

July 2011



T SOUTHERN

TIDINGS



One Voice — One Vision
A Ministry for Every Woman

Sección En Español

It's No Joke

A number of years ago I had the opportunity to visit the Hawaiian Islands. One of the more poignant memories I have of that trip was my time in the city of Hilo. There you can visit the Pacific Tsunami Museum. It tells the story of a tsunami that killed more than 150 people in that community. That morning, school children noticed the ocean receding far from the shore. Happily they ran onto the exposed ground picking up fish that had been stranded by the receding waters. An elderly Hawaiian woman knew there was something unnatural about the water going out like that, and she was warning people away from the beach. But they just laughed at her, and thought she was pulling a prank...a joke. The date was April 1, 1946. But this was no April fool's joke. That day, 20 children, plus four teachers from the Laupahoehoe School, were killed.

How tragic that the warning was not heeded, that it was simply viewed as a joke. Recently, there were those who predicted the immediate end of the world — that Jesus was going to return on May 21, 2011. Of course by now the world knows that this did not happen. Those who expected it were disappointed. Some skeptics were mocking. And some who were not sure were relieved. Relieved? Actually, yes. On Friday, May 20, my wife and I were speaking with a friend who is not a Seventh-day Adventist. As the conversation turned to the predicted end of the world occurring the next day, she said, "Yes, my son is all upset about it. He said, 'Mom, I sure hope it isn't true, because I'm supposed to get my driver's license this summer.'" But, most simply took it as the misguided musings of religious zealots.

And yet, the good news is, Jesus IS coming back again. It is no joke, it is no prank, and it is reality. It is based upon the sure Word of Jesus Himself, who said, "I will come again." And He tells us when He will return. "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world...and then the end will come," Matthew 24:14. And the best news is we can hasten that day! Note what it says in *The Desire of Ages*, page 633: "By giving the gospel to the world it is in our power to hasten our Lord's return." What a promise! We can hasten our Lord's return. We can hasten an end to illness. We can hasten an end to heartache. We can hasten the day when we will see our loved ones again. Simply by sharing the Gospel with others, we can save souls for the kingdom of God.

But you may say, "No one will listen. They will just think it is a joke." Let me finish the story from April 1, 1946. Clarence Yamamoto, now 75, was one of those children on the beach on April 1. He saw the elderly Hawaiian woman as she was warning people away from the beach. "She was telling us to get out, get away from the beach," he recalled. "I dropped those fish and ran. I ran so fast I jumped over a 5-foot stone wall and just kept going. I never looked back till I reached high ground."

How thankful Clarence is he was told. How thankful he listened. How thankful will those be whom you tell of the glorious soon return of our Lord.



Jim Davidson
*Carolina Conference
President*

Guest Editorial

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One Voice – One Vision

A Ministry for Every Woman

BY LAURA SMITH

The women of the Southern Union are reflective of the beauty, fragrance, and diversity that are found in a beautiful spring floral bouquet. The beauty and the fragrance of the women are reflected in the myriad ministries in which they are engaged.

The evidence of their fragrance and beauty are seen in the large number of touched hearts and changed lives that have resulted from the thoughtful deeds of kindness and loving acts of service that they render on a daily basis. The great amount of diversity that is found among the women is reflected in the various age groups, ethnicities, interests, talents, occupations, professions, disabilities, and social status. The diversity of the women is utilized in service, respected, and celebrated.

Even in a Union that has a vastly diverse membership, the women are focused on becoming “One Voice,” with “One Vision,” with “A Ministry for Every Woman,” as reflected in the Southern Union women’s ministries vision and mission statements:

The vision is “To invite women to follow Jesus Christ.”

The mission is stated as “3M’s - Mission, Meaningful Relationships, and Significant Ministries.”

The Department of Women’s Ministries exists to uphold, encourage, and challenge Seventh-day Adventist women in their daily walk as disciples of Jesus Christ.

In the Southern Union there is “A Ministry for Every Woman” in which she can be actively engaged. Some of the various ministries include Prayers and Squares, Women in Touch, Secret Sisters, Heart Call, Bags of Love,

Celebrate Recovery, small group Bible studies, prayer ministry, God in Shoes, prayer breakfasts, Ministry of Kindness, support groups that meet various needs, and friendship and public evangelism.

The women, who reside in the eight local conferences that comprise the Southern Union, are making a difference as they seek to accomplish their mission through meaningful relationships and significant ministries.

The eight conference directors provide excellent leadership for the women in their conferences.

FEATURED MINISTRIES

Carolina – ENDITNOW

A ministry for every woman means we constantly look for ways to minister to others. In 2010, the General Conference, through the departments of ADRA and Women’s Ministries, launched a program against domestic violence called EN-DITNOW. It was to bring awareness regarding the epidemic proportion of violence that occurs about every 13 seconds against women and girls in the United States, and one out of three globally. The unacceptable actions and demeaning attitudes derail the lives of millions of individuals, even in our Church. God never intended that there should be any

kind of abuse — physical, emotional, verbal, or otherwise — among His children. No one should be put down or subjugated by another.

Women’s ministries in Carolina was ready to get on board when this program was initiated. Together with Chris Bradford, an elder in the Gastonia Church and passionate advocate against domestic violence, we got the ball rolling in churches around the Conference. He and his wife, Dana, came to the women’s retreat in 2010, and made presentations for the women who attended. This partnership has brought awareness in a number of churches, as well as being an outreach in the community. Many are glad that we as a Church are bringing such awareness to the forefront. We can no longer stick our heads in the sand, because the statistics are just as prevalent in the Church as they are in our neighborhoods. A number of women’s ministries directors have gotten involved in this worthy project.

The Spirit of Prophecy tells us we should minister the way Christ ministered to others when He was on here on Earth if we are to have success in ministry. The quality of love that we exhibit to others is paramount. These are not necessarily subjects we want to talk about, but it is time we are called to action.

—Debbie Rapp, director



The ENDITNOW presentation was held at the Tryon, North Carolina, Church. Pictured: Dixie Petty-Painter (left), member of Tryon Church and a survivor of domestic violence, who shared her testimony; Dana Bradford, volunteer; Elissa Peters, member of Salem, South Carolina, Church and a survivor, who shared her testimony; Chris Bradford, main speaker; Debbie Rapp, Conference women’s ministries director; and Vicki Hillmon, Tryon Church women’s ministries leader.



Sylvia Matiko, international management consultant, and co-founder/co-owner of A Different View, Franklin, Tennessee, was the speaker for the annual 2010 Leadership Weekend.



Hope for Hurting Hearts attendees groom abused horses at the Camp Kulaqua stables in High Springs, Florida.

Florida – Hope for Hurting Hearts

Hope for Hurting Hearts came into being in the Florida Conference in 1994 as a way to help women who have been sexually abused as children. The program was the brainchild of Roberta Fish and Juanita Bartels, and provides a three-day healing and educational retreat for these women regardless of age.

The curriculum approaches the trauma that they suffered, from the standpoint of an ugly wound, and the stages of healing that a wound progresses through as it heals. In addition to the curriculum, the women have one-on-one time with the facilitator, groom abused horses, and express their feelings through

the medium of art as they make collages. Each receives a teddy bear upon arrival, and the bear is an integral part of the curriculum throughout the weekend.

The retreats are completely confidential, and anonymity is zealously guarded. Anyone interested in attending should contact the director of women's ministries at the Florida Conference.

—Sberyal Vandenburgbe, director

Georgia-Cumberland – Leadership Development

Leadership development has been an important aspect of the Women's Ministries Department, capitalizing on the Conference mission statement: "Growing Disciples through Shared Leadership." An annual leadership weekend is offered for women to come and hone in on their leadership skills. This learning environment gives women who serve in all areas of church leadership opportunity to grow in their natural abilities, as well as to develop skills that will enable them to more effectively lead in their area of church service. The training also

provides a networking system where women share ideas, resources, and success stories.

In addition to traditional learning, we approach leadership development by allowing hands-on training during our annual God in Shoes mission trip. As women come to participate, each are challenged to use their leadership skills, whether it be by organizing a Spa Day, Family Fun Day, or working with the home improvement projects. Each must learn to work in an unfamiliar environment, and to complete a job in the designated time. By investing time in our leaders, we are seeing "a ministry for every woman" come to fruition.

—Mary Jo Dubs, director

Gulf States – Women's Spiritual Retreat

Jesus said to His weary disciples to come apart and rest. In the busyness and stress of our lives, it is indispensable that we follow Jesus' example and come apart for two reasons: to fellowship with Jesus, and each other, so that we can build up each other in Christ. We always endeavor to prayerfully and thoughtfully invite a guest speaker who would bring encouragement and uplift Jesus before us, and address specific needs of the group. We invite a speaker who will be approachable, counsel, and pray with the women as the need arises. The



The teddy bears at Hope for Hurting Hearts retreat with their "Mamas," pose with the facilitator, Annie Perez, Ph.D., and her assistant, Rachel Dieppa.



main goal for such annual retreats is to help all become familiar with and excited about a daily spiritual walk with Jesus.

As we look at models in the Bible for becoming godly women to impact our marriages, families, homes, churches, and communities for the Lord, our goal at retreat is to be transformational, not merely informational. In other words, we want the women not only to be excited about the information they acquire, but for the information to transform their lives from day to day. One woman who attended said her prayer life was impacted in a way that made a profound difference in her life. Another woman, with tears streaming down her face, testified that her wounded heart began to heal as she experienced Christ's presence at the retreat.

—April Hobbs, director

Kentucky-Tennessee – God in Shoes

Isaiah 61 expresses what the ministry of the Messiah would be when He came to Earth. He was to “bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives, and release from darkness for the prison-

ers.” Since 2009, the women of Kentucky-Tennessee Conference have taken seriously the call to follow in Jesus’ footsteps. God in Shoes Nashville is when women who have been abused, neglected, and victims of addiction receive a special spa treatment for the day. Our goal is to treat them as royalty and ensure they receive the touch and listening ear of someone who cares. Each woman is also given a gift bag filled with personal care items. We are excited about plans to expand with a traveling Vacation Bible School to minister to the children as well. Inspired by GIS, Madison Campus Church last year began “Room at the Inn” a similar monthly ministry to the homeless. Our mission of GIS is clear: “To bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a

garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair!”

—Gail McKenzie, director

South Atlantic – Hearts Across the Waters

The year 2010 was all about the heart! “Touch a Heart, Tell the Word,” the theme for the General Conference’s Women’s Ministries, moved the women of South Atlantic to minister to our sisters. We emphasized “a ministry for every woman.” After intensive training for evangelism, several crusades resulted in 13 baptisms. Campaigns were held on street corners and in city streets, speaking out against domestic violence. Women partnered with other departments for ultimate results. Our B.U.D.S. program mentored girls at retreats, in church programs, and special activities.

All these ministries culminated at “Hearts Across the Waters,” the formal banquet in Atlanta’s Georgia Aquarium Ocean Ballroom. Women from the African General Conference delegation were the special guests. We celebrated the spirit of women’s ministries. This banquet was actually evangelistic, bringing healing and bonding to women who share a strong history and rich heritage. This event was the 20th anniversary of the sealing of the bond celebrated 20 years earlier at the 1990 General Conference Session. Visit sda-



The God in Shoes 2010 Appalachian mission trip included a Family Fun Day for the community.



God in Shoes 2010 Appalachian mission trip: Kristy Angel (left) and Stephanie Willison deliver food boxes to needy families.



women-on-line.org for the prayer requests, announcements, and information on the upcoming trip to Ghana, West Africa.

—*Sylvia Wilson, director*

South Central – “Morning Manna,” Spiritual Food for the Soul

Our Morning Manna Prayer Line originally began with just women’s ministries leaders. When the news of a prayer line spread, each day more and more women dialed in to this prayer ministry. At times we were also blessed to have men to join us.

Morning Manna prayer ministry consists of music; a devotional thought; praise reports; prayer requests; prayers of adoration, repentance, petition and consecration; and Shirley’s Corner.

Our fifteen-minute devotional thought is given by recruited pastors, elders, and laypersons; and focuses on a monthly theme. Just as the wilderness manna provided physical food with a spiritual application, our goal is to provide “spiritual food for the soul.” Hence, the name, Morning Manna.

There is usually an average of 50-60 people on the line, which now includes men who are great supporters. From this ministry, several other ministries have evolved, including a nightly telephone book

club discussion group which meets every evening from 8:30 to 9:00 p.m., except Saturday. Discussion books include Evangelism, Daughters of God, and The Desire of Ages. Additionally, a Bible study phone line is held on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.; and Welcoming in the Sabbath is every Friday at 7 p.m.

