

August 2012

T SOUTHERN TIDINGS



**Caring for Seniors
and Caregivers**

Old Friends

I was contacted today by an old friend I haven't heard from in more than 20 years. In fact, I had completely lost track of him. Years ago we had pastored in the same conference together, but due to a variety of circumstances, he had left the ministry. Subsequently, he also left the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

As I reflected on this encounter from the past, I couldn't help but think of the many others who have left the fellowship of God's remnant Church. In fact, some studies would suggest that if all inactive and former members returned home to Church, our ranks would more than double. But, this departure from "home" is not a new phenomenon. Jesus spoke of it more than 2,000 years ago in perhaps the best-known and loved parable He ever gave — the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

You know the story: a wayward son who wants his inheritance. He then goes and squanders it on riotous and sinful living. Finally, upon coming to his senses, he returns home hoping to at least have the status of a servant. But, a loving father who has been looking for his return restores him as a beloved son. It is one of the most beautiful and poignant stories of all Scripture. Had Jesus ended the story here, it would have been one of the most joyful of all endings ... but He didn't.

For Jesus now introduces another element. The element of the elder brother who didn't squander his inheritance ... who worked faithfully through the years ... who was jealous and angry because his brother had returned and been restored as a son. It takes what could have been a joyful scene of reunion and turns it into a note of discord. In fact, I have wondered would Jesus have preferred to end the story another way. What if Jesus had been able to tell of an elder son who missed his brother? What if He had been able to tell of an elder son who had gone in search of his sibling? Of an elder son who brought the wanderer back home and rejoiced at his return?

Somehow, I think that is the ending Jesus would have preferred. However, He couldn't end it that way, for as it says in *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 207, "This elder brother has not been sharing in his father's anxiety, and watching for the one that was lost. He shares not, therefore, in the father's joy at the wanderer's return."

As I think of the many brothers and sisters who have left home, are we watching for the wanderer's return to our churches? Are we going in search of them? Are we waiting to throw a feast and celebration when they return? Perhaps each of us knows someone who has left. What an opportunity is ours to go in search, to extend the invitation, and then to rejoice and have a party! "For this son (or daughter) of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found."

Now, if you will excuse me, I have an old friend I need to contact...



Jim Davidson
Southern Union
Executive Secretary

Guest Editorial

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Caring ^{FOR} Seniors AND Caregivers

HOW ADVENTISTS ARE SUPPORTING SENIORS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

BY MARILYN RENK AND R. STEVEN NORMAN III

An increasing number of Adventists are facing the challenges of aging or the responsibility of caring for the elderly relatives.

Adventists are not alone. The average age of the world's population and the Church is changing. Each day since January 2011, at least 10,000 people have been turning 65. This trend will continue through 2037. According to the United Nations Population Division, in 2000 there were about 606 million people, ages 60 or older, in the world. By 2050, that number is expected to triple to two billion.

The fastest growing age group in the United States is the "oldest old," those 85 years and older.

This trend is also changing the face of congregations. The average age of congregations is increasing throughout the world. The median age for Adventists in North America is approximately 51. By comparison, the median age for all Americans is 36.

What has contributed to this change? Average life expectancy has increased by 30 years, so that in the United States life expectancy has increased from 47 years in 1900 to 78 years today. Today's seniors



First Seventh-day Adventist Church Towers in Huntsville, Alabama, has been providing assisted-living housing for the past 25 years.

WAYS TO ASSIST SENIORS

- Offer workshops that provide education about senior issues
- Parish nurse services
- Community senior health fairs
- Homemaker services
- Home repair / maintenance services
- Nutrition sites / meals programs
- Companion services
- Telephone reassurance
- Transportation services
- Adopt-a-Grandparent program
- Hospice programs
- Elder advocacy
- Worship / prayer / study groups
- Assistance with financial management
- Assistance with legal issues
- Travel opportunities
- Recreation / social opportunities
- Meals on Wheels

WAYS TO ASSIST CAREGIVERS

- Counseling for stress or grief
- Caregiver support groups
- Spiritual support
- Respite care services
- Assistance with personal care and homemaker services
- Help with end-of-life issues
- Information and referral
- Listen

are happier and healthier than their predecessors are, and face the real prospect of living longer than most ever imagined. But, living longer has special challenges and rewards for seniors and their caregivers.

Longer life expectancy is rewarding individuals with the ability to remain in the workforce longer. They can also be more involved in their communities and churches.

Some of the challenges facing seniors are outliving financial resources, lack of caregiver support, and insufficient health insurance.

Caregivers are also feeling the impact. Virtually all congregations include members who are caring for family members who are not able to take care of themselves. Some are taking care of two and even three relatives. The time requirement, changes in lifestyle, loss of employment, or other factors may be a caregiver's challenge.

How are Adventists Supporting Seniors and Caregivers?

ASSIST (Academy Students Service Initiative Stipend/Tuition Program)

Since 2007, Southern Adventist University has administered an elder care program it calls ASSIST. René Drumm, dean of Southern Adventist University's School of Social Work, says ASSIST employs academy students to provide services to people who are homebound or need assis-

tance. Students help older adults with day-to-day chores, provide respite for caregivers, and develop special relationships with them in the process.

One student participant in the program, Jasmine, says, "Working for Adopt-a-Grandparent has been nothing but joy and excitement Adopt-a-Grandparent not only has allowed me to form new friendships, but it has helped me financially I feel that's a blessing from God."

Housing Facilities

Several conferences and churches in the Southern Union provide independent living and assisted living facilities. These are sprinkled in various cities throughout the Union.

At Oakwood University Church, Carlton Byrd, D.Min., senior pastor, reports, "We have started an Alzheimer's Caretakers Support Group. This support group and community initiative is open for all in the greater Huntsville/Madison County who serve as caretakers for persons with Alzheimers. The group meets the



Students who participate in Southern Adventist University's ASSIST program have the opportunity to serve and develop relationships with older adults.

fourth Tuesday of each month at the Oakwood University Church.”

Support for Caregivers

One of the big needs is support for caregivers. With the senior population growing and the size of families shrinking, there are fewer children to share the responsibility. Churches will need to know who the caregivers are in their congregation, and offer supportive and respite services to relieve the burden caregivers carry.

ACS Elder Care Ministries

Sung Kwon, North American Division Adventist Community Services (ACS) director, saw the changing demographics of the world and launched the ACS Elder Care Ministry.

“ACS Elder Care Ministry promotes Christ-centered, practical, and sustainable solutions to successful wholistic aging,” says Kwon. “Elder Care Ministry informs and educates elderly members of the Church and communities about wholeness of life and attending to the physical, social, mental, and spiritual well-being of each person. In addition, it provides services for caregivers whose efforts and own personal needs are often forgotten.”

Kwon added, “We hope to cultivate elder care leadership with Certified Senior Advisors (CSA) in each conference and congregation in

North America, to provide not only services for seniors, but also to create opportunities for them to be involved and serve, and to have the younger generation to be engaged in serving elders.”

How to Launch an Elder Care Ministry

Fortunately, education is available to give you the qualifications and tools you need. The North American Division Adventist Community Services Department has designed a curriculum to help unions, conferences, and local churches to make plans to address the needs of seniors and their caregivers. ACS will send an educator to a conference or union-sponsored event to present this curriculum.



It is the goal of ACS that every congregation in North America will have an elder care ministry. This ministry will not look the same in each area. It needs to be designed to meet the needs of your congregation and community.

Keep in mind that an elder care ministry is not just ministry to and for older adults; it includes ministry by and with older adults as well. Psalms is right when it says, “In old age the righteous still bear fruit.” Pastors and church leaders must see their potential and create cross-generation

opportunities for youth and older adults. The church of tomorrow will be a cross-generational church.

Let your services reach beyond your congregation. Include your community in your plans. One caregiver said she wishes that a church would open its doors once a week so caregivers could bring their relatives to church for a few hours. This would give them an opportunity to run errands that are otherwise impossible to accomplish.

It is also important that each conference have available either on their website or in their office a list of all Seventh-day Adventist-owned or managed senior living facilities in their conference.

It is suggested that each conference staff at least two individuals who have their Certified Senior Advisor designation. Those interested may call the education representative for Seventh-day Adventists with the Society of Certified Seniors Advisors, Khang Chim, for more details and scholarship information, at 888-828-9251.

As you prayerfully consider how you can help, God will show you how you and your congregation can make a huge difference in the lives of seniors and their caregivers in your congregation and community. ✨

Marilyn Renk, C.S.A., M.P.H., M.S., North American Division ACS Elder Care Ministries coordinator

R. Steven Norman III, C.S.A., Southern Union communication director

RESOURCES AND LINKS

PowerPoint Presentations

Ministry to Seniors and their Caregivers: An Introduction to Local Church Elder Care Ministry, by R. Steven Norman III, C.S.A.

ASSIST: Academy Student Service Initiative Stipend/Tuition Program. Southern Adventist University School of Social Work.

Both of these presentations may be found at: <http://southernunion.ad->

ventistchurchconnect.org/article/344/news-events/news-releases/august-southern-tidings-additional-content

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM ADVENTSOURCE:

- Adventist Elder Care Brochure
- A Quick Start Guide – Senior Adult Ministries
- ACS Manual: Section on Elder Care Ministries

- Elder Care Ministries Curriculum Guide (coming soon)
- If you have questions or want more information, visit www.communityservices.org, click on Elder Care Ministries. ACS website: www.communityservices.org. Also, join www.facebook.com/AdventistElderCare.

A Hospital Transformed Through Mission

BY RAINEY PARK



In the fall of 2010, Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital in Tarpon Springs, Florida, became a member of Adventist Health System, along with five other hospitals in the Tampa Bay area.

The change generated mixed feelings among community members and hospital employees, who for 85 years have known Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital as a city-run facility. Some recognized that the failing hospital needed help in order to survive, while others feared that new guidelines regarding Sabbath hours and cafeteria food options would have a negative effect on the hospital's culture, said Christine Stewart, director of communications at Adventist Health System.

Now, nearly two years later, residents of Tarpon Springs are able to look back and say with Jennifer DeCurtis, the hospital's director of marketing, that "moving to a faith-based hospital has been one of the best changes."

Renovations and equipment updates have turned Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital into a thriving facility that offers cutting-edge oncology care. It is now one of only 30 percent of hospitals nationwide that has a completely digital physician order entry system, which greatly reduces patient wait times and medication errors.

The most significant change, however, is in the mindset that guides patient care. As employees

It is no longer unusual for medical staff to bow their heads with patients in prayer or look deeper into patients' needs for healing and comfort.

"This is the same building," DeCurtis said, "But it is not the same hospital."

Adopting a New Name

To reflect the transformation, on September 1, 2011, the hospital announced that with the support of Helen Ellis' family and the city council, they were adopting a new name: Florida Hospital North Pinellas.

This time, employees were eager to embrace the change.

"The Adventists...know how to run a hospital," said Norman S. Abbott, M.D., who has worked at Florida Hospital North Pinellas for 24 years. "They know how to create a good working environment and how to work with the community. I can only see good things going forward."

His colleague, Paul M. Arnold, M.D., agreed. "I think the future here is very bright," the vice chief of staff said. "We're all very excited about the new changes that are happening, and it's very, very exciting over the next few months and years to see what comes out." ❖

Rainey Park is a communication specialist at Adventist Health System.



Florida Hospital North Pinellas is the new name for exceptional health care in Tarpon Springs and the surrounding region.

have come to understand Adventist Health System's mission, *Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ*, they have "fully embraced it," DeCurtis said.



Front view of Borean Village and Senior Services Center

Atlanta-Berean Opens Senior Services Center

BY CURRINE HARRIS

Known for its community outreach and active senior services ministries, the Atlanta-Berean Church members and then senior pastor, Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., voted in February 2008 to apply for a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) to construct a senior residential facility. Bereanite, Currine Harris, was asked to manage the application process. Harris accepted the challenge, and with prayerful support from the pastor and the members, the process was underway.

After five months of gathering information, communicating with HUD and several other entities, soliciting letters from community supporters, and so much more, the application was completed, and was submitted on July 10, 2008.

By year-end, anxiety was building waiting to hear from HUD and wondering what was taking s-o-o-o long. Finally, six months later on January 26, 2009, HUD's award letter was received. In part, it read: "We are pleased to advise you that your application to construct housing for the elderly. . . has

been approved. Capital Advance authority in the amount of \$5,211,100 is available for this project." To God be the Glory!

Now began the design and planning stage. During this time, the members voted to build the facility at the old vacant church school site. However, this decision met with



Cutting the ribbon are Fredrick Russell (front row, left), Atlanta-Berean senior pastor and board president; Clela Winslow, Atlanta City council member; Carlton Byrd, D.Min., former senior pastor and board president; Currine Harris, project/grant coordinator and board secretary; William Winston, South Atlantic Conference president emeritus; Vanard Mendinghall, Conference executive secretary. Atlanta-Berean Non-profit Board of Directors: Jose Duthil (back row, left), Douglas Wright, Ollie Clemons Jr., Pamela Foster Bishop, and Gayle Newton-Taylor. Atlanta-Berean associate pastors: John Boston II and Rebecca Davis.

neighborhood opposition, which resulted in a number of community and public hearings that delayed the project for several months. But again,

the Lord answered prayer! All plans were ultimately approved, and on March 30, 2011, construction began.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on April 1, 2012. Byrd returned to host the event, along with the Atlanta-Berean Nonprofit Board of Directors. Program participants included HUD and South Atlantic officials, the mayor's office and Atlanta City Council representatives, community pastors, the design and construction team, and others, ushered in by Atlanta-Berean Crusaders Pathfinders Drum Corp. Hundreds attended the ceremony which culminated with a tour of the three-story building.

