

July 2008

# SOUTHERN TIDINGS

*Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family*



**Electronic Evangelism**

# SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP



*Vicki and Willie Taylor*

The constituents of the Southeastern Conference elected Hubert J. Morel Jr. as Conference president on April 27, 2008. For the past four years he has been the executive secretary of the Conference. At the April 27 Session, Willie Taylor, who served as president for the past 10 years, was given a standing ovation as an expression of appreciation for his ministry. I have appreciated Elder Taylor's vision and enthusiasm for big ideas and his desire to expand the work of God. During his tenure, the Conference headquarters moved from a crowded and confined office to a beautiful and expansive new location in Mount Dora. Elder Taylor always had a desire to work closely with the leadership of the Florida Conference and facilitated joint pastors' meetings, as well as joint planning for church growth. On behalf of the Southern Union Conference, we thank you, Elder and Mrs. Taylor, for your dedication and leadership.

Hubert Morel grew up in New York City and received his elementary and high school education at Brooklyn Temple Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School and Northeastern Academy. He is a graduate of Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) with a bachelor's degree in theology, and has a master of divinity degree from the Theological Seminary at Andrews University. Currently, Elder Morel is a doctoral student at Trinity Theological Seminary in Newburg, Indiana.

He began his ministry in the Southeastern Conference in 1981, serving as pastor of several churches in Florida and Georgia, and has also served as church ministries director for Southeastern.

He is married to Racquel Howell of New Haven, Connecticut. She is a graduate of Columbia Union College with a bachelor of science in nursing, and is employed by the Orange County Public School System as a school nurse. In addition, she is a teacher in the Medical Arts Magnet at Jones High School in Orlando, and works at Florida Hospital Orlando in labor and delivery. She enjoys gardening and cross-stitching. The Morels have two sons, Hubert "Trey" Morel III and Harrison J. Morel.

When asked if he has a life motto, Elder Morel told me it would be, "To serve the Lord Jesus Christ in every aspect of my life." I have known Elder Morel as a committed Christian leader who cares for people and wants to lead the Church to be focused on the mission the Lord has given the Remnant Church. Thank you for praying for Elder Morel and his family as they transition to this new leadership assignment in Southeastern.



*Hubert and Racquel Morel*



**Gordon Retzer**  
*Southern Union  
President*

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Cover Caption: Joe Sierra, 33, a new member of the Winter Park, Florida, Spanish Church, has found his niche for witnessing on MySpace™.

# Evangelism Converges With Technology

BY ROBERT HENLEY AND JOE SIERRA

# Stories of How Technology is Being Used for Evangelism



*Carlton Byrd, D.Min. (center), is an advocate of blending technology with evangelism.*

## Technology Boosts Baptisms

"I am not satisfied with my evangelistic results," Willie Papu Sr., pastor, commented shortly after he completed a four-week evangelistic campaign. For years, he has conducted successful evangelistic meetings. However, his most recent campaign was not very successful.

Thinking that he might need to modernize his evangelistic efforts, he discussed his concerns with his son, Willie Papu Jr., who had attended a Technology Ministries Conference conducted by Southeastern Conference's technology ministries department. Here, he discovered technology's potential to transform ministry. He learned how to shoot and edit video, and produce a DVD, so he suggested that they develop an evangelism mix that combined visual and DVD technology to enhance his father's campaign.



*Willie Papu Sr., pictured preaching while using PowerPoint during an evangelistic meeting.*

Together, they developed what they call "DVD evangelism." Willie Papu Sr. switched from straight preaching for four weeks. His new method includes sending trained teams of young people to conduct small group sessions with DVDs in homes throughout the city where the effort will be held. After they work three weeks, he preaches the fourth week using PowerPoint and DVD. The technology-enhanced evangelistic crusade increased his results with three times the number of baptisms! "The use of DVD evangelism, Papu Sr. says, "provides me with the ability to present the message in a much more effective way, and the visual aids help to increase the audiences' retention."



*Willie Papu Jr. (left) is pictured with his cousin Emelle Afereta Jr.*

## Millions Touched on YouTube™

Wintley Phipps, pastor of the Palm Bay Church, recently had the opportunity to perform the Negro spiritual “Amazing Grace” to more than three million people in the most unlikely of places — YouTube™. The video was posted on the popular video sharing web site by a young woman.



*Wintley Phipps, pastor of the Palm Bay Church, performs the Negro spiritual “Amazing Grace” during a concert at Southeastern’s camp meeting.*

“Of all the videos that I have posted, Phipps’ is the most popular.” She began posting religious videos two years ago. To date, she has posted 979 religious videos. Phipps performed that rendition of “Amazing Grace” during a Gaither gospel program that was held at Carnegie Hall to honor the individuals who died September 11, 2001.

Since its posting on January 4, 2007, the video has been viewed by 3,364,282, and 1,173 individuals have posted how the video has impacted them.

One viewer wrote, “No words to describe this video. I simply wept with my heart throbbing and bursting with joy. God bless Phipps with more grace to sing more. Oh, I could see his burning passion that radiated through his golden smile. Oh, Phipps, God bless you.”

As a result, Phipps has received hundreds of invitations to perform around the world, and scores of individuals have begun attending his church in Palm Bay, Florida. “That experience has changed my outlook

on evangelism,” states Phipps. He added, “We must figure out how to creatively leverage the Internet as a tool for evangelism.”

## Witnessing on MySpace™

Joe Sierra’s spiritual quest led him into baptism last year at the Winter Park, Florida, Spanish Church. Today, Joe shares his faith on MySpace.com by answering some of the same questions he asked during “an extended adventurous wandering.” Joe tells the story in his words.

“What happens when we die?” I was stumped. I could not reason it out. Across from me sat a longtime friend and his wife who had been debating issues with me. I began to realize through the conversation that my friend did not believe in God, and I was deter-

mined to win him for Christ. Then came the questions about death for which I had no ready answers.

In my Assemblies of God church, I was assistant director of the worship team, music director for a traveling evangelistic group worship team, and a Sunday Bible school teacher for young adults. Sharing my faith was always something I tried to do with my friends and family, but the question I could not answer was, “If we go to heaven or hell when we die, then for whom is God coming back?”

At my place of employment, where I am a human resource

representative, our office manager reminded us that we had to be careful about the kind of music we listened to in our work spaces. Frustrated, I began searching for a talk radio station and came across a Christian program. I figured I’d listen to a sermon since I was not at church the previous Sunday. The program turned out to be a question-and-answer format, and the very first question called in was, “What happens when you die?”

I stopped my work and jotted down the host’s scriptural references. I was amazed because I had never heard this explanation before. The program was called *Amazing Facts* with Doug Batchelor. When I had an opportunity, I took my Bible and checked the verses, and for the first time in my life I understood what I was reading.

The more I read from the Word, the more my life began to change. I lost many of my friends and positions within my church, but I was determined to keep learning about Jesus. The final straw for me came when I discovered the Sabbath and wanted to keep all of God’s Ten Commandments. My pastors became agitated with me and finally admitted they observed the first day of the week because of tradition. I renounced my



*Joe Sierra was frustrated when his boss cautioned employees about the type of music they listened to in the workplace. Since he missed church the previous Sunday, Joe decided to look for a religious talk radio station. That day, he tuned in *Amazing Facts* and heard Doug Batchelor preach a sermon that changed his life forever.*

membership and began looking for a Sabbath-keeping church.

After much prayer and searching, I met a Seventh-day Adventist and was invited to church. The day before I was to attend, I listened to Pastor Batchelor present a lesson on how to choose a church. I didn't even know that he was an Adventist. When I heard his presentation, I knew God had been guiding me the whole time and I've been a Seventh-day Adventist ever since. If it were not for the evangelistic efforts of *Amazing Facts*, my journey would be very different.

Now, my efforts are totally dedicated to sharing the Gospel with as many people as possible by using new technologies. The best way I have found to reach the most people is by setting up a MySpace™ page where people can come together to study the Bible. Currently, I have 114 people faithfully dedicated to the page, but more than 1,288 have read the study blogs.

By using a media that most young people are familiar with and coupling it with a multi-level format, the potential for evangelism and discipleship can grow rapidly. Starting with one dedicated leader in the group, a facilitator can create and establish a MySpace™ page and then

recruit 12 other members. Once they have gone through all the lessons and postings, these members will be ready to become facilitators and actively recruit their own 12 members.

The outreach possibilities for this program are endless. Further information may be viewed at [www.myspace.com/moses\\_elijah](http://www.myspace.com/moses_elijah).



JOSE CANCEL

*Joe and Lizette Sierra were baptized December 31, 2007, by Carlos Bence, pastor of the Winter Park Spanish Church. "We discovered truth together and decided to follow God's leading," says Joe after they took Bible studies for three months from José Cancel, elder. As Joe and Lizette shared the excitement of their newfound faith through MySpace™ Bible studies, Joe's twin brother, José, also discovered truth and was baptized June 14, as family, friends, and the MySpace™ Ministry Team praised God from Whom all blessings flow.*

### Summer Computer Camps

Every summer the Southeastern Conference technology ministries department sponsors computer camps. The technology ministries department of the Miami Bethany Church, pastored by William C. Byrd, conducts a computer camp for the young people of that community. During a recent computer camp, Vivian Brown and Cookie Long taught the young people how to build web pages.

The young people were encouraged to build their web sites using religious content. At the completion of the camp, the young people were invited to showcase their web sites during church on Sabbath. Prior to the showcase, the technology ministries director received a call from the parent of a camper. She wanted Brown to compose a letter of recommendation for her son. Puzzled by the request, Brown inquired why the recommendation was needed. The parent shared that after her son attended the camp, he expressed a desire

to attend Miami Union Academy. He also stopped eating pork and wants to become a member of the Bethany Church.

The camp created a non-threatening environment that encouraged the young people to interact with the church. Without the computer camp, these young people would not have entered Miami Bethany Church.



*Joe Sierra (right) intertwined his life testimony with a Sabbath morning sermon in February at the Winter Park, Florida, Spanish Church, two months after he became a member. Translating the sermon into Spanish was José Cancel, elder, who studied the Bible with Joe and Lizette for three months prior to their December 31, 2007, baptism.*

**Digital technology has changed the way we consume content and created new channels to interact with the public.**

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Television            | E-mail            |
| Print                 | Direct Mail       |
| Digital Media         | PVR/DVRs          |
| Radio/Satellite Radio | Outdoor           |
| Branded Content       | Search            |
| iPod                  | Blogs             |
| Packaging             | Viral             |
| Digital Video         | Telematics        |
| 3G phone Video        | Video on Demand   |
| Podcasts              | Digital Signage   |
| Mobile                | Instant Messaging |
| Teleweb               | Live Events       |

## Reaching the Unchurched

The School of Visual Art and Design at Southern Adventist University trains students to develop digital media, which can be used to reach the unchurched. The school recently released the Christian film "Secret of the Cave." Based on a 1920's children's book with the same name, written by Arthur Maxwell, who is best known for his series, *Uncle Arthur's Bible Stories*, the story's theme is based on the words of Jesus found in Matthew 25:40, "...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me," (NIV). In October of 2006, the film was awarded the Crystal Heart Award from the Heartland Film Festival in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The School of Visual Art and Design at Southern Adventist University was founded in 1998 by Wayne and Maria Hazen. Not only is Southern the only Adventist institution that has a film program, it is one of only three full-fledged Christian filmmaking programs in the United States. The producers of the film have developed both an online and offline way to experience the film. For offline use they have created a "Host a Movie Event" kit. The kit, which includes a curriculum, can be used as an evangelistic outreach event. Online individuals can visit the movie's web site ([www.secretofthecave.com](http://www.secretofthecave.com)) to find out more about the movie.

## Opportunities and Challenges

According to a recent report produced by George Barna, a greater number of adults experience their Christian faith through Christian media (radio, television, books, or the Internet) than by attending church.

While the promise of technology is undeniable, the challenge that is faced by many ministers is keeping up with the technology and figuring out how to successfully integrate it in ministry. Karen Smith, director of the Oakwood University certification program, has stepped up to the plate. The program certifies individuals in Microsoft, Adobe, and Cisco technologies, just to name a few. These technologies have spawned the next generation of the Internet, Web

2.0, which powers blogging, podcasting, YouTube™, MySpace™, and others. "I want every pastor to get certified in technology," she states. Every summer, Smith makes it possible for scores of pastors to upgrade their computer skills and seek computer certification.

Smith recently hosted the North American Division Technology Standards Committee. The group is comprised of information technology ministries directors from every union and conference in the Division. During the meeting, more than 40 members of the group received three days of intensive technology training. "This has been a great opportunity for us," stated Nancy Lamoureaux, director of information technology ministries for the North American Division (NAD). She added, "Armed with these skills, we can create immersive and interactive online environments that present the Gospel in a much more engaging way."

