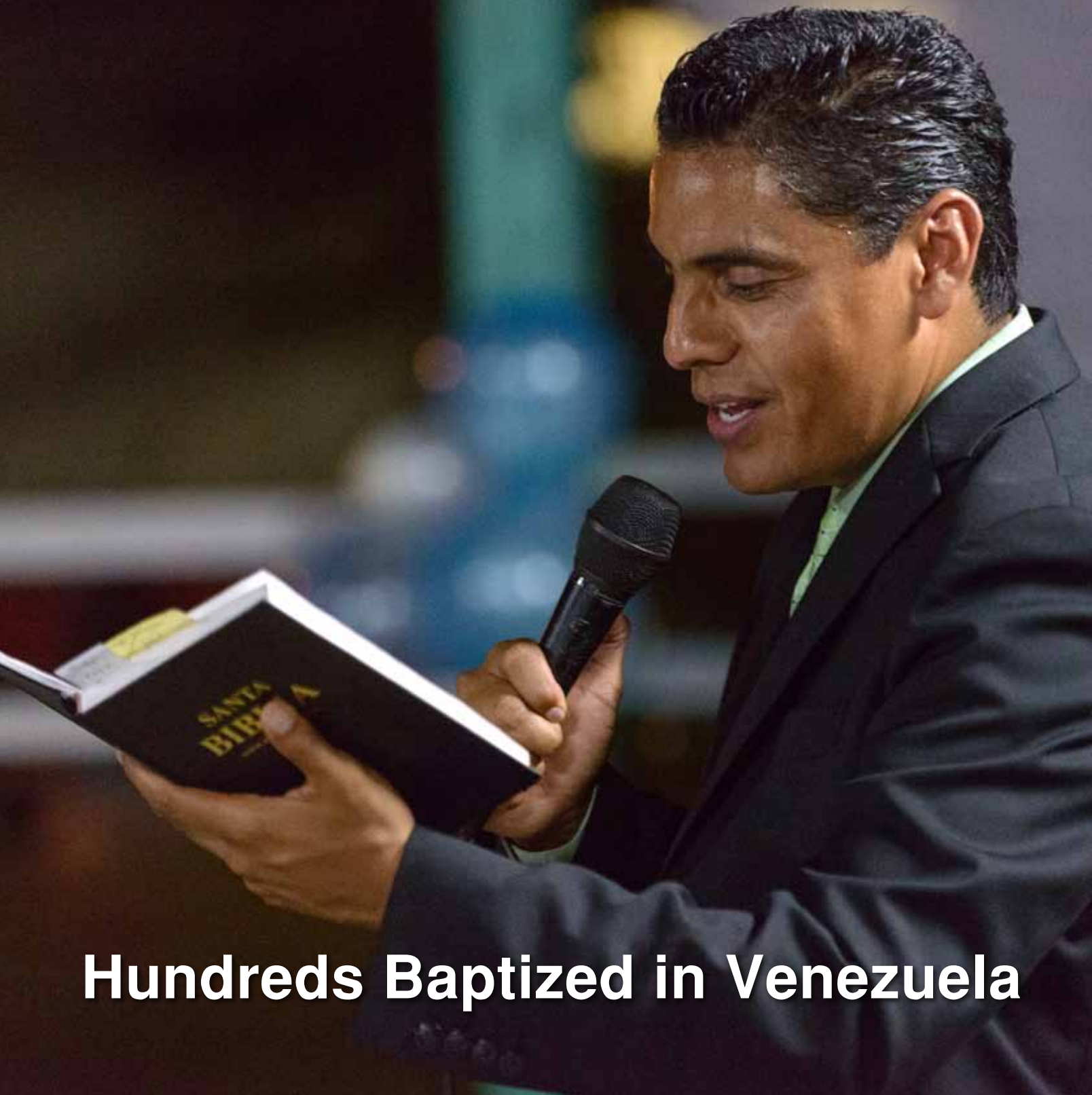


August 2013



SOUTHERN

TIDINGS



Hundreds Baptized in Venezuela

Think Big of God!

In the presence of physical and emotional challenges, many have come to know that the most important thing in life is to think rightly about God.

The character of people and nations is determined by the kind of god they worship. It is a common saying among us that it does not matter what we believe as long as we do right. It is impossible finally to do right on wrong beliefs. The ancient Jews of Scripture had a high conception of God. To them He was the Holy One, the Creator, the Sustainer, the Judge. Their concept of God was responsible for their high standards of moral and ethical living. Contrast that with the gods of the Romans. Their gods were superhuman: Mars and Jupiter and Mercury.