What started as focused prayer to the Lord of the Harvest to send forth laborers (Luke 10:2) has become much more than we could have imagined (Ephesians 3:20). To God be the glory!

Join us on our free dial-in number at 1-712-432-0075, access code: 748339#.

—*Shirley Scott, director*

Southeastern – Evangelism

In the Southeastern Conference, we believe that the mission of every ministry in the Church is to win souls for Christ. Therefore, all activities and events are directed toward inviting individuals to give their hearts to Jesus Christ, and a major focus for women’s ministries in Southeastern is public evangelism.

For several years, women have been conducting public evangelistic



series. In 2010, the women conducted 10 public evangelistic series. The series were held in various churches throughout the Conference.

As women of God, we have seen the manifestation of God’s grace and power through powerful blessings that He has bestowed upon the evangelistic efforts of the women. Bethanie

of Port Charlotte, Florida, is a small church that has struggled for years to survive. With God’s blessings, they built a church, and the women were the first to conduct an evangelistic series for two weeks in the new building.

The Lord blessed the Conference with a total of 523 baptisms; 114 of those were the result of the 10 public evangelistic meetings.

Women’s Ministries Leadership training has been another major emphasis in Southeastern. Hundreds of women have completed the General Conference Women’s Ministries Leadership Certification Programs, and are utilizing the skills and knowledge gained from the training.

—*Nicolle Brise’, director*



Zimbabwe sisters opened the “Hearts Across the Waters” banquet with a song and African performance.



T’mysia Wilson (left); J’niyah Gregory; Sylvia Wilson, South Atlantic women’s ministries director; and Danyielle Jackson demonstrate the “Hold on Ministry” of the Young Women’s Program.

Willing Hands

BY JIM INGERSOLL

They came. By the hundreds, they came — to help their fellow man and sister school in a time of desperate need. At an average of 152 students per day for six weeks and from all over the country, they came. It started with Hurricane Katrina in 2005, when a desire arose within the hearts of Seventh-day Adventist young students and teachers to help the victims who had suffered so much loss from that devastating storm. But, no one knew where to go or how to help. However, God had a person, a plan, and a place already in mind.

Gulf States Conference received a phone call from David Canther, CEO and Founder of ACTS (Active Christians That Serve), out of Florida, asking where help was needed most. Bass Memorial Academy had sustained extensive damage, so it was determined that the academy would be the most logical place to locate their headquarters. The ACTS team arrived just hours after the storm had passed and, along with Southern Adventist University and Andrews University assisted in recovery efforts for the Academy and six surrounding counties for the first week. Secondary education, within the Southern Union Education Department, was asked to coordinate schools wanting to assist ACTS with the ongoing needs of the academy and surrounding counties. So for six weeks, academy and col-



lege students took care of unloading, sorting, and distributing supplies; prepared hot meals; and assisted in recovery efforts that could be safely performed by them.

It soon became apparent that academy and college students were ideal partners to assist ACTS with disaster relief efforts. They had endless energy, didn't care where they stayed, how hard the work was, or who got the credit for it. They just wanted to be the hands and feet of Jesus. During the past six years, thousands of youth have helped ACTS give assistance to countless victims of tornadoes, floods, and hurricanes throughout the South. They came and were changed forever. Two testimonials speak to the effectiveness of this life-changing approach to service. Administrator Debbie Baker says, "ACTS World Relief has created a platform for training servant-leadership in action!" And a student, Justin, shares, "ACTS has prepared me to serve,

lead, and now train and mentor others, which changed my life forever."

We have been told that "inaction is the greatest curse that EVER came upon youth," *Testimonies to the Church*, vol. 3, page 152. No wonder ACTS works so well for them. They are made for action, and it is critical that adults role-model and mentor youth through active service for others. Ellen White says, "It is because this work (service for others) is neglected that so many young disciples never advance beyond the mere alphabet of Christian experience. The light which was glowing in their own hearts when Jesus spoke to them, 'Thy sins be forgiven thee,' might have been kept alive by helping those in need. The restless energy that is so often a source of danger to the young might be directed into channels through which it would flow out in streams of blessing. Self would be forgotten in earnest work to do others good... They will not be longing for exciting amusements, or for some change in their lives. The great topic of interest will be, how to save the souls that are ready to perish," *Desire of Ages*, pages 640, 641. Training and mentoring our youth to be involved in the vision, mission, and management of their church is the only effective way to keep them as members.

Jim Ingersoll is Southern Union secondary education associate director.



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From Communist China to Child of God: Discovering Jesus

BY ERIC CADIENTE

“He said he was a pre-Adventist.”

“A what?”

“A PRE-Adventist.”

“What is that?”

“I don’t know, you’ll have to ask Han.”

Han Chen is currently a nursing student at Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences (FHCHS). The story of Han Chen’s journey into the Seventh-day Adventist church began in 2009 in the central Chinese city of Changsha. Han first heard of Florida Hospital College through his aunt, Yuesha Chen, executive director for Florida Hospital’s Institute for Lifestyle Medicine & Retail Pharmacy Division, who suggested that he look into studying nursing at FHCHS. His aunt was also instrumental in introducing him to the Adventist faith. As Han started his research into the College, he realized it was an opportunity to not only study abroad, but to find out more about God. “China is a place that really needs God. It’s a place where many don’t know God. Being a communist country, religion is discouraged and suppressed.”

In May of 2010, Han landed in Florida to begin taking classes to get into the nursing program at FHCHS. “God led me here,” Han reflected. “He has made everything go so smoothly.” During his first trimester at the College, Han had the opportunity to take an English Composition class from professor Julie Cook. Cook describes Han as an “open-hearted person that is fun to be with.” Cook, along with adjunct professor, Reggie Taylor, hosts Circle of Faith, an inter-faith Bible study group composed

primarily of FHCHS students, but also has members from other local colleges and universities.

Realizing that Han hails from communist China, Cook invited him to study with the group, but was unsure how he would react. To her surprise he replied, “You don’t understand, I’m glad you asked.” Cook said she realized early on that he had never heard of “grace” and that there is a God who loves him. Han regularly attended his Bible stud-



FHCHS nursing student Han Chen

ies where he embraced the Word of God completely. “Han turned out to be an example to me,” said Cook. “Everything we talked about he soaked up. I admire his enthusiasm.” Shortly after joining the Circle of Faith, Han was asked his religious affiliation. It was at that moment when Han uttered the cherished words, “I am a Pre-Adventist.” When asked what a Pre-Adventist was he replied, “It’s someone whose belief and faith has turned to God, but he just hasn’t been baptized yet.” Han’s studies resulted in his baptism into the

Seventh-day Adventist faith on May 28, 2011, at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, Florida.

Han’s long-range education goals include furthering his education to become a nurse anesthetist. When asked what his spiritual goals in life are, Han replied, “I want to be humble like Jesus. I want to keep a low profile, but still pray with patients who may need it. I want to practice “wholistic” care, and let the patients know that there are people that care about them. God is calling me to be His child and His servant. After He is done with me here at the College, God is calling me to go back and tell others about Him.”

The mission of Florida Hospital College is to educate students to the concept of Healthcare as Ministry. Simply stated, Healthcare as Ministry is “Your hands doing God’s work.” As part of that philosophy, FHCHS seeks to produce graduates that embody this concept, and are willing to incorporate it into their daily lives. Han is a shining example of Healthcare as Ministry and Florida Hospital College is proud not only of him, but of all of its students and graduates. Oh, and by the way, Han refers to himself now simply as an Adventist.

For details about the mission and vision of FHCHS visit, <http://www.fhchs.edu/about/missionandvision>.

For details about Healthcare as Ministry visit, <http://www.fhchs.edu/about-fhchs/healthcare-as-ministry>.

Eric Cadiente is FHCHS director of marketing and public relations.

Miracle-filled Ministry

BY GLADYS NEIGEL

Orange Cove Church members assist at a county-wide outreach to disadvantaged, homeless, and unemployed people.

If you were to peruse the Orange Cove, Florida, Church website, an eye-catching motto would stand out — “To be a mature disciple: Refresh, Abide, Share, Give, Mentor.” This wasn’t, however, always the evangelism path chosen by the pastor or congregation of this 100-member church.

Things rapidly changed in 2009 after André Van Heerden, pastor, fervently prayed on his way home from a mission conference, “Lord, please open up opportunities for me and my church members to get outside the four walls of our church to serve the local community.”

His quest for outreach opportunities occurred after a visit with a colleague who had started a free medical clinic. Van Heerden discovered a clinic in nearby Green Cove Springs with a need to be open on Sunday for treating an overflow of Saturday patients. With training and certification to screen and approve patients, Orange Cove Church members held an initial medical clinic on July 19, 2009. This ministry continues on the first and third Sunday of each month.

After becoming involved in community meetings and functions, Van Heerden was introduced to The Mercy Network of Clay County, an organization providing a platform for city, county, and faith-based non-profits and charitable organizations to share resources and partner together. Because of his vision and

passion, Van Heerden was chosen as president of Mercy Network, and avenues for community outreach became unlimited.

Orange Cove members began sporting blue T-shirts and smiling faces while volunteering at soup kitchens, helping at a free county-wide back-to-school immunization day, and serving food to workers at a Labor Ready supper program on Monday nights. They also operated an ACTS mobile mass-feeding kitchen at a county-wide outreach program for disadvantaged, unemployed, and homeless; and recently volunteered to feed crew members at an *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* event.

The members serve as facilitators for seminars, cooking schools, and a food pantry. The church has opened a waiting room with cubicles for consultations, and members are trained to screen and do case management for people needing assistance.

Housing provisions for homeless families began more than a year ago when Orange Cove members initiated assisting them with temporary



Needy families are fed with the help of ACTS disaster relief kitchen during the Free Back to School Shots and Physicals Day.

accommodations. Other churches and organizations came on board, providing a week of hotel housing for one family. This led to establishing two group homes as

depicted in a video aired on First Coast News in Jacksonville, Florida. (Video may be seen at www.floridaconference.com/?p=1825.)

Van Heerden believes this miracle of ministry came about as a result of his persistent prayers and counsel he followed in *Ministry of Healing*, page 143:

“Christ’s method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, ‘Follow Me.’”

A small church in northeast Florida has been rejuvenated, re-tread, and revived. Attendance has increased, and new members have been baptized as this miracle of ministry continues.

In the Beginning Airs from Madison Campus

BY MARVIN LOWMAN

In the Beginning: Making Sense of the Creation-Evolution Debate aired May 4-8, 2011, from the Madison Campus Church on the Hope Channel. The five-night series was presented by Ron Clouzet, D.Min., speaker for the Prophecies Decoded evangelistic series that will begin September 30, 2011, and Tim Standish, Ph.D., a molecular biologist holding a research appointment at the Geoscience Research Institute at Loma Linda University.

There were about 500 people in attendance on the opening night to hear the topic, *The Way We Were: A Look at Deep Time*. Many of those in attendance were not Adventists.

Broadcasting this event live from the Madison Campus Church required a lot of preparation prior to the event itself. Crews set up video cameras and sound equipment in the church's classrooms and main auditorium. Tables were set up in the church lobby for the sale of books and video materials to supplement the topics presented. Local members served as greeters, ushers, and parking lot attendants. Prayer warriors assembled in the church library each evening to pray. Refreshments were served at the close of each meeting in the



Tim Standish, Ph.D., and Ron Clouzet, D.Min., were the presenters for the In the Beginning broadcast.

Youth Chapel.

More than 600 downlink sinks were signed up to show the presentations in churches and halls across North America, and an unknown number of families were watching at home. A unique feature of the series was the ability to receive text messages or emails from the listening audience with questions about the topic. At the beginning of each meeting, after opening night, Clouzet and Standish responded to several of the hundreds of questions received.



Kelly Beaty, chief camera operator, shoots from the back of the auditorium.

In the Beginning was the first of two broadcast events being presented in preparation for and leading up to the Prophecies Decoded evangelistic series that will also air from the Madison Campus Church. The second event, *Astonishing Discoveries in the Land of the Bible*, will be presented September 14-18, and will also air on the Hope Channel. Michael Hasel, Ph.D., professor of archaeology at Southern Adventist University, will join Clouzet in these nightly presentations.

This is the first time that events such as *In the Beginning* and *Astonishing Discoveries* have been televised in preparation for a Division-wide evangelistic net program. The response from the non-member attendance has been encouraging. Many of those attending the *In the Beginning* series have inquired about Seventh-day Adventist beliefs, and have indicated that they are planning to attend the *Astonishing Discoveries* series in September.



Paul Kim adjusts the video boom camera in preparation for the opening broadcast.

Hope Amidst Destruction

BY TINA CHUDINA

“The Camp Creek area of Greene County has sustained heavy damage from a tornado. We will provide more details as they become available.”

