamcf.org/>, [melody.west@ahss.org](http://www.melody.west@ahss.org), or 407-292-1421.

Revelation Offers Hope Evangelism Series—Jan. 19-Feb. 24. Apopka Church. Presented by Ron Halvorsen. Meetings held Friday-Monday nights at 7:15 p.m. Details: hope@apopkaadventist.fdn.com or 407-889-2812.

Estate Services Clinics and Seminars

Jan. 20. Leesburg.

Jan. 27. Miami Central Spanish. Feb. 3. Eliathah.

Feb. 17. Jacksonville First.

Feb. 24. New Smyrna.

April 21-22. Miami Temple.

Florida Adventist Book Center

Winter Park: 800-765-6955. Miami: 305-805-9900.

High Springs: 386-454-7956.

Shop online: <http://www.floridaconference.com/abc/> or

order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com

Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

Jan. 27. Naples.

Jan. 28. Ft. Myers, Ft. Myers Shores, Arcadia, Lakeland, Lakeview, Winter Haven.

Feb. 3. St. Petersburg.

Feb. 4. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City.

Feb. 17. Sunrise.

Feb. 18. Plantation, Lauderhill. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)

March 10. Tallahassee.

March 11. Perry, Ocala, Silver Springs Shores, Belleview, Inverness.

March 17. Port Charlotte.

March 18. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

Women's Ministries Retreats—Camp Kulaqua. Theme: Becoming the Beloved. Details: sheryal.vandenbergh@floridaconference.com

.com or 407-644-5000 x134.

Feb. 2-4. English. Derek Morris.

Feb. 9-11. English. Raquel Santillana.

Feb. 16-18. Hispanic. Raquel Santillana.

Feb. 23-25. English. Nancy Melashenko.

Marriage Seminar—Feb. 10. Clearwater Church. Speaker: David Speicher, CORE Ministries. Details: rhoda.burrill@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x136.

Adventist Heritage Ministries 25th Anniversary—Feb. 23-24. Various central Florida locations. Theme: From Vision to Victory. Speakers: Jim Nix, Tom Neslund, and Stanley Cottrell. Details: <http://www.adventistheritage.org/> or 407-889-5031.

North Florida Camp Meeting

—March 2-4. Camp Kulaqua. Theme: The Family of God. Details and accommodations registration: groups@campkulaqua.com or 386-454-1351.

Retired Church and Health Workers' Retreat

—March 9-11. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Speaker: Robert Kloosterhuis. Details: rhshepard@netzero.net or 407-331-3249.

Men's Ministries Convention

—March 9-11. Camp Kulaqua. Theme: Search & Rescue.

Prayer Summit

—March 16-18. Camp Kulaqua. Theme: To Know Him Is To Love Him. Speaker: Michelle Seibol, Hawaii Conference prayer coordinator. Registration: 386-454-1351. Prayer Summit details: pastorclearwater@yahoo.com or 407-644-5000 x164. Ten-day Fast details: pastormike@icccsda.com

Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online—www.gccsda.com

Pathfinder Teen Canoe Trip

—Jan. 26-28.

Pathfinder Teen Cavern Trip

—Jan. 27, 28.

Disaster Response Training Seminars (STEP 1 & 2)—Jan. 27, 28. Stone Mountain, GA.

Collegedale Pre-session Meeting—Jan. 27.

NAD Health Summit—Jan. 28-Feb. 3. Orlando, FL.

Calhoun Pre-session Meeting—Feb. 3.

High School Retreat—Feb. 16-18. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

Atlanta Pre-session Meeting—Feb. 17.

Pathfinder Bible Bowl—Feb. 17. Knoxville, TN.

Disaster Response Training Seminars (STEP 1 & 2)—Feb. 17-18. Peachtree City, GA.

Discover Prophecy Seminar—Feb. 17-March 17. Athens, GA.

Pathfinder Bible Bowl—Feb. 18. Macon, GA.

GCC Children's Ministries Convention

—Feb. 23-25.

Knoxville Pre-session Meeting—Feb. 24.

Gulf States

ShareHim Boot Camp—Jan. 19-21. Camp Alamisco.

Teen Caving Invitational—Feb. 2-4.

Education Fair—Feb. 4-6. Bass Memorial Academy.

Elders' Training Session—Feb. 16-18. Camp Alamisco.

Conference Executive Meeting—Feb. 20. Conference Office.

Education Mission Trip—March 2-7.

Women's Leadership Certification (Level III)—March 9-11. Camp Alamisco.

Bass Memorial Academy Days—March 18, 19.

Bass Memorial Academy Alumni Weekend—March 23-25.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board

Jan. 16. March 13. May 15.

Conference Executive Committee

Jan. 16. March 13. May 15.

Highland and Madison Academy Boards

Jan. 18. March 22. May 10.

Eastern Kentucky Camp Meeting

—March 2, 3.

Prestonsburg, KY.

West Tennessee Festival of Faith

—March 10. Advent Presbyterian Church. Cordova, TN.

Quadrennial Session—April 29. Madison Campus Church.