In addition to providing training, the program also provides an autho-



*Karen Smith, director of the Oakwood University certification program, pictured in one of Oakwood's computer labs.*

rized training center. While attending the training event, Dave Boggess, Florida Conference manager of information systems, was able to take and pass a Microsoft certification exam. Oakwood University is the only Adventist institution that has a technology certification program.

The NAD voted last November to make 2009 the Year of Pastoral Evangelism. At its Spring Meeting, the General Conference in turn voted 2009 the Year of Worldwide Evangelism. If we are to be successful in 2009, we must utilize an Evangelism 2.0 approach. Technology is ready to unite with evangelism to make 2009 a success.



# Find Your Place to Witness on MySpace™

BY JOE SIERRA

Many people are afraid to use technology for evangelism because of their inability to navigate on a computer. Some even consider the web an inappropriate forum on which to witness because someone might be introduced to potentially bad things. Reality is, when used correctly and for the right reasons, the web is a vast mission field with no limits. I truly believe God has a place on the web.

When I began a MySpace™ ministry, many people wanted to participate, yet they were not sure if they could because of their limited use of computers. MySpace™ technology

is simple, and best of all, it is free. I use a laptop with wireless Internet capabilities to manage my page, but any computer with an Internet connection can be used as well.

Simple knowledge of the Internet, e-mail, and an ability to follow instructions is all that is needed. On MySpace™, you are guided by tutorials that will assist you in design, operation, and management of your space. The ability to post blog lessons and bulletin updates is very simple. The site offers the user a step-by-step guide to maximize their page.

For me, it was a matter of offering information to a wide range of people all over the country. My page design is simple, but the content is what matters. With

patience, a willing heart, and time, you will find it amazing what can be learned and achieved. God wants us to take a step of faith, and He promises to bring us the rest of the way.

Do not let fear of the unknown limit the work God has put before you. The Bible says that “many shall go to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.” It’s time we figure out better ways to deliver God’s message to the world, and take responsibility for the knowledge of the truth that He has given us.

## ChurchPond.com

BY DWAYNE ADAMS

Ten years ago, Brenda Perkins was hanging up the laundry on Saturday afternoon, when the Lord spoke to her and told her that Saturday was the Sabbath. She was impressed to go and read Exodus 20, and the very next Sabbath she walked to Mount Olive Seventh-day Adventist Church in Athens, Georgia.

For 10 years, this former Baptist attended the Mount Olive Church on and off but never really made a commitment. However, God was busy working behind the scenes. In early 2007, someone handed Perkins an *Amazing Facts* home Bible study course, which she completed.

The final straw arrived in the form of ChurchPond’s online revival series, “InterNet ’07.” Perkins was invited to Mount Olive to view a downlink presentation of the series. The theme in 2007 — “The Ten Commandments Revealed” — was presented by Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., senior pastor of Atlanta Berean Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

After attending the 10-day presentation, Perkins decided to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. In June 2007, Robert Guerrero, pastor of Mount Olive Church, baptized Perkins at the

South Atlantic Conference camp meeting.

Perkins’ story is one of a woman seeking truth and finding it. It is also a story of the importance of each element of the Church’s evangelistic efforts. From Bible workers to members handing out tracts and inviting neighbors to church, Perkins’ testimony showcases the classic efforts of the Church to invite new believers.

In addition, this story also illustrates the use of technology to spread the Gospel. ChurchPond.com is an online ministry best known for streaming live and archived Church sermons. Its worldwide reach has resulted in baptisms as near as Texas, and as far away as China. Each year, ChurchPond also hosts an InterNet evangelistic series. This program first aired in 2006 with Calvin Watkins, pastor of the West End Church in Atlanta, Georgia, as the speaker. Byrd presented in 2007, and James Doggette, D.Min., pastor of the Madison Mission Church, in Huntsville, Alabama, is scheduled to present InterNet ’08, in the fall of 2008.

Urick LaDonis, founder of

ChurchPond.com, reports that at least four people were baptized as a result of InterNet ’07. With Church involvement ballooning from four churches in 2007, and two churches in 2006, to almost 15 churches in 2008, ChurchPond and the participating churches look forward to many more individuals coming to Christ this fall.

Churches are encouraged to contact ChurchPond directly for details on how to become downlink sites for InterNet ’08.



*Brenda Perkins pictured with Urick LaDonis*

## CREATION Health Seminar Series Promotes Whole-person Wellness in Community

Florida Hospital recently partnered with Forest Lake Church to host an eight-week seminar series highlighting the principles of CREATION Health, a whole-person health philosophy developed by Florida Hospital.

CREATION Health is a philosophy that promotes total-person wellness — optimum mental, spiritual, physical, and social health. Its eight principles are rooted in God's original plan of creation: choice, rest, environment, activity, trust, interpersonal relationships, outlook, and nutrition.

The seminar, held at Forest Lake Church, opened with more than

100 attendees and continued each Thursday night for eight weeks, covering



one CREATION Health principle per presentation. The format included a

multimedia DVD presentation on each topic, group discussion, and additional groundbreaking research on each principle.

Through the eight principles of CREATION Health, attendees learned how to take control of their lives through the power of choice, how to transform chaos into calm through rest, how to trade

fearful uncertainty for bold confidence through trust in God, and how to enjoy peak performance through good nutrition.

“CREATION Health has made a tremendous impact as part of the health ministries of our church and has also changed my life!” said Derek Morris, D.Min., senior pastor of Forest Lake Church. “We plan to continue an ongoing CREATION Health seminar at our church.”

For more information about CREATION Health, visit [www.CreationHealth.com](http://www.CreationHealth.com) or contact Lynell LaMountain at 407-303-5600.

—BY AMANDA MAGGARD

## Jellico Community Hospital First in North America to Use New Fetal Heart Monitor

Jellico Community Hospital — located in rural Jellico, Tenn., — is the first hospital in North America to utilize a state-of-the-art fetal heart monitor.

The hospital began using the Philips brand Avalon fetal-maternal monitor this spring. According to Matthew Kenney, site supervisor at the hospital, the transition to the new equipment has been very smooth.

The system can monitor up to three babies and

their mother at the same time. The device monitors

the vitals of the mother, as well as those of the



*Jellico Community Hospital utilizes cutting edge technology to provide the best possible care to its patients, such as the Avalon fetal heart monitor.*

unborn child or children.

“With the increase in multiple births, it is necessary for healthcare providers to have a device that is able to monitor more than one fetus,” said David Russell, vice president of marketing for Philips.

Besides the cutting edge technology that the monitor provides, the new device is also user-friendly and comfortable for the mother.

# FROM POLICE DETECTIVE... to Soul Searcher

BY JOY HUNTER

Calvin Dennie, the newly appointed first elder of the Clearwater, Florida, Church has come full circle — from searching for evidence of guilt as a police detective to searching for souls as a devotee of Christ.

One of seven children raised by his mother in the precepts of the Adventist Church, Calvin was a hyper child and “always up to something.” His mother attempted to hold him under tight rein. When she would not allow him to watch television on Friday night, he would ask his father to overrule.

When Calvin wanted to attend Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, instead of Oakwood University (formerly Oakwood College) in Huntsville, Alabama, he hoped his father would intervene. His mother insisted on Oakwood “because they had rules and regulations” which she felt would keep him in line.

After attending Oakwood, Calvin worked at various jobs until he began training some years later at the Police Academy in Clearwater, Florida. He recalls a trip home to Indiana to visit his mother while wearing his narcotics agent garb, including long dreadlocks and earrings. At first, his mother would not let him in the house.

While working among some of society’s toughest individuals, Calvin had a strong burden to bring others to the Lord. For 17 years, he conducted three group Bible studies in the jail



**Captain Calvin Dennie conducted group Bible studies in jail every Saturday night for 17 years, working among some of society’s toughest individuals.**

every Saturday night. The inmates eagerly anticipated his arrival, and he became known as “the cop with the Bible.” After prisoners with lengthy sentences were transferred to permanent prisons, Calvin would receive 10 to 12 letters from them each week, and he would always respond. If they were sentenced to 15 years or more, the Clearwater Church would provide \$10 and five stamped envelopes to get them started with Bible studies.

Two years ago, Calvin met a young man in the jail who had at one time been an Adventist. Influenced by Calvin’s ministry, he promised to attend Calvin’s church when he got

out. Not only was he recently baptized by Clearwater pastor, Steve Adessa, this new convert often brings others with him to church. Several in Calvin’s prison congregation now attend other churches as well.

One night, Calvin had a dream where someone entered his office and asked him where he was going and what he planned to do. Hours later, the sheriff offered him early retirement. So, after 25 years in the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Department, where he ultimately became Captain in charge of diversity, Calvin retired in 2006.

It wasn’t long before Calvin sensed a void in his life. He wanted to do more to serve the Lord. Recently, he was asked to be head elder of the Clearwater Church. When he told his mother about this, he said the folks who knew him in Indiana would laugh and say “not that devil.”

With his wife, Brenda, and children at his side, Calvin was ordained as first elder on February 23. Afterward, he preached an inspiring sermon in which he stressed that we are in a critical period in Earth’s history.

As head elder, he has set goals to make the elders and deacons more accountable as they support the pastor in ministering to the personal needs and problems of the congregation. Calvin’s greatest desire is to rally members in preparation for the soon coming of the Savior.

## Field School of Evangelism Held in Columbia

Once a year theology students from Southern Adventist University take part in a field school for evangelism. This year they went to Columbia, S.C., under the direction of evangelist Allan Parker. Parker, associate speaker for Amazing Facts media ministries, also served as speaker/evangelist for the Columbia First Church campaign.

It's a new day for ministerial students. They don't just sit down in a classroom and learn from listening to the experienced evangelist. Today they *are* the evangelists!

During spring break, the student evangelists met with their assigned churches and led the congregations in a week of revival. Then church members took it from there, generating Bible study interests and hosting sowing events to prepare for the summer reaping campaigns.



So what happens during an evangelism field school?

During the day, the students take classes on preaching techniques, visitation, and leading people to a decision for Christ. Then in the evening, the student transforms into the teacher, assuming the roll of guest evangelist in one of 11 area churches. There are no big-name speakers, just 15 individuals willing to stand up and answer the call to service. Some of the

students were paired into teams, but most of them were the sole presenters during the entire 16-night series. Talk about hands-on education!

With new technology provided by ShareHim, a ministry of the Carolina Conference, students conduct their own meetings with ease. The new synchronization software uses prepared sermons with up-to-date graphics timed to match the sermon notes.

Darryl Bentley and

Jeff Sagala are the student evangelists who spoke in Camden, S.C., as part of the field school (pictured above). They had 61 visitors during opening night.

Meetings took place in Aiken, Blythewood, Camden, Columbia Midtown, Lexington, Florence, Orangeburg, and Sumter. The Spanish sites were Cayce, Lexington, and Saluda.

—BY RON QUICK AND  
BECKY CARPENTER

## New Fletcher Hispanic Church Breaks Ground

The Fletcher, N.C., Hispanic Church recently

broke ground on their new church facility. Mem-

bers have anticipated this day for many years, and were excited to finally see construction begin.

Their history began in 1994 when

a group of Hispanic members were encouraged by John Lorentz, former pastor of Fletcher Church, to meet every Sabbath in a small room at Fletcher. As the group grew, they rented the chapel at Fletcher Academy, where they have presently continued to meet.

Under the leadership of Carlos G. Molina, pastor, the group was organized as a company in May 2001, and as a church in 2002. In 2007, the church bought

property in the area of Fruitland, N.C., and in May of this year, they began construction on the sanctuary.

The Fletcher Hispanic Church is thankful for God's mercies. They encourage church members and guests to utilize the three tools necessary to build every Seventh-Day Adventist congregation: unity, personal sacrifice, and evangelism.

—BY CARLOS MOLINA



## Young People Take on Evangelism at Tryon Church



The youth of the Tryon, N.C., church recently conducted an evangelistic series in the conference center at Dunn's Columbus Commons. Eight evenings with 16 presentations comprised these series.

The young people spent numerous hours preparing for the series. Vesper meetings of preparation and prayer were held on Friday evenings at a member's home for a number of weeks before the series started. Some of the youth invited friends, neighbors, former members, and others from the community to attend.

On opening night, the room was full, including more than 30 from the community in attendance. The second night found a youth group from another church in attendance, with approximately 15-20 individuals. Many members and non-members alike expressed their appreciation for the meetings and for the fact that young people were giving the sermons, leading out in the music, greeting, and ushering. Arthur Gibbs, pastor, served

as emcee each evening.

One couple that came regularly was very interested in the last night's meeting, which answered the question, "Why are there so many denominations?" After the meeting, the wife stated that she had a lot to think about, and more studying to do.