This bone-chilling call came from Emergency Medical Services to Takoma Regional Hospital’s Emergency Room, Greeneville, Tennessee, around 1 a.m. on April 28, 2011.

Immediately, Takoma initiated its disaster response by calling in off-duty leaders and staff to help. Within minutes — and long before the first victims arrived — Takoma Regional Hospital’s overnight staff had tripled.

“We had extra Emergency Room doctors, several hospitalists, an orthopedic surgeon, nurses, anesthesiologists, and additional staff for lab, imaging, surgery, respiratory care, dietary, admissions, and even housekeeping,” Lynn Parks, an ER nurse and the hospital’s emergency response coordinator, recalled.

When the victims did arrive, they seemed to all come at once. “It looked like a war zone,” Parks said. “I’ve never seen so many cuts, scrapes, broken bones, and bruises. The patients were pretty beat up.”

“All of the many years of disaster training for Takoma Regional Hospital’s staff proved invaluable,” Parks noted. When the Camp Creek tornado, and three others, touched down overnight in Greene County with 150-miles-per-hour winds, the hospital was prepared. Takoma Regional Hospital’s staff practices emergency drills at least twice a year, and they often drill with storm scenarios. In fact, the hospital had



Brenda Mercer, Takoma Regional Hospital housekeeping, lost nearly everything during the tornado. Amidst the destruction, Takoma Regional Hospital is working to respond to the needs of the community and staff.

just conducted a tornado drill in November 2010. But, this time it was not a drill. A sense of calm permeated the hospital as staff put to work the procedures and skills they had practiced so many times before.

Even when an ER nurse learned that her son’s grandparents had both been killed in one of the tornadoes, she choked up for only a moment and then pushed on, putting her patients first and postponing her own grief.

“I saw several nurses crying as they held patients’ hands while listening to their heart-breaking stories of destruction and death,” said Tammy Albright, a nursing supervisor.

Since the tornado, the hospital

staff continues to respond in love to the needs of the tornado victims and their communities. Takoma Regional Hospital donated several thousands of dollars, which were used to buy supplies for care packets for those who lost homes and loved ones in the Camp Creek and Horse Creek communities. Several staff members, including Ruth Matthews, Kim King, Christy Lane, and Penny Collins, hand-delivered the packets on two different days. Many others at the hospital have volunteered by serving meals, cutting trees, visiting victims, and offering assistance.

A couple of Takoma associates suffered heavy damages to their homes. Brenda Mercer, a member of housekeeping, lost just about everything — her home, car, and barn. The hospital continues to respond to

their needs through donations and other support.

“At Takoma, we want to live out our mission to be an extension of the healing ministry of Christ,” Lane said. “We genuinely care about our patients and this community.”

Tina Chudina, media relations, Takoma Regional Hospital



Christy Lane (left), ICU/med-surgery director, and Ruth Matthews, emergency room director, along with other employees, hand-delivered care kits filled with essential supplies to community members who lost their homes.

Students Collect School Supplies for Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center's Mission Trip

Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center (FHMMC) and Pierson Elementary School's Florida Future Educators of America (FFEA) have teamed up to help more than 800 elementary students in Brazil, where many students are orphans.

The local elementary school students collect donations of pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, crayons, markers, coloring books, and eye glasses in front of the school. This project took flight after 8-year-old Katie Davis heard her father, Robert Davis, FHMMC executive director of nursing, was going on the hospital's mission trip to Fortaleza, Brazil. Unbeknownst to her father, she approached her school's principal, Richard T. Myers, and asked him if the school could help.

"I think about how I feel, with everything that I have, and then I look at the photos [of the students in Brazil] and it's just horrible to see," Katie said. "Here in America, what we have is so amazing compared to what they have. It is remarkable how they move through their lives."

After speaking with Myers, Katie's father and Linda Misko, FHMMC Educa-



The donations collected at Pierson Elementary School will travel with Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center to Fortaleza, Brazil, and will help more than 800 elementary students abroad.

tion Department manager, visited Pierson Elementary School's FFEA group, and talked to them about the mission trip to Brazil. Photographs of the elementary school abroad, with no playground except a bare metal slide, moved the group of third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders to take action.

Eight-year-old Aubrie Anderson has been in front of the school every Wednesday and Friday morning at 7:15 a.m., collecting supplies from her fellow students and their families.

A team of volunteers from FHMMC will travel to Fortaleza Brazil for a mission trip from July 30 to August 8, 2011, with a team of 25. While there, doctor, nurses, and nonclinical


volunteers will provide free clinics and build a playground for the students. This serves as another

example of FHMMC's mission of hope, health, and healing.

—BY LINDSAY REW



Manuel Gomez, 10, hands Aubrie Anderson, 8, and Katie Davis, 8, several packages of pens, while Ricardo Bolanos, 11, holds a sign that announces "Donations for Brazil." The students collecting supplies are members of Pierson Elementary School's Florida Future Educators of America group, led by 3rd grade teacher Linda Weaver.



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 **Adventist**
HEALTH SYSTEM

Oakwood University Offers Cutting-edge Biology Program

Throughout the history of Oakwood University, promoting excellence in education, hard work, and a love for God have been paramount. The year 2011 was no exception, particularly in the area of the biological sciences. Oakwood has been blessed to consistently train some of the world's brightest minds to not only serve God, but to serve humanity through science.

In 2008, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) — one of the largest private-funding organizations for biological and medical sciences — offered 197 institutions the opportunity to apply for its undergraduate education grant. Oakwood was among 48 privileged institutions chosen to receive this prestigious grant, and the only Seventh-day Adventist institution selected.

Consequently, the HHMI awarded the University a \$1.2 million grant to start preparing a new cadre of young scientists and medical doctors. This organization has an endowment of more than 14 billion dollars, making it the second

wealthiest philanthropic group in the United States, and the second-best endowed medical research foundation in the world.

The HHMI grant affords more than 80 Oakwood students the chance to work with renowned researchers in cutting-edge laboratories at institutions such as Harvard University, Johns Hopkins, Mayo Clinic, Duke, and Loma Linda University during a four-year time span. These students develop and refine their skills in the process of scientific inquiry, and present their research findings to a broad audience of professionals and peers at local, regional, and national scientific meetings.

Just this year alone, three students from Oakwood earned top awards for their summer research at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference

for Minority Students (ABRCMS). One of them, Vincent Spellman, a junior biology student, was nominated by the Endocrinology Society as the "Top-Scorer" of all participants in this category. It was truly a blessing to



Biology students take a group shot with Keith Linder, M.D. (third from left), dean of Mayo Medical School, and Barbara Porter (second from right), assistant dean for student affairs at Mayo Clinic, who were recruiting students on a recent visit to Oakwood University.

have had the opportunity to showcase the God-given talents of Oakwood students at this Conference.

Through the opportunity provided by the HHMI grant, Oakwood's Biology Department has been able to form strong partnerships with institutions such as Harvard, Loma Linda, Virginia Tech, and Mayo Clinic, to name a few. For the last five years, at least one biology student has been accepted into the Mayo Medical School each year.

In addition, to meet the challenges faced by scientists and researchers around the world, the HHMI grant allowed Oakwood's biology, chemistry, and mathematics faculty to develop innovative interdisciplinary modules to be

infused into the Oakwood curriculum. A bioinformatics computer laboratory has been installed to accelerate students' understanding and application of these integrated disciplines to meet the needs of biology in the 21st century.

Oakwood students are true embodiments of the University's motto, "Enter to learn. Depart to serve," reflecting the challenge that every Oakwood alumnus undertakes to let the true focus of their educational pursuits be one of service to God and humanity. Through their achievements and continued acquisition of knowledge, they stand well-poised to fulfill that challenge.

—BY ALEXANDRINE RANDRIAMAHEFA, PH.D.



Alexandrine Randriamahefa, Ph.D., biology professor at Oakwood University

Southern Employees Build Home for Tornado Victims

Five Southern Adventist University employees, along with 70 other volunteers, are building a house for Marvin and Willie Quinn, a couple who lost their Apison, Tenn., home to the April 27, 2011, tornado.

The 1,200-square-foot house will be larger than their previous home, and will include a garage and crawl space. Fred Turner, corporate architect at Southern Adventist University, designed the

floor plan with the help of Southern's computer-aided design operator, Danielle Filipov.



“It’s a blessing,” says Willie Quinn, who built her previous home herself 42 years ago. “We’re not able to do this kind of stuff anymore. I don’t know how to thank everyone for what they’ve done and what they’re doing.”

After Turner’s wife told him about the Quinns, he met Don Riddle, an electrician and lifelong friend of the Quinns. Both wanted to help the couple, so they decided to work on the new home together.

“[The Southern employees] have been super,” says Riddle. “They’ve even helped in my home. They’re one of the best organizations to work with.”

Other Southern employees who are helping include Eric Schoonard, associate director of plant services; Doug Walter, alarm systems manager for campus safety; and John Youngberg, associate professor in the Technology Department.

—BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

Education and Psychology Building Undergoing Renovation

Summerour Hall, home to Southern Adventist University’s School of Education and Psychology, will undergo a two-year renovation starting this summer.

“[The four programs housed in the building]

are cramped for space right now,” says Marty Hamilton, associate vice president for financial administration. After the renovation they will have larger classrooms, more office space, and a new front to the building.

Becky Djernes, Southern’s interior design coordinator, says she would like Summerour to have a more student-friendly, collegiate feel, and plans to include common areas in the designs for the new sections.

For now, the School of Education and Psychology has temporarily moved into Herin Hall, former home of the School of Nursing.

—BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

Construction Management Students Build House

Construction management students worked under the direction of John Youngberg, associate professor in the Technology Department, to complete the duplex owned by Southern Adventist University.

Students appreciated the opportunity for hands-on learning.

“It’s nice to be able to work with professionals in different trades as we build the house, and see their expertise,” says Kirk

Shoemaker, sophomore construction management major.

The construction management major is an associate’s program that helps students become general contractors. As part of the program, students are required to participate in a building project that spans two years. During this time, they learn everything from pouring concrete to installing electrical wiring. The skills they acquire prepare them for leadership

jobs in construction.

“By taking this course I will be able to build myself a house. It is good knowledge to have,” says Andrew Fisher, junior construction management major. “I am already helping my parents make repairs to their home.”

When the construction management program began three years ago, students helped build the first unit of the duplex. The program was then reorganized so house construc-

tion was divided into a two-year cycle. Last school year, students completed work on the exterior of the second unit. This school year they finished the interior.

“My goal is to get young people excited about building for Christ,” says Youngberg. “I hope to see them working with mission-oriented organizations.”

—BY CARRIE FRANCISCO

Raleigh Church Member is Friend to Presidents



Peter Wando (seated) is pictured with Enoch Omosa (left), pastor, along with Job Ocharo and Edwin Ombalo, the two friends who invited Wando to church.

Once again it's "Friendship Evangelism" that's making the difference.

When you ask Enock Omosa, pastor, from the rapidly-growing Umoja Central Church in Raleigh, N.C., how he does it, he'll humbly state, "I can't do everything, I'm just one person. It's my church members... they're doing the work."

Such was the case with Peter Wando (pictured right), who was a college professor and devout Catholic. Wando is a Kenyan from the Luo tribe, the second largest tribe in that nation. When two Umoja church members, Job Ocharo and Edwin Ombalo (who were also from the Luo tribe), learned that

Wando was living in Raleigh, they began inviting Wando to their church.

Because the church members are making friends and inviting them to their church, when Omosa held a prophecy seminar, many of the visitors were already warmly-welcomed

friends of the church, just like Wando.

Today, Wando exclaims how glad he is to be part of the Umoja Central Church, and to be involved in its social activities. He especially likes how the church involves itself in the community. And once you understand

Wando's background, you can appreciate why.

Wando was heavily involved in the Kenyan government when he lived there, so it's no surprise that he'd be involved here, too. Whether Republican or Democrat, Wando has worked for both. He was involved in President Ronald Reagan's campaign for the White House. A personal friend of President Bill Clinton, they hung out together when they were both attending Oxford University. When Clinton met Wando in Raleigh on one of his visits, he asked him to "monitor his presidency" and keep him informed. Of course Wando did, and today he can show you their correspondence through the years.

Wando recalls the conversations that he and Clinton would have there in the U.K. Clinton was interested in Africa, so often

their discussions would turn toward the social issues in Wando's home country.

But the connections don't end there. Wando and President Barack Obama's father knew each other back in Kenya. Then they were roommates in Massachusetts when Obama Sr. attended Harvard and Wando was working on his MBA in Boston. Years later, Wando worked on Senator Obama's presidential campaign. These connections are why, among Wando's numerous pieces of memorabilia, you'll find an invitation to President Barak Obama's Inauguration.