Berean Village is a state-of-the-art, non-smoking, one-bedroom, 48-unit apartment facility for qualified seniors 62 years old or older, of moderate-income levels. Features and amenities include new appliances, central heat and air, and laundry room, on-site management, 24-hour electronic security monitoring system, a beautiful courtyard/patio area, fitness room, media center, and more. Of significant note, Berean Village is a certified Earthcraft®, energy efficient building which guarantees to save on utility costs. This is the first HUD 202 Housing facility throughout the southeast that has earned this designation. ♪

For more information, call Berean Village at 678-399-6510.

Currine Harris served as the project/grant manager for Berean Village and Senior Services Center.

Alli's Triumph

David Brannon, Travis Queen, and Mike Motes were Alli Albritton's Angels at Callaway Gardens' Sprint Triathlon on June 17, 2012, in Pine Mountain, Georgia.

At the 2010 Ironman 70.3 Augusta race, David Brannon particularly noticed some of the athletes. While the majority of the field was not unlike him, others were doing the race under a different set of circumstances: blind or as an amputee, with assistance from unchallenged athletes.

“My heart was really touched, and a longing to use my health and athleticism to fulfill a dream in someone else’s life sprouted,” said Brannon, a member of the Calhoun, Ga., Church.

A year and a half later, a colleague introduced him to myTEAM TRIUMPH, a non-profit organization that pairs three triathletes (called angels) with a child, teen, adult, or veteran (called the captain) whose disabilities would normally prohibit them from participating in a triathlon.

“I was excited about this avenue,” Brannon said. “The wheels were constantly moving in my head.”

At a gathering in April, he noticed Alli Albritton, a 10-year-old girl with cerebral palsy. Brannon didn’t hesitate to introduce himself to her family and asked if she’d like to do a triathlon. Her family quickly agreed.

“I knew from the get-go this would be something Alli would love,” said Regina Albritton, Alli’s mom. “She has always gotten very excited at opportunities to be active. She loves riding the go-cart with her dad, flying in airplanes... Her mind has always loved the adventures her body has difficulty with.”

Brannon asked two triathlon friends, Travis Queen and Mike Motes, to join him, and the group decided on doing Callaway Gardens’ Sprint Triathlon on June 17 in Pine Mountain, Ga.

“Each time someone would mention Callaway, Alli would grin so big, you could even see her heart smile,” Regina Albritton said. “Her little sister, Amber, made a countdown so we could mark each day off. We hung it on her bedroom door, and it was the first thing she looked at each morning.”

Shirley and Sam Harwell, Alli’s grandparents, joined in Alli’s excitement, rereading to her Philippians 4:13:

— “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

Race day finally arrived. For the 400m swim, Queen’s daughter, Katee, held Alli in a boat while he pulled them.

The team then transferred Alli into a trailer that was attached to Motes’ bike for the 8-mile course.

“I truly gave it my best. I wanted it to be the best it could,” Motes said. “David and Travis were great to ride ahead and clear riders as we came through. She looked so peaceful.”

Finally, she transitioned into a stroller, which Brannon pushed for the 2-mile run.

“About halfway through, I looked down to see Alli just so relaxed, really enjoying the run,” he said.

Alli finished in 1:14:23, greeted by an exuberant crowd — including her mom, dad, sister, aunt, grandparents, and new friends — before being presented with a special medallion for completing the race.



very humbling... It was such a blessing to be able to help someone else experience [this]. I got into triathlon for myself. I’ve trained, raced, and enjoyed the sport for several years, but this was the first time I had the opportunity to do it for someone else.”

“Crossing the finish line typically brings a sense of fulfillment, relief, joy, and exhilaration,” Brannon said, “but this was different. To see Alli and her family smiling and so happy added a different dimension to the greatness of the finish line. It’s difficult to express in words.”

Motes echoed their sentiments, saying the event was “an experience like no other” since “it’s rare you get a chance to share the joys of a triathlon with someone so deserving.”

All three are committed to doing it again.

“We are sold out on continuing to be a part of others’ lives in this avenue — using the health that God has blessed us with to be a blessing to others,” Brannon said.

The Albritton family expressed how grateful they were for the team’s efforts.

“Alli is a very special child, and [they] seemed to recognize that from the beginning. [They] treated her like a princess,” said Pam Wise, Alli’s aunt. “The energy, persistence, creativity, talent, and time that was so freely and joyfully given were nothing less than a gift from God.”

Alli’s “Grandmother” and “Papa Sam” agreed.

“The generosity of the team of athletes was amazing. They probably could have won the events, but instead, chose to let this child participate with them, knowing it would slow them down. The thrill was contagious, and we all had a great time. When is the next one?!”

There’s a good chance it won’t be too long before they do another, according to Alli’s mom: “Triathlons seem to be

right up her ‘Alli.’” ❄️

Britni Brannon is Georgia-Cumberland Conference communication assistant.

For Alli’s angels — all of them experienced triathletes — this finish line meant more than most.

“It was very rewarding,” Queen said. “To see Alli smile at the end felt

CHERYL BRANNON



AHS-2 Researchers Share Study Results at Camp Meetings

BY BARRY MANEMBU, MPA

Summer Camp Meeting has always been one of the great Adventist gatherings, and many appreciate the spiritual refreshment it offers through sermons, seminars, music, and fellowship. This summer though, a lot of attendees experienced another sense of renewal as they listened to special presentations by Adventist Health Study-2 (AHS-2) researchers,

and learned more about the latest scientific findings from the study.

In July 2011, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded AHS-2 \$5.5 million to continue the study for another five years, and these Camp Meeting visits were all about honoring the commitment of AHS-2 to share the latest results with study participants while giving a personal

face to the research.

“Despite the fairly tight schedule, all of the presentations were warmly received. There was very good support and interest from the conference administrators and the pastors who assisted me on the Sabbaths. Several people who wanted more information even followed me to the foyer to ask questions afterwards,” said

Terry Butler, Dr.P.H., one of the AHS senior researchers assigned to do the presentations.

During the month of June, he gave talks at a number of North American Division Camp Meetings, including Kentucky-Tennessee Camp Meeting and Gulf States Camp Meeting. Butler's main presentation was entitled "Are Adventists Living Longer and Healthier? Latest Findings from the Adventist Health Studies" which also contained a short video clip of the AHS-2 director, Gary Fraser, M.D., Ph.D.

"Most of my presentation was on the preliminary findings from AHS-2 and the religion study (ARHS), with anticipation of some major findings during the next three years. We now know that vegetarian Adventists have lower mortality rates, and lower rates of certain cancers compared to non-vegetarian study members," he said.

There were many active study members among the congregations, and he was able to meet with them at most of the locations. "They asked a variety of questions, but the typical ones were on the diet classifications, the pesco-vegetarian diet, what we were doing about Alzheimer's disease, and how to get further information," said Butler, an epidemiologist and pastor who previously served as union and Division health ministries director for the South Pacific Division.

HEALTH TIPS

Another senior co-investigator, Patti Herring, Ph.D., a health promotion professor at the School of Public Health, Loma Linda University, accompanied by her research assistants Donna Richards and Nicceta Davis, also made presentations at several Camp Meetings of regional conferences, including South Central Camp Meeting at Oakwood University, Huntsville, Alabama, and



Terry Butler, Dr.P.H., one of the Adventist Health Study senior researchers.



South Atlantic Camp Meeting, Orangeburg, South Carolina. She, too, received positive responses from the audiences. "They were glad to learn that the Study is not over and would be continuing for many more years," reported Herring.

Her presentation typically started with a video clip of news coverage of the AHS-2, and then a quick summary on the health outcomes of each conference. This included the percentage of those who reported having high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and type 2 diabetes; patterns of meat eating or vegetarians; and levels of physical activity.

At the same time, she also shared a few health tips for managing high blood pressure, managing diabetes, lowering cholesterol, preventing health disease, and lowering their risks of various cancers.

"We looked at meat eating patterns in black study members, and found that vegans had the best health outcomes. They reported less high blood pressure, less diabetes, and lower blood cholesterol than non-vegetarians,"

explained Herring.

At the end, not only did many individuals go home refreshed with many practical yet valuable health tips, they also discovered some feedback on how to improve their own health indices. And, that was very encouraging for the attendees who

were largely from African-American congregations. "Blacks have the worst health conditions compared to other ethnic groups in America, but this is our time to tell the world that black Adventists have better health outcomes," said Herring, challenging the audiences.

To find out more about the Adventist Health Study-2, please visit our website, www.adventisthealthstudy.org, or like our Facebook page, www.Facebook.com/AHS2.0.

Barry B. Manembu, M.P.A., is the project editor at Loma Linda University School of Public Health.

How to lower your blood pressure, prevent stroke and heart disease, and reduce the risk of cancers by trending toward a plant-based diet (if you are not there already):

- Engage in regular physical activity (4 to 5 days a week, 20 to 30 minutes each)
- Eat two baby carrots every day
- Eat garlic (fresh or garlic powder in foods) every day
- Drink 5 to 8 glasses of water each day (1 glass before sleep at night)
- Eat nuts (i.e., walnuts), even only 10 ounces per day
- Eat beans
- Eat whole wheat bread
- Drink soy milk

BLIND CAMPERS SEE GOD'S LOVE

BY RAJMUND DABROWSKI

SEASON FOR SUMMER CAMPS FOR THE BLIND KICKS-OFF AT TENNESSEE'S INDIAN CREEK CAMP

The 2012 season of summer camps for blind campers was inaugurated at the well-known venue of Indian Creek Camp in Liberty, Tennessee.

The wooded surroundings and an attractive lake shoreline provided a setting where blind campers could safely participate in outdoor activities that were new to many of them. The weather suggested also including on the schedule things to do inside. A recently refurbished facility was well appointed to offer a variety of group or individual indoor activities.

What campers enjoyed is a mix of camp-style activities, with the added blessing of participation in inspirational sing times and talks. Blind campers are no strangers to having fun. Joseph, who comes from Nashville, was eager to practice archery with his staff coach, Narlon

de Oliveira, a 21-year-old animation student at Southern Adventist University.

"So how often does a blind camper hit the target?" is a common question to ask. The exercise is obviously designed to increase self-confidence, discover undeveloped potential, and try the unusual sport activity. "I don't tell campers they have



On June 10-16, 2012, 53 blind campers came to Tennessee's Indian Creek Camp for fun and inspiration. National Camps for the Blind Children, an affiliate of Christian Record Services for the Blind, are the organizers. In 2012, its 45th year of operating the camps, 14 of them will be organized in the United States and Canada.

hit the mark when they have actually missed,” de Oliveira explained. His objective is to help the campers achieve a successful hit. “Even when a target is missed, they encourage each other,” he said. “They express this over-joyous sensation when they hit the target and a balloon pops.”

In addition to archery, the camp activities menu includes an impressive list: canoeing/kayaking, pontoon boating, jet skiing, waterskiing, swimming, the waterfront Iceberg, horsemanship, ceramics, crafts, na-

no different from others, as it was again an inspiring time for everyone. The blind campers got to know new friends, and many returned to meet old friends.”

Having fun and being involved with an assortment of activities that led the blind campers to exercise and strive for new heights offered a rich menu for an observer like me. Much of what was going on was aimed at helping the campers to grow in self-confidence while developing an appreciation for God’s love and care.

It wasn’t difficult to encounter

staff — blind and sighted alike — at the concluding campfire on Saturday night.

It was Michael who cheered others in a kickball game to keep on going. For him, it seemed, his blindness did not destroy his determination to help himself by helping others. Almost immediately, as the Indian Creek Camp ended on June 17, Michael planned to take part in another camp, the NCBC Blind Bikers camp which will take the group of tandem bike riders over the course of three days between Nashville, Tennessee, and Tuscumbia, Alabama.



RAJIND DABROWSKI

Geoffrey, a guide dog for Derrick of Sneedville, Tennessee, considers a “high-five” offer from Ken Wetmore, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference youth director.

ture study, and other sports activities — so there are plenty of choices to consider and lots of fun to be had. In the morning and evening, camp community and spiritual presentations top a packed menu of a camp to remember for years to come.

Tim Arner, Christian Record Southern District director, told me that this was the 37th year of running a camp for the blind at Indian Creek. He said that “this camp was

Michael, who was back at the camp again, as his independence and physical vigor stood out. Though totally blind, he was eager to ride a BMX bike, an activity at which he excelled before an accident left him blind. He got his wish realized. Laying out a safe route for him, counselors equipped his helmet with a camera. A film of his experience received a standing ovation by all campers and

The ride culminated June 24 at Ivy Green, the famed Helen Keller childhood home-museum. Many of the blind campers return again and again. Linda came back to see what had changed through the years — and what hadn’t. Now in her 30’s, she remembers becoming a camper when she was 12. “Sure, there’s a difference between then and now,” she commented. “We

have changed, and those who run the camp have changed, too." She obviously enjoyed herself, displaying a smile as she was kayaking with gusto.

The Indian Creek camp offered many options for the older blind campers, but was also attractive for kids, with their differing attention spans, skill levels, and interests. About half of the 53 blind campers, totally or legally blind, were below the age of 30.

Many of them chose the camp operated by Christian Record Services for the Blind and its National Camps for the Blind because of its Christian atmosphere.

"We are treated here like human beings," said one of them. "We meet God here," said another.

A teacher by profession and the camp pastor for the week, Matt Evens is not a stranger to knowing what the camps are all about. Now in his 20's, Evens has attended camps since he was 12. Now he was tasked with making the camp also a spiritual experience.

"We want you to have fun, but also we hope you will meet God during this week," he concluded on June 10 at the first campfire, a daily evening get-together. The campers

applauded, many adding a resounding amen.

For Ken Wetmore, 37, the newly appointed camp director, running the camp for the blind children and adults was something new. "This is my first such experience, and I am looking forward to it," he said at the outset. He credits his wife, Rachele, for encouraging him to take on the job of coordinating youth and camp activities for the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. In 1997 Rachele herself was a counselor at an NCBC camp.