The Tryon youth experienced a tremendous blessing by stepping out of their comfort zone and giving this series. Some of them were especially ner-

vous about preaching, but did a fantastic job and were so excited they wanted to preach again. No matter what part they played, all of the youth involved did a great job, and are to be commended for their commitment, hard work, and professionalism.

What are the results of the meetings? God has truly blessed their efforts. Seven individuals made decisions to join the Church by baptism or profession of faith. In addition, at least three

others have expressed interest in learning more through Bible studies.

There are four youth-led campaigns scheduled in the Carolinas for 2008, and who knows what the future holds. There is no end to what the Lord can do through these young people. The Tryon church family truly cares about and actively supports its youth with their attendance, prayers, and finances.

—BY COURTNEY GALLIMORE



## Avon Park Church Members Make a Difference



*Glena and Ed Scott relax after enjoying a catered meal and a music program at the Avon Park Committee of 100 banquet.*



*Women's Ministries Banquet speaker Virginia Davidson (left), Hazel Henry, and Dotty Davidson*

The Avon Park Church Committee of 100 held its annual banquet in March to hear updates on funded projects, recruit new members, and enjoy each other's company. The purpose of the Committee is to raise money for unbudgeted needs of Avon Park Church and Walker Memorial Academy. Every member contributes at least \$100 throughout the year.

During the 2008 spring banquet, 87 attendees heard Bill Farmer, Walker Memorial Academy principal, express appreciation to Committee members for their support, followed by a report on completed projects at the school. Contributions paid for new desks, tables, chairs, computers, and beautification of the school's quadrangle.

Avon Park Church recently benefited from Committee of 100 funds with the purchase of new tables and chairs for the fellowship hall, and the children's divisions.



*Committee of 100 members Bill and Mavis Sager (left), Fay Campbell, Walter Tate, and Bobbie and Bob Dodd*

The idea to start a Committee of 100 originated some 30 years ago when Bill and Mavis Sager moved to Avon Park from Tennessee and noticed unmet needs at the school. A board of directors was chosen, and John Palsgrove was asked to serve as the first president.

The current president, George Carlson, reported this year's donated funds will provide new desks, furniture, and a projector for the school.

### Women Recognized for Contributions

Each year, a group of "Fabulous Seven" women receive special recognition at the Women's Ministries Banquet for being involved in some type of scarcely noticed ministry. Among these silent ministries are neighborliness, prison ministries, working with children, music ministry, and serving as a deaconess.

After a short account of each one's life and ministry is shared, the selected

woman is escorted to the stage to receive a small gift.

The seven honored were Ann Arquitt, Mary Atwell, Carlene Ayars, Lenora Copsey, Hannah Eppel, Wanda Hayes, and Martha Weeks. In addition, Carol Harding and Jeanette Zesch were recognized for contributions to the church's ministry.

Two hundred women and their guests attended this year's annual program. Members were encouraged to strengthen the church's bond with its young people by inviting students from the academy to attend with them. Other members used the event as an outreach opportunity and invited their neighbors and friends.

The evening speaker, Virginia Davidson, carried the theme of gardening into her humorous approach to "growing" a good character. Men from the church served as waiters, wearing straw hats and work clothes.

—BY NAOMI ZALABAK

## East Pasco Member Initiates “Bags of Love” Project



BETTY KOSSICK

Grace Murphy

Every month in Pasco County, Fla., children are displaced from their homes because of domestic violence and/or drugs.

Flight from such a home environment usually means that young children leave virtually everything behind. East Pasco Church member Grace Murphy volunteered to do something to help these children feel that they have something of their very own.

Grace adopted a program in which anyone with a heart for children can participate. The program is called “It’s My Very Own,” and the project that she’s undertaken in her local community is “Bags of Love.” Child-size duffle bags are made by volunteers like herself that

contain a handmade cover such as a quilt, blanket, or afghan; toys such as a teddy bear, especially for the younger children, or a doll for a girl, or cars for a boy; quality reading books; and personal care items such as travel-size toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Grace admits the idea isn’t her brainchild. One day she was watching Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), when she heard Barbara Neher tell about the “It’s My Very Own” program she started in Kentucky to help displaced children. The program has grown to

more than 60 chapters in the United States, including three in Florida and one in Australia. In fact, one of the first children to receive the duffle bag gave the umbrella name for the “Bags of Love” project, by exclaiming, “It’s my very own!”

Having formerly been a foster parent, along with her husband, Stanley, Grace well knew the fears and the needs of such children. Retired, she felt ready for something to which she says, “I could put my energies. It’s my way of helping do what I can for the good of the children.”

—BY BETTY KOSSICK

## Adventist Students Spotlighted at Magic™ Game

Forest Lake Education Center (FLEC) students in Apopka, Fla., made school history this year by participating in the first FLEC Orlando Magic™ Night at Amway Arena. Preparations began six months earlier with ticket sales, team practices, and choir rehearsals.

A few hours before the Magic and Dallas Mavericks exhibited their skills on court, the fifth and sixth

grade boys’ basketball teams from FLEC played a game on the same hardwood floor. As the Magic players warmed up prior to the game, the boys from FLEC met them and took their pictures.

When it was time for the national anthem, the FLEC fifth through eighth grade chorus performed in front of 17,000 fans under the direction of Russ

Durham, music director. Faced with a tight practice schedule and no window for a large choir rehearsal, the group readied for the performance as Durham experimented. “Elementary children can be taught complex choral pieces by transforming 30 minutes of classroom music time into a sectional where students learn to sing the alto, tenor, or soprano lines.”

After each class learned a part, they came together prior to the Magic game and “sang unlike any youth choir I had produced in 15 years of teaching,” said Durham. “The parts came through with strength and confidence.”

According to Nestor Osorio, FLEC athletic department director and event organizer, two records were broken on FLEC Orlando Magic Night: The 155-member group was the largest to perform the national anthem at Amway Arena; and FLEC was the largest single school group to sell more than 600 tickets to parents, students, and friends in a school fundraising drive.

—BY RUSS DURHAM AND NESTOR OSORIO



LEE BENNETT

The FLEC fifth through eighth grade chorus sang the national anthem before 17,000 fans at the Amway Arena. A home video recording can be seen at <http://youtube.com/watch?v=HQ8nyBMP7Ls>.

## Barwick Church Becomes Hispanic Congregation

Members of the Barwick Church, one of the oldest organized churches in Georgia, gave their church — including bank account, signage, Sabbath School felts, audio visual equipment, and more — to a growing Hispanic congregation that has been



TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

*The Barwick Church is one of the oldest churches in Georgia. It recently became home to a growing Hispanic congregation.*

meeting in the Thomasville, Ga., Church fellowship hall.

“This was an opportunity for this church in the middle of the cotton fields,” said Douglas Coon, head elder of the then 24-member Barwick Church. Evangelism efforts had not been fruitful for this con-

gregation, so they decided to donate what they had and give another group a chance to evangelize the area. “It is our hope that our Hispanic brothers can evangelize the area as many more Hispanic folks are moving into the area.

“March 9 was the of-

ficial turn-over of the Barwick Church to the Hispanic Church members,” said Coon. “Twelve of the Barwick members have transferred to the Thomasville Church and the balance transferred to Moultrie and Valdosta. There

were between 115 and 120 Hispanic believers present.”

“The Barwick Church ran two local campaigns within the last five to six years with no definitive results. We also held eight weeks of wellness clinics, a diabetes seminar with cooking classes, we had down-

linked the Shawn Boonstra series and others, all seemingly to no avail. The leadership of the church had come to the conclusion that we were failing in our attempts to fulfill the Great Commission, not out of a lack of desire and effort, but due to the demographics of the area,” says Mike Adams, pastor of the churches in Barwick and Thomasville. “After much discussion and prayer with the elders of the church and with Conference leadership, we presented the proposal to Jorge Quintiana and his Thomasville group and to the Barwick Church in a business meeting, and the proposal was overwhelmingly accepted by both. The Barwick Church was resurrected.”

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

## Elias Ordained to Ministry

One summer while working as a student literature evangelist and walking long distances between houses in Montana, Nathaniel Elias had time to talk and listen to God. During this time he was impressed to become a minister.

On April 12, Elias was ordained as a Seventh-day Adventist minister for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. The ordination service took place during the Sabbath morning service at the Augusta First Church in Georgia, where Elias is associate pastor.

Ed Wright, Conference

president, preached the ordination sermon, entitled “Be At One’s Best.”

Dennis Altrogge, pastor in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference and Elias’ uncle, shared the ordination prayer. Harold Cunningham, Conference ministerial director, southern region, led the ministerial commission.

Lance Elias, Nate’s

father and a business man from Butte, Mont., said, “When Nathaniel said he was going into the ministry, several years ago, I was kind of amazed that

he would choose that. And now, today is the culmination of that choice.”

Before coming to Augusta, Elias earned a master of divinity degree at Andrews University; served as youth pastor at the Calvin Center, Mich., Church; and was chaplain at Atlanta Adventist Academy.

Elias and his wife, Holly, have two girls, Madelyn and Abigail.

—BY MARTIN KNOPPER



MARTIN KNOPPER

*Holly and Nathaniel Elias pose with their girls during his ordination service.*

## Camp Meeting Highlights Mission

"I want a church that will get a hold of the mission of what God has called us to do and have a passion for it," said Bill McClendon, featured speaker on Friday and Sabbath for Georgia-Cumberland Conference camp meeting in the second church service on Sabbath, May 31.

McClendon serves as the pastor of the South Tulsa Adventist Fellowship and the ministerial director and vice president for Oklahoma Conference.

Marvin Moore, editor of *Signs of the Times* and author of more than 30 books, was the featured speaker for the evening meetings on Wednesday and Thursday.

Camp meeting was held



REBECCA BROOKS

*Bill McClendon, featured camp meeting speaker, shares a message entitled, "Propelled with a Purpose" during the second worship service Sabbath morning.*

in Collegedale, Tenn., May 28-31, with an estimated 4,300 people attending the Sabbath morning worship services in Iles Auditorium and the Collegedale Church.

Beginning on Thursday, a variety of seminars were

offered. Presenters spoke about issues such as divorce, diabetes, investing in heavenly treasures, and intercessory prayer.

For young adults, camp meeting focused on "Worship as a Way of Life," with GODencounters,

which describes itself as "a movement of young adults who are wholeheartedly seeking a 24/7 experience of the living God."

Edna Delong, a member of the Cohutta, Ga., Church, attended camp meeting

and said, "I certainly have enjoyed camp meeting here this year. Marvin Moore was just wonderful — the two meetings that he had — and McClendon has been just absolutely awesome. I've really been impressed that I put things off and he says, 'do it and do it now.'"

Brad Mendez of the Calhoun, Ga., Church shared, "It's a very spiritual experience. You get to share with other believers here and see a vision and a focus on evangelism, which is what McClendon is talking about."

Sermons from the featured speakers in Iles Auditorium are available online at [www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com).

—BY REBECCA BROOKS

## Kim Ordained during Korean Camp Meeting

Chang Kwon Kim was ordained as a minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church during Korean camp meeting in May at Cohutta Springs Conference Center.

"Pastor Kim is a very interesting pastor," says Stan Patterson, Conference vice president for pastoral ministries. "He was food service director at Southern and completed his career, but always felt called to ministry. So, when he retired, he went on his own to Andrews University and earned his master of divinity degree. He came back and volunteered to plant a church in Knoxville, Tenn. So, this is a man who has

already completed a career and dedicated himself without expectation of pay and successfully raised up a congregation."

While Kim was volunteering his time, he worked

as a lay leader with the Korean churches in Collegedale, Tenn.; Augusta, Ga.; Jacksonville, Ala.; and Knoxville, Tenn. He now works on permanent stipend with the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

Kim was born in Tokyo, Japan, and became an Adventist with the help of his sister. He came to the United States in 1969.

"The ordination that took place here calls you

not to ministry just in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference," shared Patterson during the ordination service. "It calls you to spiritual leadership that extends any place in the world that God calls you... The hands laid upon you today represented 15 million Seventh-day Adventists that are affirming the call of God in you."

"I'm very happy to have the opportunity to serve widely in the world, so I'd like to say thank you very much to the Conference leaders," said Kim. "May God continue to bless the Georgia-Cumberland Conference family."

—BY REBECCA BROOKS



REBECCA BROOKS

*Chang Kwon Kim is prayed for during the ordination service at Korean camp meeting, held at Cohutta Springs Conference Center in May.*

## Conferences Hold Combined ShareHim Boot Camp

The first combined South Central and Gulf States conferences ShareHim Boot Camp of Evangelism took place at Camp Alamisco on the weekend of February 22-24, 2008. More than 100 participants from the vast territory covered by these two conferences met for an intense three-day training event.