This college professor, effective communicator, problem-solver and "friend to presidents" would not be a Seventh-day Adventist today if it were not for friendship evangelism.

—BY RON QUICK



Hispanic Camp Meeting Draws 1,000

“Lord, Help Me to Give the Best of Me” was the theme presented at the 2011 Hispanic Camp Meeting by Silvestre González, secretary and communication director of the Dominican Union.

The Camp Meeting, which took place April 1-3, 2011, gathered about 1,000 attendees in the Nosoca Pines Ranch gymnasium that Sabbath. A total of four seminars were presented that afternoon:

Silvestre González, pastor, spoke about talents; Carlos Molina, pastor, discussed the art of public speaking; Julio Flores, pastor, and his wife, Judith,

presented a seminar about family; and Elias Sandoval, pastor, gave a powerful seminar on how to hold a month-long crusade.

While the adults were attending their seminars, Isaac Vallejo, pastor, and his wife, held a special



program for the children called JUMP (Just My Praise). Not only did the children enjoy the program, but two of them made a public commitment to the Lord in baptism.

—BY MARY ROMERO



Little Creek Breaks Ground for New Facility

After Sabbath services on May 14, 2011, the group of Little Creek Fellowship believers traveled a mere three miles from the Methodist Church where they presently meet to the site where they would break ground for their new church. The 30 acres, donated by a church member, is situated on Little Creek Road just outside of Smithfield, N.C.

More than 70 people were present when Rick Russell, Carolina Conference treasurer, presented the Sabbath service then led out in the special event that afternoon.

This day was the result of many prayers and

planning on the part of the Little Creek members. The Fellowship began meeting as a group back in 2006 with the motive and purpose of sharing Christ in a positive manner with those who live in this rural area. They are one step closer to fulfilling that purpose, and are excited to see what the future will hold.

Dan Jarard pastors this country church.

—BY RON QUICK



Rick Russell, Conference treasurer, led in the groundbreaking ceremony with Little Creek leaders. The 30 acres, donated by a church member, is situated on Little Creek Road just outside of Smithfield, N.C.

Reaping Meetings Harvest 36 New Members



REBECA DE LOS RÍOS

Idalberto Torres, pastor, with some of the Naples, Fla., baptismal candidates in the Gulf shore waters

Spring season campaigns of Florida Conference Evangelist Rolando de los Ríos were a time of refreshing. Efforts put forth in small group ministry by the Fort Myers, Naples, and Melbourne Spanish churches were crowned by three public reaping meetings with a harvest of 36 baptisms.

Since the beginning of the year, Idalberto Torres, pastor of Fort Myers and

Naples Spanish churches, and David Labrador, pastor of Melbourne Spanish Church, concentrated their efforts on encouraging leaders of small groups to prepare people for spring reaping meetings. The success of these endeavors was a perfect example of how God can use His people in working together for a common goal.

Torres and his wife, Amarilys, led by example

in organizing a small group at their residence in Lehigh Acres. As a result, members of their group were baptized, and it is hoped that, eventually, a new church will be born in that area. In Naples, where the local congregation has no church of its own, the candidates were baptized in the Gulf shore waters.

In the same way, Labrador and the church



MERLYN LABRADOR

José Agrescott was baptized in Melbourne, Fla., after his wife, Cecilia, and son, Joey, prayed on his behalf for 30 years.

in Melbourne enjoyed an unforgettable experience. During the harvest week when de los Ríos made the altar calls, some came forward who attended church for years without making a decision for Christ. Such was the case of José Agrescott whose wife, Cecilia, and son, Joey, had been praying 30 years for his conversion. Joey, a paraplegic since birth, watched with joy as his father and sister, Patricia, descended into the waters to become part of the body of Christ.

—BY ROLANDO DE LOS RÍOS

Lake City Church Community Service Day Includes Controlled Fire Exercise

Community Service Day at Lake City, Fla., Church on Sunday, April 17, 2011, included a controlled exercise by Columbia County Fire and

Rescue. Using a realistic smoke-filled room simulation, the exercise taught children and adults how to survive if they should find themselves trapped in a

burning building. Church members invited friends from the community to participate in this potentially life-saving event.

—BY BRENDAN WHITE



University Church Opens Doors to Community, Community Opens Heart to University Church



Daisy Negron (left), community volunteer, and Brenda Sommer, a founding University Church member, register clients.



PHOTOS: ALEX PINILLA

University Church member Leonard Cholette (left) boxes items for a beneficiary of the church's food pantry.

On a typical Wednesday morning, more than 150 families gather at University Church in Orlando, Fla., to receive food, clothing, and spiritual support. More than two years ago, the members felt called to revitalize the food pantry. The ministry's impact has grown beyond expectations.

Partnering with Second Harvest Food Bank and the USDA food program,

University Church provides more than 10,000 pounds of food to its clients every week. More than 40 volunteers from the church and community have donated hundreds of combined service hours preparing food for distribution.

Through surveys conducted by Bible worker Mike Shellong, community service team members identified other opportunities for ministry. As a re-

sult, seminars on nutrition, resume workshops, and English as a second language classes are taught.

When retired teacher Nohemy Bradley saw the sign advertising free English classes, she thought it was a marvelous way for the church to help others. "Now, as a volunteer, I feel so blessed to be part of such a wonderful project."

The church has

opened its doors to the community, and the community is opening its heart to the church as recipients of the ministry have joined members in Wednesday evening and Sabbath worship services. One beneficiary, Jackie Van Dike, who also volunteers in the food pantry, was baptized March 19, 2011, as a result of this ministry.

—BY ALEX PINILLA

Pastors in Transition

- **Claudette Aleman** – Tampa First associate
- **Rodny Aquino** – Miami Central Spanish associate
- **Nicolae Butoiu** – Romanian Adventist Temple company
- **Michael Cabana** – Boynton Beach
- **Brad Cassell** – Tampa First
- **Efrain Duany Jr.** – Hialeah Spanish associate
- **Manuel Fernandez** – Spring Hill Spanish/Wimauma Spanish
- **Rolando Gonzalez** – Indiantown Spanish/Treasure Coast Spanish
- **Heber Lopez** – Deltona Spanish associate
- **Oliver Mastrapa** – Apopka Spanish/Silver Star Spanish
- **Lenworth McLean** – South Brevard
- **David Monsalve** – Miami Temple associate
- **Andrew Moreno** – Apopka associate
- **Alejandro Morgado** – Avon Park Spanish/Sebring Spanish
- **Frank Ottati** – Winter Springs
- **Jonathan Peinado** – Jacksonville First
- **Azael Pitti** – Clearwater Spanish/Pinellas Spanish
- **Ric Pleasants** – Belleview/North Lake
- **Colin Rampton** – Palmetto
- **Michael Reid** – Sunrise
- **Luis Reyes** – Poinciana Spanish/South Orlando Spanish
- **Theophilus Roberts** – Norland
- **Bernardo Rodriguez** – Forest City Spanish
- **Rene Sanchez** – Hialeah Springs Spanish/Opa Locka Spanish company
- **Alex Schlusser** – Plantation/House of Praise and Hope
- **Laton Smith** – Miami Temple associate
- **Jose Suarez** – St. Petersburg
- **Rickard Szilagyi** – Mount Dora
- **Oscar Tavera** – Deltona Spanish
- **Robert Valentin** – Arcadia/Wauchula
- **Philip Vasseur** – Naples

CHIP Changes Lives for Healthier Choices

Fifty happy graduates, but not in June? Yes — not from a high school or a university, but from the 10th annual Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) that was recently completed in Greeneville, Tenn. The phrase heard over and over again: — “I feel so much better.”

CHIP is a four- or five-week course designed to fight obesity, lower cholesterol and triglycerides, stabilize and improve blood sugars, and lower blood pressure. In addition, it is routine to have decreased reflux, improved arthritis, less depression, and in general more energy. While CHIP does look at a lot of numbers, many of these things cannot be measured.

About 20 percent of the class were returning graduates who felt the need for a ‘tune-up.’ When making lifestyle changes, it is helpful to be around people who can encourage you on the path, so taking the class multiple times is advised. This also allows more time to develop



The Coronary Health Improvement Project (CHIP) held meetings in Greeneville, Tenn., this past winter. They graduated 50 happy and newly healthy candidates. These health courses last four to five weeks, and teach the benefits of healthy eating as well as exercise.

friendships.

As an integral part of the program, participants track daily exercise in CHIP miles (20 minutes aerobic exercise = 1 CHIP mile). Our participants and staff logged almost 3,500 miles — watching their progress on a map across the southern United States, to Los Angeles, Calif., and then north to Washington state.

There were significant changes in lab values. There was a reduction in blood sugars by 14 percent, with medications being reduced or eliminated for some of the type 2 diabetics. The cholesterol reduction was 14 percent, and the reduction of triglycerides was 22 percent.

One participant weighed in 17 pounds lighter at the end of the

fifth week. Another participant lowered his blood sugar by 76 mg, and another dropped his cholesterol 76 mg, with a reduction in triglycerides of 239 mg for another participant.

God’s hand was apparent in the weather this year. Three of five information/registration sessions were cancelled due to weather. But the phone lines were hot, and there still were 50 people at HeartScreen (also rescheduled). The remainder of the class was without incidence — except for the snow and ice that came on non-class nights. That was counted a miracle.

Would you like to have this growing health ministry in your church? The Georgia-Cumberland Conference and Southern Union are partnering with

Adventist CHIP Association to bring a CHIP leadership training workshop to the Calhoun Seventh-day Adventist Church Family Center, 1411 Rome Road, Calhoun, GA 30701. It is scheduled from August 19, 8 a.m., to August 21, 1 p.m. The cost is \$250 per church for up to

three people, and \$50 for each additional person for groups registering before August 8, 2011. After August 8 the fee increases to \$300.

For registration and further information, call the Adventist CHIP Association at 423-546-4719 EST, or visit <http://www.sdachip.org/workshops.html>. This workshop is conducted by Dena Guthrie, Lynda Nelson, Kathy Pflugrad, and Peggy West.

CHIP is a ministry that is bringing healing to thousands of individuals struggling with diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, and weight issues, the leading lifestyle diseases in this country. Best of all, friendships are formed for time and all eternity.

—BY PEGGY WEST

Samaritan Center Services in Wake of Storms

Montgomery Moore was disappointed to be left at home when her father and siblings went to help clean up after the tornadoes that stormed across the area. Her neighborhood was not hit hard, but she knew many people had lost their homes. She wanted to help, but her parents thought the nine-year-old would be safer at home.

As soon as she heard that the people out working needed water, Montgomery sprang into action. After getting permission, she began knocking on her neighbors' doors, asking if they would like to give a dollar or two to help buy bottles of water.

She met neighbor after neighbor who wanted to help, and one couple said

they wanted to send her a check so that they could give a little more. Thinking of where it could be used the best, Montgomery told them to make it out to the Samaritan Center instead of to her.

The Samaritan Center in Ooltewah, Tenn., has been working to provide for the immediate needs of those affected by the tornadoes, even as those needs change every day.

Immediately after the storm, the Center gave out 500 personal care kits, and provided 200 more since the storm. Staff from the Center spent the weekend after the tornadoes driving through the hardest-hit areas to distribute boxes, work gloves, tarps, water, and nails. The social

services team has helped more than 600 people affected by the storms — providing gas cards, clothing vouchers, food, grocery cards, and sometimes most importantly, a listening ear. The Center has also helped sustain different groups who have been providing meals and other types of assistance to those affected. Supplies have been collected for students in Bradley, Hamilton, and Catoosa counties whose homes, and even schools, were destroyed. The Samaritan Center promises to continue providing help for those affected by the disaster, wherever they live, as they are rebuilding their lives.

Those working at the Samaritan Center quickly learned that financial gifts are the most helpful during the aftermath of a disaster, allowing immediate responses to needs as they arise. Currently, the Samaritan Center is collecting household cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, shower curtain liners, etc., for 'Welcome Home Baskets,' which will be provided to

people as they find new homes or are able to return to their own home.

By visiting her neighbors, nine-year-old Montgomery raised \$550, which she used to purchase cases of water and other things people needed for the cleanup work. She continued to faithfully check the mailbox to see if the other donation from her neighbors had come.

When it arrived, she opened it and excitedly ran to tell her mother, Lisa, that they had given \$100 on her behalf. Lisa looked at the check, and her jaw dropped.

"Montgomery," she said, "This is \$1,000!"

Montgomery was thrilled. She was so glad to be helping in the way she could, and she wanted to deliver the check to the Samaritan Center right away so that it could be put to use.