"Here we want everyone to be treated on an equal basis, we want them to have fun, and my staff is second-to-none in attending to every detail," he said in an interview for the Christian Record News.

This year's camp had a list of those who wanted to come and volunteer, Wetmore explained. Running concurrently with the blind camp was a camp for 51 children, ages 7-9. The combined groups had 58 staffers, joined by a group of 20 counselors in training (CITs).

As Ken was greeting every blind camper with a high-five, Bob Clayton, Christian Record representative for the region and camp coordinator,

remarked that Wetmore's approach indeed was making every camper feel welcome. "He is personable and he makes everyone feel at home," he commented.

"How about a high-five for Geoffrey, my guide dog?" suggested blind Derrick, 21. Wetmore obliged in the midst of laughter.

Judy Byrd, a volunteer director of the Beep Kickball Association, drove from Atlanta, Georgia, to offer as a special treat an introduction to the game of kickball. She brought improved basketball-size balls with buzzers. Two dozen blind campers got a taste of playing the sport outdoors, getting a little exercise and, hopefully, being impressed with their athletic abilities, however slight. I could tell many had not had much opportunity to run, if ever.

Continuing to play the game, even for as little as two more sessions, would let blind campers sense they had greatly improved, Judy Byrd indicated.

"As I know you've seen, the campers feel so good about mastering kickball, becoming a little more agile, finding exercise and being outdoors to be fun and rewarding, and becoming more confident," she commented. It became obvious that the campers wanted more. They cheered each other on and shouted "well done" when a base was reached.

This year National Camps for Blind Children® is celebrating 45 years. National Camps for Blind Children® and National Camps for the Blind® are perhaps the most widely known program of Christian Record Services. It all began in 1967 with a single camp at Kulaqua in High Springs, Florida. This year 14 summer and winter camps span the United States and Canada. More than 50,000 campers have attended these specialized camps. ♪

Rajmund Dabrowski is assistant to the president for marketing at Christian Record Services for the Blind.



RAJMUND DABROWSKI

Blind campers and their counselors listen to kickball game instructions from Judy Byrd, coach.

The Society of Adventist Communicators — It's Not for Professionals Only



GERRY CHUDLEIGH

George Johnson, North American Division communication director, welcomes delegates to the Society of Adventist Communicators' 2011 Convention in Lombard, a suburb of Chicago, Ill.

It seems like a sort of vicious cycle: You're not employable without experience, but you can't get experience without employment.

Any communication student will understand the dire need for experience before they can get a job, but finding opportunities to obtain experience or a job can be a challenge. So what's a person to do? The Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) is the answer.

Created by Seventh-day Adventist communica-

tion professionals from all over North America, the Society is not just composed of established professionals. This organization was created for the purpose of nurturing the spiritual, social, and professional growth of its members. A major part of the Society is providing mentorship to students interested in a communication career.

As if that weren't enough, the Society

holds an annual convention in which upwards of 200 individuals — even some from outside North America — attend presentations, workshops, and seminars to foster growth and professionalism within their field.

Workshops are presented by some of the brightest and best communication professionals working for the worldwide Church and outside the Church structure in corporate and freelance settings.

This atmosphere is prime for university stu-

dents to learn the nuances of their fields, and to finally get those much-needed contacts. The convention provides access to otherwise unreachable internships, job opportunities, and professional mentoring relationships.

For all communication professionals and aspiring students, being a part of SAC provides the fellowship and mentorship that can only be attained by associating with like-minded individuals seeking to excel in their fields and spread the Gospel wherever they go.

This year, the convention will be held at Hotel Albuquerque Old Town, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It will run from Thursday, October 18, through Saturday, October 20. While all meetings and exhibits will be held at the hotel, many attractions are within walking distance.

The theme for the convention is "Soaring to New Heights," inviting communicators

to "stretch" themselves and reach new heights with the skills they may learn at the convention. Visit www.adventistcommunicators.org for details.

There is a lot more to be said about SAC and its benefits, but the only way to know for sure is to find out for yourself — especially if you are a student. Consider this your formal invitation to Albuquerque this October, and seize the opportunity to network and get that internship or job that you need.

—BY PABLO COLINDRES



GERRY CHUDLEIGH

Licci Zemleduch from the University of Montemorelos in Mexico presents a recent project at the 2011 SAC Convention.

Hospitals Receive 'A' for Patient Safety

Eleven Adventist Health System hospitals in the Southern Union were honored with an 'A' in patient safety by The Leapfrog Group, an independent national non-profit run by employers and other large purchasers of health benefits.

Calculated under the guidance of The Leapfrog Group's nine-member Blue Ribbon Expert Panel, the Hospital Safety ScoreSM uses 26 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to produce a single score representing a hospital's overall capacity to keep patients safe from infections, injuries, and medical and medication errors. U.S. hospitals were then assigned an A, B, C, D, or F for their safety.

"It's The Leapfrog Group's

goal to give patients the information they need and deserve before even entering a hospital," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "We congratulate the hospitals that earned an 'A,' and we look forward to the day when all hospitals in the U.S. will earn the highest scores for putting patient safety first."

Of the 2,600 general hospitals assigned a grade,

729 received an 'A.'

"As a health care system, we are focused on patient safety and participate in a number of initiatives to continually improve in this important area," said Douglas L. Bechard, M.D., vice president of clinical effectiveness and chief quality and patient safety officer for Adventist Health System. "We are proud of the facilities that earned a top grade for safety, and

appreciate the diligent efforts of our clinicians to place patient safety first."

—BY MELANIE LAWHORN



Eleven Adventist Health System hospitals in the Southern Union received an 'A' in patient safety:

- Emory-Adventist Hospital
- Florida Hospital DeLand
- Florida Hospital Flagler
- Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center
- Florida Hospital Lake Placid
- Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center
- Florida Hospital Oceanside
- Florida Hospital Waterman
- Gordon Hospital
- Manchester Memorial Hospital
- Takoma Regional Hospital

IT Team Helps Dad Witness Daughter's Birth

Information Technology employees at Takoma Regional Hospital received the H.O.P.E. Award on May 21, 2012, for going above and beyond to help a family share one of the most important moments in life: the birth of their daughter.

Genny Cook was anxious about giving birth to their second child without her husband, Capt. Matthew Cook, USMC, present,

but as soon as she arrived at the hospital in labor, IT director Paul Haddox and his team were ready. They moved a high-speed DSL connection into Genny's labor and delivery room where she emailed her husband, who was stationed in Afghanistan.

Fortunately, when Matthew received the message, he was able to borrow a computer and log on to an unusually stable Internet

connection. Through Skype, an online video communication tool, he then witnessed the next four hours of labor and delivery of his daughter.

"It was great, because I could look over and see him and talk to him," Genny said. "It was very comforting."

At 3:01 a.m. Molly, the couple's 6 lb., 6 oz. daughter, was born with a proud dad looking on. When

asked to describe their new daughter, the couple had only one word: "Perfect!"

The H.O.P.E. award, which stands for Helping Other People Enjoy was bestowed by the executive leadership team at Takoma Adventist Hospital.

—BY MELANIE LAWHORN

ADU Announces New Master's Degree

Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU), formerly Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, announces another major step in the growth of their institution with the introduction of a new degree, the master of healthcare administration (MHA) — its third graduate program.

The University, long known for providing stellar graduates in the clinical arena, will now continue to build its reputation for academic excellence by offering its first non-clinical graduate degree. ADU completes its 20th year this summer with a name change as it continues transitioning from a two-year junior college, offering only associate degrees, to a tertiary-level institution offering master and doctoral degrees.

With the support of Adventist Health System, ADU will seek to develop business leaders who practice healthcare as a ministry. Generally, clinicians are seen as the ones who extend the healing ministry of Christ, but there are many non-clinicians who work in conjunction with clinicians to make this goal possible. The MHA, a two-year program, will offer leaders in both environments an opportunity



Adventist University of Health Sciences (foreground) and Florida Hospital Orlando campus

to come together in the classroom and understand and share the perspectives of each other.

Adventist University of Health Sciences offers a faith-based curriculum cultivating leaders for a faith-based healthcare institution. Traditional business classes will be infused with healthcare case studies while incorporating the importance of integrity and ethics in leadership. Florida Hospital will serve as a site for capstone projects and internships. In addition, ADU is partnering with Adventist Health System to bring the expertise of its hospital executives as course developers, adjunct teachers, and guest lecturers. Administrators of both ADU and Adventist Health System see the University as the primary

academic institution where its future leaders can combine a practical educational experience with the unique mission of healthcare as ministry. As Don Jernigan, Ph.D., president of



Benita David, D.B.A., Adventist University of Health Sciences chairperson of master in healthcare administration

Adventist Health System, put it during a recent ceremony, "... [the University] is not just the West Point for Florida Hospital and the West Point for Orlando, but for our System..." Len Archer, Ph.D., ADU associate vice-president for academic administration, believes that "the graduates of the MHA program will become the models for the next generation

of healthcare leadership, not only at Florida Hospital but across the United States."

"The unique blend of faculty, technology, opportunity, and mission ensures that students will gain the education they need to be successful healthcare leaders who understand that healthcare is about service," says David Greenlaw, D.Min., ADU president. It is the hope that all students will embrace the mission of Florida Hospital as they complete a program that instills students with a desire to embrace healthcare leadership as a ministry while focusing on management skills, self-development, critical thinking, and lifelong learning.

—BY BENITA DAVID, D.B.A.

Campers Discover Christ at Nosoca Pines Ranch



Summer is here and the fun at Nosoca Pines Ranch is already well under way. The theme this summer is “Lean on Me,” and campers are learning to lean on God rather than themselves through the activities and programs.

It is halfway through adventure week and the counselors are bonding

with their campers. Strong friendships are being built and there is joy on every camper’s face. Every day



the campers participate in different activities with the camp staff, and they get to know each other through sports or crafts and other fun activities.

As the weekend draws near, the staff prepare a pageant about the life of Christ, which is the real reason why everyone is here. The relationships that are developed

during the week are now vital to being able to relate and witness to the children about Jesus. As much as counselors like to believe they’re here to be a blessing to the campers, at the end of every week they look back and realize how much more of a blessing their campers were to them — more than they ever could have imagined.

—BY LUCAS TANAKA

Pastor Couple Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary



Pastor David and Cynthia Dobias celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 17, 2012, at Arden Church, Arden, N.C. More than 150 family members and friends joined them Sunday morning for their favorite brunch menu. Yellow roses decorated the room and tables, and the life

and history of the Dobias family was shown on video screens.

Brunch was followed by music and stories from both family members and friends. A highlight of the program was the eight grandchildren telling and showing pictures of what life was like in 1962 and how “long, long ago” that was. There were also displays of their hobbies and collections of things from around the world.

Dobias continues to

work for ShareHim, and his goal is to continue doing so until Jesus returns. The couple is en route to Ethiopia to lead a group of 40 doing ShareHim evangelistic meetings. They ask for your prayers as they continue to do God’s Work.

—BY OWEN SPENCER

Seeds of Truth Planted at Lenoir Evangelism Meetings

You never know where the seeds of truth will be scattered. A friendship, a broadcast, a seminar: All can spread the kernel of the Gospel in hearts that may not ripen for some time.



visited Dora Bowlin and asked if she had ever heard messages like this before. She responded by reaching for her bookcase and showing a notebook with the

to the meetings and their interest in prophecy kept them coming back every night. Rebecca came up from the baptism with ebullient joy. John is still considering the message and needs prayer.

Sam and Gail Dula had been able to tune in to Doug Batchelor on the 3ABN Network until it changed satellites, but the nuggets of truth remained in their hearts. They came faithfully night by night and took their stand for Christ.

It was a joyful Sabbath on May 26, 2012, in Lenoir when all were able to see

the seeds blossom. Rebecca Smith, Jeannie Holbrook, and Stephen Forester were baptized; and John Woods, Sam and Gail Dula, and Jane and Jessica Carver professed their faith in the great Savior and united with the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

The church is following up this campaign with "Following in the Footsteps of Jesus" to anchor the new members and continue working with 20 individuals who have interest in the Church.

—BY HASKELL WILLIAMS

The Lenoir Church held a harvesting event in the Spring of 2012. They were diligent to share truth-filled literature and cultivate the soil of friendships through meetings and Bible studies.

Little did they know what God had planned. During the series a total of 138 individuals attended, 79 of which were guests. The following are just a few of the stories of those who were touched by the meetings.

Eric Hagan, pastor, and Haskell Williams, speaker,

lectures Jeff Donaldson, pastor, had presented a decade earlier. She is still pondering the messages presented and is prayerfully deciding how to respond.

Jane Carver and her granddaughter, Jessica, received Bible studies from the pastor and head elder, Clifton Harmon, but made no commitment. Early into the meetings, they saw the consistency of truth and inquired about taking the next step and joining the Church.

John and Rebecca Smith received a handbill invitation



Anderson Church Labs Teach Biblical Witnessing

What does it mean to witness? How is it done? Should I be scared? What should I do if I don't know the answer to a question I'm asked?

The members of the Anderson Church are working to provide the answers to these questions through Witnessing Labs. These labs are based on Bible principles and practiced on each

other with the goal of going out into the community to share with the world.

Kevin Pires, pastor, has led them through identifying the dynamics of witnessing and writing and sharing their three-minute



personal testimony, which has helped build confidence.

What is witnessing? It is sharing what you have seen and Who you know with others. *You* can witness for Jesus and share what He has done for you!

—BY KAREN PIRES

Hispanic Churches Baptize 489 New Members

The Caravan of Victory evangelistic series, held at nearly 100 Hispanic churches across the state of Florida, culminated with 489 baptisms. During the course of four weekends in May, each church held 11 meetings based on the book, *Steps To Christ*, presented by 270 speakers — most of whom were lay members.