Under the director of Ralph Ringer, Southern Union ShareHim coordinator; Auldwin Humphrey, South Central ministerial director; Brian Halley, Southern Union accounting software support engineer; and Don Shelton, Gulf States Conference ministerial director, participants were trained in every aspect of preparing for and presenting a ShareHim evangelistic meeting.

The ShareHim organization started mainly as an

organization helping church members to be involved in overseas mission trips. In recent years, ShareHim has modified the program to be a greater tool in the States. Now ShareHim work to equip a team of church members to conduct the full cycle of evangelism in the local church.

At ShareHim Boot Camp, participants learned the importance of laying a sufficient groundwork of carefully orchestrated entry events, Bible studies, church socials, cultivating interests, and preparing the way for a ShareHim reaping event.

Shelton explains, "If we are going to really impact North America, there must be more churches that embrace the cycle of evange-



Attendees from both conferences gathered at Camp Alamisco.

lism as taught by ShareHim, Amazing Facts, and others. Evangelism must be a lifestyle of the Church — not just an event that a church does periodically. Teams of Church members should be attending ShareHim Boot Camps to be adequately trained and equipped so they can become a greater

resource for the local church."

The Gulf States Conference will have another ShareHim Boot Camp of Evangelism the weekend of September 5-7, 2008, at Camp Alamisco. Contact Don Shelton at Gulf States for more details.

—BY DON SHELTON

## New Hispanic Company Organized



Under the leadership of Jhonny Castro, pastor, the Panama City, Fla., Hispanic group formally became a company on March 8, 2008.

## Montgomery First Hosts Women's Ministries Event



*Ginny Allen was the dynamic featured speaker.*

Guests from 25 different churches gathered in the gymnasium at the Montgomery, Ala., First Church on May 2 and 3, for area meetings sponsored by

the Women's Ministries Council.

Featured guest speaker Ginny Allen focused her sermons on the meetings' theme, "Catch the Wind." Allen spoke Friday evening, for worship Sabbath morning, and Sabbath afternoon. Other guests and special features were Eleanor Wharton, who spoke Sabbath morning; the musical group Silent Praise; and a concert with Doris DeHaney, an accomplished vocalist.

Three meals were provided for the attendees. The expense was covered by the church and interested donors. Stella Mucha and Thelma Bonham, from South Carolina, donated their time and talents to

cook the meals.

"I knew God was leading when the first six people who registered were from churches other than Adventist," says Jessica Belcher, First Church women's ministries coordinator. When Belcher thinks of the many things which knit together to make the meetings a success, she is even more convinced of Divine guidance.

Belcher was assisted by Phyllis Wilson, Vonda

Bonham, and Heidi McDearmon.

—BY REBECCA GRICE



*First Church women enjoyed three free meals.*

## Oscar Johnson Leaves Legacy of Service and Commitment



DAVID SMITH

When 96-year-old Oscar Johnson passed on May 5, 2008, he left a large legacy of service, commitment, and love for his church, community, friends, and family. During his lifetime, Johnson, a member of the College Drive Church in Pearl, Miss., served on the Conference Executive Committee, the Southern Adventist University Board, the Southern Union Board, the General

Conference Fall Council, Bass Memorial Academy Board and Committee of 100, and chartered the Committee of 100 for Southern Missionary College.

He supported Christian education and helped to establish Bass Memorial Academy. He cared about individuals and sponsored many students in elementary school, academy, college, medical, and graduate school. He generously helped people to get into business for themselves; bought gas, meals, and lodging for stranded travel-

ers passing through Jackson; and sponsored many children to summer camp. He also personally paid a bonus if any of his employees quit smoking.

He was focused on his family, health, Christ, and "doing the right thing." He was thankful for his health-focused Adventist lifestyle.

His memorial service was held on Sabbath, May 10, at his church because as his family explained, "Being at church and being there on time was the highlight of his week."

—BY REBECCA GRICE

## Dickson Designated Adventist EDGE School

Dickson Adventist School (DAS) was awarded an educational grant of \$18,000 by the Southern Union Conference Office of Education on March 26, 2008, as part of their journey to be designated an Adventist EDGE School of Excellence.

The application process entailed a comprehensive assessment and supporting documentation of how DAS meets the Adventist EDGE standards in five component areas, with action plans for areas needing improvement. These funds will be used for specified school improvements, which will include new playground equipment,



security fencing, classroom storage, and reading program materials.

The Adventist EDGE philosophy is to meet the individual needs of the whole child, utilizing the natural cycle of learning. EDGE teachers encourage students to be “thinkers and not mere reflectors of others’ thoughts” and to use active techniques (experiments,

real-world problem solving) to expand their knowledge, and enhance their understanding of the world. Christian values are integrated into the entire curriculum, as the EDGE teacher seeks to instill in each student a sense of their value as a child of God and to

inspire them to treat others with respect. EDGE students exemplify concern for others by participating in community outreach projects and other faith-building activities.

DAS opened in August 2000 and has a current enrollment of nine students, grades K-8. Teacher/Principal Diane Capps has a master’s of education degree

from Vanderbilt University, and she is aided by teaching assistant Clyde Capps. Technology in the classroom includes seven computers, cable Internet access, and a SmartBoard. DAS currently offers computer class each week for all grades, and Spanish class for grades 3-8. As a small school, DAS offers distinct advantages: low student-teacher ratio, individualization, family atmosphere, and parental involvement.

DAS is accredited through both the State of Tennessee Education Department Non-Public School Office and the National Council for Private School Accreditation.

—BY DIANE D. CAPPS

## God and Nature Unite to Inspire

Pewee Valley Junior Academy (PVJA) has received several opportunities to enhance their Outdoor Education program at no expense to them. During the past three years, the school has received donations in excess of more than \$20,000. One large part of the program is the outdoor classroom.

Local business Akzo-Nobel donated \$6,000 for the construction of a Cherokee Council House, and its employees donated two days of work and money to purchase native trees for the tree trail.

PVJA has established partnerships with local, state, and federal organizations to enhance the students’

learning. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Native Plant Division donated 25 native species of plants for a butterfly garden. The Kentucky Air Education office is working in the establishment of the first ozone garden in the state. The school worked with the Kentucky Bluebird Society to receive a bluebird house with a camera so that the bluebird family can be continuously monitored. The school also received 202 premium garden bulbs to establish a bulb garden in the front of the school.

The tree identification trail has been named “Secrist Tree Identification Trail” after Darwin Secrist, a long-time church member and volunteer at the school who

passed away last August. The bulb garden has been dedicated in memory of Makayla Ansert, a student who lost her battle with cancer last fall.

The Kentucky Division of Forestry provided an Urban Forestry grant of close to \$7,000 for the purchase and installment of four outdoor bulletin boards, creation of 38 tree markers, and the production of brochures of the Outdoor Education program.

PVJA has adopted the idea that nature and God together naturally inspire children academically and spiritually. The students truly enjoy going outdoors to learn. Teachers see learning take place in a more



*Velma Secrist (left), wife of the late Darwin Secrist, and Katy and Ron Ansert, parents of the late Makayla Ansert*

enjoyable atmosphere and concrete themes being mastered. This style of education is also something the community appreciates. This year the school has gained community students because of its emphasis in outdoor education.

—BY RENEE OTTS

## Highland Academy Board Elects New Principal

Becky Patrick has been elected the new principal of Highland Academy. Patrick has taught at Highland Academy for 11 years. She graduated from Highland Academy in 1993. She received a B.A. degree in mathematics with minors in biology and Spanish from the University of Louisville in 1997. Her husband, Michael, teaches math and science at Highland. The Patricks have two children: Gabrielle, 7, and Olivia, 4.

Asked about her vision for the future of Highland Academy, Patrick says, "We will continue to develop our curriculum and overall program to fulfill our mission statement of 'Developing Christ-like characters and lifelong learners.' Our goal is to make the overall program relevant to the needs of students today."

Patrick is following Don Mathis, who has been at Highland Academy for 15 years and has been the prin-

incipal for the last five years. Mathis has accepted a call to be the facility manager of the new Hulsey Wellness Center at Southern Adventist University, which will open this fall.

Highland Academy is a fully-accredited secondary boarding school for grades 9-12, located in Portland, Tenn. For more information, visit [www.highland-academy.com](http://www.highland-academy.com).

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN



*Don Mathis congratulates Becky Patrick following her election as his successor as principal of Highland Academy.*

## "My Last Sabbath Here" Becomes Witness

The Millards, members of the Louisville First Church, were trying to sell their home and move to North Carolina. Their home had been on the market for a long time. Their last Sabbath in church, their son Corey excitedly told everyone, "This is my last Sabbath here."

As the family arrived home, a neighbor pulled

into her driveway at the same time. As they exited their cars, Corey repeated, "Today is my last Sabbath here."

The neighbor, who had always been friendly, came over saying, "Today, I was sitting in my car reading my Bible and noticed a text regarding Sabbath observance.



*Ron (left), Marcia, and Corey Millard*

I prayed the Lord would guide me to a better under-

standing. Strange that Corey brought the Sabbath question to my attention again." She added, "You are Sabbath keepers aren't you?"

The Millard's now understand why their home had not sold. They were more than happy to connect their neighbor with Rose Parker, the church's full time Bible worker.

—BY CLIFTON KELLER

## Class of 1948 Dedicates Bell Tower

The Highland Academy Class of 1948 celebrated its 60th anniversary during alumni weekend this year by paying for the restoration of the Bell Tower, a brick monument still standing on campus.

Highland Academy had just become a Conference-owned academy when this class enrolled. Charles Harris, president of the class and organizer of the restora-

tion, said that one of the school neighbors originally donated a bell, and Willard F. Ray, a teacher at the



academy, agreed to build the tower. The original bell cracked, and the principal, Bill Sandborn, bought another one from war surplus for \$25.

Harris said the class members raised more than \$800 to pay a mason to patch up the tower. It originally stood on the front lawn of the academy. The school administration in later years replaced it with a

gazebo but moved the Bell Tower to a visible location across the road encircling the campus.

Class of 1948 alumni attending the dedication are pictured: Betty Joy Mills Marchant (left), Frieda Schleifer Fox, Mabel Howard Geach, James Wade, Darrell Crutcher, Reba Crutcher, Louise Boals, Jean Keasling Ahlberg, and Charles Harris.

—BY ALBERT DITTES

## South Atlantic Holds Annual Health Retreat



Each morning the attendees enjoyed an early morning walk.

The South Atlantic Health Ministries Department held its annual health conditioning retreat at the River Oaks Worship & Convention Center in Orangeburg, S.C., April 24-27. The theme for the retreat was, "The Truth about Health."

Presenters and topics included Barry Lee, M.D., "The Truth about Cancer Prevention"; David Moore, M.D., "The Truth about God's Health Program, Heart Disease, and Exercise"; Shirley Williamson, M.D., "The Truth about

Weight Loss"; Robert Sigh, M.D., "The Truth about Hypertension and Diabetes"; Gloria Hughes, M.D., "The Truth about Sleep Apnea and GERD"; Gwen and Vonzell Chancey, "The Truth about Water and Hydrotherapy"; and Janice

Greenidge, who conducted hands-on cooking classes.

The participants were especially blessed by Ralph Peay, D.Min., who provided the spiritual emphasis presentations for the retreat. When asked what they enjoyed most, participants' comments included the following: "Everything!"; "The walking, the presenters, the food, and I particularly enjoyed the testimonies"; "The spirit of the people and presenters"; "There was a wealth of helpful information shared. Thanks for the focus on God's way"; and "Lectures, healthy food, and Elder Peay."

When asked if they would recommend and



Ruth and Vanard Mendingball, Conference president, attended the health retreat.

attend the next retreat, all participants answered, "Yes!"

The theme for next year's retreat is, "Being a Good Steward for Jesus." It will be held April 23-26, 2009.

—BY DAVID MOORE

## Mt. Olive Member Lives to Encourage Others

Fannie Haynes grew up in the small town of Milledgeville, Ga. As the youngest child in a family with six children, a mother, and a maternal grandmother, she was a child who stuttered.

She experienced feelings of shame and distress as she strove to verbally express herself. Of course, as a child, she did not know why she stuttered. Today, she participates in conversations so fluently, one would never suspect that she stuttered.

Fannie, like many, grew up in a dysfunctional family. But that did not deter her fortitude, determina-

tion, and courage to keep moving forward in a positive manner to reach her goals in life. After growing up in the Baptist church, she was later introduced to the Adventist message by a close friend. She has been a faithful and active member of her church since her early adult years.

For years, Fannie has suffered with diabetes — which she calls "My Shipwreck" — and heart disease, but she has still persevered. She is a wonderful example of someone who has not allowed the challenges of life to discourage her.

Fannie says, "Looking

back on 'My Shipwreck,' I could not understand why the Lord allowed me to suffer in this manner. I didn't want to believe that a God of love could have me go through so many negative changes in my life."