With the help of Montgomery's gift and the generosity of so many in the community and around the nation, the Samaritan Center will continue to help those affected by the storms both now and in the future.

The Samaritan Center has been there for 25 years, and will still be there, after other agencies leave, to help the community recover and begin anew.

—BY CHERYL TORRES
SAMARITAN CENTER



Montgomery Moore wanted to help the people who were impacted by the tornadoes. She presents a check to Debra Johnson, thrift manager of the Samaritan Center in Ooltewah, Tenn.

Adventurers Are “Wild About Jesus”

As stuffed monkeys climbed the pews, an elephant, a zebra, and a giraffe stood in the backdrop for the Adventurers Sabbath program held May 7, 2011, at the Pensacola University Parkway Church in Pensacola, Fla. “Wild about Jesus” was the theme of the program sponsored by the Pensacola Patriots Adventurer Club, joined by the Emeralds Adventurer Club of



Phyllis Washington (center) tells the Adventurers that it is alright to be “Wild About Jesus.”

Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Featured speaker Phyllis Washington, director of the North American Division (NAD) Children’s Ministries Department, focused on the life and mission of John the Baptist. “It’s okay to be ‘wild about Jesus’ and tell

others about Him,” she told the children.

To start things off, a puppet drama featured an “interview” with John the Baptist. John the Baptist was “focused on his mission, had a relationship with God, and handed his

congregation over to someone else,” Washington noted. He lived in the wild and ate locusts, which, while not appetizing, are alright to eat, according to Leviticus 11:20-23. She said, “We want children to be that voice crying in the wilderness.” In any congregation, 67 percent of the adults came to Christ between the ages of 7 and 12.

“We want to keep them all,” she adds. “Our challenge is to put kids to work now, to give them the tools. They are capable.”

“It is the goal of the Adventurer department to help the children know that, like John, we should tell others about the soon

coming of Jesus,” noted Alishia McDonald, Pensacola Patriots director. She presented Washington with an award to recognize her more than 40 years of outstanding service and dedication to leading children to Christ. Washington has been involved in every aspect of children’s ministries, and has a blended family of 14 children, 40 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

An evening Halle-Luau social capped off the Adventurer Sabbath. Children and adults donned leis and Hawaiian outfits and enjoyed island fare. They participated in crafts and activities, including limbo and hula hoop contests, and a bouncer.

—BY GLENDA HASS

Two Pastors Ordained at Camp Meeting

Two pastors, Jonathan Arroyo and Will Labrenz, were ordained during Camp Meeting on Sabbath, May 21, 2011.

The ordination service began with an added feature — a baby dedication for Jonathan and Libna Arroyo’s seven-month-old son, Nolan. Libna’s father, Carlos Molina, took part in the dedication.

After the ordination prayer a responsive reading for the charge was given by Don Shelton. Arroyo and Labrenz took part, as well as the congregation.

Arroyo is currently the

pastor of the Guntersville, Rainsville, and Grace Fellowship, Ala., churches. As a teen, he was impressed that he would one day be a preacher. Since then, he has worked toward that goal. At the close of his response, Arroyo read a beautiful, heartfelt prayer he had composed.

Labrenz recently accepted the invitation to pastor the Meridian, Miss., Church. He too, felt the call to ministry as a teen, but for a few years he took a detour. After becoming very active in the Highland Academy Church, he was encouraged to enter full

time ministry. After his response to the ordination charge, he sang a moving musical selection. Labrenz and his wife, Christy, have three children, Ethan, Bailey, and Elijah.

—BY ANITA
SHELTON



Jonathan and Libna Arroyo (left), and Will and Christy Labrenz

New Generation Takes Stand for Christ

This year the morning devotionals during Camp Meeting were presented by youth from the Conference. They focused on the Camp Meeting theme, “Because You Have Prayed.” Each speaker utilized their unique style and brought a fresh look at prayer in the Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy. Their insights touched hearts with the power and meaning of a genuine prayer life.

Speakers included Jonathan Duman from Piedmont, Ala., who wants to become a mission pilot. Matthew Lawson, Charisse Carlton, and Riley Skiwski took a class in preaching at Bass

Memorial Academy. What they learned helped them organize and develop their thoughts based upon a passage of Scripture. As a 2011 graduate of Bass, Lawson hopes to become

a minister of the Gospel, and Carlton, a chaplain and Bible teacher on an academy campus. Skiwski is contemplating either medicine, like his dad and grandpa, or entering the

ministry. Jorge Coxaj is a new youth pastor in New Jersey. Casey Vaughn, from Mobile, Ala., hopes to dedicate her life to the Gospel ministry. On the second Sabbath morning, Chris Stiefel, also from Piedmont, centered his devotion on “Prayers God Loves to Answer.”

These youth have become charter members of a new day at Gulf States Camp Meetings. They are an inspirational catalyst for other young people who may desire to speak up for Jesus.

—BY LESLIE LOUIS
CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Riley Skiwski is contemplating either medicine or entering the ministry.



Casey Vaughn hopes to dedicate her life to the Gospel ministry.

Member Feels Connected During First Skydiving Trip

Dana Moody, a member of the Decatur, Ala., Church, had a dream of something she wanted to do. If you had just met Moody, you would probably never guess what this rather quiet, 60-something grandmother’s dream was. That is, unless you happen to mention the word “skydiving.” Then her face lights up and she begins to tell you about the first Sunday of Gulf States Camp Meeting. During some free time that day, she and Joe, her husband, visited a friend who lives in nearby Lumberton, Miss. While visiting, this friend told them he had been learn-

ing to skydive. “Oh, I’ve wanted to do that for so long,” Moody told him. “You can go tandem skydiving with someone who is experienced without taking lessons,” the friend explained. After further discussion, Moody found herself at the airport ready for the adventure she’d always dreamed of.

She explains, “When I got up to 14,500 feet and looked out the open door of the airplane, I thought about what my instructor,



On her first skydiving trip, Dana Moody had complete trust in her instructor.

to whom I was connected with strong clamps, had told me. ‘I will take care of you, don’t worry or be afraid. Just enjoy yourself!’ So I had complete trust in him — ‘he’s an expert, I

know he will get me down softly, ‘I told myself.

“The first thing that came to my mind the next morning was, as long as I am connected to Jesus, I know that I can completely trust Him, and know He will protect and care for me. I never need to be afraid as long as I stay connected to Jesus.”

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Two Pastors Ordained to Gospel Ministry

Angel Ogando was ordained to the Gospel ministry on Sabbath, May 7, 2011, at Madison Campus Church, where he has served as the youth pastor since August 2006.



Angel, Ivana, and Jona Ogando

Ogando's life dramatically changed in 1999 when he was re-baptized. By the summer of 2000, he was impressed that the Lord was calling him to ministry, and he enrolled at Southern Adventist University.

Following his graduation from Southern in 2003 with a B.A. in theology, Ogando attended the seminary at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich.,

where he received his M.Div. degree.

He married his wife, Ivana, whom he met during his studies at Andrews, on July 14, 2009. Their son, Jona, was born on August 27, 2010.

Jonathan Weigley was ordained on Sabbath, May 14, 2011, at the Murfreesboro, Tenn., Church.

Weigley grew up in an



Karin, Kayla, Jonathan, and Micah Weigley

Adventist pastor's family. He was involved in ministry opportunities even while in academy, serving as student chaplain, and spent his summers as a student literature evangelist. It was during these years that he sensed the call to become a minister.

Weigley attended Southern Adventist University and graduated in 2004

with a B.A. in theology. While at Southern, he met Karin and they were married in June 2003. He received his M.Div. degree from the seminary at Andrews University in 2006.

Following seminary, He began his ministry in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference as an intern in Louisville, Ky. After his internship, he was assigned to the Murfreesboro, Tullahoma, and Decherd, Tenn., churches, where he continues to serve.

The Weigleys have two children, Micah, 2½, and Kayla, 8 months.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

Highland Academy Teacher Receives National Award

Steven Baughman, a teacher at Highland Academy, was presented with a national award Saturday, May 28, 2011, during Camp Meeting in Portland, Tenn. Baughman is among



Steven Baughman

10 teachers selected this spring by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF) to receive a 2011 Excellence in Teaching Award. Baughman received \$2,000 and a medallion.

He promotes student achievement beyond his campus classroom. He

has been commissioned by the Southern Union and North American Division (NAD) to write secondary curriculum subject area standards, and he has traveled throughout the NAD to promote them.

Under his leadership, the Curriculum Committee at Highland Academy revised graduation requirements in order to challenge high-achieving students and help low-achieving students. Baughman also works closely with the student body as sponsor of

the student council, school newspaper, and student association.

As an English, history, and government teacher, he engages his students in meaningful projects. His government class worked with a local city planner to consider all the components needed to build a functioning city. He also takes the junior class on an 11-day trip through New England each fall, so they can experience first-hand what they are learning in English and U.S. History.

Baughman's goal is to make learning a rich experience. "Working at an Adventist boarding academy provides a unique opportunity to be involved

in a lifestyle of education," he said.

AAF is a nonprofit organization that has awarded grants totaling more than \$1.4 million to Adventist schools and teachers. Since its establishment in 1995, the organization has recognized 106 exceptional teachers with an Excellence in Teaching Award. AAF develops new ways to fund, advance, and sustain excellence in Seventh-day Adventist K-12 schools. The Adventist education system includes 915 schools, 15 colleges and universities, and 4,699 teachers in North America.

—BY MELISSA CECHOTA

Music Festival Develops Young Musicians

The annual Kentucky-Tennessee Conference Music Festival was held on the campus of Highland Academy, Portland, Tenn., the weekend of March 18, 19, 2011. Under the leadership of Elaine Will, the Music Festival Committee planned an outstanding program. It keeps getting better and better each year.

More than 300 students arrived on campus Thursday, April 17, 2011, to begin working together for the festival. Although the students had been practicing their parts, it was now time to get serious. In addition to students from the Conference, there were students from Greeneville Adventist Academy, Heritage Academy, Spring Valley Academy, and several home-schoolers.

Four guest musicians led out in the clinical phase of the Music Festival. Mark Becker worked with the grades 9-12 choir. Becker has degrees from Union College and Boise State University, and is choral and handbell director at Forest Lake Academy where he has taught since 2005. His large choir, Voices of Forest



Lake, is featured annually at the Disney Marathon, and has been an honor choir in Disney's Candlelight Processional for a number of years.

Joshua Davis, the band clinician, is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University, and serves as an instrumental music teacher at Mount Juliet Christian Academy, Mount Juliet, Tenn. Prior to serving at Mount Juliet Christian Academy, Davis served as a soldier-musician in the 101st Airborne Division. Between March 2008 and May 2009, the 101st Airborne Division was deployed in Afghanistan to provide musical, ceremonial, and morale support for Operation En-

during Freedom.

Lucy Lewis, the clinician for strings, holds undergraduate degrees from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich., and is currently finishing her master's in violin performance at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, Cincinnati, Ohio. In addition, she teaches in the CCM Preparatory Department both as a Suzuki violin and viola teacher, and as a coach for the Accent Chamber Music Program. When not teaching or performing, Lewis enjoys spending time with friends and family, traveling, and sharing her love for God through music ministry.

Beth Davis worked with

the grades 5-8 choir. Davis graduated from Tennessee Technological University in vocal and instrumental music and teaches music at Madison Campus Elementary and Madison Academy. She also spent three months in Mexico as the flutist in the Monterey, Mexico, Symphony.

Music is such an important part of the Seventh-day Adventist church and schools. Providing students with this opportunity helps guide them in the right direction with music and in the development of their lives. It helps them to develop a deeper love for quality music.

The mission of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference in providing the annual Music Festival is to provide students in grades five through 12, from Seventh-day Adventist schools, an opportunity to expand their musical skills in cooperation with experienced musicians for the purpose of inspiring spiritual growth and enhancing cultural development.

—BY LARRY W.

BOUGHMAN



South Atlantic Organizes New Korean Church

After much prayer and dedicated efforts, the Atlanta Korean Mission group was organized as a church on March 19, 2011.

Conference representatives Lawrence Hamilton and Ralph Franklin performed the church organization service.

Atlanta has one of the fastest growing populations of Koreans in the United States. Currently, there are more than 100,000 Koreans living in the Duluth, Suwanee, Lawrenceville, Dacula, Auburn, and the greater Atlanta areas. The Korean population continues to grow, with approximately 250 Korean Sunday churches in these areas, but only four Korean Adventist churches: Atlanta, Georgia

United, New Heaven, and Marietta.

On July 18, 2009, 15 individuals began meeting at the George Pierce Park Community Center. With a genuine love for the Lord and for precious souls, this small group worked tirelessly to win many more souls for God.