“I consider the campaign a true victory, because many lay members who had never preached before brought so many souls to the feet of Christ,”



NATALIA LÓPEZ-THISMÓN

Hialeah Spanish Church hosted the final meeting of the Caravan of Victory evangelistic series where Rolando de los Ríos, Florida Conference evangelist, presented the closing message.

said Rolando de los Ríos, Florida Conference evangelist, who organized the meetings with the Spanish-language Ministries Department.

The Caravan of Victory series was part of a 2012 evangelistic plan for Florida Conference Hispanic churches. This sequential campaign to prepare people for Christ's second coming continued in the churches during June and July with the study of prophetic final events. Small group Bible studies follow on the campaign's schedule from August through October. A Florida Net 2012 reaping series in Miami, to be held November 3-10, will culminate the year's evangelistic plan with de los Ríos speaking for the Esperanza TV broadcasts on the Hope Channel Network.

Selected churches

broadcast the Caravan of Victory programs on the Internet, making the meetings available for national and international audiences. During the closing program alone, organizers reported approximately 200 baptisms. Three of the baptisms were shared live via Skype to participating churches and Internet viewers worldwide.

—BY NATALIA LÓPEZ-THISMÓN



NATALIA LÓPEZ-THISMÓN

Allan Machado, Florida Conference lay pastor coordinator, welcomed baptismal candidates who appeared live on screen via Skype.

Margate Members Hold First Health Fair

Even though Margate Church has no permanent facility, members decided to organize a health fair. Held at the Margate Community Center, the goal of the fair was to educate and inform the general public of health issues and to have a presence in

the community.

Several local health professionals and a local hospital helped with screening for blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol. In addition, CPR instruction, eye examinations, mammography, and chiropractic care were provided. The

local credit union was present, a bloodmobile awaited donors, and an insurance representative presented lectures on retirement plans.

A strategy to promote the fair to the community was facilitated by members months in advance as they went door to door to dis-

tribute flyers. The combined effort of the Health Ministries Department, led by Dave Walker and the church members, made for a successful event with 95 registered guests.

—BY JULIA TEDIM

Forest Lake Academy Hires New Principal, Vice Principal

Forest Lake Academy has been blessed with strong leadership through the years, and that tradition will continue as two new administrators come on board, reports Arne Nielsen, Florida Conference vice president for integrated youth ministries.

David Denton, hired as the academy's new principal, is well known to Florida Conference, having provided learning styles training for their teachers this year. Denton is known throughout the Southern Union for his research on student learning styles and his efforts to promote effective teaching for all types of students.

He has worked as an educator for 20 years, including 14 years of principal experience. Denton comes



David Denton

from Madison Academy in Tennessee, where he established a program to understand and honor student learning styles, directed comprehensive school improvements, increased enrollment by 25 percent, and developed a strategic plan that resulted in \$150,000 in donations. With his high



Frank Jones

energy, optimism, humor, and vision, Denton will be a strong addition to the Florida Conference team.

Denton will be joined at Forest Lake Academy by Frank Jones in the vice principal role. Jones comes with 30 years of leadership experience, most recently as headmaster and resource

consultant for Berean Christian Junior Academy, Atlanta, Ga., and Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy. He shares Denton's philosophy of providing whatever it takes to help students learn.

"Education is about having growth occur wherever, whenever, and however possible," Jones states. "Education is as vast as the ocean. Schools are responsible for ensuring every child has an opportunity to rise with the highest tide, meeting educational, social, and personal success."

Florida Conference and the Office of Education look forward to the continued progress of Forest Lake Academy under these two new leaders.

—BY SANDRA DORAN

Pastors In Transition

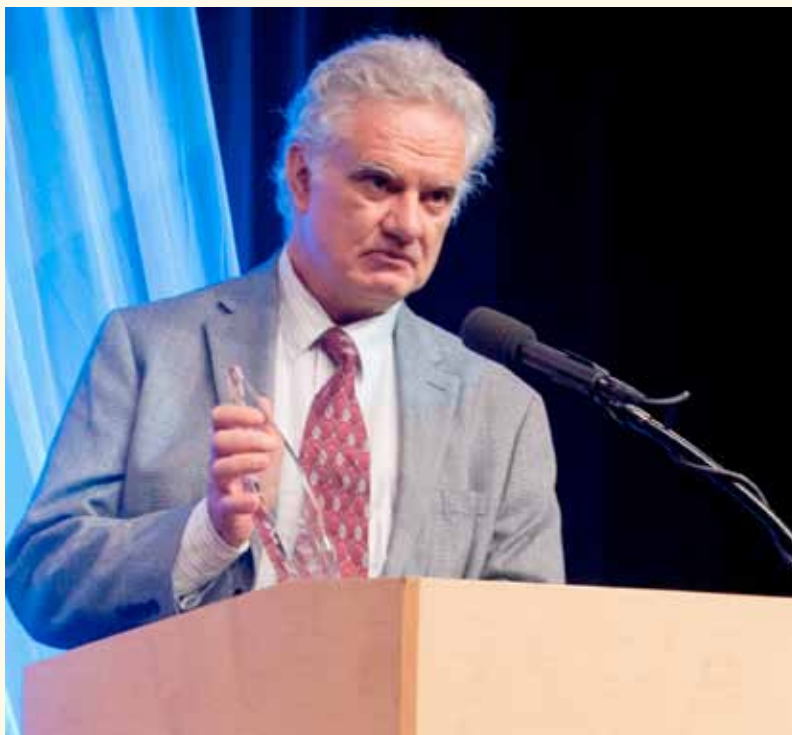
- **Ryan Amos** – Avon Park associate
- **Marius Asaftei** – East Pasco
- **Tom Baker** – Mount Dora
- **Eliseo Broche** – Bradenton Spanish company/Wauchula Spanish
- **Brian Cassell** – Port Charlotte
- **Matthew Christo** – Silver Springs Shores/Marion Oaks
- **Greg Creek** – Florida Hospital associate
- **Nelson de Oliveira** – Miami Central Brazilian
- **Abdiel del Toro** – Jacksonville Spanish/Lake City Spanish/Renacer Spanish company
- **Eliezer Diaz** – Carol City Spanish/Miami Beach First Spanish
- **Javier Diaz** – Fort Myers
- **Guibert Etienne** – Maranatha associate
- **Abraham Guerrero** – Westchester Spanish associate
- **James Johnson** – Carrollwood
- **Joel Klimkewicz** – St. Augustine/Palatka
- **Mel Landers** – Spring Hill/Brooksville interim
- **Amado Luzbet** – Cocoa/Titusville
- **Cleber Machado** – Orlando Central
- **Nathan Madrid** – Sebring/Lake Wales
- **Jonathan Martin** – East Pasco associate
- **Reynold Maxwell** – Spring Hill
- **Ronald Merchant** – DeLand/DeBary-Orange City
- **John Mills** – All Nations/North Port
- **Philips Mompremier** – Salem company/Jerusalem company
- **Rolando Morgado** – Hialeah Spanish associate
- **Jaziel Muñoz** – Fort Myers Spanish/Naples Spanish
- **Andrew Nugent** – Margate/Temple of the Advent Hope
- **Douglas Osorio** – Homestead Spanish/South Dade Spanish
- **Campbell Page** – Apopka
- **Geoffrey Patterson** – Forest Lake
- **Sammy Reyes** – Forest City Spanish
- **Noel Rose** – Eliathah
- **John Sabo** – Bushnell/Inverness
- **Dan Schiffbauer** – Altamonte Springs
- **Stephen Stewart** – West Palm Beach First
- **Mark Swaisgood** – High Springs/Jennings Lake
- **Rickard Szilagyi** – Winter Haven
- **Ron Torkelson** – Markham Woods
- **Idalberto Torres** – Kissimmee Spanish/Buena Ventura Lakes Spanish
- **Alexandre Vaz** – Brazilian Chapel/Brazilian Temple of West Palm Beach mission group
- **George Whitsett** – Fort Pierce

Wessels Receives Chamber Business of the Year

The Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce recognized three small businesses and one non-profit organization for entrepreneurial excellence on March 21, 2012, during the Small Business Awards breakfast at the Chattanooga Convention Center.

Taking the stage for some hard-won lime-light was Allied Eye Associates (AEA), PLLC, for the 21-50 employees category, receiving the Small Business of the Year Award for 2012. The eye clinic was founded in 2002 to serve the needs of the greater Chattanooga community. Its owner and solo practitioner is Izak Wessels, O.D.

Hilda Chapman, marketing director at AEA, took on the project of creating Bright Sight, a program dedicated to address the lack of regular vision screening in private schools. There is a serious and yet common problem with vision in children — they frequently have one or both eyes out of focus, needing glasses, but are not aware that things should be clearer. The visual pathways in the



THE CHATTANOOGA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Izak Wessels accepts the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year Award for entrepreneurial excellence at the Chattanooga Convention Center.

brain only develop properly if images are clear. If not corrected early, this can result in a permanent loss of vision, called amblyopia. Vision screenings are state mandated for public elementary schools, but this is not provided at private schools. AEA undertook providing ocular health awareness to private schools within a 25-mile radius of Chattanooga, and in 2011 found approximately one in three of the 1,860 students screened needed further eye care. Linda King, principal at Cleveland Christian School, wrote in appreciation for this free service: "Since our school does not receive funding from the government we

often miss many of the 'extra' services provided for local public schools. Parents often neglect having their children evaluated until a problem is obvious; then it's often too late."

Another way of serving the community is by offering, free evening continuing education (CE) lectures for area optometrists. These cover the latest advancements in diagnosis and treatment, and have been very popular in the medical and healthcare community. Attorneys have also been invited to give legal advice/seminars on certain topics such as drug abuse of prescription medications. In addition, these meetings have been supported by

pharmaceutical companies.

A.E. Willingham, O.D. states, "These seminars require some 40 to 60 hours of study and preparation by Dr. Wessels, and no small amount of financial outlay for state approval, not including the added cost of providing a catered meal for all participants. All of this is done at no coast to the participating doctors! This is a tremendous service to the doctors, saving each of them thousands of dollars per year and registration cost."

Ever supporting her husband and the community, Wessels' wife, Elaine, who is also the office administrator, organized free community "Exploring Wellness" lectures. Approximately 100 individuals attended the 16 lectures, which offered a light vegetarian supper. Area physicians and other health professionals assisted with various topics, which included preventive lifestyle diseases.

Wessels is currently a member of the Board of Trustees at Southern Adventist University where he has served since 2006. He is also a member of the Collegedale, Tenn., Church.

As he received this exceptional award, in his usual humble manner, Wessels first gave the glory to God "for giving him the privilege to serve others."

—BY HILDA CHAPMAN

Hixson Provides Gardening Workshop

The Hixson Church held a gardening workshop for the community and church family on May 20, 2012. Dennis Boatswain, head of personal ministries, had the vision of reaching the community with a practical gardening workshop — a workshop to teach the community to provide a more healthful, chemical-free, and affordable supply of taste and color to their tables.

Nat Davis kicked it off with an encouraging discussion about growing what you like to eat. He shared lots of information about getting started and gave out seed packets.

Walter Davis demonstrated how to plant in pots and in raise beds. Many of

the participants were eager to help dig in the dirt. Even the children pitched in to help. Some of the participants seemed particularly interested in learning about planting different flowers in their gardens that discouraged bugs.

A delicious vegetarian meal was served hot off the grill. Participants enjoyed discussing what they had learned over plates of veggieburgers, grilled vegetables, and grilled pita sandwiches. Everyone listened intently as Tabitha Boatswain



HIXSON SDA CHURCH

Hixson Church members recently held a gardening workshop for the community. Walter Davis, Hixson Church member, demonstrates planting in pots as children look at the seed packets.

shared the recipes for the meal. Two of the participants from the community received small grills as door prizes so they could grill

their own garden vegetables. Davis shared some of the herbs from his garden.

—BY LINDSAY DAVIS AND
APRIL PORTER

Four Small Schools Join for One Big Day

Students from four small schools (Falkner Springs, Cumberland Heights, Dunlap, and Lester Coon), and two Atlanta Adventist Academy 9th graders, met at Jasper Adventist Christian School, Jasper, Tenn., on May 11, 2012, for Jasper's annual Great Race.

The day began with singing and worship given by David Ryder, Jasper, pastor, and school principal, Holly Abrams. Then everyone, including teachers and parents, was divided into six teams of 10–12 players. Each team was given a name: Baby Beluga Whales, Rhode Island Red Roosters, Chirping Chickadees, Dashing Dillos,

Marvelous Manatees, and Leaping Lizards. The obstacle course included such things as getting everyone through a spider web, jumping rope, riding scoot-

ers, doing somer saults, shooting baskets, climbing monkey bars and poles, putting puzzles together, singing songs, answering Bible questions, empty-

ing a bucket of water with sponges, pulling someone in a wagon, tossing bean bags, answering math questions, and more.

Being a part of a small school has many advantages and is a wonderful experience in many ways, but sometimes you feel isolated. The teachers at Jasper Adventist Christian School decided this was a perfect activity to bring the small schools together. It turned out to be a joyous day filled with a lot of laughter and good cheer.

—BY LINDA DICKINSON



LINDA DICKINSON

Students from four small schools joined Jasper Adventist Christian School for their annual Great Race.

Creation Health Program Embraced by County Sheriff's Office

The Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Church members and their pastor, Martin Fancher, were not surprised when Florida Hospital's Creation Health program chose to highlight the Okaloosa County, Fla., Sheriff's Office as one of their feature presentations at the Adventist Health Systems annual conference. The church has been extensively involved in community outreach programs for more than 10 years. As a part of the church's community outreach,

Fancher began serving as the chaplain for the Okaloosa County Sheriff's office seven years ago. Through the years the personnel got to know Fancher and his church. When a need

arose for health and fitness training in the department, Fancher shared information about Creation Health with the sheriff. As a result, the sheriff has become very supportive of Creation Health.