She now feels that if she shares her life story, people will understand why she believes her suffering had a purpose. Fannie believes that it is a privilege for her to suffer because God had to bring her to a point in her life where He could save her.



Recently she wrote her life story in a book called *My Heart Speaks*, which will be published by a national publisher soon.

—BY PAULA MORRIS

## Spring Revival Explosion Nets 100 Baptisms

The Atlanta Berean Church held a "Spring Revival Explosion" during late April and early May 2008, with the goal of seeing its neighboring community "explode" with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They took their motto from the words of Matthew 24:14: "And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached as a witness into all the world." Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., Atlanta Berean senior pastor; Bible workers; and the Berean Church family engaged in numerous activities prior to the evangelistic series to prepare the community for this "explosion," including

door-to-door Bible study solicitation and "Tract Attack."

On opening night, nearly 3,000 individuals were in attendance and witnessed the preaching ministry of Byrd, as well as the music ministry of noted gospel music artist Richard Smallwood. In attendance on opening night was Methodist minister Robert Norwood. Norwood had formerly pastored a Methodist congregation in Louisiana and had relocated to the metropolitan Atlanta



*Robert Norwood, former Methodist minister, was one of 100 individuals baptized by Carlton Byrd, D.Min., during the spring revival.*

Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC). While matriculating at ITC, Norwood met a member of the Atlanta Berean Church who invited him to attend Sabbath worship services along with the "Spring Revival Explosion" at Atlanta Berean. After attending the worship and evangelistic services, taking Bible studies, and being under the power of the Holy Spirit, Norwood responded to the voice of God, and was one of the 100 individuals baptized in the month of May, culminating the 2008 Spring Revival Explosion.

—BY JAMES K. LAMB

area to pursue a master of divinity degree at Atlanta's

## Praise Tabernacle Cooks with Success

Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C., presented its first community vegetarian cooking class in April.

The location was in the gym of Carolina Adventist Academy, where the congregation also worships each Sabbath. It was unique in that it combined cooking and sampling of an entire six-course meal, and additional health topics presented by health professionals.

Fifty percent of the attendees were not Adventists and had heard of the event via flyers, radio, and newspaper ads.

Emphasizing initially the biblical Eden diet and the consequences of meat on one's health after the flood, the guests were then shown medically why a vegetarian

diet is the most beneficial for good health and long life. Richard Berry, M.D., and Charlotte Verrett, M.D., presented dietary prevention and medical facts about colon, prostate, and breast cancer, respectively. Visual aids were used, and after the meal guests were able to talk to the physicians about breast self-exams, BMI (body mass index)/obesity charts, and other recommendations for cancer prevention, as well as asking questions they had regarding health.

The meatless dishes that were served included the antioxidant-laden fresh fruits strawberries and blueberries; garden salad of red and green bell peppers, cucumbers, carrots, red onions, zucchini and yellow squash,

and romaine lettuce, all with a topping of homemade fat free dressing; meatless grilled pepper steak; collard greens; sesame gluten chicken; organic brown rice; and orange-carrot cake.

Free cookbooks were given to each attendee, as well as special door prizes for special-numbered chairs. As comments of, "Are you sure there is no meat in this?"; "These greens taste

like they have smoked meat in them;" and "This is so good!" floated through the air, a feeling of success for the right arm of the Gospel was felt.

Coordinator Charlene Berry, along with Sheila Mills, women's ministries leader, plans to hold another vegetarian cooking class based on the affirmation of those present that they would come to a second

class and invite their family and friends. "At least we're getting the community into our building," commented one church member. An upcoming revival for the community is being planned for Whiteville and its surrounding communities this summer.

—BY CHARLOTTE VERRETT



*Several members of Praise Tabernacle Church participated in the health fair.*

## Prayer Summit Brings Holy Spirit

In anticipation of South Central's 2008 Prayer Summit, all roads for prayer warriors, participants, and presenters led to Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, Ga. This was the center of attraction, March 14-16. For 42 hours, the Conference Center was transformed into a prayer and praise center. David Jenkins, pastor, Allegheny East Conference, and Dennis Smith, pastor, and author of *Baptism of the Holy Spirit*, were the main presenters. Roy Rugless, South Central prayer coordinator, poured his efforts into creating "a prayer summit to be remembered," and Benjamin Browne, Conference president, gave support to this venture.



*Benjamin Browne (left), South Central president, and Oliver McKinney, Southern Union prayer coordinator, greet worshipers.*

As the day faded into rest, voices of a praise team sent spirits soaring. This praise team of Elaine Rugless, Angela Hyde, Olive Jones, and Antoinette Richardson led the congregation in lifting praises to God, and everyone joined in singing: "Lord I love you, Lord I worship you, You are



*Record attendance: the Conference Center hotels are full, "no room in the inn."*

worthy to be praised. You are worthy, worthy, worthy to be praised."

Facilitator Dennis Smith introduced his subject, "Baptism of the Holy Spirit" with the thought that "nothing but the Holy Spirit can empower our lives. The Holy Spirit, is to influence every aspect of our lives so that we can continue to be filled with His Spirit. Things may seem out of control," he said, "but keep your hand in the hand of God, for He has a high calling on your life."

Smith indicated, "when He, God, leads to a hard place, follow without fear. Think of the Israelites. They thought freedom, but they saw dust, Pharaoh's army behind, mountains on either side, the sea in front of them; then, God miracu-

lously opened the sea and gave them a great deliverance." In the desert experience, the Spirit led them into the wilderness to water, but it was the bitter waters of Marah. God miraculously gave them sweet water and delivered them. The point is, if God leads, go! Find His promises. Lean on them. But, be cognizant of the fact that the Holy Spirit can lead where you might be challenged, even broken; and sometimes, to human eyes, it doesn't seem to make sense. Yet, God is waiting to manifest His Holy Spirit. Be willing to become empty vessels no matter how foolish it looks. Don't be concerned about feelings. Give God the permission to empty and fill you, and know that, "God is too wise to be mistaken. God is too good to be unkind. So when you don't understand and you can't see His hand, trust His heart."

Prayer Federa-

tion trailblazer Roy Rugless, with prayer coordinators and their assistants from 11 Conference federations; one delegate from the new Evergreen Church in Alabama; representatives from Gulf States and South Atlantic conferences; two South Central committee members; Oliver McKinney, Southern Union prayer coordinator; and Benjamin Browne, all helped to make this prayer summit a memorable one.

After thanking everyone for support, Browne explained that he did not have a job, but a mission; therefore he needed and was appreciative of everyone's prayers. He then announced a new initiative, "1,000 Praying Men." These men would pray for God to change their lives and use their families. He concluded his remarks by sharing the Camp Meeting 2008 theme, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ."

McKinney shared his happiness in participating in this summit, and said his dream for the Union was to see more prayer gatherings like this once per quar-



*Roy Rugless, South Central prayer coordinator, gives opening remarks to participants.*



MICHAEL HARPE

David Jenkins (left), pastor, Allegheny East Conference, and Dennis Smith, pastor and author of *Baptism of the Holy Spirit*, were the main presenters for South Central's 2008 Prayer Summit.

ter. He also reminded all to, "move forward on our knees."

Neighbor to Neighbor Prayer Service, the project Ruby Irvin shared in response to the yearnings of the Holy Spirit, is a highly successful ministry. In the beginning, her attitude was "I don' Wan'a-Wan'a." After submitting to the will of the Holy Spirit, it proved to be a good way to plant churches through door-to-door prayer-evangelism. Her ministry follows these principles: keep on praying, God will hear; He will answer; He will deliver.

Elaine Rugless endorsed those sentiments in song, "Keep on Praying, and Heaven's Doors will Unlock."

The women's ministries session was presented by Ellie Wharton. This motivational speaker, workshop

presenter, and author led the congregation into an informative "Teach me to Pray" session, which helped them to better understand

the Lord's Prayer. Kevin Jenkins next took the baton, and emphasized that, "we do not know what to pray for; therefore, it is our business to ask and God's business to answer in His time." He counseled all attendees to break out of their comfort zones, pray with passion, praise God, and draw close to His manifest presence. He encouraged all to ask God to teach everyone how to become people of intensified prayer, whose circumstances do not deter, but who would pray until there was a breakthrough with an answer. He



MICHAEL HARPE

Prayer warriors lay hands on Benjamin Browne, president, and petition God's grace on His servant's ministry in South Central.

gave some reasons why people should pray for the Holy Spirit's infilling presence. The Holy Spirit is the source of a

sanctified life; He gives help in prayers, praise for wisdom, and understanding for deliverance. It is resurrection power that gives leadership, witness, and patience. He declared, "Have a reckless abandonment to God. You will never be disappointed. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you so that there is no room for anything else, and be baptized with the Holy Spirit." "I dare you," he said, "to seek His anointing! I DARE YOU TO PRAY! Yes, I DARE YOU TO PRAY!"

Sunday morning dawned clear and beautiful and indicated the end of another spiritually impressive prayer conference. Attendees received "the quickening" influence of the Holy Spirit of God. "Not by might, not by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts." They will not forget the reminder — pray, believe, and trust. Be fervent in prayer and watch in the Spirit.

Those who attended will remember the charge, "Now, go home and tell what great things God has done for you." As they left Cohutta Springs, they could not forget the prayer summit, nor block out Jenkins' challenge that keeps ringing: I DARE you to pray! Yes, I DARE YOU TO PRAY!

—BY CECILY DALY,  
PRESIDENT  
NORTH ALABAMA  
PRAYER FEDERATION

## Hills Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary



The Hills celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 16. They got married in West Palm Beach, Fla., at the Ninth Street Church, by John S. Street, pastor.

Franklin S. Hill II was the first Oakwood University (formally Oakwood College) graduate hired as a pastor with the South Atlantic Conference by R. D. Singleton, pastor. He and his wife, Lucille E. Hill, served as pastor and educator in the Seventh-day Adventist Church for 50 years. After retiring in Huntsville, Ala., they served the Oakwood Church as head elder and matron mother for many years. In 2002, they moved to Lafayette, Ind., to live with their daughter and son-in-law, Michael and Terry Harris.

They are the proud parents of four sons: Franklin S. Hill III, Tampa, Fla.; Byron K. (Brenda) Hill of Pittsburg, Calif.; Roland and Susie Hill of Dallas, Tex.; Hallerin and Nedra Hill of Knoxville, Tenn. They have nine grandchildren: Janelle L. Hill-Mercurius, Deidre Jihan, Javonne Rochelle-Tyson, Mian Hill, Sonya Hill-Meadow, Byron Hill, II, and Courtney Hill; and three great-grandchildren: Ashley, Brook, and Code.

## Teens Promise to Forgo Sex until Marriage

The young men and women clutched their golden keys, a gift for a future spouse.

"By God's grace I hereby lock my heart, my body, my desires, my love for

of Honor" joined more than 100 previous inductees.

The group includes members from about 20 South Florida churches, said co-founder Dominique Diambois. Their motto: "Set

Apart by Divine Design."

"Pure Reality is about valuing your life and setting goals for it," said Diambois, who started the group in 2005 with Nedd and Donna Scarlett, fellow members of Little River's Tabernacle Church. "It doesn't come easily. Purity is hard

work, daily work."

Pure Reality emphasizes sexual purity until marriage, but members, who range in age from 12 to 26, don't have to be virgins to join.

"The idea is that they want to live pure from now on," Nedd said, adding that exercising purity extends even to entertainment choices.

A Pure Reality member might choose to watch a Tyler Perry movie, with its director's traditional family-oriented message, instead of, say, a sex-fest like American Pie.

"A lot of movies and even video games make it seem like sexual promiscuity and immorality are acceptable," Diambois said.

College-bound Lauderhill resident Bryan Cheddar, 18, agrees. "I don't watch that much TV because of that," he said. "I really try to

shut it out as best I can. It's tough."

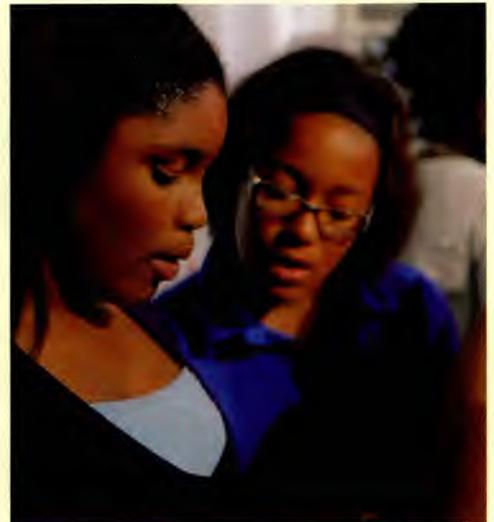
Senior High student Kerese Brown, 18, says she's scared of a fate that some of her peers now face: "I have friends who are 16 and 17 years old and pregnant," Brown said. "I don't want to end up like that."