Madison, TN.

Southern Adventist University

Master's Outdoor Education

Intensive—Jan. 14-25.

Student Week of Prayer—Jan. 22-27.

Preview Southern—Jan. 25, 26.

European Folk Songs—Feb. 5. Maria Krupoves.

Honors Music Festival—Feb. 7-10.

Convocation: Donny Lovett—Feb. 8.

Encounters—Feb. 8-10.

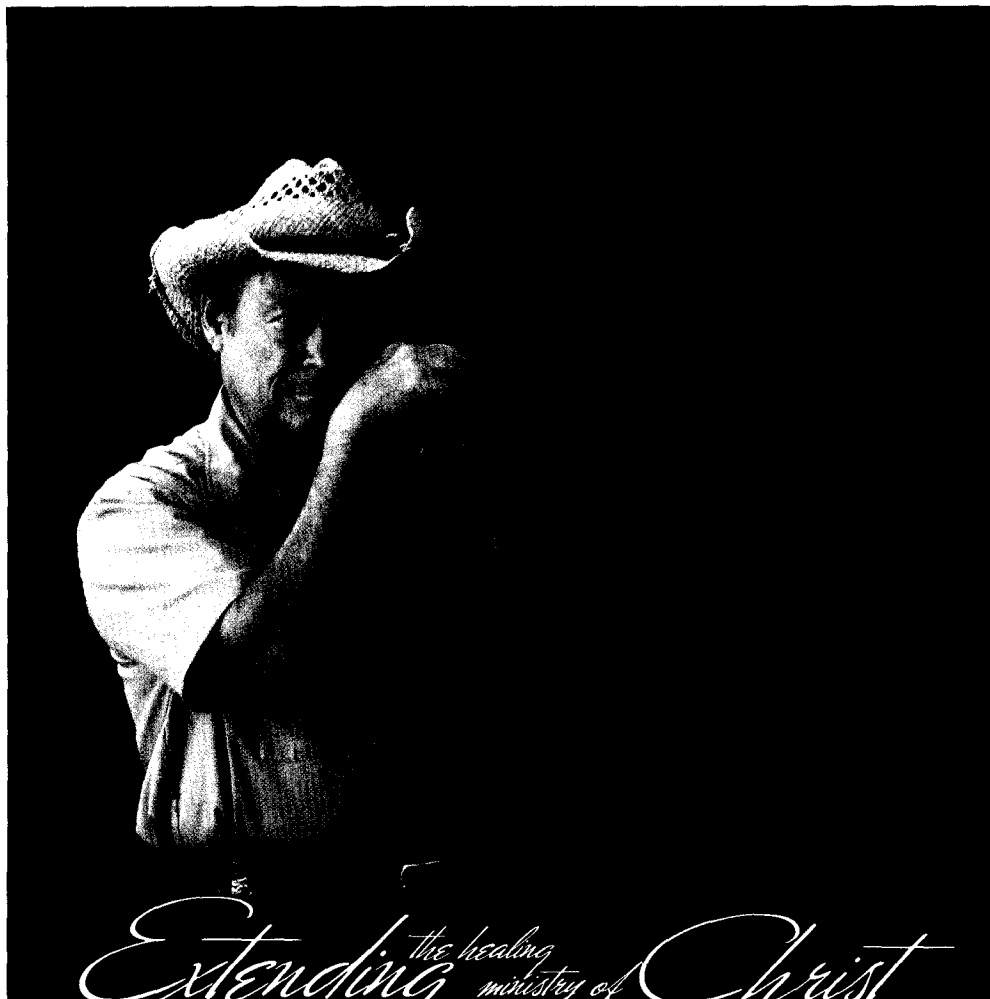
Announcements

WIN! Wellness Seminar at Orlando Health Summit—Jan. 28-Feb. 3. A new total wellness approach will make its debut in Orlando. Drs. John, Millie, and Wes Youngberg will present WIN! Wellness integrating instruction on physical, spiritual, and relational health within a gospel setting. WIN! gives a gentle introduction to Seventh-day Adventist doctrines and is evangelistic. There will be hands-on training in English and Spanish using the 21 factors and dynamic PowerPoint graphics. An instructor's certificate will be given. WIN! is recommended for health educators, evangelists, family ministries leaders, women's ministries, community service, and qualified lay persons. Details: www.plusline.org/events or call 800-732-7587.

Florida's 16th Annual Lake Union Academies Alumni Reunion

—March 3, 9:30 a.m., at Forest Lake Academy. Alumni and friends of all Lake Union academies are invited to attend. A potluck will follow. Please bring your own plates and utensils. Details: contact the alumni directors at the Lake Union academies.

Stonecave Homecoming 2007—July 11-15, Chattanooga, TN. If you attended Stonecave Academy of Dunlap, TN; Stoneybrook Academy, Castle Valley Academy, or Beautiful Valley Academy, please join us this summer for the Reunion of the millennium. Details: 863-385-1856, stonecaveacademy@earthlink.net or www.beautifulstonecavecastleassoc.org



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