By the end of June, Fancher had taught two classes and three more were scheduled in the next few weeks. In conjunction with the Creation Health classes, a natural bread-making class was taught as well.

News about

Creation Health has spread to adjacent Walton County, and the Defuniak Springs Church, which is also in Fancher's district, has started teaching Creation Health to their sheriff's office. They are evaluating utilizing Creation Health to educate their entire department the same way that Okaloosa County is doing. The church is providing lunch and a one-hour class once a week for eight weeks.

—BY REBECCA GRICE



Martin Fancher, pastor of Fort Walton Beach Church, talks to the Okaloosa County Sheriff about the Creation Health Program.

“Hell and Mr. Fudge” Filmed at Athens Church

When the Athens, Ala., Church became the location for the filming of some of the key scenes in the feature movie, *Hell and Mr. Fudge*, the church members, some who worked as extras in the film, did not know that they were a part of an award-winning production. In April 2012, the film received a Platinum Award in the “Christian Theatrical Feature Film” category at the Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival. Executive producer Pat Arrabito accepted the award on behalf of LLT Productions. LLT Productions is best known to Adventists as the producers of the television film series, *The Seventh Day*.

Hell and Mr. Fudge focuses on the years when Edward Fudge, a Church of Christ minister in Athens, began an intensive study of the Bible and the doctrine of Hell. What he found made him question one of the bedrock doctrines of many Christian churches. Fudge's conclusion that Hell is a place of destruction, not torture, made him an outcast in his denomination. Fudge is now a lawyer and internationally known Bible teacher and author. His book, *The Fire That Consumes*, has become the standard work on Hell and the hereafter.

Athens was chosen because that was where the

story took place and many of the people know Fudge. “Also, Athens was a good place for a period piece,” says Jim Wood, director and co-producer. “The downtown looks the same way it would have looked in the 1970's and 80's.”

Wood says, “The motivation for making the film was to present a clear picture of the character of God. We wanted to tell the story without coming across preachy,” he explained.

The next move will be to show the film in four or five test markets in different cities. Several cities with a large Adventist population to help fill the seats are being

considered. “This will take time,” says Wood, “as our staff is small.”

The use of the Athens Church has resulted in more public awareness of who Seventh-day Adventists are. More than 100 individuals who were in or involved with the making of the film came to church for the scenes that were shot there. LLT Productions is not owned by the Adventist Church, but Pat Arrabito, Jim Wood, and others who work with them are Seventh-day Adventists — a fact that was well known to the local officials.

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Camp Alamisco Helps Campers Meet Jesus

Stormy weather had prevailed at Camp Alamisco all day Sabbath, June 9, 2012. Just before sundown a baptism was planned, and everyone prayed the storms would move out of the area. Not long before the scheduled time, weather radar showed another storm moving rapidly toward the camp. More prayers were offered, then suddenly the storm changed course and went around the lake. A short time later, parents, campers, and staff watched as 10 Adventurer campers were baptized.

These campers were the first of more than 30 young people who gave their hearts to Jesus and were baptized during the summer camp program.

Summer camp at Alamisco has always been a fun time for the campers — where they can go to learn new skills, be with their friends, and get to know Jesus better. Several years ago James Mangum, Conference youth director, and his staff felt the need to make a consecrated effort to present the Gospel to the campers, give

them a chance to study God's Word, and then provide them an opportunity to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

As a result, this spring, when campers sent in their camp application, they were asked if they wanted to study the Bible so that they could be baptized. If they asked for the Bible studies, the workbook *Good News for Today* was sent to the junior and Adventurer campers, and the study guide *Search for Certainty* was sent to teen campers. The applicant's local pastor was also contacted. As an incentive to get the young people to study, a free week of camp was offered to those who completed



James Mangum (left), Conference youth director, and Will Labrenz, pastor, baptize two of the 19 campers who committed to following Jesus during Junior Camp at Camp Alamisco.

the lessons and were baptized.

Many young people asked for the studies. To continue the evangelistic effort during camp, a college student was hired to be the pastor for the entire summer camping program.

For each camp session, the Friday evening program included an agape feast followed by a passion play,

and then a prayer and dedication session where the campers had the opportunity to fill out their baptism or decision cards.

Campers that were baptized received a T-shirt and a DVD with their baptism video and pictures. Parents were welcome, with one free night and complimentary meals.

When one young girl received her gift, she said, "Thank you, but what is really important is that now I have given my heart to Jesus."

Two brothers whose parents were divorcing made a decision to be baptized. One of them explained, "I want Jesus to live in my home even if Daddy isn't."

The newly baptized campers will not be forgotten when they leave camp. Their church will be sent a video that includes pictures of their baptisms, and they will be voted into their local church congregation.

"Because of this focus on evangelism, we have seen a positive change in the campers and the staff," says Mangum.

—BY REBECCA GRICE



This group of youth were baptized during Adventurer Camp.

Madison Reaches Out to Community, World

During the past 20 years, students and staff from Madison Academy (MA) have been spreading God's love across the globe with their Madison Global Mission trips. They have lived in



Lauryn Waterhouse and Dustin Battenberg

tents in South Africa, called a hammock home in the Amazon jungle, and been heckled and jeered as they tried to spread the Gospel in the spiritual country of Albania, just to name a few.

Community service in the Madison area has also been a part of Madison Academy's ministry, and will now be priority number one.

In the spring of 2012, the students "adopted" a few homes that are in real need of repair and, during

the next couple of years, will repair those homes.

Lula Stepp's home was in desperate need of painting, new floors, new siding, and a new roof, along with other repairs. Students this past spring painted, cleaned, and made minor repairs to the home. They also chopped and stacked wood for her since the only way she heats her house is with a wood burning stove.

For the 2012-2013 school year, MA has made a commitment to take a

group of students out each week to impact the local community in some way. Whether it's redoing the siding on Stepp's house, feeding the homeless, or working with local Adventist Community Service Centers, MA students will be making a difference in

Madison. Stephanie Ramon, a junior at MA, understands this when she says, "By giving a few hours of our time, I feel we can make a huge difference in just one person's life, maybe even change their life in ways that could never have happened without us."

In the spring of 2013, MA will take a trip to Kenya to do evangelism. The training for this trip will have taken place

all school year in Madison. Abbye Waterhouse, a sophomore, summed up the mission that MA is striving to share with its young people when she said, "I want to reach out to our local community and then take what I learn to change our world."

—BY ANDREW JAMIESON



Lula Stepp and Kaleigh Bridgeforth

Annual Governor's Volunteer Awards Presented

Jody Dickhaut, pastor of First Church, Louisville, Ky., received a 2012 Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award from Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds during a special recognition ceremony held on June 5, 2012, in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. Several hundred volunteers are recognized each year with awards.

"I am very pleased to honor those who have given the precious gift of their

time to make a difference and enrich lives in communities all across Iowa," said Governor Terry Branstad. "I never tire of meeting volunteers and hearing about the wonderful



Jody Dickhaut and Kim Reynolds

accomplishments they contribute to making this state great."

"An unknown author wrote, 'Volunteers are seldom paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless,'"

said Lt. Governor Reynolds.

Dickhaut was honored with an Individual Volunteer Award by Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division for outstanding commitment and service during his time as the Iowa state director of ACSDR and the president of the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council, Iowa's VOAD.

—BY JODY BENZ

Marvin Lowman Retires

Marvin Lowman, executive secretary, retired after more than 45 years in denominational work on May 31, 2012. He attended Southern Adventist University and graduated in May of 1966 with a bachelor of arts in theology; two weeks later he married Donette Pruitt.



Donette and Marvin Lowman

In the spring of 1966, the Florida Conference extended a call to Lowman and offered to sponsor him at the seminary. In August 1969, he graduated with a bachelor of divinity degree (now master of divinity).

Lowman served in the Florida Conference until 1976 when he accepted

a call to the Iowa Conference, later the Iowa-Missouri Conference. He served in that Conference for six years before taking a call to the Dakota Conference in 1982.

The Lowmans' home for the next 8 ½ years was Pierre, S.D., the location of

the Conference headquarters, where Lowman served as personal ministries and Sabbath School director. In 1986, he was elected executive secretary of the Conference in addition to the responsibilities he already held.

In 1991, he was invited to serve as ministries coordinator of the Mid-America Union in Lincoln, Nebr. He remained in that position until 1997 when he was elected to the position of executive secretary of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

He served the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference for 15 years. His responsibilities included Camp Meeting, communications, community services, and disaster relief.

He helped to organize 12 companies, eight later organized as churches. In total, he helped to organize 14 churches. He planned and organized 15 Camp Meetings and many weekend convocations in Memphis, Tenn., and Ashland, Ky. He was also responsible for submissions to the *Southern Tidings* each month, and never missed a deadline. He also served as editor for the Conference paper, *Connection*.

The members and fellow workers of the Conference are indebted to Lowman for the spiritual leadership he provided. He and Donette have faithfully given of their time and talents to further God's Kingdom.

—BY DENISE POPE

Calkins PK's Enjoy Camp Meeting

This is the story of loving service among some preachers' kids (PK's) who, even after marriage, continue to look forward to Camp Meeting. Their pastoral parents, Fred and Bonny Calkins, have served in Kentucky for the past 35 years. This year's Camp Meeting was a historic one for the family. It was the first time in 12 years that all four of their children, now all married, have been able to be present at Highland Academy, Portland, Tenn., for Camp Meeting.

The white wooden cabin next to the Junior Pavilion, originally built in the 1950's to house the

Conference president, has been the Camp Meeting home-away-from-home for the Calkins family for many years.

At age eight, during Camp Pitch, the oldest daughter, Keren, became a rope specialist. Her sister, Jephthae, began wiring tents at age eight, and before she left as a missionary, trained her youngest sister, Hanniel, to carry on the work. Although all four children operated the cameras during the meetings,

son, Zadok, remembers this as a highlight to his attendance.

Where are they serving today? Keren and Orion Lawrence are working with an orphanage in Kolkatta, India. Jephthae and Robert Campbell are serving the

Thai Kaddai people of Southeast Asia. Zadok and Heather Calkins live and serve in the Chattanooga, Tenn., area. Hanniel and Andrew Krohne serve as volunteer firemen in the Collegedale and Apison, Tenn., area.

These PK's exemplify the admonition found in the last part of Galatians 5:13, which says, "by love serve one another."

—BY LLOYD SCHOMBURG



The Calkins Family

Carolina Adventist Academy Students and Teachers Meet with North Carolina State Congressman

The date May 22, 2012, may go down in history as a turning point for the citizens of North Carolina. On this date the legislature in Raleigh, the state capital, began to debate House Bill 1104, Scholarship Funding Corporate Tax Credit. This Bill, if voted in, will allow the parents of North Carolina the choice of where their educational tax dollars will go to pay for their children's education, whether to the public schools or private schools like Carolina Adventist Academy.

The teachers, students, pastor, and parents boarded a luxury 55-seat bus early on the morning of May 22 for the 2 1/2 hour journey. They were on a mission for their God, their school, their children. Many of the parents stated that public school education is "not an option" for the children God has given them stewardship over.

Upon reaching Raleigh, Carolina Adventist Academy was joined by many other schools both Adventist and non-Adventist.

Estimates were that about 1,000 individuals participated in the rally.

After an organized march, a selected group, as pictured, had the honor of meeting with Congressman Dewey Hill at his office. Hill was very gracious with his time. The following day



an e-mail was received stating that he has agreed "to be a co-sponsor for House Bill 1104 Scholarship Funding Corporate Tax Credit." Praise the Lord!

Whatever the outcome is, Carolina Adventist Academy and Adventist education as a whole has a friend in the North Carolina Congress.

—BY CHARLENE I. BERRY, MBA, CAA SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Youth Take Vow of Purity

The youth from Praise Tabernacle and Philadelphia churches celebrated together in the Carolina Adventist Academy (CAA) auditorium a Youth Day program which was organized by the youth leader, Kiana N. Berry. Berry, elected at age 14 in 2010, is reported to be the youngest church-elected youth leader in the South Atlantic Conference. She is also the president of CAA Student Council.

The speaker for the program was Karl Lemien Moise, a junior theology major with a concentration in pastoral/evangelistic



Matthew Harvey wears a purity ribbon.

ministries at Oakwood University (OU). Moise is a Master Guide and was the youth assistant director at French Gethsemane Church in 2003. He currently works, while at OU, as a literature evangelist

program leader at the South Central Conference Publishing Department.

As part of the program, all the youth pledged a "Vow of Purity."

The text recited before the pledge was taken from 1 Timothy 4:12: "Let no man despise

thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity." Then, all pledged the following: "Forgetting the past....Today I promise to God and myself, to keep my mind and body morally and spiritually clean

and pure." As a sign of this pledge, the youth wore a white ribbon on their clothing as the one in the picture worn by 11-year-old Matthew Harvey.

The youth were very impressed with the message by Moise. Thirteen-year-old Aisha McLeary commented that "he spoke to us, not through us." After lunch and AY, the youth and adults of both churches went out into the community to give out tracts and prayed with those to whom they ministered. Overall, it was an overwhelming success.

—BY RICHARD G. BERRY, M.D.



Fonda Clark (left), youth leader for Philadelphia Church in Council, N.C.; Stephan J. Davis, district pastor of Praise Tabernacle and Philadelphia churches; Karl L. Moise, guest speaker; and Kiana N. Berry, youth leader at Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C.

Spelling Bee Legacy Continues at DAJA



First grade: Arielle Holder (front row, left), Dylan Alexander, and Gabrielle Gunter. Kindergarten: Kennedi Henderson, Amani Cammock, and Fernon Woodbine. Second grade: Sean Michael Jones, Ivan Warren, and Jordan Ruff. Standing in back: Earldyn Jobn, first grade teacher/paraprofessional; Kim Ellis, first grade art teacher; Winsome Roxborough-Hupp, kindergarten teacher; Pauline Merivil, second grade teacher; and Orlando King, principal.