These were gods of might, and because Rome worshiped these gods, there was little respect for human personality. War and aggression came easily. The worship of these gods sent the Romans to conquer the world. Actions are always colored by beliefs. In our own land, from the beginning, we have given our allegiance to God. This has made progress possible and has brought about the most democratic standard of living in the world. We are slipping away from that belief. God, to many of us, has become a Santa Claus, a cosmic bellhop to supply every American wish. We have substituted the gods of things and sex and pleasure for the one true God, and faith in these things colors our actions. We read our national prejudices into our thinking about God. We speak of the Middle East and feel that God is west of it. We equate Christianity and Americanism. God is not American or Chinese or Russian. He is God. The God of all people, of all time, and of all places. The most determining thing about life is our philosophy of life. We are all theologians in the sense that something is at the center of life for every one of us. That something determines whether life for us will be good or bad, full or empty, satisfying or defeating!

The way we drive a car indicates our theology. If we believe in a God of love and kindness, we drive with concern for the lives of other people. If ours is a lesser god, a kind of deified selfishness, we can drive with abandon and without concern for the welfare of other people. The way we do our daily work indicates our theology. What lies at the center of our lives is shown in the way we handle hardship, adversity, and yes, even an unanticipated physical challenge.

The most important thing in life is to think rightly about God. To do so changes all of life for us.



Ron C. Smith,
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Southern Union
President

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COVER CAPTION: *Jose Castillo, pastor, preached to crowds who packed an outdoor pavilion in Venezuela this past June to hear the Good News of salvation in Jesus.*

HUNDREDS BAPTIZED in Venezuela

BY MARIEL LOMBARDI

Southern Union Hispanic Ministries Department develops pastors/evangelists with a world view.

Rodny Aquino, pastor from Florida Conference, came in contact with Wen Jin Zheng, a Chinese entrepreneur born in Guangdong (formerly Canton), as he conducted the campaign that took place at Baraure Church in Venezuela this past June. Zheng, well regarded by the community, comes from a Buddhist family, but never embraced his parents' beliefs. He was an atheist. The Chinese community in Venezuela is very close; nevertheless, he married Margarita Morillo 30 years ago. Margarita attended the Adventist Church until she was 17, but for some reason she grew apart from the Church.

About six years ago, Wen's father became severely ill. They tried different treatments, but nothing seemed to work. When the family lost hope, Margarita told Wen she was going to pray for his father in spite of Wen's disbelief. God certainly had a purpose for this illness. He does not leave anything to chance, and His answer to the prayer was healing. Wen was

amazed. He realized that there is Someone who actually listens to His children's supplications. Little by little, his faith began to grow. Margarita told him about the Adventist church, and they decided to attend a meeting. The day they did, a lay preacher presented a message that touched Wen's heart. The love they received at the church, and seeing how every message was true to the Bible, kept them coming back for two years. They felt comfortable at the church, but never made a commitment; closing their business on Sabbath did not seem to be an option. It was a

cultural matter: Chinese people work seven days a week, and in addition to that, the financial situation was critical.

When Aquino had the evangelistic crusade, they did not miss any meeting. One night, he talked about Jesus' call to Mathew Levi, and invited the audience to leave everything behind and follow Jesus, and for the first time Wen showed commitment by responding. The church members were happy. They had been praying for Wen, and their prayers had been answered some days later. When Aquino visited him at his office, Wen

gave him the good news: he was going to close his factory every Friday at 5 p.m., and he and his wife were going to get baptized. And so they did, with 13 other individuals who surrendered their lives to Christ in that church.

The Southern Union Hispanic Ministries Department is well known for its great participation in evangelism, not only in the local ter-



After hearing that the apostle Matthew walked away from his business to follow Jesus, Wen Jin Zheng decided to close his factory on Sabbath and was baptized with his wife, Margarita, by Rodny Aquino, pastor.