About 46 percent of all U.S. 15-to-19-year-olds have had sex at least once, according to a study released in 2006 by the Guttmacher Institute. Nearly 750,000 U.S. girls between 15 and 19 become pregnant each year.

Florida requires that abstinence, but not contraception, be covered in sex-ed programs for children and teens.

Membership in Pure Reality has jumped from about 100 in 2005 to about 500 now. Older adults mentor the young ones and supervise activities like field trips, prayer meetings, and socials.

The group take annual retreats to places like Camp Kulaqua in High Springs,



you with this Treasure Key, and I promise to remain sexually pure and to abstain from all forms of sexually immoral behaviors . . . until the day we say 'I do,' " the 60 young women and 24 young men recited.

They're members of Pure Reality, a social support group that teaches youngsters to think of their bodies and souls as treasures.

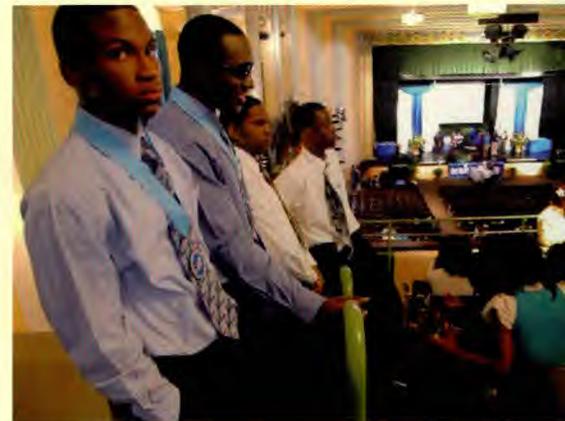
"We believe God meant for us to hold ourselves in high esteem," said group co-founder and director Lauldi Nedd. "God values us. We should value ourselves, too."

The young adults affirmed their commitment to the group's message at the annual Treasure Key Ceremony, held at Miami Edison Middle School in Little Haiti.

Newly inducted "Ladies of Virtue" and "Gentlemen

Fla., where they play sports, socialize, and worship. The key ceremony caps off the year.

"I'm really proud of some of these kids," said Leo Smart, a high school math teacher who helps mentor the group's young men.



"They're learning they can be cool while choosing a pure life and not buying into the whole 'pimp' or 'thug' mentality," Smart said. "They're defining themselves in a positive way."

—BY LAURA MORALES

## Baptism, Wedding Held at Zion Hill Church

They had lived together in a common-law union for more than 20 years, but on Sunday, May 11, at 6 p.m., Cristobal and Sandra Serrano were united in holy matrimony.

The occasion that was sponsored by, and held at, the Zion Hill Church in Hawthorne, Fla., was simple yet elegant.

It all started in December 2007, when the church board voted to allow a community choir — the outreach activity of Rosalina Vega, who was not yet a member of Zion Hill — to perform a Christmas concert during the Adventist Youth (AY) hour on Sabbath, December 24.

Subsequent to that

performance, Vega and members of Zion Hill would transport some of the children, sometimes as many as 18, to Sabbath School and church services at Zion Hill, where they were provided with healthy snacks for breakfast and lunch.

Some of the older children from this group began assisting in church and Sabbath School, reading the lessons and telling children's stories. They also befriended other youth who were already sporadically attending.

Soon the youth started



taking Bible studies. As members of the church began visiting the homes and giving assistance as needed, the parents of the Serrano children began attending services at Zion Hill — first the

one-week crusade conducted by Ricardo Daphnis, pastor, and subsequent Sabbath services. They, too, decided to give their hearts to the Lord and joined the baptismal class.

In preparation for baptism, the family agreed that they wanted to follow God's plan for families, but needed

help to get married. Members of Zion Hill decided to sponsor the joyous event.

Then on Sabbath, May 17, many rejoiced as Daphnis and Raymond Pilliner, elder, baptized seven individuals, including the six members of the Serrano family.

This joint church effort culminated in a family luncheon as everyone ate together in celebration. On that same day, five others joined by letter, increasing the church family by 12.

As the jingle goes, "A little Accent with a little love surely helps." God provided the "Accent," and Zion Hill's pastor, officers, and members laid on the love!

—BY EILEEN PILLINER

## Ministerial Director, Hispanic Coordinator Voted

The Southeastern Conference executive committee voted to appoint Milton Sterling to serve as ministerial director for a second term, and Roger Alvarez to serve as Hispanic coordinator for a third term on May 18.



*Milton Sterling, Conference ministerial director*

Both positions were referred to the committee for vote during the Conference constituency session, which was held on April 27.

The Hispanic coordinator position was referred to the committee because the number of Hispanic constituents in Southeastern does not meet the minimum

number of 5,000 members, which is required by the Conference constitution for that position to be filled during the session. Currently, there are approximately 2,000 Hispanic members, with 14 churches, 10 companies, and

nine groups.

Alvarez received an A.S. degree from the Cuban Union Adventist Seminary, a B.A. in theology from the Montemorelos Adventist University, and is currently pursuing an M.Div. from Andrews University. He is married to Leonar Alvarez and has two children, Odelkys and Roger G.

The Hispanic coordinator position was established in Southeastern to oversee the growth of the Hispanic work. Charles Vento served as the first Hispanic coordinator for Southeastern.

The position of ministerial was referred to the committee by Hubert Morel, newly elected Conference president, because he felt that it was important for the pastors to participate in the selection of the ministerial director.

The ministerial director serves as an extension of the Office of the President and as the pastor's advocate. Sterling received a B.A. in theology

from Oakwood University, formerly Oakwood College, an M.A. in church administration from Andrews University, and a D.Min. in church administration with an emphasis in pastoral leadership from Gulf Coast University. He is married to Beverly Mitchell Sterling and they have two sons, Milton Jr. and Wesley.

Dennis Ross served as the first ministerial director for Southeastern Conference. The Office of Ministerial was first created in 1922 by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY



*Roger Alvarez, Conference Hispanic coordinator*

## Dorm Donation Days Benefits Samaritan Center

As students across the nation tried to stuff an entire semester's knowledge into their brains, some of them grappled with another year-end question: What am I going to do with all the stuff in my dorm room?

For the students of Southern Adventist University, the Samaritan Center provided a solution for this quandary through Dorm Donation Days.

"As students were moving out, we parked



*Dorm Donation Days provides an opportunity for students to put their discarded items to good use.*

our truck smack dab in the middle of campus, ready to haul donations away," says Tony Dahlberg, Samaritan Center's executive director. During the course of three days, three truckloads of donated items were hauled to the center.

These student donations helped the center meet East

Hamilton County's surging demands for social service assistance, which have risen 39 percent since last year.

"Southern has so intentionally fostered an environment of community-mindedness," says Dahlberg, "it seems only fitting that the farewell gift their students would leave would be donations to bless people in need."

—BY ANGELA BEARG

## New Construction Management Degree Partners with Habitat for Humanity

Southern's Technology Department has resurrected an old degree that is all about hands-on instruction, while lending a helping hand to those in need — construction management.

A new component of this returning degree (last offered at Southern in the 1980's) is a partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Greater Chattanooga.

Construction management majors will spend a year building a house for a family in the area. Habitat for Humanity will provide the supplies, while students construct the building.

According to Dale Walters, chair of the department, Southern is the only university in the southeast to include such a high level of hands-on preparation for

the degree.

In addition, the new construction management degree will have many other new components the previous degree didn't offer. These will include business courses that help prepare students for the possibility of owning their own construction company one day. The construction management degree, like every

degree offered by the Technology Department, promises to prepare students to not only find a job when they graduate, but also to be able to create jobs for themselves and others.

"All the programs that we teach in this department," says Walters, "enable you to run your own business."

—BY SUZANNE OCSAI

## Southern Trains Camp Ropes Course Facilitators

Faculty and students from Southern's outdoor leadership program spent May 5-9 intensively training 11 summer camp workers to be effective ropes course facilitators.

"This training is meant to up the level of professionalism at camps," says Steve Bontekoe, outdoor teacher education graduate student and ropes course trainer. "We want to make

sure that the facilitators are well-trained, and their participants will be safe."

The intensive facilitator training included learning practical skills, like how to work safely with the equipment. In addition, trainees learned to think like facilitators, which involved understanding the psychological goals of building confidence, interaction, and group cooperation.

"I've learned that these aren't just random games," says Samantha Udelhofen, who participated in the training. "As a facilitator, I have two goals — the goal of the game and the goal of introducing closeness and teamwork. Even if the kids don't accomplish the goal of the game, I can still accomplish my goal as a facilitator."

—BY JAIME MYERS



*Steve Bontekoe (left) familiarizes camp workers with several types of ropes courses.*

## KidsView

*KidsView*, *Adventist Review's* children's magazine, seeks readers who enjoy stories, puzzles, and crafts. Ideal for children ages 8-12, or those in grades 3-6, *KidsView* provides aspects of Christian living for children by children around the United States.

By the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year in August, *KidsView* will expand from four to eight pages. The Ellen G. White Estate, Adventist Mission, and North American Division (NAD) Office of Education will provide content for children, with the latter organization submitting student-writing samples from around the Division. Additionally, the NAD will furnish school-age children attending conference-sponsored Seventh-day Adventist schools with copies of *KidsView*.

*KidsView* will also feature writing on a companion website, which will showcase some of the same material as the print magazine. Children can print games or coloring pages by visiting [kidsviewmagazine.org](http://kidsviewmagazine.org) when the site launches in the fall.

Already a component of the *Adventist Review*, *KidsView* is an excellent resource for Adventist children whose parents do not subscribe to the *Review*, or who do not attend Church schools. Aware that many Adventist children don't attend Adventist schools, managing editor Wilona Karimabadi aims to bring *KidsView* to children in various venues, like churches or

homeschooling markets.

*KidsView* took root when a mother approached former *Review* editor Bill Johnson, urging the *Review* to develop a periodical specifically for children. Current

what content they would like featured. Children reporters produce material on interesting events at church, in school, or in their communities. Karimabadi declared, "We find kids



*Review* staff members Kimberly Luste Maran and Merle Poirer, and former assistant editor Bonita Joyner Shields, developed a magazine for children that began publication in 2002. Since then, one issue appears monthly in the *Adventist Review*.

Each issue varies in content but contains stories, activities, a calendar, and devotionals that appeal to children. Sometimes, content editor Kimberly Luste Maran adapts a story from the parent magazine, making it more readable for younger audiences, while pointing them to the *Review*. The idea is to help children "grow up" with *Adventist Review*, a goal *KidsView* editors want to achieve.

Children also take an active role in developing material. Editors regularly poll children to find out

wherever we can and put them to work." This enables children to help produce content for *KidsView*.

Subscribers to *Adventist Review* automatically receive *KidsView* free. For people interested solely in *KidsView*, however, the *Adventist Review* website ([adventist-review.org](http://adventist-review.org)) provides a sim-

ple means of subscription, with an option specifically for *KidsView*. Twelve issues cost \$10.95, and subscribers to the print version automatically receive access to the online PDF version.

Karimabadi wants children to enjoy the magazine. She stated, "Our goal with *KidsView* is to be a quality Christian publication for children." By reading this, children can grow up with the *Review* and recognize that they belong to a world church. As they grow older, they can ultimately "understand the body of faith that they belong to."

For more information on *KidsView*, please contact Wilona Karimabadi at 301-680-6633 or email [kidsview@adventistreview.org](mailto:kidsview@adventistreview.org).

—BY BONNIE MCLEAN

### Adventist Health

#### Our Mission:

To share God's love by providing physical, mental and spiritual healing.

18 hospitals in:  
California  
Hawaii  
Oregon  
Washington

#### Live the Dream

The journey begins with us.

For Job Opportunities, visit [www.adventisthealth.org](http://www.adventisthealth.org)

### World Budget Offering

\*A postcard containing information about the Women's Ministries offering **July 12** was sent, addressed to "Women's Ministries Leader" in each church during the middle of June. If you did not receive it, the same information is available at [www.nadwm.org](http://www.nadwm.org). Be sure your members mark their tithe envelopes "NAD Women's' Ministries," so the offering can be properly allocated at each level for evangelism by women and Women's Ministries leadership training.

# Healthy Churches

BY MARVIN LOWMAN

When the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference launched its Healthy Church Initiative in the summer of 2007, local churches were asked to assess church health, set goals for improvement, and strategically plan for growth.

A planning packet was sent to each church which contained materials designed to help the congregation regain a clear vision of the Church's mission. Many churches have begun to experience a renewed vitality — praying more, studying the Bible more, and finding creative ways of building friendships in the community.

The Madison Campus Church is one example. The staff carefully selected a team of department leaders and members representing a cross-section of the congregation's ministry interests and gifts. The church had many programs established already, but the process helped the church leaders to explore new ways to become more effective.