What is a Spelling Bee? According to Wikipedia, “a Spelling Bee is a competition where contestants, usually children, are asked to spell English words. The concept is thought to have originated in the United States, and Spelling Bee events are now held in many countries around the world, along with variants that require the memorization of a specific text.

This year, unfortunately, the South Atlantic Conference Spelling Bee did not take place. After more than 10 years of coordinating the Bee, faithful leader Emile Parker decided to step down. Without the availability of a new coordinator, the event which usually includes the debating sessions was put on hold.

This turn of events did not hinder Decatur Adventist Junior Academy (DAJA). The faculty and staff at DAJA agreed that the students needed the challenge. Several in-house Spelling Bee sessions were held in the months of March and April 2012.

On March 30, 2012, kindergarten, first, and second grade students showed their spelling abilities as they competed with their peers on their individual grade levels. On April 12, 2012, third through fifth grades collectively participated, while the middle school students showed

their skills in that category. Results were as follows — Kindergarten: first place, Kennedi Henderson; second place, Amani Cammock; and third place, Fernon Woodbine. First Grade: first place, Arielle Holder; second place, Dylan Alexander; and third place, Gabrielle Gunter. Second Grade: first place, Sean Michael Jones; second place, Ivan Warren; and third place, Jordan Ruff.

On April 13, 2012, the resource students had a chance to show their great abilities in this endeavor. The Spelling Bee for this group of wonderful students was entitled,

“Show What You Know.” They gave an awesome display of skill and tenacity as they participated in this history-making event. Students were divided into four levels: lower elementary, third and fourth grade students; upper elementary, fifth grade stu-

dents; lower middle, sixth and seventh grade students; and upper middle, eighth grade students. To make the event even more special, the pronouncers and judges were all products of Adventist education. Special thanks to pronouncers Harriett Taylor, Jessica Brazier, Olson Perry, and Melissa McCoy; and judges Frances Bliss, Ed.D., Franklin Dolland, Kerrie-Anne Lagie, and LaToya Ferguson. Results were as follows — Elementary grades: first place, Nicholas Nelson; second place, Taylor Daye. Middle grades: first place, Tahmaj Faust; and second place, Elijah Douthit.

First, second, and third place finalists were honored with trophies, certificates, and some medallions. The lower grade level students also received Spelling Bee buttons.

With many prayers the group is looking forward to working with the new coordinators for the South Atlantic Conference Spelling Bee in 2013!

—BY WINSOME ROXBOROUGH-HUPP AND CITA C. SCOTT-WEBSTER



Winsome Roxborough-Hupp (left), coordinator; Kerrie-Anne Lagie, judge; Harriett Taylor, judge; and Cita C. Scott-Webster, coordinator/pronouncer

prayers the group is looking forward to working with the new coordinators for the South Atlantic Conference Spelling Bee in 2013!

South Central Held Franco-Haitian and Korean Camp Meetings



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Edgardo Herrera, Multicultural Ministries Department director

Franco-Haitian and Korean Camp Meetings were held for the first time on the Oakwood University campus, June 1-3, 2012. They were the result of Dana Edmond, Conference president, and the executive committee establishing the new Multicultural Ministries Department, which currently includes African, Haitian, Korean, and Latino ministries. Edgardo Herrera, formally the Latino ministries director, was voted to serve as director of multicultural ministries. Herrera says, "The Multicultural Ministries Department focuses on reaching the various ethnic groups within

our Conference territory such as African, Haitian, Korean, Latinos, and Portuguese with love and cultural sensitivity that reflects the essence of the Gospel of Jesus Christ." With this department comes a new multilingual administrative assistant, Dayami Valdespino.

First Franco-Haitian Camp Meeting

Agniel Samson was the guest-speaker at the Franco-Haitian Camp Meeting. In three messages, he emphasized the importance of the theme "The Family of God." "The family," said he, "was intended by God to be the nucleus of society and of the Church. But, when it gives way to sin and Satan, it experiences rivalries, envies, jealousies, hatred, and even murder, as in the tragedy of Cain and Abel. But, when con-



MICHAEL HARPE

Dayami Valdespino, Multicultural Ministries Department administrative assistant

verted, it becomes a center of love and forgiveness, similar to the example of the father who accepted the prodigal son, and reinstated him as a full-fledged member of the family. Our mission is to be like the Good Samaritan for the members of our families, our societies, our Church, and our world. Unless we are careful, we may, like the bandits, mistreat and injure the members of our families or like the priest and the Levite, pass by, without paying attention to our family and friends who are begging for our help. Rather, let's take time to get down from our comfort and stoop down to the level of our neighbor's needs.

It is only in following the Good Samaritan's example, spending our means and even ourselves that we will save the members of our families and those who are crying out for our help. One day, Jesus, the ultimate Good Samaritan, will come down from His throne to gather in His kingdom all those who belong to His family, a family of service and love. May we all be members of "The Family of God!"

First Franco-Haitian Pastor

Celeve Izean, a second generation Seventh-day Adventist from Haiti, is the first Haitian pastor hired

by the Conference. He is the pastor of the Horeb-Haitian Church in Louisville, Ky. He was a pastor in Haiti before moving to the United States. Izean is passionate about soul-



DEBORAH TRUITT

Celeve Izean, first Conference Haitian pastor, serves the Horeb-Haitian Church in Louisville, Ky.

winning. He loves it! He started churches in Haiti and Philadelphia. He said he starts churches wherever he goes. He loves witnessing. He happily said, "Go out and search for souls because the souls are not coming to you." Izean baptized 19 individuals in his 35-member church.

First Korean Camp Meeting

Gitack Ju, pastor, hosted the first South Central Korean Camp Meeting. Almost 30 Koreans gathered in the McKee Business and Technology Building on Oakwood University campus. Oh Younghee ministered to the Korean

women. The guest speaker was Choi Gyeongchum, Ph.D., from Andrews University. His theme for the weekend was "The Holy Spirit Within Us." The members left Sunday spiritually renewed and excited after attending their first Korean Camp Meeting.



DEBORAH TRUITT

Gitack Ju, first Conference Korean pastor, his wife, Soonyoung, and their two daughters, Ashley, 12, and Alice, 10

First Conference Korean Pastor

Gitack Ju is the first Korean pastor hired by South Central. Ju pastors the Auburn, Ala., Korean Church. He was a pastor in Korea before he went to Andrews University. Last June, while attending Andrews University, he and his wife were working part-time in a garden. They contracted poison ivy and went to see a Korean

doctor to treat it. After the doctor told them how to treat their poison ivy, she also told them that a Korean elder wanted to plant a church in Alabama.

Ju began praying. That same month, he was invited to a picnic, but he decided to skip it and spend time praying. He asked God if there was a way to show him if he was

to help with the church planting. Later that day, Ju and his family left his home and returned afterward for something. While they were home, the Korean elder that wanted him to start a church in Alabama

called. He wanted to come visit them that same day. When he came, he brought a Korean woman from Alabama. Ju and wife had never met anyone from Alabama in the three years they were at Andrews. This was the answer to their prayer.

Ju met with Auldwin Humphrey, Conference executive secretary, and

Edgardo Herrera, Conference multicultural ministries director, at the Conference office on his way to visit Auburn. The next day they called and told him that they had been praying for a Korean church for the past five years. They told him, "Pastor Ju, God sent you." In December 2011, Ju and his family moved to Auburn to plant a church. Ju stated, "The Korean Church planting is initiated by prayer and God's guidance. Our mission strategy is door-to-door visitation and English classes. We need volunteers to teach intensive English courses since most Korean housewives are eager to learn English."

—BY DEBORAH TRUITT

Gant Receives Award from Mississippi Governor

Deborah H. Gant, CEO/founder/president of Focus on Natural Health Education & Community Development, Inc., received a Certificate of Appreciation & Commendation for her volunteer service to the people of Mississippi from Governor Phil Bryant on April 16, 2012. Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service/GIVE Awards Chair Kelsey Pettus thanked Gant for her

valuable contributions and caring service to others. She also stated, "You are appreciated by those you serve and those you inspire through your work." W. David Mallery, executive director, and Kelsey Pet-



tus, GIVE Awards chair, became aware of Gant's volunteer accomplishments through a nomination received for the 2012 Governor's Initiative for Volunteer Excellence (GIVE) Award program.

Three Ordained to Gospel Ministry



Quernande and Byron Wells Sr. (left); María and José Olaciregui; and Olivia and Ricardo Daphnis were ordained on June 30, 2012, during the final weekend of Southeastern's Camp Meeting.

During the 2012 Southeastern Conference Ordination Service, held June 30, the final weekend of Camp Meeting, three pastors, Ricardo Daphnis, José Daniel Olaciregui, and Byron Wells Sr., were ordained into the gospel ministry. Abraham Jules, D.D., pastor of Mt. Vernon Church, Mt. Vernon, N.Y., delivered the ordination message.

Ricardo Alexander Daphnis, son of Isaac and Jessie Daphnis, is a native of Miami, Fla. Daphnis holds a bachelor of art degree in theology with a minor in nutrition from Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala., and a master of divinity degree from Andrews University Theological Seminary, Berrien Spring, Mich.

In 2006 he received a call from Southeastern to serve as the assistant pastor of Ephesus Church in West Palm Beach, Fla. While ministering there he helped teach a Bible class, and assisted with chapel programs at Ephesus Jr. Academy.

Daphnis currently serves as the pastor of Zion

Hill and Bethany churches in Hawthorne and Palatka, Fla. He is married to Marsha Henderson of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. They have been blessed with two wonderful children, Olivia, 2, and Jeremiah, 1.

José Daniel Olaciregui was born in David City, Panama, to Demetrio and Graciela Quintero. The second of three siblings, he attended Centro Escolar Elementary School and Felix Olivares High School. In a youth camp he felt the call of God to ministry. He received a bachelor's degree in theology from Centro Adventista de Estudios Superiores (Adventist Center of High Studies) in San Jose, Costa Rica, in 1985. In 1997 he received a master's degree in pastoral ministry from the Universidad Adventista de Centro América (Central America Adventist University) in Alajuela, Costa Rica.

From 1994 until 1999 Olaciregui and his wife served as teachers at Adventist schools in Panama City, Panama, and in Alajuela, Costa Rica. During that time

he served as a lay pastor, building one church and organizing another.

In 2002, Olaciregui and his wife decided to relocate to the United States. In 2003, he received a call from Southeastern to serve as a pastor. He has pastored Frostproof Spanish Church in Frostproof, Fla., and Genesis Church in Orlando, Fla. He currently pastors La Esperanza Church in Pembroke Pines, Fla. Olaciregui has been married to María Dueñas since 1984. They have been blessed with two children, Juan Felipe and Miriam.

Byron Joseph Wells Sr., was born in Dunlap, Tenn., to John and Marguerite Wells. During his high school years in 1990, a tragedy occurred when his father died suddenly. Through much difficulty he continued and graduated from high school in 1992, and went on to Oakwood University. He initially majored in history, but after the first year he received a call from God to go into the ministry. He graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in

theology, and later received a master of divinity degree from Andrews University.

In August of 2003, he received a call from Southeastern to serve as the pastor of the Macedonia and Nazareth churches in Lake City and Live Oak, Fla. Currently, he is the assistant pastor of the Mt. Sinai Church in Orlando, Fla.

Wells is married to Quernande Philossaint of Miami, Fla. God has blessed their union with two young boys, Byron Joseph Wells Jr. and Christopher Benjamin Wells. His desire is to continue the call which God has placed upon his life to "feed His Sheep."

The act of ordination acknowledges God's call of the individual, sets him apart, and appoints him to serve the Church in a special capacity. Ordination authorizes the minister to perform all of the ordinances of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, such as organizing new congregations, conducting communion, and officiating weddings.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

Two Teachers Commissioned During Camp Meeting

Two teachers from Miami Union Academy, Rosalind Camelita Flemming and Hope Payton, were commissioned as educators in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The service was held during the first weekend of Camp Meeting. Eugene Brewer, Ed.D., Southern Union education specialist, delivered the commission service message.

Rosalind Camelita Flemming was born in Anguilla, British West Indies. She, and her late husband, Giles Flemming, were blessed with two children, Desrie Flemming-



Rosalind Camelita Flemming

Shettlesworth and Vern Flemming.

After her husband died, she was impressed to send her children to Miami Union Academy despite the hardship of being a single parent. She had confidence that

God would provide for her family.

She holds a bachelor of arts degree in elementary education from Florida International University, Miami, Fla. In 2000, Southeastern hired her to serve as the first-grade teacher at Miami Union Academy, the position she currently holds. Teaching children is her passion, and she

thanks God for the privilege of working in His vineyard.

A native of Jamaica, Hope Payton developed a passion for teaching at an early age. Upon gradu-



Hope Payton

ation from high school, she attended Mico Teachers' College in Jamaica,

where she graduated with a certificate in primary education. She continued her studies at the Passley Gardens Teachers' College in Jamaica, and graduated with a diploma in primary teacher education.

She has a bachelor of arts degree in science education from the University of the West Indies, and a master of arts degree in curriculum and instruction from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Ariz.

Payton's teaching experience spans more than 30 years. She experiences a natural joy in teaching her students, and keeps abreast of new information to enhance their learning experiences. Her ultimate goal is to be a faithful servant of God, and to be saved in His Kingdom.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

Progress Village Has Hat Ministry for Homeless, Seniors

Last year, the Women's Ministries Department at Progress Village Church, Tampa, Fla., launched a hat ministries project for the homeless in the community. The hats were distributed as gifts last Christmas. Based on the success of last year's initiative, they are preparing to conduct the hat ministry this Christmas. Ten women, who put their creativity to work in God's service, used a loom to knit the hats, while others donated funds to help

purchase materials.