PHOTO BY STEVEN NORMAN III



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Southern Union pastors/evangelists with the pastors and leaders of the Llanos Venezuela Mission: Jorge Mayer (center), Southern Union Hispanic Ministries director, is flanked by Daniel Gonalez, Mission president, on his left, and Miguel Yepes, Mission evangelist, on his right.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Jose Rivera, pastor, baptizes a teacher and former member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church who decided to return to Christ and the Church after a visit that convicted her that she needed to return.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Hector Tovar, pastor, interviews Karlba Magliocco, flyweight boxer who represented Venezuela at the 2012 Olympics; she left her boxing career and committed her life to Christ.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Many people responded to the altar calls made by Roger Alvarez, pastor. After a day of fasting and prayer, 34 individuals were baptized.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Each night during the meetings, Jorge Mayer visited one or two of the pastors to encourage, pray, and support their evangelistic ministry. Here he visits Jose Rivera, pastor, at Pimpinela Church in San Jose de Pimpinela.

ritory, but also as a part of the World Church in many other countries of the American continent and Europe. For 12 years, groups of pastors from the Southern Union territory have travelled to conduct evangelistic campaigns that have resulted in hundreds of baptisms, and in a deeper commitment with evangelism and the Mission of the Church for those pastors who participated.

of 2013. Since working on the salvation of others is one of the ways of achieving revival, the church organized evangelistic campaigns to take place in 12 different locations. The plan was to involve the membership in the different areas.

Venezuela, located on the northern coast of South America, is facing problems in terms of safety and finances. This is always a challenge

chose Acarigua-Araure in the northwestern Venezuelan state of Portuguesa to reach their people with the salvation message. These cities are geographically connected, as if both were just one large metropolis. They are called the twin cities. The impact was expected to be of a big magnitude.

As in the last 12 years, before accepting any invitation, the Southern Union thoughtfully prayed about it. Plans were made, and Jorge Mayer, Hispanic Ministries Department director, travelled to Venezuela in April to meet with approximately 1,200 people, and members of the 12 churches where the campaigns were going to take place. He took this opportunity to encourage them to work with their friends and relatives in preparation for the big event. A week before the campaigns, the pastors from the local mission conducted meetings in these churches, and many were baptized even then, as an foretaste of what happened at the end of the big crusades — when more than 250 individuals gave their lives to Jesus.

Luis Reyes, pastor from Florida Conference, told the story of Karlha Magliocco, an amateur flyweight boxer who represented Venezuela in the 2012 Summer Olympics that took place in London, and decided to be a champion for Jesus. She had grown up in the Church, but parted from God as a teenager. Nevertheless, the



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Jose Castillo, pastor, preached to crowds who packed an outdoor pavilion to hear the Good News of salvation in Jesus.

Last year the Hispanic Ministries Department received an invitation from the Venezuelan Antillean Union to help in a church revival program in Venezuela, to take place in June

for the Church. Nevertheless, like the General Conference did when choosing the city of New York to reach big crowds with the Gospel, the Venezuelan Mission Llanos Occidentales



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Randol Pérez (right), pastor, reads the baptismal vows to 13 of the individuals who were baptized at Baraure Church where Rodny Aquino, pastor, was preaching.



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Prayers by adults and youth who were seeking the Holy Spirit and a vision of Jesus were answered.

Lord did not leave her.

Even though she felt highly honored for being able to represent her beloved country, she wanted to offer a different life to her husband and children — a Christ-centered life. She knew she could not totally commit if she kept her lifestyle. During the campaign, when she decided to get baptized, she suffered lots of pressure. Many people told her that giving up her brilliant career was a crazy thing to do, but she had made up her mind. The day of her baptism, she confessed she was scared, but she knew that with Jesus, she is going to be victorious. She asked the church to pray for her, and was one of the 21 individuals who were baptized at the Acarigua Este Church campaign. This was the beginning of her spiritual career, and she's already started to see the results of her choice. Her husband also decided to get baptized in the near future. That might not be an Olympic medal, but it is a star in a crown!

This was another of the more than 250 stories that can be told to illustrate the works of the Holy Spirit among the people our pastors ministered to as they were in Venezuela. They did not stay at a hotel, nor had time to themselves. Their lodging was set up like a boarding academy. They had to share rooms and use the common bathroom. Every morning, they met very early to pray, study,

and share testimonies before going out to visit the people that were in the process of making a decision for Christ. This activity took most of the day, and ended almost at the time for the meetings.

This event was also a blessing to the local churches. Working on the salvation of souls, seeing the work of the Holy Spirit, and witnessing answers to prayers strengthened the faith of many who participated in the crusade. Miguel Yeppes, evangelist at the local Mission said, "It was a privilege to witness the intervention of the Holy Spirit. Reading the text messages from people who were discovering God's love, listening to their testimonies, and visiting each of the congregations was a happy experience and a great enrichment to my spiritual life. Ours was a team work, and the leader was our Lord Jesus Christ."