One area that received attention was adult Sabbath School. There were many adult classes that were too large to be effective. Teachers were challenged to become mentors — training new teachers who can eventually lead another class.

Lynn Schlisner, the senior pastor says, "This process has helped us to keep our mission in focus. I once heard someone say, 'Vision leaks.' Now we see everything we do as an evangelism event."

At Madison Campus, Caring Connection is the umbrella that includes a number of outreach ministries to the community. Director Julie Vega has become known as a resource finder for community members and the con-



Angela Beard with "grandparent" Faye Warren

gregation. She has developed a data base of referral agencies and personnel. She assesses the community and congregation, and several programs have been established as the result of visible needs.

Adopt-A-Grandparent is a program which connects students with senior citizens. It provides services and support to the home-bound, while providing educational grants applied to tuition for the students.

It's My Very Own provides children of all ages, whose parents or guardians are taken into custody by authorities, an attractive drawstring bag that becomes "their very own," containing a homemade quilt or blanket, stuffed animals, toys, pillow, and personal hygiene items.

English Without Boundaries is currently serving Spanish-speaking people with video presen-

tation classes to teach English. Those attending are provided coaching, friendship, and child care during classes.

Birthday Parties for Forgotten People is designed for foster children and seniors who do not have family or friends to help celebrate birthdays. Monthly parties are arranged with invitations, presents, cake, and celebration for those whose birthday come during that month.

Celebrate Recovery is a biblically-based and balanced program that attracts the unchurched, and helps them develop into spiritual maturity. It is group ministry offering a safe environment where people can share and heal from hurts, habits, and hang-ups.

Many of those who have been touched are now attending church regularly, and several have been added to the Church through baptism. Some of those baptized are growing rapidly and moving into leadership roles.

Schlisner says, "In the past we've taught people what to believe, and once they believed it, we let them belong. We wanted to turn that around. We want people to feel comfortable belonging; then they may want to

know what we believe. As a result, people now are feeling like they belong and are asking, 'How can I be a part of this?'"

For more information, visit [www.madison-campus.org](http://www.madison-campus.org).



Julie Vega with Bags of Love



Marked by the **disease** destroying their skin, **victims**  
of **leprosy** were cast out by family and friends. One sufferer  
knelt before the **Great Physician**, knowing **He** could heal  
him. And with the **touch** of a hand, the man was  
**made whole** and sent on his way.

— MARK 8:2-3 —

When Jesus was on Earth, the blind, the deaf, the paralyzed found comfort and renewal in His outstretched hand, regardless of means or status. He established a ministry centered on the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of people who were desperate for a healing touch.

With Christ as our example, Adventist Health System employees and physicians reach out to touch the hearts and heal the lives of more than 4 million patients each year. We pray that the compassion of His hand will be felt in the touch of ours.



# Southern Union Medical/ Dental Retreat

## October 16-19, 2008

GUEST SPEAKER | BARRY C. BLACK/ U.S. Senate Chaplain



BARRY C. BLACK

NEIL NEDLEY, MD | Nedley Health Solutions, Ardmore, OK

TOPICS:

- Depression – The Way Out
- Lifestyle Treatments for Depression
- Nutritional Therapy for the Brain
- Improving Emotional Intelligence
- How Thinking Can Defeat Depression
- Making and Staying with Lifestyle Choices

STEVEN J. FILLER, DDS | Associate Dean for Student, Alumni, and External Affairs  
University of Alabama School of Dentistry, Birmingham, AL

TOPICS:

- Use of Preventative Measures to Minimize Occurrences of Office Medical Emergencies
- Enhancement Office and Staff Preparation for Medical Emergencies
- Familiarity With the Names and General Indications of Common Emergency Drugs
- Familiarity With Commonly Utilized Emergency Equipment
- How to Assume a Role in the Team Treatment of Medical Emergencies

JIM A. WILLIAMSON, OD | Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Memphis, TN

TOPICS:

- Ordering and Interpreting Bloodwork
- Papilledema: Diagnosis and Causes

PURPOSE

The purpose of this conference is to review medical and dental advances occurring in the past year which are pertinent to primary care and general dentistry practices. The participants should be able to utilize the latest information on the topics presented by the lecturers. Individual lecture objectives will be in your registration packet or call 678-420-1442.

ACCREDITATION

MEDICAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Loma Linda University School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. Loma Linda University School of Medicine designates this medical continuing education activity for a maximum of six hours *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

DISCLOSURE

This program has been planned and implemented in accordance with ACCME essentials and standards. The Loma Linda University School of Medicine Office of Continuing Medical Education relies on its CME faculty to provide program content that is evidenced-based and free of commercial bias. Therefore, in accordance with ACCME standards, any faculty and/or provider industry relationships will be disclosed and resolved.

DENTAL CONTINUING EDUCATION

Loma Linda University School of Dentistry designates up to six hours of continuing dental education of Category 1.

OPTOMETRY CONTINUING EDUCATION



NEIL NEDLEY



STEVEN J. FILLER



JIM A. WILLIAMSON

## Thursday, October 16

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.  | Registration & Visit Exhibits |
| 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. | 3 hours / CE / Physicians     |
| 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. | 3 hours / CE / Dentists       |
| 7:00 - 11:00 p.m. | 4 hours / CE / Optometrists   |

## Friday, October 17

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 7:00 - 12:00 p.m. | Golf Tournament (must register)                           |
| 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  | 3 hours / CE / Physicians                                 |
| 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  | 3 hours / CE / Dentists                                   |
| 7:30 p.m.         | Children's meeting (ages 1-5)                             |
| 7:30 p.m.         | Evening meeting<br>Barry C. Black / U. S. Senate Chaplain |

## Sabbath, October 18

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 9:00 a.m.        | Sabbath School   |
| 9:00 a.m.        | Children/Youth Sabbath School & Church<br>Beginners, Kindergarten, Primary, Juniors, Youth |
| 10:45 a.m.       | Worship Service<br>Barry C. Black / U.S. Senate Chaplain                                   |
| 1:00 - 6:45 p.m. | Sabbath afternoon: Family Time in the<br>beautiful Smoky Mountains                         |
| 6:45 p.m.        | Vespers<br>Barry C. Black / U. S. Senate Chaplain  |

Adventist Book Center & Exhibits will be open following vespers.

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Park Vista Hotel | Gatlinburg, TN

You are responsible for making your room reservations. To make reservations, call Park Vista Hotel direct: 1-800-421-7575. Identify yourself with the Southern Union Medical/Dental Retreat to receive the special conference rate of \$127.00 per night. Reservation deadline for hotel special rate: September 12, 2008.

## REGISTRATION FORM

### Registration for Continuing Education

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty \_\_\_\_\_

Medical License Number \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to register for the following CE classes:

- |                                    |                                   |      |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dental*   | Thurs., 7-10 p.m., Fri., 2-5 p.m. | \$75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical*  | Thurs., 7-10 p.m., Fri., 2-5 p.m. | \$75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Optometry | Thurs., 7-11 p.m.                 | \$75 |

\*6 credit hours of continuing education for both physicians and dentists given through Loma Linda University.

Will you be attending Sabbath services? Yes\* No

\*If yes, please list names and ages of children attending if under 18:

Special Sabbath school and church services will be provided for all children and youth. Child care will be provided Friday evening for ages 1-5.

### Please mail registration and check to:

Medical/Dental Retreat, Southern Union Conference  
PO Box 849, Decatur, GA 30031  
Fax 404-299-9726  
Phone 678-420-1442

Please fill out and return by mail or fax no later than October 10, 2008. Registration fee is non-refundable.

# Advertisements

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Seven bedrooms, 5 full baths, 6 king beds, sleeps 21. Game room with 84" TV screen in media room w/DVD player. Three mountain view decks, 2 hot tubs – 2 inside, 2-person spas, and a pool. Call 800-508-6070 – also for sale. ©

**COLLEGEDALE GUESTHOUSE.** 1½ bedrooms fully equipped condo w/kitchen and laundry, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. "Absolutely delightful" say guests. \$60/night for two (2-night minimum). Roger King, 423-236-4688. See pictures at [www.rogerkingrentals.com](http://www.rogerkingrentals.com). ©

**FOR SALE.** Two new custom built homes, available immediately. Beautifully designed, open floor plan, custom cabinetry, extensive trim, Anderson windows, Trey ceilings, hardwood floors, brick and stone exterior. Also, 48 lots with water, phone, electric, and paved road completed. Nine miles to Southern Adventist University. Jack Henderson, Owner Developer, 828-606-0596, 828-697-1993 [cell]. [78]

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Call today to schedule a tour. 800-249-2882 or [marketing@fletcherparkinn.org](mailto:marketing@fletcherparkinn.org) [78]

**ANCHORAGE ROOMS to RENT.** Anchorage Korean Church has 8 guest rooms. Queen-size beds, private entrance, 1 handicap room. Kitchen/laundry facilities. Internet access. Rates for Sept.-May \$69.00; June-August \$89.00/per night. Located in Midtown. All proceeds go to church building fund. Call 907-868-3310; 907-230-5751. [spenardsunshine@msn.com](mailto:spenardsunshine@msn.com) [7-12]

**CENTRAL FLORIDA REAL ESTATE** - Let Bob Fulghum (SMC '54) with 25 years experience in real estate, help you with your real estate needs. I also do property management, 407-896-6080 or 407-758-5807. [7]

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**FOR SALE.** 3BR/2BA home near Tennessee River - \$159,000. Owner/agent. 15 acres w/structure 4880SF presently health food store/deli w/upstairs living quarters - \$249,000. 4 acres w/home - \$135,000. 8 acres w/1915 historic home 3465SF - \$199,900. 800 acres - \$1100/per acre wooded w/creek/spring. 420 acres on Tennessee River - \$2,000,000. New Horizon Realty. Cell 731-845-9255; or [diane@newhorizonrealtytn.com](mailto:diane@newhorizonrealtytn.com) [7]

**FOUR MILES FROM Southern Adventist University and Collegedale Academy.** Wooded 5-acre tract. Great hillside views, flat land, and a creek - \$109K. For more information, see <http://saddlezone.com/land> or call 423-236-4637. [7]

**FOR SALE.** Just minutes from Highland Academy in Portland, TN. 2459 SF. 7.75 acres, 3 bdrms, office, 2 baths, den. Two cedar lined closets. Barn/3 stalls, woods/walking trail. \$234,500. Call Pat Briley, ERA Martin Realty and Auction 615-325-5933 (office), 615-426-2992 (cell). [7]

**SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE** is a place where you can live independently in your own home. Lawn mowing and maintenance provided. Church and nursing home on grounds. Make friends with Adventist neighbors, and enjoy the low cost of living in the Oklahoma countryside. Call Bill Norman, 405-454-6538. Website: [www.summit-ridge-village.org](http://www.summit-ridge-village.org) [7-4]

### FLORIDA LIVING: *Where the Living is Easy!*

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**DISCOVER LAUREL SPRINGS,** an Adventist assisted-living community in Mount Dora, Florida! Only 30 minutes from Orlando, Laurel Springs offers assisted living and Alzheimer's and dementia care in an inviting and safe community. Every aspect of daily life is carefully planned to create a nurturing environment for our residents. Each spacious apartment is equipped with a personal response system, large walk-in showers, as well as smoke detectors and sprinkler systems. Included in rental fees are three delicious meals prepared to fit your lifestyle, daily housekeeping, laundry services, and life enrichment activities that promote physical, mental, and spiritual wellness. Weekly chapel services are held on-site and transportation is available for those who want to attend worship services and programs at the nearby SDA church. Call today for more information or to schedule a personal tour. 352-735-1500. [78]

**BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY HOME** on 1.5 fenced acres. Kitchen/baths recently updated. Five bedrooms, four baths, 3445 sf, on quiet dead-end street, no HOA. Five minutes to Forest Lake Church, 15 minutes to downtown Orlando. \$445,000 Call or email for virtual tour. 407-342-2871 or [judymanderson@charter.net](mailto:judymanderson@charter.net) (Owner/realtor) [7-9]

**FOR SALE – WAGENER, S.C.** – Peaceful 64.95 acres located 30 miles from Columbia, S.C. and about 20 miles from Aiken, S.C. Located 7 miles from I-20. It has lots of timber and has the possibility for a pond. Call Sam at 803-413-2858. [7-12]

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**WEST VIRGINIA FARM** – Adventist seeking to share our Lord's beautiful ridge top farm property. Mostly rolling to level fertile land with views in 10-100 acre parcels. Many springs, creek, pond sites. Nice mix of wooded, meadows and hay fields. Multiple building sites with garden areas. Private; secluded. Utilities, easy access. Very low taxes. Located 12 miles east of Ripley, WV (off route 33) Possible short-term financing. 1-304-372-2036. [7]