Another idea spawned while the women were making hats for the homeless. They polled the church's senior members and found that there was a need to supply the seniors with warm hats. So they agreed to make hats for the senior members as well.

When they undertook the task, they had no set expectations for the number

of hats they would make. They were encouraged by one another as they put their hands to work for

the less fortunate.

"This project was such a joy and labor of love. We never intended this project to be so contagious, but the women just rallied and got the job done," said Cathy Norton, Progress Village women's ministries director. In all, the women made 300 hats — 240 for the homeless and 60 for the senior members.

—BY MARY ALICE BATTLE



Progress Village women display the hats they made for the community homeless and the seniors at their church.

General Conference Commissions Southern to Perform Adventist Retention Study

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America is losing young adults at an alarming rate, and the General Conference has asked for Southern's help



Mia Lindsey, a 2012 Southern graduate and current assistant in the School of Religion, gathers information for the Adventist Retention Study.

in understanding why. The university's Robert H. Pierson Institute of Evangelism and World Missions is tasked with conducting a study that will look at the many

different levels of church attachment and detachment among recent graduates of Adventist institutes of higher learning, and how the denomination can better

connect with this critical demographic.

The Pierson Institute accepted the 21st Century Adventist Retention Study as a project because the

study is in line with both the institute's mission to promote scholarly research and the university's goal to spiritually strengthen young adults. Specific researchers

at Southern include Doug Jacobs and Alan Parker from the School of Religion, Doug Tilstra from the School of Education and Psychology, and Sharon Pittman from the School of Social Work. Faculty from Oakwood University, a full partner in the project, are also involved.

"I hope this study will give the church a true picture of what kinds of relationships young people have with it," Jacobs said. "Everyone has an opinion, but little research has been done."

The research that has been done, though, found that across all Christian denominations in the United States, attrition was at 70 percent. This data comes as no surprise to Adventists as almost half of the Caucasian members in the North American Division are age 60 and older.

The study is made up of

two stages. The first phase involves creating focus groups using 2001-2011 Southern and Oakwood graduates who have various levels of connectedness to the church. The second phase consists of an online survey sent to 2001-2010 graduates of Southern, Oakwood, and other Adventist colleges and universities. After data is collected and organized, a final report is scheduled for presentation at the General Conference in June 2013.

No research involving young adults would be complete without utilizing social media. The research team welcomes opinions and personal stories via Facebook for those not contacted directly through the focus group or survey. To join the conversation, visit facebook.com/adventistretentionstudy.

—BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

School of Computing Offers New Master's Degree

Southern's new computer science master's program begins this fall and has an accelerated, five-year track — one of three matriculation options — designed to be equivalent to five years of working in the field. This highlight, along with the embedded systems emphasis, separates the master's in computer science at Southern from offerings at any other Seventh-day Adventist college or university in North America.

Ivan Marsh, who's begun taking graduate level classes as he finishes his undergraduate requirements, immediately saw the benefits, and calls his decision to pursue the degree a "no-brainer."

"The classes I took in the undergrad program were more like building blocks," Ivan said. "The master's program will be more hands on and more of what I plan to do in my career."

There are two empha-

ses for the degree — general computer science and embedded systems — and students in the program have three matriculation options. They can earn a traditional master's in two years after having completed the four-year bachelor's degree; earn an accelerated master's in one year after having completed the four-year bachelor's degree; or earn an accelerated master's along with bachelor's in computer science in five years.

The accelerated programs require summer undergraduate coursework.

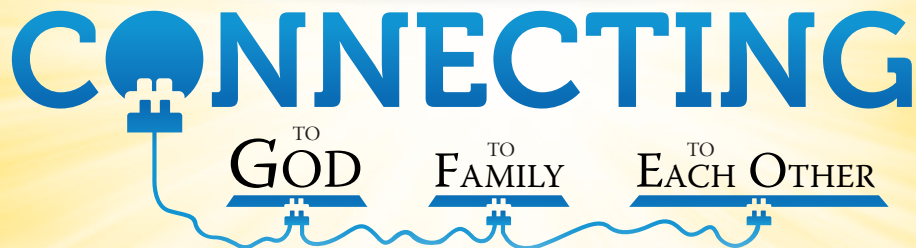
Graduate classes in computing scheduled for this semester include Embedded Systems in Robotics and Automation, Algorithms, and Advanced Software Engineering. For more information on the master of science in computer science, please visit southern.edu/graduatestudies.

—BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

Welcome to the
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January 6-9, 2013



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*Ministerial & Evangelism Director
Southern Union Conference*



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Dan Jackson
North American Division



The King's Heralds



Audrey Folkenberg
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The Southern Union Conference
Medical + Dental
Retreat

Gatlinburg, Tennessee September 27-29, 2012

A Golf Tournament will be held at Gatlinburg Golf Course on Friday, September 28, at 12:30 p.m. Advanced registration is required by **August 24, 2012**. Registration forms for this event are available online at: www.SouthernUnion.com/MedicalDentalRetreat

ATTENTION EXHIBITORS: To register for Exhibit Space, call **678-420-1419** or go online at www.SouthernUnion.com/MedicalDentalRetreat

Thursday, September 27

3:00-7:00 PM	Registration & Visit Exhibits
7:00-10:00 PM	3 hours/CE/David DeRose, M.D.
7:00-10:00 PM	3 hours/CE/Charles Goodacre, D.D.S.
7:00-11:00 PM	4 hours/CE/Jim Williamson, O.D.

Friday, September 28

7:00-10:00 AM	3 hours/CE/David DeRose, M.D.
7:00-9:00 AM	2 hours/CE/Charles Goodacre, D.D.S.
12:30-5:30 PM	Golf Tournament (must register)
7:00 PM	Keynote/Neil Nedley, M.D.
7:00 PM	Children's Meeting (ages 1-5)

Saturday, September 29

9:00 AM	Sabbath School
9:00 AM	Children/Youth Sabbath School & Church Services (Beginners to Youth)
11:00 AM	Worship – Neil Nedley, M.D.
3:30 PM	Special Presentation – Neil Nedley, M.D.
1:00-6:00 PM	Family Time
7:00 PM	Vespers – Neil Nedley, M.D.
	The Adventist Book Center & Exhibits will be open following Vespers

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Specialty _____

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I would like to register for the following CE classes: Dental \$100 Medical \$100 Optometry \$100
Registration fee is non-refundable

Will you be attending Sabbath services? Yes* No *If yes, please list names and ages of children attending:

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

Mail check and registration to:

Southern Union Conference, Medical/Dental Retreat, P.O. Box 849, Decatur, GA 30031

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Key Note Speakers

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Southern Union Conference President

James Black
North American Division Pathfinder Director

Ron Whitehead
Forever Faithful Camporee Director
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Please go to www.southernunioncamporee.com to find the registration form to attend the camporee.

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- Pinewood Derby

LET'S MOVE! DAY

Sunday, September 23, 2012

HELP US REACH OUR 2 MILLION MILE GOAL!

Register at www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org

Whether you host a 5K run/walk, join a community event, or organize other activities, consider how your team can involve as many people as possible in physical activity. Invite your community to join your church, school, or hospital as we move together and promote a healthier lifestyle.

Find resources and information at www.AdventistsInStepForLife.org



Let's Move Day is an event of Adventists InStep for Life. It is sponsored by the North American Division Health Ministries Department in partnership with Adventist Community Services, Children's, Disabilities, Education, Family, Women's, Youth, and Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries, and the Ministerial Department.



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Announcements

Pewee Valley 30th Year Homecoming – Aug. 31-Sept. 1. Call Becky for details: 502-648-1597 or e-mail: bhume@hughes.net.

Southern Society of Adventist Attorneys 35th Annual Fall Retreat – Sept. 14-16. Email: SSAA@southernunion.com for details.

Oak Park Academy Alumni Weekend – Sept. 28, 29. Gates Hall, Nevada, IA. Details: 636-527-0955 or 402-570-0346, or warrenw2u@gmail.com. We need your email.

Sunnydale Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend – Oct. 4-7. Details: 573-682-2164 or www.sunnydale.org.

Highland Academy Alumni Weekend – Oct. 5-7. Portland, TN. Details: 615-325-2036, www.highland-academy.com.

Sheyenne River Academy/Dakota Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend – Oct. 5-7. Bismarck, ND. Details: 701-258-9000 ext 236, or www.dakotaadventistacademy.org/alumni/alumni-events.

Roan Mountain, TN, Church 50th Anniversary – Postponed to Oct. 13. Details: 423-725-9929 or www.roanmountainsda.org.

Society of Adventist Communicators Annual Convention – Oct. 18-20. Theme: Soaring to New Heights. Hotel Albuquerque Old Town, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Visit www.adventistcommunicators.org for details.

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SOUTHERN TIDINGS makes every reasonable effort to screen all advertising, but in no case can the periodical assume responsibility for advertisements appearing in its columns, or for typographical errors.

PROPERTY AVAILABLE

COLLEGEDALE GUESTHOUSE: 1.5 bedrooms fully equipped condo w/kitchen and laundry, no steps, huge deck, secluded woodland setting. "Absolutely delightful" say guests. \$60/night for two (2-night minimum). Roger King, 423-236-4688. See pictures at www.rogerkingrentals.com. ©

QUIET OAKS ADULT CARE HOME – exclusively servicing the post acute (outside the hospital) ventilator dependent patient. We offer attentive, nurturing management of ventilator dependent patients and specialize in providing progressive ventilator weaning. Located in Graysville, TN, our beautiful home environment is conducive to recovery and peace of mind with our licensed nursing/respiratory and trained staff. Contact Laura Morrison, RN Administrator, 423-775-7658 or quietoaks@comcast.net. [8]

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

FLORIDA LIVING RETIREMENT COMMUNITY – 13.5 acres near Orlando, Florida set aside for the Conference owned retirement community. Independent living! Apartments and rooms available. SDA church on the premises. Programs, activities, van for transport and motel accommodations. 1-800-729-8017 or www.floridalivingretirement.com. [8-10]

FOR RENT IN DELRAY BEACH, FL – Beautiful 2/2 house with wood floor in second bedroom with own bathroom. Bonus room can be used as office or family room. Open concept with built-in entertainment unit. High ceilings, freshly painted throughout, new washer and microwave. Non-smoking history. Maintenance free lawn and security

system included. Pool and rec room access available. Quick move in. Call Elayne Cohen, Rent-A-Home listing agent, at 561-252-7929. [8]

COLLEGEDALE PROPERTY FOR SALE: Five acre homestead with basement and over 3500 square feet - \$375,000; Large one acre home with creek, fire-pit, tree house and screened porch, recently built \$329,900; 5.81 acres newly built home with full basement and 6 bedrooms and 4 stall horse barn. Call Wendy Dixon Team/Crye-Leike Realtors, phone #: 423-238-5440/office, 423-883-0656/cell, ask for Herby. [8]

BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN VIEWS – 3 bed, 2 bath home for sale. 2800 square feet. Quiet street in Collegedale, TN, 2 miles from Southern Adventist University. Circular drive, 2.5 car garage, sunroom. 2 bed, 1 bath basement. 800 square foot walk-in apartment. \$270,000. Call 423-396-3617 or 423-488-8591. [8]

REDUCED: FOR SALE IN COLLEGEDALE – Beautiful 2009 model double-wide in MHP, 2 miles SAU, 1920 square feet, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, walk-in closet in master, utility room, LR, DR, family room, hardwood floors, fireplace, drywall interior, shed, carport, extra insulation, ceiling fans, \$94,900. Call 423-615-0280, 423-284-2990. [8]

BUYING OR SELLING PROPERTY IN TENNESSEE: Collegedale, Ooltewah, Chattanooga? When selling your home, it's important you're in good hands with an experienced and licensed realtor. When buying, information is power. Let me find your special home! Contact Vincent Lopez, Crye-leike, Realtors. Cell: 423-316-1880, email: vincent.lopez@crye-leike.com. [8]

TWO-STORY HOME 3 miles from SAU with 2100 sq ft. 3 bed, 2.5 bath plus large bonus room. Dining room and living room hardwood floors. Also has a family room. Kitchen and master bath are newly renovated. In-ground pool in private back yard. Call 423-322-7173. [8]

COLLEGEDALE HOME FOR SALE – 2850 square feet, brick 2-story on partially wooded 1.9 acres. 4 bed, 2.5 bath. Extra large 4th bed + bonus room. Tile flooring, fireplace in family room, 2-car garage. In quiet neighborhood 2 miles from SAU. Call 423-396-3936. [8, 9]

COLLEGEDALE – Mountain top retreat with gorgeous sunsets. 5 bed, 3 bath, 2839 sq.ft. perched on brow of White Oak Mountain, 2 miles to SAU. Decks, garden area. Needs some updating. Original owner selling. <http://goo.gl/Shbwb>. Call Eppy, 423-432-3195 of Crye-Leike Realtors, 423-238-5440. Act today, you'll love the quiet neighborhood. [8]

MOUNTAIN PROPERTY FOR SALE – 20 acres of undeveloped wooded, rolling land on top of Monteagle, Tennessee. Great location for country living in a pleasant rural environment. Small SDA church nearby. Property must sell as one tract. Price reduced! Call 978-549-2477. [8]

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UROLOGY OPPORTUNITY IN NORTH GEORGIA. Gordon Hospital is seeking **Board Certified/Board Eligible Urologist.** Live within a beautiful southern community which offers a gorgeous Adventist hospital (www.gordonhospital.com), Adventist elementary school (www.cobleschool.com), and first class Adventist high school (www.gcasda.org). Southern Adventist University within a 45 minute drive (www.southern.edu). Contact bonnie.shadix@ahss.org, 800-264-8642. [8-12]