The Southern Union pastors benefited greatly from the experience. "The trip to

Venezuela was a personal blessing. It motivated my pastoral ministry. I joined forces with seasoned and veteran pastors of both the United States and Venezuela. We worked many hours together. There I was, as one of the rookie pastors at their feet, learning profound lessons. I thank God for my growth and insight during this mission trip. I came back deeply motivated to keep winning souls for Jesus in Atlanta." Juan Sandoval, Georgia-Cumberland Conference pastor.

His motivation will inspire his churches, and it will be a chain of endless revival experiences that will result in the continued winning of souls. ✨



R. STEVEN NORMAN III

Young and old followed along in their Bibles.



The Payaba Mission Church in Pine Ridge, South Dakota, was the location for a mission trip for three ministries from Georgia-Cumberland Conference: Pathfinder Missions, 3-Point Play, and God in Shoes. Pine Ridge is located on an Indian Reservation.

Bringing Back Pride to the Payaba Mission

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

A mission group traveled to a location with high mortality rates, depression, alcoholism, drug abuse, malnutrition, and diabetes, to name a few of their challenges. The population has the shortest life expectancy on the Western Hemisphere — approximately 47 years for males, and 52 years for females. Unemployment is between 80 to 85 percent, and 49 percent of the population lives below the federal poverty level. Many families have no electricity, telephone, running water, or sewage systems; and many use wood stoves to heat their homes.

The mission location was Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota — right here in the United States. This is where three ministries, 3-Point Play basketball, God in Shoes,

and Pathfinders, spent two weeks this June offering hope. The reservation consists of 3,468.86 square miles, and is the eighth-largest reservation. It is also the poorest. It is an Oglala Lakota Native American Reservation, originally included in the Great Sioux Reservation.

Last January Fernando Verduzco, Georgia-Cumberland children/junior youth ministries director, approached Jo Dubs, Georgia-Cumberland women's ministries director, asking where she grew up. She shared that she had grown up on the Pine Ridge Reservation, the location where Verduzco said he was feeling impressed to hold a mission trip. Verduzco asked Dubs and God in Shoes to partner with him and the Pathfinders on this trip, as well as

E.W. Dempsey, Georgia-Cumberland adult lay evangelism coordinator, with 3-Point Play ministries.

So, 11 Pathfinders, 16 God in Shoes participants, and three 3-Point Play ministries basketball coaches loaded a bus and drove to Pine Ridge, June 9-23. While there the teams shingled a roof, built a new porch roof, put down new flooring in the fellowship hall, and installed new siding on the Payaba Seventh-day Adventist Mission Church. The group also fed the community each evening, held Vacation Bible School, and offered a craft and devotional time for the women, and Bible studies for the men.

The Payaba Mission was closed 10 years ago and reopened four years ago. The Mission consists of two

homes for lay pastors/caretakers, a school building that has been condemned, and a small white church.

Joseph Story pastors three churches, including the Payaba Mission, and was thrilled to welcome the mission group. He said church attendance at the mission varies widely from 12 to 35 each week, and people drive as far as 45 miles. As the only Lakota Adventist church, Payaba serves a unique purpose. One of the largest needs on the reservations is a place to hold wakes, funerals, and weddings.

“Traffic-related deaths, suicides: people die young here. We had a funeral this last week with a premature baby that lived 24 days,” said Story. “Another funeral Dave Brown had for a 10-month-old killed by child abuse.”

The needs at Payaba are great, but the gift of serving others blessed many.

“When Jo helped put together a crew and do this at Pine Ridge, it just excited me to see this mission go,” said Ted Dubs, pastor of the Adairsville and Cartersville, Georgia, churches, who was on the job some days at 5 a.m. to help with the construction projects. “There needs to be a mission. This area just has a lot of heartache, a lot of good stuff too, but a lot of heartache.”

Ron Register, from Georgetown, Tennessee, had never been on a mission trip, and was impressed to attend this one in South Dakota. Register works for U.S. Express. This company never grants two weeks of vacation in a row. He decided it could not hurt to ask, and after getting surprising permission from the lead supervisor, his other two supervisors said ‘yes’. “Work does not seem like work; it seems like play to me,” said Register of the mission trip. “It is fun to help somebody else.”