After developing an organization structure, the church leaders met the administrators of South Atlantic Conference, and on November 8, 2009, the company was given a mission status.

The congregation grew rapidly with two baptismal services, Adventist members in transition to the area, former members, and local church transfers. This church growth resulted in



Daniel W. Chung, pastor

an increase of 53 members.

With the increased membership, the mission was voted as a church organization on December 16, 2010.

To continue to grow and earnestly do evangelistic work, the members

desired their own church building. After diligently searching, the members purchased property on Auburn Road in Auburn, Ga., to build a new church building.

The construction company has drawn the blue prints, and to date, the members have raised more than \$65,000 for the project.

This new church will be the Gospel Center for domestic and overseas mission work. The new building will be a ministry center where many will be able to worship and prepare for the Lord's soon return.

—BY JAMES LAMB



The members of the new Korean church with Conference representatives Lawrence Hamilton and Ralph Franklin (sitting, front row).

Adventist Soldiers Worship in Iraq

Hasting L. Newbill is a staff sergeant in the United States Army. There is a song he remembers from his youth that is so relevant now that he is deployed. The words of the song states, "How can we sing, when we're in a strange land? How can we face adversity?" On April 16, 2011, the questions focused in this song were answered.



Noel Edmund (left) and Hasting Newbill

In the Praise Chapel located at Kandahar Airfield (KAF), some 15 Seventh-day Adventists

joined together to have service in a strange land. The services and fellow-

The Lord allowed another blessing to occur for the soldiers. Two mem-

bers of the Abney Chapel Church in Fayetteville, N.C., met each other as they worshiped in Iraq. Noel Edmund, a Quartermaster Warrant Officer with 3rd Special Forces Group, and Newbill, the senior chaplain assistant with TF 44 MED, were able to fellowship together in a strange land. Honest to the promise they made each other at church in Fayetteville, God provided them with the opportunity to share one Sabbath together.

—BY JAMES LAMB

Whiteville Local Elder Receives Award

Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C., had its first presentation for the "Elder of the Season" program on April 30, 2011. The presentation was given to Eunice Hughes, a local elder, by Stephan Davis, pastor, and to head local elder Richard Berry, M.D. Hughes is one of two female elders of Praise Tabernacle.



Pictured are Garin Freeman (left), dressed as a Roman centurion, Richard Berry, Eunice Hughes, and Stephan Davis

Each of the nine elders of Praise Tabernacle this year signed a covenant outlining their responsibilities. All are asked to present a monthly detailed report on how the Lord has

blessed their ministry in the church. The pastor and head elder review these reports, and every four months (or "season") the

award is presented to one of the elders. The award is a sword which represents the sword of the Spirit. Each elder is encour-

aged to set personal ministry goals, and to assess whether these goals are being met on a monthly basis. They are also provided with materials for Bible studies. At the time of the presentation, there were eight individuals receiving studies.

Davis has designated 2011 as "The Year of Increase." This plan equips the elders of Praise Tabernacle to assist in fulfilling this goal for the church.

—BY JAMES LAMB

Oakwood Adventist Academy Teacher Receives Prestigious Recognition

For the past 14 years, Crystal Thomas has guided Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA) seniors toward adult life by providing them with a thorough



preparation in real-world economics. After a successful career in human resources, Thomas made the move to education — teaching business, computer applications, government, and econom-

ics. Thomas piloted the “We The People” government class project, and received extensive training and professional development in methods of teaching civics. In

April 2011, Thomas was selected by the Council for Economic Education to be one of 24 teachers who will participate in a study tour to the Republic of South Africa. The program is funded by the U.S.

Department of Education through the Cooperative Education Exchange program, and is conducted in coordination with the U.S. Department of State.

One of the innovative instructional techniques Thomas utilizes is class participation in the Alabama Stock Market Game, where student teams receive \$100,000 to invest in a stock market simulation. The students research and select stocks to manage in their virtual portfolio. In the past, OAA has consistently placed multiple teams in the top 10 performers and, for the second year in a row,

OAA has taken first place in its region. On April 26, the Alabama Economics Council on Economic Education selected Thomas as Alabama Teacher of the Year – Secondary for 2011. Thomas is the first teacher to be selected from among private school educators.

OAA is fortunate to have dedicated and talented instructors such as Thomas, who work untiringly to develop, nurture, and affirm young people. The students, faculty, staff, and school board congratulate her on this exciting achievement.

—BY SHARON LEWIS

94 AND PROUD OF IT

Mrs. Irizona Duckworth is not shy when it comes to sharing her age, and is quick to credit her longevity to the grace of God.

She and her late husband, John, gave the first planned gift to Oakwood University, being benefactors of the University for many years. Mrs. Duckworth is keeping the tradition alive by continuing to give generous charitable gifts through annuities.

Contact your local conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services representative today, and ask how you can help shape lives for God’s kingdom.

To read Mrs. Duckworth’s story, go to www.southernunion.com/PlannedGiving and click on her story.



Carolina: Ken Ford, 704-596-3200
Florida: Jose LeGrand, 407-644-5000
Georgia-Cumberland: Mitch Hazekamp, 706-629-7951
Gulf States: Rick Hutchinson, 334-272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee: Lin Powell, 615-859-1391
Oakwood University: Fred Pullins, 256-726-8278
South Atlantic: Lawrence Hamilton, 404-792-0535
South Central: Michael Harpe, 615-226-6500
Southeastern: David Long, 352-735-3142
Southern Adventist University: Carolyn Liers, 423-236-2818

New Facility Planned for Oakwood Adventist Academy

Since opening its doors as Oakwood Manual Training School in 1896, Oakwood Adventist Academy (OAA) has drawn minority students from around the globe who are seeking a Seventh-day Adventist education in a supportive and nurturing environment. For more than a century, Oakwood has consistently furnished exceptional leaders who not only serve the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its global mission, but who serve and excel in areas of academics, business, science, health-care, law, and government.

In 1974, after operating as a boarding school for nearly 80 years, the academy became a K-12 day school, at which time a constituency of local churches took over its operation. Since that time, obtaining

adequate facilities has been a challenge. Classes have been housed in a variety of buildings belonging to Oakwood (College) University and even the Oakwood University Church. Presently, the high school continues to be housed in the J. T. Stafford building owned by the University, and classes for the elementary school are in a bare-minimum facility that was constructed in 1993. It is often still necessary to use University facilities for many of the school's programs and events. The current buildings are no longer adequate for the 21st century level education the school is striving to offer its students.

In 2008, the school was granted 32 acres of prime land from Oakwood University for the construction of a brand new

facility that would house the entire K-12 operation. This state-of-the-art facility will include a gymnasium, auditorium, cafeteria, and athletic fields — components that both buildings presently lack. The cost of the new facility is approximately \$8 million.

To date, the local constituent churches have pledged upwards of \$5 million toward the project, and the South Central Conference, under the leadership of Dana Edmond, president, has promised at least 10 percent of the total costs.

Students and staff are actively engaged in a “Bridging the Gap” fundraising campaign; and a Special Gifts and Projects Committee, headed by C. E. Bradford (Oakwood Academy Class of 1942), retired former North American

Division president, has been formed to raise funds from corporations and major donors. The Oakwood Academy National Alumni Association president, R. Steven Norman III, has also launched the “One Thousand, One Hundred” campaign with a goal of raising a minimum of \$100,000 in the next few months.

ALL OAA alumni and friends are asked to help make this plan a reality through their personal giving as well as solicitation of funds in order that the rich legacy of quality and excellence in Adventist education at OAA will carry on for 100 more years or until the Savior returns!

—BY SHARON LEWIS AND
KELLI DULAN



Artist's rendering of the new Oakwood Adventist Academy.

Caravana en Charleston

El pasado 26 de abril se llevó a cabo una caravana evangélica en Charleston SC, a cargo del pastor Alejandro Bullón. A este evento se unieron también los miembros de la iglesia de Hardeeville, SC. Muchas personas se levantaron al llamado que el pastor hizo al finalizar



el sermón. La caravana continuó al día siguiente en Charlotte NC, con una numerosa asistencia. El

cierre de este esfuerzo evangélico se llevó a cabo en Spartanburg SC, donde se unieron las iglesias de Fletcher, Asheville y Greenville Sur.

El Espíritu Santo hizo su trabajo, y cincuenta personas pasaron al frente aceptando el llamado del Señor a entregar sus

vidas a Él. Miembros y visitas de estos tres lugares fueron grandemente bendecidos, y salieron dispuestos a compartir el gran amor de Dios hacia la humanidad.

—MARY ROMERO,
SECRETARIA DEL
DEPARTAMENTO
HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

Campamento Hispano

El tema del campamento anual hispano fue “Señor, Ayúdame a Dar de Mí lo Mejor.” Fue presentado por el pastor Silvestre González, secretario y director del departamento de comunicaciones de la

Unión Dominicana. Para esta ocasión especial que tuvo lugar el fin de semana del 1-3 de abril se reunieron casi mil personas en el gimnasio de Nossoca Pines Ranch. Se presentaron diversos seminarios el sábado de

tarde, que estuvieron a cargo de pastores del área. Silvestre González habló sobre los talentos, Carlos Molina presentó el arte de hablar, Julio Flores y su esposa Judith hablaron sobre la familia, y Elías Sandoval enseñó

cómo preparar y llevar a cabo una campaña de un mes de duración.

Mientras los adultos participaban en los seminarios,

el pastor Vallejo y su esposa presentaron un programa especial para los niños: JUMP -Just My Praise – (Sólo Mi Alabanza). Los pequeños disfrutaron notablemente y aprendieron más acerca del amor de Jesús.

Se llevó a cabo un bautismo en el que dos jovencitos pusieron sus vidas en manos del Señor.

—MARY ROMERO,
SECRETARIA DEL
DEPARTAMENTO
HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



Organización de la Iglesia de Greenville

Como resultado del trabajo incansable del pastor Minervino Labrador y los miembros laicos de la congregación, el 16 de abril se organizó la iglesia de Greenville SC, con una membresía cercana a las 50 personas. Dios ha bendecido sus esfuerzos, y ya cuentan con un templo propio al que el año pasado adicionaron un salón para actividades sociales.



El pastor Labrador está jubilado, pero atiende también el grupo de Rutherfordton, NC, y ha consagrado su vida a trabajar fielmente para que el mensaje de salvación sea esparcido en su territorio.

—MARY ROMERO,
SECRETARIA DEL
DEPARTAMENTO
HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

Investidura de Guías Mayores en Monroe

Luego de haber participado durante dos años de un entrenamiento minucioso, el grupo de líderes de conquistadores y aventureros de la iglesia de Monroe NC, concluyó el programa en



una emotiva ceremonia en la que nueve jóvenes fueron investidos como guías mayores. El evento estuvo a cargo del pastor Rueda el día 23 de abril. Estos

programas tienen especial valor en la preparación de la juventud para ocupar cargos de liderazgo espiritual, y representar un ejemplo para el resto de los jóvenes de la iglesia.

—BENJAMÍN RUEDA,
PASTOR DE LA IGLESIA DE
MONROE, NC

Spartanburg, una Iglesia Activa

La iglesia de Spartanburg SC, es una iglesia activa con la resaltante característica de constituir un crisol de culturas. La escuela sabática es traducida simultáneamente al inglés, y esto trae una variedad más amplia de asistentes, que no se ven limitados por el idioma.

Recientemente se llevó a cabo una serie de eventos de evangelismo a cargo de los pastores Pimentel, Romero y Bullón, que contó con una

asistencia constante que completaba el salón todas las noches; un porcentaje considerable estaba formado por personas que hablan inglés, los cuales fueron eficientemente asistidos por un equipo de traductores.

Para Pascua, se organizó una cena tradicional. Ambientado como la antigua Galilea,



el lugar fue un escenario perfecto de reconciliación de las culturas judía y cristiana. Cada alimento servido tenía un significado relacionado con la liberación de la esclavitud física del pueblo de Israel, y la liberación

del pecado por medio del Cordero Jesús. Se disfrutó de pan sin levadura (matzah), hierbas amargas (maror), perejil (karpas) sumergido en agua salada, manzanas, miel, y nueces. La ceremonia culminó con el partimiento del pan, y el lavamiento de pies.

—ANA GALLIOT,
DEPARTAMENTO DE
COMUNICACIONES DE LA
IGLESIA DE
SPARTANBURG SC.

Bautismo en Sorrento



El 30 de abril, como resultado de la formación y el trabajo de los grupos de crecimiento, los integrantes de la compañía de

Sorrento FL, dieron la bienvenida a 12 miembros en una ceremonia de bautismo. Fue un día de gozo en el que se celebró la cosecha del primer trimestre del año 2011. Al finalizar el

programa, siete personas respondieron al llamado a entregar sus vidas a Cristo en el siguiente bautismo programado para el 9 de julio próximo.