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ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (formerly Florida Hospital College

of Health Sciences) is seeking a **Curriculum Coordinator** to work with both the academic departments and faculty on curriculum, mapping and course development in a blended learning environment. Qualifications: Ph.D. in Curriculum Development preferred with ten years of successful teaching in higher education. Send inquiries to Dr. Don Williams, Sr. VP Academic Admin., Florida Hospital College, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803; 407-303-5619; don.williams@fhchs.edu. [8]

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (formerly Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences) is seeking applicants for the position of **Program Director for a new Physician Assistant program.** A master's degree is required; doctoral degree is preferred. Adventist University of Health Sciences is a faith-based institution which seeks candidates who fit the unique culture and mission of the college. Please email CV to: Dr. Len M. Archer, Associate Vice President for Academic Administration, Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. len.archer@fhchs.edu. [8]

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (formerly Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences), Orlando, FL is seeking a **Physical Therapist Program Director** beginning 2013. The Program Director will provide overall academic leadership developing this program and salary will be competitive. Qualifications: minimum doctoral degree from regionally accredited school, senior faculty status, understanding of higher education and contemporary clinical, eligible for FL PT licensure, PT academic experience. Submit letter of interest, curriculum vita, three references and/or letters of recommendation to Dr. Don Williams, don.williams@fhchs.edu or fax 407-303-5671. [8]

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (formerly Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences) in Orlando, FL, seeks an **Assistant Program Administrator**

for the Nurse Anesthesia Program. Qualifications: CRNA with current recertification, eligible for FL licensure, minimum of master's degree from regionally accredited institution with doctoral degree preferred, academic experience. This is a faith-based institution which seeks candidates who fit its unique culture and mission. Submit letter of interest and CV to Dr. Alescia DeVasher Bethea, alescia.devasher@fhchs.edu or fax 407-303-9578. [8-10]

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY is seeking **HVAC Master Technician/HVAC Technician.** The technician will install, troubleshoot and maintain central heat and air systems. Successful candidate must be a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in good and regular standing. Certification for refrigeration and HVAC Type 2 or better. A high school diploma with college or trade school education preferred. Five years' experience in heating/air conditioning, ductwork, and/or refrigeration preferred. Send resumes to Human Resources, P.O. Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315-0370, plcoverdale@southern.edu. [8]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks **Research Coordinator** for its Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. Physical therapist preferred, but will consider candidates from other healthcare-related fields with research experience. Apply online at http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_faculty.cgi or directly to: Dr. Wayne Perry, Chair, Andrews University Physical Therapy Department, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0420. Telephone: 269-471-6033. Email: perryw@andrews.edu [8]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY is searching for a **Sous Chef** to join Dining Services. Qualified candidates



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will have a culinary degree or two years of training/experience. For additional information and to apply please visit: http://www.andrews.edu/HR/emp_jobs_salaries.cgi. [8]

UNION COLLEGE is seeking **tenure track faculty** member to teach foundational level courses and clinical in **BSN program**. Prior teaching experience and minimum of MSN in nursing required. Qualified candidates will possess a commitment to Christian Adventist values. Email cover letter and resume/curriculum vitae to thstimso@ucollege.edu. [8]

MARANATHA EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (Atlanta, Georgia) seeks a full-time **director**. Small center, negotiated salary, strong Christian atmosphere. Persons applying must have B.A. in Early Childhood Education, 2+ years of experience, valid driver's license with clean driving record, no criminal history. Resumes submitted to Daycare.Resume@yahoo.com. [8]

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NEED A PIANIST? "Hymns Alive", The SDA Hymnal on 33 CD's. Quality accompaniment music to sing God's praises. Organ and piano. Also "He Is Our Song" and kid's hymnals on CD's. Also hymns on videos - 12 DVD's - "Creation Sings", with words and optional song leader. www.35hymns.com or call 800-354-9667. [8-12]

NATIONAL BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY, Sunday, Sept. 16. A great opportunity to share *The Sabbath Truth*, available at the ABC. Get involved and encourage others to do likewise. 404-322-5683. <http://www.thesabbathtruth.org/the-opportunity.html>. [8]

MISCELLANEOUS

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

AdventistSingles.org Free 14-day Trial! Join thousands of Adventist singles online. Free chat, search, profiles, match notifications! Adventist owners since 1993. Visit www.ElliotDylan.com for the Undercover Angels series of novels for Christian teens that build on Biblical principles and encourage integrity. Great Sabbath reading and gifts! ©

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RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist. [8]

RV's!! Adventist owned and operated RV dealership has been helping SDA's for over 30 years. Huge inventory of new and used trailers and motor homes. Jayco, Newmar and Hurricane. Courtesy airport pickup and on-site hookups. Call toll-free 1-888-933-9300. Lee's RV, Oklahoma City. www.lee-srv.com or e-mail Lee Litchfield at Lee@lee-srv.com. ©

WILDWOOD HEALTH RETREAT HUSBANDS & WIVES SEMINAR – Nov. 4-11, 2012. Simple, practical, interactive approach to strengthening marital relationships. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN, Cost: \$370 (includes room, vegan meals, seminar materials). Contact: Charene, 931-724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. [8]

WILDWOOD HEALTH RETREAT WEIGHT MANAGEMENT LIFESTYLE RENEWAL SEMINAR – August 12-26 & Sept. 2-16, 2012. Focus on lifestyle change, health education, stress management, hands-on cooking, and exercise. Cost: \$740. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Contact: Charene, 931-724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org [8]

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE PROGRAM can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression and many more. Invest in your health, call 1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/lifestyle. [8-5]

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 Services or visit www.hopesource.com. You deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin's HOPE deliver on-time. [8-12]

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 800-367-1844, x3, for a FREE manuscript review. [8]

FREE BOOKS! Would you like materials for your church/school/institution library that are free of cost and shipping? These powerful books by W.D. Frazee, are recommended by Doug Batchelor, Mark Finley and others. Simply have someone in charge of your organization contact us at 1-800-WDF-1840, www.WDFsermons.org. [8-10]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatedegrees. [8-5]

RIDGETOP ADVENTIST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – An AdventistEDGE School of Excellence, offering caring Christian teachers and a strong technology component to students in grades K-8. Call 615-859-0259 for more information. Come join us! [8]

FREE SIMPLE SOLUTIONS NEWSLETTER – What can you do to prevent a fire? How can you make sure your children are safe from predators? How can you avoid destructive spam when you use Facebook? Sign up to receive a free monthly electronic newsletter filled with Simple Solutions to help minimize risks and prevent accidents at your home, school, church, or place of business. Produced by the risk management professionals from Adventist Risk Management, every edition of this resource has something for you. E-mail subscribe@adventistrisk.org for your free subscription. Adventist Risk Management, providing risk management solutions for the Seventh-day Adventist Church. [8-11]



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Adventist Health

Events Calendar

Carolina

Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership – Aug. 24-26.
Hispanic Men's Retreat – Aug. 31-Sept. 3.
Hispanic Young Adult Retreat – Sept. 7-9. NPR.
Retiree Retreat – Sept. 16-20. NPR.
ECCM North – Sept. 29. Greenville, NC.
ShareHim Boot Camp – Sept. 21, 22. NPR.
ECCM South – Oct. 6. Summerville, SC.
SU Pathfinder Camporee – Oct. 10-14. Kulaqua.
Women's Retreat – Oct. 12-14. NPR.
Hispanic Women's Retreat – Oct. 19-20. NPR.
Community Service Retreat – Nov. 2-4. NPR.
Men's Retreat – Nov. 9-11. NPR.
Elders' Certification – Dec. 8. Greenville, NC.
Ice Skating – Dec. 9. Greenville, SC.

Florida

Complete calendar online – <http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar/>
Florida Pathfinder events – <http://www.floridaconference.com/youth/> or call 407-644-5000 x127.
Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics
 Aug. 25. North Lake in Leesburg.
 Sept. 8. Lakeland.
 Sept. 15-16. Miami Temple.
 Sept. 22. Orange Cove.
Spanish-language Family Retreat – Aug. 24-26. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: rebeca.delosrios@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x138.
Camp Kulaqua Family Camp – Aug. 31-Sept. 3. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. A weekend of fun, friends, family, and fellowship. Details and registration: <http://www.campkulaqua.com/>, summercamp@campkulaqua.com, or 386-454-1351.
Young Adult Retreat – Aug. 31-Sept. 3. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Theme: The Next Chapter. Guest speaker:

Lola Moore. Details: sharon.chipamba@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x156.
Festival of Evangelistic Living – Sept. 14-15. North Miami Church. A church growth/friendship evangelism-focused rally for members and pastors who desire to help grow their local church and share the hope they have in Jesus. Stories and ideas discussed will center on interpersonal evangelism and ways to better connect with people. Guest speakers: Jim Davidson, Hubert Morel, and Carmen Rodriguez. Sponsored by North Miami Church, Florida Conference, Southeastern Union Conference, Southern Union Conference, and ShareHim. Details: <http://festival.sharehim.org/>, kathij@sharehim.org, or 877-874 2738.
Go Fish Children's Ministries Leadership Convention – Sept. 14-16. Florida Hospital Creation Conference Center. Details: rburrill@cfl.rr.com, rhoda.burrill@floridaconference.com, 407-644-5000 x136, or 321-303-7699.
Spanish-language Marriage Retreat – Sept. 21-23. Daytona Beach Resort, 2700 N. Atlantic Ave. Details: rebeca.delosrios@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x138.
High School Bible Retreat – Sept. 27-30. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Details: micky.santiago@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x306.
Fundamentals of Faith Community Nursing – Oct. 1-5. Florida Hospital Trickle Building. Details: <http://www.healthy100churches.org/>, yvonne.seballo@fihosp.org or 407-200-1657.
70th Regular Florida Conference Constituency Meeting – Oct. 7. Forest Lake Academy. Details: Florida Conference Office of the Secretariat, 407-644-5000.
Second Annual Let's Get Moving Kids – Oct. 7. Crane's Roost Lake, Altamonte Springs. Sponsored by Forest City Spanish Church health ministries. Details: <http://www.facebook.com/LetsGetMovingKids>, shirleyflores@earthlink.net, or 407-592-4808.
Spanish-language Sabbath School Workshops – Details: rebeca.delosrios@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x138.

floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x138.
 Oct. 13. Miami Central Spanish Church.
 Oct. 20. Florida Conference Office.
Go Fish For Kids – Oct. 20. Midport Church. Fun and creative training for children ages 5-14 to share Jesus with their friends and neighbors. Free registration. Bring your own lunch. Details: rburrill@cfl.rr.com, rhoda.burrill@floridaconference.com, 407-644-5000 x136 or 321-303-7699.

Georgia-Cumberland

Deaf Camp Meeting – Aug. 9-11. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.
Health Rallies
 Aug. 11. LaGrange, GA.
 Aug. 18. Cornelia, GA, Hispanic Church.
 Aug. 25. Andrews, NC.
First Day of School – Aug. 15.
Passionately Married Seminar – Aug. 16, 23. McDonald Road Church, McDonald, TN.
Pathfinder Leadership Convention – Aug. 17-19. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
Prayer Ministries Day – Aug. 18. Morristown, TN.
Executive and Personnel Sub Committee Meeting – Aug. 22. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
LifeGroup Experience – Aug. 24-26. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.
God in Shoes – Aug. 26. Augusta, GA.
Hispanic Pastors Planning Retreat – Aug. 27-29. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.
 Online registration for events

available: www.registration.gccsda.com.

Gulf States

Complete Calendar online <http://www.gccsda.org>
Conference Executive Meeting – Aug. 14. Conference Office.
Youth Leadership Training – Aug. 17-19. Camp Alamisco.
Pastors' Spiritual Retreat – Aug. 26-29. Camp Alamisco.
Elders' Certification – Aug. 31-Sept. 2.
Prayer Ministries Summit – Sept. 7-10.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Ministers' Meeting – Aug. 5-8. Indian Creek Camp.
Hispanic Youth Retreat – Aug. 16-19. Indian Creek Camp.
Hispanic Women's Retreat – Sept. 7-9. Indian Creek Camp.
Young Women's Retreat – Sept. 14-16. Indian Creek Camp.
Conference Association Board
 Sept. 18. Dec. 4.
Conference Executive Committee
 Sept. 18. Dec. 4.
Women's Retreat I – Sept. 21-23. Indian Creek Camp.
Women's Retreat II – Sept. 28-30. Indian Creek Camp.
Outdoor Education – Oct. 24-26. Indian Creek Camp.
Elders' Training – Oct. 26-28. Indian Creek Camp.

Announcements, see page 43.

	Aug. 3	Aug. 10	Aug. 17	Aug. 24	Aug. 31	Sept. 7
Atlanta, GA	8:32	8:25	8:17	8:08	7:59	7:49
Charleston, SC	8:13	8:06	7:58	7:49	7:40	7:31
Charlotte, NC	8:20	8:13	8:04	7:55	7:45	7:36
Collegedale, TN	8:37	8:29	8:21	8:12	8:02	7:52
Huntsville, AL	7:42	7:35	7:27	7:18	7:08	6:58
Jackson, MS	7:53	7:46	7:38	7:30	7:21	7:12
Louisville, KY	8:46	8:37	8:28	8:18	8:08	7:57
Memphis, TN	7:57	7:49	7:41	7:32	7:22	7:12
Miami, FL	8:02	7:57	7:51	7:44	7:37	7:29
Montgomery, AL	7:37	7:30	7:22	7:14	7:05	6:56
Nashville, TN	7:46	7:38	7:29	7:20	7:10	7:00
Orlando, FL	8:11	8:05	7:58	7:51	7:43	7:35
Wilmington, NC	8:07	8:00	7:51	7:42	7:33	7:23

TIDINGS

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