Local Payaba Mission Church member Pansy Twobulls Wea-



TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER



TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER



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TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER



TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

selbear suffered the loss of her husband last year and was having a difficult time. When Verduzco and Dubs came to visit in January to talk about the needs, everyone pointed to Weaselbear as the woman to help.

As she started to work on sending fliers and advertising the events, Weaselbear knew it would be a long process. “Because our mission was shut down for like 10 to 12 years, there was a lot of hurt.” Seeing all of the work, she said, “I really felt proud, like coming home. We need a lot of work on our Mission. We need more activities, even if it was once a month for now, to bring people.”

Verduzco said, “It was a growing experience for all of us. Three ministries going together is a huge undertaking. The Pathfinders had the opportunity to do ministry they would not normally do, including the God in Shoes spa day on Thursday, interacting with the kids at the picnic. This taught me a lot this year.”

For Dubs the mission was fulfilling of a legacy. “My grandfather taught me at a very early age that it is important to take care of the needs of others. His exact quote: “Always be mindful of the needs of others, Mary Jo.” For me to go back to where my grandfather mentored me to always think of others, and to take the opportunity to be God in Shoes — in the shoes — to others, that was huge to me.”

“While we teach the kids about basketball, at the end of each session we also talk to them about how Christ loves them and wants them to set goals for their future,” said Dempsey. “This is a needful mission field.”

Rebecca Attle from Dayton, Tennessee, with the Pathfinder Mission helped on every project. “This has shown me that there are people a little worse off than us, and that you are still rich even if you don’t have much.” ❄️



Elijah Radio

BY REBECCA GRICE

Leah (left), Rose, Madelyn, and Luke Rogers enjoy telling everyone about Elijah Radio.

During the recent Vacation Bible School (VBS) program at Birmingham, Alabama, First Church, one of the leaders ran to a nearby grocery store. When she was checking out, the clerk saw her VBS name tag and asked what church she was with. "I'm with the Seventh-day Adventist Church up here on Lorna Road." "Oh!" replied the clerk, "I've been listening to your radio station!"

Elijah Radio began with a prayer in 2005, when Rose Rogers asked God, "What can I do for You?" God made it clear: "Start a radio station."

To Luke and Rose Rogers, members of Birmingham First, this was a new, scary idea. Rose explains, "We didn't know anything about radio! I'm a homeschool mom, and Luke is an engineer." Still, they were convinced that God was leading and encouraging with promises from Psalm 92:4 and Habakkuk 2:2,3.

They began to look into a low-power FM, something small and affordable, but God closed that door and taught them to think bigger. During the next three years they read and heard many mission stories about how God can provide for His Work when His people invest themselves wholly. Luke

and Rose began to realize that God might want a full-power radio station to reach as many souls as possible.

Attending the 2008 ASI Convention, they found much-needed mentors at a radio meeting. Then the Rogers felt impressed to give the ministry a name from Malachi 4:5, "Elijah Radio," to prepare individuals for Jesus' soon return. Later that year, God guided the selection of a board of directors, and a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation was formed.

Now they needed a radio station. In 2009, letters of inquiry were sent to Birmingham station owners. One corporation had two large AM stations for sale, and negotiations began for the biggest one. Luke says, "Elijah Radio didn't have the money, but we believed that if God wanted it, He would provide for it." Then the negotiations fell through. "God always sent us the encouragement that we needed," says Rose.

In November 2012, someone offered to give Elijah Radio an FM radio license and a construction permit for Bessemer, on the west side of Birmingham. There were two problems — the license had expired, and the construction permit would expire in two and

a half months. The board decided to move forward any way.

Many prayed, and miracles happened. In December, God turned several "No's" into a "Yes" to provide space on a leased tower. In January, even Elijah Radio's FCC lawyer was astonished, when the FCC not only granted the license transfer, but also gave an unheard of extension to the construction permit. After hundreds of hours of work, the new deadline was met with six hours to spare!

Since March 22, 2013, WSJL 88.1 FM has been broadcasting 24/7 to a half million listeners. The format is all talk and includes sermons, health, creation science, personal testimonies, and family programs. Luke and Rose have a vision of the station working closely with all of the area Adventist churches to be a hands-on blessing in the listening community.

Recently, the Elijah Radio board decided to look for a full-time station manager, and plan to renovate a building to add a sound room for creating local radio programs. If you would like to help in any way or get more information, contact info@elijahradio.org. 📻



Wal-Mart, through the Selma Food Bank, delivered a shipment of food to Temple Gate Community Center in Selma, Alabama.