—RAFAEL CAMPOS, PASTOR
DEL DISTRITO

Evangelismo de Grupos Pequeños en Cornelia

Durante la semana del 19 al 26 de marzo, la iglesia de Cornelia llevó a cabo la primera campaña evangélica que estuvo dirigida



por los miembros de los grupos pequeños.

El pastor Urdaneta presentó los temas, resaltando a Jesús como

la verdadera esperanza. La iglesia albergó a muchas visitas y miembros, que se vieron bendecidos por esta experiencia Cristo-céntrica.

El resultado de este trabajo se vio en nueve personas que descendieron a las aguas del bautismo, y ocho que tomaron la decisión de hacerlo en la siguiente

ceremonia a llevarse a cabo próximamente.

La iglesia está totalmente comprometida con el desafío lanzado por el departamento hispano de la asociación “Cada Iglesia Bautizando 11 en el 2011.”

—RICHARD URDANETA,
PASTOR DEL DISTRITO DE
KNOXVILLE, TN.

Iglesia Multicultural

El sábado 5 de marzo se organizó la primera iglesia multicultural, con el nombre de “Iglesia Adventista Impacto”. En la ceremonia de iniciación 50 personas



se reunieron en el edificio de Educación/ Psicología de Southern Adventist University.

Este grupo cuenta con un excelente liderazgo, y un alto potencial de

crecimiento.

—NEFTALY ORTIZ, DIRECTOR
DEL DEPARTAMENTO
HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

Entrenamiento Para Laicos

El 6 de marzo, las iglesias del área de Atlanta participaron del entrenamiento para laicos dirigido por su director, el doctor Ricardo Norton de la universidad Andrews, entidad a la que pertenece este programa. En esta oportunidad Norton presentó el primer módulo a la clase de instructores laicos. El pastor Jorge

Mayer presentó un módulo en el área de familia. Cada clase tuvo una asistencia de más de cuarenta personas. La meta es tener una escuela estable de entrenamiento laico en el área de Atlanta.

—NEFTALY ORTIZ, DIRECTOR
DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO
DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



Clínica Hispana de la Salud

El sábado 27 de febrero se abrieron las puertas de una clínica de atención gratuita para

hispanos del área de Chatanooga, TN. Como actividad de apoyo, el 13 de marzo se organizó una

clase de entrenamiento para laicos en temas de salud, patrocinado por “Wildwood Lifestyle Center

and Hospital.”

—NEFTALY ORTIZ, DIRECTOR
DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO
DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

Inauguración de la Iglesia Hispana de Memphis

Hace veinte años, Cuco Fernández asistió por primera vez a la iglesia americana de Raleigh, seguido por su padre Claudio e Isaías Domínguez poco tiempo después. La población hispana no representaba un gran porcentaje en Memphis. Poco a poco, otras familias hispanas (Femat, García, Galán, Landeros, etc.) provenientes de diferentes estados comenzaron a asistir también, y el problema de idioma se hizo notable. Con el propósito de resolver esta situación la asociación contrató al pastor Alex Rodríguez para oficiar servicios una o dos veces al mes. En esta misma época (1997) el Dr. Eric Guerra y su esposa se mudaron a Memphis con la intención de que Guerra continuara su especialidad en la universidad de Tennessee. Inmediatamente se involucraron en las actividades de la iglesia, y



se aseguraron de que todo sermón en inglés fuera traducido para la asistencia hispana.

La congregación comenzó a crecer rápidamente, y las visitas del pastor Rodríguez se volvieron más frecuentes y regulares, hasta que fue nombrado pastor exclusivo y de tiempo completo del sector hispano de la iglesia. El 8 de mayo de 1998, el grupo fue organizado como compañía.

El espacio que se les había cedido en el salón de reuniones sociales de la iglesia de Raleigh comenzó a resultar pequeño, por lo que se alquiló el gimnasio de la academia de Memphis para las reuniones de los sábados.

En el mes de agosto del año 2000 la congregación fue organizada como iglesia. Inmediatamente el pastor Rodríguez junto con algunos miembros se abocaron a la tarea de conseguir un lugar de reuniones propio. Encontraron un terreno con un depósito en el corazón de la ciudad. Se reunieron los fondos para la compra, y tan pronto este proceso fue terminado se comenzó la remodelación del edificio. Los hermanos colaboraron bajo la guía de Leónides Soria y Juan Carlos Fernández, y en febrero de 2001 se celebró el primer culto en las instalaciones. Inmediatamente se vio

la necesidad de expandir este espacio, o construir un santuario para poder albergar a más visitas. Se comenzó a ahorrar dinero con este propósito, y en el 2009 se compró un templo con la intención de remodelarlo. El proceso de remodelación tomó muchos meses, y finalmente en septiembre del 2010, se inauguró el edificio de la iglesia hispana de Memphis, que cuenta con un órgano de tubos.

Dios ha bendecido a esta congregación cuyos miembros tienen un sincero deseo de dar lo mejor para el avance de su obra.

—ARMANDO DE LEÓN,
DIRECTOR DEL MINISTERIO
HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

Testimonios Inspiradores

Trece personas se unieron a la iglesia de Memphis TN, por medio del bautismo. Los testimonios recogidos en la ceremonia fueron de inspiración para toda la iglesia; muestran la forma admirable en la que Dios guía a quienes lo buscan de todo corazón: “Estudiando por mi cuenta, descubrí

que el sábado es el día de reposo establecido por Dios desde un principio. El Señor me guió en la



búsqueda de una iglesia que obedeciera los mandamientos. Así llegué a la iglesia Adventista.”

Dijo uno de los catecúmenos. Otro de ellos contó cómo se despidió de los miembros de su antigua iglesia. Al hacerlo explicó el por qué de su decisión y el

Espíritu Santo impresionó a algunos de los asistentes que al escuchar su testimonio, expresaron su deseo de conocer más acerca de la iglesia Adventista. En la actualidad se encuentran recibiendo estudios bíblicos.

—ARMANDO DE
LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE
LA ASOCIACIÓN

Fiesta Espiritual en Carrolton

Durante la última semana de marzo y los primeros días de abril, se llevó a cabo un esfuerzo evangélico a cargo del pastor Poloche en Carrolton GA. El título del evento fue “Jesús al Control.”

Se ofrecieron regalos y refrigerios, y las reuniones fueron dinámicas e interactivas. Antes de la presentación de cada tema se repasaba una lección de la serie “La Fe

de Jesús”, actividad que actuó como punto de contacto entre miembros de iglesia y las visitas quienes participaron con entusiasmo y entablaron lazos de amistad.

Como resultado de esta campaña tres personas aceptaron el llamado a seguir a Jesús y fueron bautizadas.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,
DIRECTOR DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO
DE LA ASOCIACIÓN



Palabras de Esperanza



La congregación Efeso en New Bern NC, fue bendecida con una serie de conferencias que tuvieron lugar entre el 2 y el 9 de

abril. El título fue “Palabras de Esperanza” y el pastor Ismael Uribe presentó los temas teniendo como centro el sacrificio de Jesús en la cruz.

La programación fue amena y la organización estuvo a cargo de la junta directiva de New Bern y el pastor laico Eduardo

Saavedra quien también dirige las congregaciones de Wallace y Conway. Para Gloria de Dios tres personas aceptaron a Jesús en su corazón y lo demostraron por medio del bautismo.

—ISMAEL URIBE, PASTOR DEL
DISTRITO DE WARSAW, NC

Nueva Compañía en Cartersville

Con una membresía de treinta y dos personas se organizó la compañía “Renacer” en Cartersville, GA. El evento fue coordinado por el pastor Andrew Cabán y su esposa, la doctora Mariany Cabán.

Dios bendijo a esta congregación con una



hermosa casa de culto cuyas bancas, alfombra y techo fueron producto de una donación.

Renacer se caracteriza por la fe y el entusiasmo de sus miembros, y su agradecimiento por las

bendiciones con que Dios los ha provisto. Ellos manifestaron un fuerte deseo de trabajar para Cristo durante todo el programa. Su meta es pronto ser organizados como iglesia, por lo que se han comprometido a llevar el mensaje a todas las regiones aledañas.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE
DIRECTOR DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE
LA ASOCIACIÓN

Nuevo Grupo en Calhoun



Miembros de la iglesia “Los Tres Ángeles” de Dalton GA, han estado trabajando arduamente para poder formar una nueva congregación en la

ciudad de Calhoun GA. Sus esfuerzos han dado frutos, y el 9 de abril, se organizó un grupo con una membresía de veintiséis fieles.

El pastor Andrew Cabán junto a su esposa e hijo hicieron un muy buen trabajo coordinando la ceremonia.

Los veintiséis miembros fueron animados a trabajar en la zona donde viven, para poder alcanzar una membresía de cuarenta, y así poder ser organizados como compañía. El pastor Efraín Poloche fue el invitado especial de la ceremonia y presentó consejos del Espíritu de Profecía en referencia al crecimiento de iglesia, alentando a que durante la

semana cada miembro de un testimonio vivo de lo que Cristo ha hecho en su vida, y el sábado comparta los resultados de esta testificación con la familia de la iglesia. Este consejo difiere de la antigua práctica de organizar la obra misionera exclusivamente para ser llevada a cabo los sábados de tarde.

Estamos seguros de que Dios bendicirá esta congregación celosa por compartir el mensaje de salvación.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE,
DIRECTOR DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE
LA ASOCIACIÓN

Semana Oración en la Escuela de Jonesboro

Fernando Lista, director de la Escuela Adventista Internacional de Jonesboro GA, organizó la semana de oración titulada “Jesús Toma el Control” del 18 al 22 de marzo pasados, que tuvo como orador al pastor Efraín

Poloche.

Los alumnos le dieron el control a Jesús y cada día se presentaron lecciones prácticas mediante el uso de un control remoto. El lunes se ilustró el tema con la tecla POWER, El martes con

MENÚ, el miércoles con VOLUMEN, el jueves con la tecla CHANNEL, y el viernes con ENTER. Cada una de ellas ilustraba una lección espiritual.

Once niños tomaron su decisión de seguir a Cristo, y algunos de

ellos se preparan para el bautismo, por lo que recibieron un certificado de iniciación para esta ceremonia.

—EFRAÍN POLOCHE
DIRECTOR DEL
DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE
LA ASOCIACIÓN



Retiro de Parejas



Bajo el lema
"Enamorados por

Siempre" se
llevó a cabo
el retiro
de parejas
del 2011
organizado
por el pastor
Efraín Poloche
y su esposa
Xiomara.

El evento
fue decorado
con estilo griego, y

tuvo como
invitados al
pastor Jorge
Agüero y
su esposa
quienes
motivaron a
las parejas
asistentes
por medio de
sus temas y
presentaciones musicales
a acercarse más a Dios,



fuente del amor eterno.
—ISMAEL URIBE, PASTOR DEL
DISTRITO DE WARSAW, NC

Bautismo en Saluda

Con una asistencia
que sobrepasó los 100,
se llevó a cabo una
campaña en la iglesia

de Saluda SC, durante
el mes de marzo. La
misma estuvo a cargo del
pastor evangelista Gerson

Granoble.
El resultado de este
esfuerzo fue de nueve
bautismos.

—JOSÉ REYES, PASTOR DEL
DISTRITO

Retiro de Ancianos



Durante el fin de
semana de Pacua, se llevó
a cabo el segundo retiro
de ancianos a nivel de
unión. El lugar elegido

fue Atlanta, y más de
200 ancianos se dieron
cita para beneficiarse
con el evento. Muchos
lo hicieron acompañados

de sus esposas.
El programa fue
transmitido a 200
sitios por Internet,
y hubo una gran
participación a
distancia.

El pastor
Alejandro Bullón
presentó en forma
clara y práctica las
funciones del
anciano, y su
participación
en la misión
de la iglesia.
Resaltó

la importancia
del trabajo en
equipo, la humildad
personal, y la

estrecha relación con Dios
que esta posición requiere.
Fue notable ver el interés
de los asistentes, quienes
no cesaban de hacer
preguntas, dar testimonio,
y compartir comentarios.

—MARIEL LOMBARDI,
EDITORIA



Legal Notices

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE SESSION

Notice is hereby given that the 24th regular Session of the South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the River Oaks Praise & Worship Center, in Orangeburg, South Carolina, Sunday, September 11, 2011. This Session is called for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing quinquennium and for transacting all other business which may properly come before the Session. The first meeting of the Conference Session is called for 9:00 a.m. The Organizing Committee will meet Saturday night, September 10, 2011, at 8:00 p.m. Delegates will be seated per Conference Bylaws.