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# Advertisements

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**FOR SALE.** \$585,000, Collegedale. Majestic views. Attractive, large, ready home. In-law apt. 423-396-3200. www.EppyGreen.com. Crye-Leike Realtors 423-238-5440. [7]

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**NEED A LOAN?** If you want to refinance to consolidate debt, need a home equity loan, or if you're buying a new home, I can help you in all 50 states. Call Doug Spinella at 888-825-4105, x103, or email doug@dedicated2loans.com Owner of Dedicated Mortgage Services. [78]

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**LAURELBROOK ACADEMY seeks mission-minded staff.** Beautiful mountain location; sixty miles from SAU. Housing and stipend provided. Many positions open in healthcare and agriculture as well as Science, English, and Math teachers. Call Roger Westfall at 423-775-0771; or email: chsape@cs.com ©

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**COLUMBIA UNION COLLEGE** seeks quality, team-oriented candidate for Faculty position within Department of Communication and Journalism. A Ph.D. or equivalent degree in Communication preferred, or a MA with teaching experience at the college level. Please send CV, Cover Letter, and three references to Human Resources at hr@cuc.edu or 7600 Flower Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. [7]

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**VICTORY IN JESUS** by Pastor Bill Liversidge. A new book or 5CD series explaining how Victory over sin is possible by embracing HIS death and receiving HIS Overcoming Life. Available through creativegrowthministries.org; or your local ABC; or call 828-403-0653 (east coast), or 661-827-8174 (west coast). [7-10]

## MISCELLANEOUS

**SINGLE AND OVER 40?** Stay home and meet new friends in USA, only interracial group for Adventist singles over 40. For information, send large self-addressed stamped envelope to ASO-40, 2747 Nonpareil, Sutherlin, OR 97479. ©

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**VACATION on KAUAI, HAWAII** - "The Garden Island" - Kahili Mountain Park is a scenic mountain getaway located at the base of Kahili Ridge. Just minutes

from popular Kauai attractions, the park has an assortment of 1-4 room cabins with sleeping for 2-6 persons. See pictures and rates at www.kahilipark.org Reservations: 808-742-9921. [7-9]

**EIGHT NATURAL REMEDIES** with James Johnson, M.D. Phone/fax 615-523-2136. Also online instructor-led NCLEX-RN® review nursing courses every month. www.geocities.com/jjohnsonmd/nclex.html [7]

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**SPONSOR A CHILD!** \$25 a month will send a child in India to a SDA school. It pays for tuition, housing, food, clothes, and medical. ADVENTIST CHILD INDIA is an official project of Southern Asia Division of SDAs. 443-430-0476. www.adventistchildindia.org or childcare@sud-adventist.org [7-10]

**I WAS IN PRISON** and you came to me. Matthew 25:36 RSV. Adventist-owned company is raising business capital to establish employer prison industry programs. 9% ROI through department financing. Program reduces recidivism and prepares inmates for successful re-entry into society. Federal and state approved. Contact Stephen Hall, President, DrumTyght Industries, 520-647-3251 or email shall@DrumTyght.com [7]

**LAY EVANGELISM MADE SIMPLE!** The SHINE Ministry (Share Him In Neighborhoods Everywhere) is an innovative outreach designed for church members who want to tell their neighbors of God's love. Visit us at www.shineministry.org [7-6]

**FREE SERMONS** - Internet streaming, download and share inspirational and thought-provoking audio and transcribed sermons. www.wdfrazeesermons.com [7-9]

**MUSIC AT THE 2010 GC SESSION in Atlanta, June 23-July 3.** Needed: high-quality sacred music from vocalists, instrumentalists, choirs, ensembles, etc. Please visit www.gcsession.org for details and application. Send all requested materials to NAD Music Coordinator, Attn: Ron Christman, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904-6600. Deadline for application: January 31, 2009. ©

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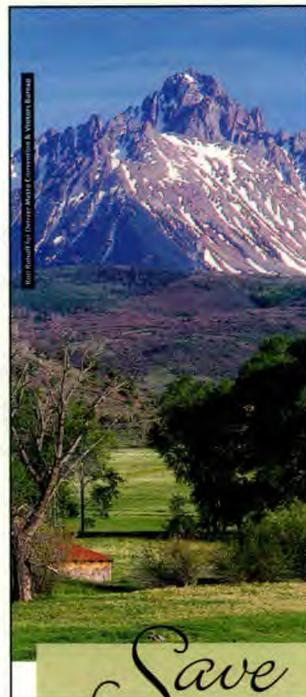
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# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**ShareHim Lay Speakers Training** – July 25-28. NPR.

**Pastor's Family Retreat** – July 27-31. NPR.

**Hispanic Women's Retreat** – Aug. 15-17. NPR.

**Pathfinder Leadership Convention** – Aug. 22-25. NPR.  
**Family Camp** – Aug. 28-Sept. 2. NPR.

## 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/>, [djmiller4000@embarqmail.com](mailto:djmiller4000@embarqmail.com), or 386-789-3235.

### Evangelism Series

July 5-Aug. 16. Homestead. Lester and Zula Pratt.

July 6-Aug. 26. Northwest Dade. Bill and Sunshine Waters.

Aug. 2-9. Tallahassee Spanish. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.  
Aug. 30-Sept. 4. Melbourne. Lester and Zula Pratt.

Oct. 5-Nov. 25. DeLand. Bill and Sunshine Waters.

Oct. 18-Nov. 22. Miami Temple. Lester and Zula Pratt.

Nov. 1-8. La Red 2008. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.

**North Florida Back to School Rally** – Aug. 9. Details: 407-644-5000 x129.

**Lay Youth Pastor Training** – Aug. 15-16. Orlando area. Details: 407-644-5000 x129.

**Spanish-language Marriage Retreat** – Aug. 15-17. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: 407-644-5000 x138.

### Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars

Aug. 15-16. Bonita Springs, English and Spanish.

Sept. 13. DeLand.

Sept. 20. South Brevard.

Sept. 27. Victory in Port St. Lucie.

Oct. 4-5. Plantation.

Oct. 18. Mt. Dora.

Nov. 15-16. Winter Haven.

Dec. 13. Miami Springs.

**Liberación** (Hispanic youth rally) – Aug. 22-23. Tampa Bay area. Details: 407-644-5000 x129.

**Children's Ministries Fall Convention** – Sept. 19-21. Camp

Kulaqua, High Springs. Theme: Transformed By His Love. Details: [rburrill@cfl.rr.com](mailto:rburrill@cfl.rr.com), 407-644-5000 x136, or 321-303-7699.

**West Coast Youth Rally** – Sept. 27. New Port Richey Church. Details: 407-644-5000 x129.

**High School Bible Conference** – Oct. 9-12. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: 407-644-5000 x129.

**South Florida Youth Rally** – Oct. 18. Host church: Fort Myers. Details: 407-644-5000 x129.

**College/University Leadership Retreat** – Oct. 24-25. Stillwaters Lodge at Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: 407-644-5000 x129.

## Georgia-Cumberland

**Complete calendar online** – [www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com)

**Teen I Camp** (ages 13-17) – July 6-13. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

**GCC Uganda Mission Trip** – July 11-26.

**Health Emphasis Day** – July 12. Roan Mountain, TN.

**Teen Camp II** (ages 13-17) – July 13-20. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

**Kids in Discipleship Training** – July 20-23. Collegedale, TN.

**Family Camp** – July 22-27. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp.

**Health Emphasis Day** – Aug. 2. Mountain City, TN.

**Hispanic NET '08, Alejandro Bullón** – Aug. 10-27. Part I, Broadcast from Chicago, IL. (check local church for more details)

**Pathfinder Leadership Convention** – Aug. 15-17. Cohutta Springs.

**NE Tennessee Women's Conference** – Aug. 16. Rogersville, TN.

## Gulf States

**Complete Calendar online** <http://www.gccsda.org>

**Hispanic Youth Federation Weekend** – July 18-23. Camp Alamisco.

**Teen Mission Trip** – July 12-28.

**Convention for all Conference Workers** – Aug. 3-6. Bass Memorial Academy.

**Birmingham First Church Homecoming & 110th Anniversary** – Aug. 2. The guest speaker will be former pastor, Paul Boling. Brakeworth school reunion will be held Saturday evening.

**Bass Academy Registration** – Aug. 10.

**First Day of School for Conference Schools** – Aug. 11.

**Literature Evangelist Summer Retreat** – Aug. 7-17. Camp Alamisco.

**Conference Executive Committee** – Aug. 19. Conference Office.

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Association Board** July 22. Sept. 30. Dec. 9.

**Conference Executive Committee**

July 22. Sept. 30. Dec. 9.

**Pastors-Teachers Retreat** – Aug. 3-6. Indian Creek Camp.

**Literature Evangelists Summer Retreat** – Aug. 7-10. Indian Creek Camp.

**Women's Retreats**

Sept. 19-21. Young Women. Indian Creek Camp.

Sept. 26-28. I. Indian Creek Camp. Oct. 3-5. II. Indian Creek Camp.

**Conference Pathfinder**

**Camporee** – Sept. 25-28. Salt Lick State Park.

**Hispanic Youth Retreat** – Oct. 17-19. Indian Creek Camp.

## Announcements

**Mid-America Union, Rocky Mountain Conference, and Centura Health – May 31-Aug. 30.** Will be providing Sabbath services at Yellowstone National Park. Please plan to join these services if you will be visiting the Park this summer. Details: 303-282-3670.

**Eagle Church 100th Anniversary Celebration** – July 25, 26. Details: Myrna Ferguson, 208-939-6568; or [myfer40@msn.com](mailto:myfer40@msn.com)

## Maranatha Volunteers

**International's 2008 Convention** will be held Sept. 5 and 6, at the Rolling Hills Community Church in Tualatin, Oregon (a suburb of Portland). All are invited to attend this inspirational weekend. Featured speakers will come from India, Mozambique, Ecuador and Chile. Come and see how God is moving in different parts of the world and how you can be involved. For more information contact Maranatha Volunteers International at 916-920-1900 or [www.maranatha.org](http://www.maranatha.org).

**Birmingham First SDA Church 110th Homecoming Sabbath – Aug. 2.** Details: [birmingham7th@bellsouth.net](mailto:birmingham7th@bellsouth.net).

**Birmingham First SDA Church will host Shelley Quinn from 3ABN Network – Sept. 20.** Details: [birmingham7th@bellsouth.net](mailto:birmingham7th@bellsouth.net).

**Sunnydale Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend – Oct. 2-5.** Honor classes are: 1948, 1953, 1963, 1978, 1983, 1988, and 1998. activities start with the Silver Showcase, Thursday evening, Oct. 2. For details, call 573-682-2164, or visit [www.sunnydale.org](http://www.sunnydale.org).

**Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend – Oct. 17-19.** All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy, and Andrews Academy plan now to join us for special services on Friday evening and all day Sabbath. Honor classes are 1939, '44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, and 2004. For details, contact the Academy Alumni office at 269-471-6140, or e-mail [acadalum@andrews.edu](mailto:acadalum@andrews.edu)

| Sunset          |        |         |         |         |        |        |
|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
|                 | July 4 | July 11 | July 18 | July 25 | Aug. 1 | Aug. 8 |
| Atlanta, GA     | 8:52   | 8:51    | 8:48    | 8:44    | 8:38   | 8:32   |
| Charleston, SC  | 8:32   | 8:30    | 8:28    | 8:24    | 8:19   | 8:13   |
| Charlotte, NC   | 8:42   | 8:40    | 8:37    | 8:33    | 8:27   | 8:20   |
| Collegedale, TN | 8:59   | 8:57    | 8:54    | 8:50    | 8:45   | 8:37   |
| Huntsville, AL  | 8:03   | 8:02    | 7:59    | 7:55    | 7:49   | 7:42   |
| Jackson, MS     | 8:11   | 8:10    | 8:08    | 8:04    | 7:59   | 7:53   |
| Louisville, KY  | 9:10   | 9:08    | 9:04    | 8:59    | 8:53   | 8:46   |
| Memphis, TN     | 8:18   | 8:16    | 8:13    | 8:09    | 8:03   | 7:57   |
| Miami, FL       | 8:16   | 8:16    | 8:14    | 8:11    | 8:07   | 8:02   |
| Montgomery, AL  | 7:56   | 7:55    | 7:52    | 7:48    | 7:43   | 7:37   |
| Nashville, TN   | 8:08   | 8:06    | 8:03    | 7:59    | 7:53   | 7:46   |
| Orlando, FL     | 8:27   | 8:26    | 8:24    | 8:21    | 8:17   | 8:11   |
| Wilmington, NC  | 8:27   | 8:26    | 8:23    | 8:19    | 8:13   | 8:07   |

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