Vanard Mendinghall, President
William L. Winston, Executive Secretary
Larry E. Johnson, Treasurer

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS, INC.

Notice is hereby given that the 24th regular Session of the South Atlantic Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, is called to meet at the River Oaks Praise & Worship Center, in Orangeburg, South Carolina, Sunday, September 11, 2011, 9:00 am. The Organizing Committee will meet Saturday night, September 10, 2011, at 8:00 p.m. Duly elected delegates to the South Atlantic Conference Session serve as the constituency of the corporation.

Vanard Mendinghall, President
William L. Winston, Executive Secretary
Larry E. Johnson, Treasurer

REGULAR SESSION OF THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the next regular meeting of the membership of the Southern Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, located at 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, Georgia, at 4 p.m., September 18, 2011, for the purpose of electing a board of directors and the transacting of such other business as may properly come before the membership. The members of this association are the accredited delegates in attendance at the regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (unincorporated).

Gordon L. Retzer, President
Ron C. Smith, Executive Secretary

REGULAR SESSION OF THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE REVOLVING FUND, INC.

Notice is hereby given that the next regular meeting of the membership of the Southern Union Revolving Fund will convene at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, located at 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, Georgia, at 4 p.m., September 18, 2011, for the purpose of electing a board of directors and the transacting of such other business as may properly come before the membership. The members of this corporation are the accredited delegates in attendance at the regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (unincorporated).

Gordon L. Retzer, President
Ron C. Smith, Executive Secretary

REGULAR SESSION OF THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Notice is hereby given that the next regular meeting of the 18th regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, located at 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, Georgia, at 4 p.m., September 18, 2011, for the purpose of electing officers and the transaction of such other business as may come before the membership. The regular delegates to this session are appointed by the local conferences of the union on the basis of one for each 1,000 members or major fraction thereof, plus one for the organization.

Gordon L. Retzer, President
Ron C. Smith, Executive Secretary

REGULAR SESSION OF SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Notice is hereby given that the next regular session of the membership of Southern Adventist University will be held in conjunction with the Southern Union Conference Session to be held at the Marriott Atlanta Airport, located at 4711 Best Road, Atlanta, Georgia, at 4 p.m., September 18, 2011.

The purpose the meeting is to elect a board of trustees, to revise or amend the charter and bylaws, and to transact any other necessary business. The members of this corporation are the accredited delegates in attendance at the regular session of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (unincorporated).

Gordon L. Retzer, Chairman
Robert Young, Secretary

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Advertisements

WILDWOOD HEALTH EVANGELISM CAMP: Sept. 4-25, 2011. Health evangelism; prophecy; sanctuary; leadership; heavenly education; marriage for ministry; closing events; reaching the unreached; hydro & massage; nutrition. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Cost: \$799. Contact: Darlene Keith 931-724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. Email: darlenekeith@gmail.com. [7]

WILDWOOD COUNTRY LIVING SEMINAR: August 21-28, 2011. Focusing on food preservation—a practical hand's on approach to canning, drying, and freezing, and other practical country living skills. Devotionals on how to live the "simple life." Site: Wildwood Health Retreat. Cost: \$349 (Includes room, materials, vegan meals). Contact: Darlene 931-724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. Email: darlenekeith@gmail.com. [7]

PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR? Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners, and mailing services? Call free, 800-274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit www.hopesource.com. You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin's HOPE deliver on-time. [7-9]

AUTHORS WANTED – If you've written your life story, want to tell others of God's love, or desire to share your spiritual ideas and want it published, call TEACHServices.com at 518-353-6992 for a FREE manuscript review. [7]

PLANNING AN EVENT? Southern Adventist University offers excellent meeting space for your conference or special event needs. Beautiful

setting, personal planning professionals, one-stop shopping! Plenty of recreational and educational options. Ask about our professional team-building packages. Join corporate leaders like Volkswagen of America and McKee Foods Corporation. 10% discount on eligible meeting space when you mention this ad. Call Conference Services and Events, 423-236-2555 or email conferenceservices@southern.edu. [7]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through online and on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423.236.2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees. [7-6]

THE SANCTIFIED LIFE is the theme for the 2011 Secrets Unsealed Summit at Cohutta Springs October 6-9. Speakers: Stephen Bohr, Richard O'Fill, CA Murray & Milton Teske, MD. Register online at www.secretsunsealed.org or call 888-738-1412. Children 8-12 program available. On-site IMT ultrasound testing. [7, 8]

ARE YOU ALONE OR NEED CARE? Carehouse is a small therapeutic personal care home in middle GA. We offer Adventist tv, great vegetarian food, gardening, pet therapy and peaceful country living. Will work with your income. Call 478-998-9428. [7]

REGISTERED NURSE looking for senior/elderly Christian lady to live in an alternative to assisted living care. Located in charming Dade City, in sunny, mid-central Florida. House is on quiet, one acre of shaded property. Will have own private bedroom and bath, use of

living room and SDA TV, den and fireplace, screened porch, and outside patio. Need to be pet friendly. Vegetarian meals. Transportation to church, doctor, etc. Monthly fee negotiable. Call Barb Barton at 352-457-4057 or email me at barbbarton1369@yahoo.com. [7]

REBUILD, REFRESH, AND REVIVE at Home for Health Lifestyle Center. Hands-on health experience great for anyone desiring a lasting improvement in health and a deeper Christian walk. Sessions last 1-3 weeks, are quality, affordable, and family friendly. For more information visit www.HomeforHealth.net or call 606-663-6671. [7-11]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Benedict / Turtle Lake Church 100th Anniversary – July 23. Turtle Lake, ND. We invite all past and present constituents and their families to join us. Details: Roger Boyko, 701-448-2884 or e-mail rkboyko@westriv.com.

Grand Ledge Academy First Years Reunion – Aug. 5-7. Elysian Fields Hunting Preserve near Bellevue, MI. For all charter students, alumni, and faculty from 1959-1964. Details/registration: claudiabahnmler@gmail.com, call Claudia at 360-793-1883, or Facebook group "Grand Ledge Academy - First Years."

Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys Annual Fall Retreat – Sept. 9, 10. Tradewinds Resort, St. Pete Beach, FL. Details: email ReligiousLiberty@southernunion.com.

Peachtree City, GA, Church 35th Homecoming Anniversary – Oct. 14, 15. Details: Joanne Anderson 770-487-8505.

Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend – Oct. 14-16. 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 1937, '42, '47, '52, '57, '62, '67, '72, '77, '82, '87, '92, '97, '02, and 2007. Details: Academy Alumni office, 269-471-6140, or e-mail acadalum@andrews.edu.

Society of Adventist Communicators Convention – Oct. 20-22. Chicago, IL. Keynote speaker: David Neff, Christianity Today editor-in-chief. Theme: Integrated Communication: The Hub of Excellence. The 23rd annual convention is in Chicago, IL, this year. We hope to see many professional and local church communicators there. Sometimes it is hard for them to attend because of finances. Would you consider sponsoring some of them to come to the convention? Imagine if more of the local church communicators would be able to get training on how to do communication for their local church — how great would that be? Please download the flier and pass on this opportunity to your local church and/or school communication leaders. Visit, adventistcommunicator.org for further details.

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Events Calendar

Carolina

Cambodian/Hmong 9th Annual Camp Meeting – July 1-3.

Tween/Horsemanship III/Golf Camp – July 3-9. Nosoca.

Teen Camp – July 10-16. Nosoca.

Master Guide Campout – July 29-31. Nosoca.

Sabbath School Workshop – July 29-31. Nosoca.

Pastoral Family Retreat – July 31-Aug. 3. Nosoca.

Florida

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

Florida Pathfinder events – <http://www.floridaconference.com/youth/> or call 407-644-5000 x127.

Singles' Ministries events and mailing list information – Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. <http://www.floridaconference.com/childrenandfamily/>, djmiller4000@gmail.com, or 407-783-3050.

Florida Hospital DeLand Support Groups – Florida Hospital DeLand offers a variety of support groups such as attention deficit disorder, bereavement, brain injury, celiac disease, diabetes, sleep disorders, and more. Details are available under the "Support Groups" link in the "Patients and Visitors" box at <http://www.fhdeland.org/>

North Florida Oakwood University Alumni Chapter – membership information and event listings for Oakwood alumni in Florida. Details: <http://www.oakwoodalumninfl.org/>, oakwoodalumninfl@gmail.com, 888-719-7776, or 904-616-1896.

Florida Adventist Book Center – Winter Park: 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222). Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: <http://www.floridaconference.com/abc/> or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com

Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

July 23. St. Petersburg.

July 24. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills.

July 30. Maranatha in Miami

Gardens.

July 31. Fort Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Pompano Beach, Jupiter-Tequesta.

Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics

July 30. Eliathah.

Aug. 20. Clermont.

Aug. 27. Boynton Beach.

Sept. 10. Umatilla.

Sept. 17. Brooksville.

Sept. 24. Spring Hill.

Spanish-language Marriage Retreat – Aug. 5-7. Plaza Resort and Spa, Daytona Beach.

Theme: Renovación. Guest speakers: César and Carolann de León. Cost: \$325 (additional \$60 after July 11), includes accommodations, Sabbath meals, Sunday breakfast, and materials. No children, please. Details: 407-644-5000 x138 or 321-439-1321.

Florida Conference Evangelism Series

Aug. 20-27. Brandon Spanish district. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.

Sept. 10-Oct. 29. La Caravana de la Victoria (Caravan of Victory): eight locations in Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood area. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.

Oct. 1-Nov. 12. Altamonte Springs. Bill and Sunshine Waters.

Nov. 5-19. Northwest Miami Spanish. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.

Children's Ministries Conventions – GraceLink workshops, family worship, storytelling and outreach ideas, and more.

Sept. 9-11. English-language. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs.

Theme: Go Fish. Cost: \$125, includes convention, lodging, and five meals. Details/registration: <http://www.floridaconference.com/childrenandfamily/>, rhoda.burrill@floridaconference.com, 407-644-5000 x136, or 321-303-7699.

Sept. 30-Oct. 2. Spanish-language. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Theme: Christ, the Rock of Ages. Cost: \$105-125 depending on accommodation choice (\$65 for tent camping), includes convention, lodging, and meals. Details/registration: 407-644-5000 x138 or 321-439-1321.

Go Fish For Kids – Oct.

22. Fort Myers Church. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Kids are invited to come and learn great ways to witness to friends and neighbors. Puppetry, nature, fitness fun, interactive storytelling, ballooning, music, and more. Cost: free. Bring your own lunch. Details: <http://www.floridaconference.com/childrenandfamily/>, rhoda.burrill@floridaconference.com, 407-644-5000 x136, or 321-303-7699.

Georgia-Cumberland

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Teen 1 (ages 13-17) – July 3-10. Crandall, GA.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Rock Solid (ages 16-18) – July 3-10. Crandall, GA.

Personal Ministries Rally – July 9. Savannah, Ga.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Teen 2 (ages 13-17) – July 10-17. Crandall, GA.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Rock Solid 2 (ages 16-18) – July 10-17. Crandall, GA.

Missional Pastors, New Group Training – July 15-17. Cohutta Springs Conference Center. Crandall, GA.

Health Rally – July 16. Atlanta All Nations Church, Lilburn, GA.

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Family Camp – July 19-24. Crandall, GA.

Prison Ministries Training – July 23. Conference office. Calhoun, GA.

Women's Leadership Training – July 29-31. Conference office. Calhoun, GA.

Elementary Teachers'

Convention – Aug. 1-3. Cohutta Springs Conference Center. Crandall, GA.

Deaf Camp Meeting – Aug. 4-7. Cohutta Springs Conference Center. Crandall, GA.

First Day of School – Aug. 10.

Gulf States

Complete Calendar online

<http://www.gscsda.org>

Pastor's Retreat – July 25-28. Camp Alamisco.

Teachers' Meeting – Aug. 1-3. Bass Memorial Academy.

Literature Evangelist Retreat – Aug. 4-7. Camp Alamisco.

Elementary Schools first day – Aug. 9.

Bass Memorial Academy registration day – Aug. 14.

Executive Committee – Aug. 16.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Association Board

July 19. Sept. 20. Dec. 6.

Executive Committee

July 19. Sept. 20. Dec. 6.

Summer Camp Dates

Tween Camp – July 3-10.

Teen Camp – July 10-17.

Family Camp II – July 17-24.

Extreme Outpost Camp – July 24-29.

Hispanic Child/Youth Camp – July 25-31.

50-Plus Camp – Aug. 9-14.

Sunset

	July 1	July 8	July 15	July 22	July 29	Aug. 5
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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