In Times Like These — A Community Center is Needed

BY MICHAEL LEWIS

In these times of economic hardship many are struggling simply to have descent food to eat. In the black belt of Alabama, an area of some of the poorest counties both in the state and the nation, Temple Gate Community Center is making a difference. The Temple Gate Community Center is a ministry of Temple Gate Church in Selma, Alabama. Its simple motto is "Love in Action." This means that love compels Temple Gate members to do something when they see a need, and that is exactly what Charles Winston, community services director, did in 2012.

After an evangelistic meeting that the church held in July 2012, Winston, a long time veteran of community services in Arizona and Florida, guided by God and his experiences, decided to try to start a community center in Selma. There was a house right beside Temple Gate Church that they owned and that was not being used. Winston decided to have a clean-up day in preparation of opening the center. He prayed and asked God to show him His will, and when the clean-up day came there was an overwhelming response. In a few short weeks, Winston connected with the area food bank, set up the home to look like a community center, and recruited a small but dedicated staff.

The results are God inspired. Since August 2012, the center has given away 86,125 pounds of food,

and assisted 4,721 individuals including 2,484 families. In addition, the community center also gives food to a learning center for students' lunch; and it gives food to three other community centers and two other neighborhoods outside of Selma. Temple Gate Community Center has given approximately 5,700 articles of clothing, 527 pairs of shoes, and 25 items of furniture, bedding, refrigerators, and freezers. The community center is a place where at-risk children who have been sentenced to community service can serve and be mentored. Additionally, the center provides care packages for families that experience tragedies such as a home burnout or natural disaster. Mothers with small children who bring their child to the center are given a 15-day supply of diapers. There is also a harvest of souls because of the ministry of the center. The church has baptized one person as a result of the ministry of the center, and has several others on a baptismal track.

In April 2013, Winston decided that they needed to not only serve Selma and the surrounding communities, but also the entire southwest Alabama, known as the black belt. He also felt that it was God's will to use the vehicle of community service as an entering wedge to preach the Gospel throughout southwest Alabama. In April 2013, Temple Gate Community Center entered into Wilcox County, the

poorest county in Alabama, and started distributing food. The site for distribution is Camden, Alabama. The community center has made a commitment to give out food there once a week with the idea of starting a permanent center there this year.

Temple Gate Community Center has the goal of eradicating hunger in southwest Alabama by starting community centers in previously untouched counties and towns all over the black belt. There are so many places in southwest Alabama where the truth of God's Word has not been entered into with intentionality. The ultimate goal is to start small missions inside the centers, providing a channel for God's truth to be introduced to that particular community. However, the work is so vast that each time the center opens in both Selma and Camden; many individuals have to be turned away because of limited resources. In order for this vision to move forward there is an immediate need. A refrigerated truck is needed in order to effectively serve the southwest Alabama area. Temple Gate is calling upon all of God's people to assist in southwest Alabama with your prayers and gifts so that the work might be finished in this vineyard, and the soon return of the Lord and Savior Jesus be heralded. ✠

Michael Lewis is the pastor of Temple Gate Church in Selma, Alabama.

Adventists Reaffirm Biblical Marriage

Issues related to marriage can be seen in their true light only as they are viewed against the background of the divine ideal for marriage. Marriage was divinely established in Eden and affirmed by Jesus Christ to be both monogamous and heterosexual, a lifelong union of loving companionship between a man and a woman. In the culmination of His creative activity, God fashioned humankind as male and female in His own image; and He instituted marriage, a covenant-based union of the two genders, physically, emotionally, and spiritually, spoken of in Scripture as “one flesh.”

Arising from the diversity of the two human genders, the oneness of marriage images in a singular way the unity within diversity of the Godhead. Throughout Scripture, the heterosexual union in marriage is elevated as a symbol of the bond between Deity and humanity. It is a human witness to God’s self-giving love and covenant with His people. The harmonious affiliation of a man and a woman in marriage provides a microcosm of social unity that is time-honored as a core ingredient of stable societies. Further, the Creator intended married sexuality not only to serve a unitive purpose, but to provide for the propagation and perpetuation of



the human family. In the divine purpose, procreation springs from and is entwined with the same process whereby husband and wife may find joy, pleasure, and physical completeness. It is to a husband and wife whose love has enabled them to know each other in a deep sexual bond that a child may be entrusted. Their child is a living embodiment of their oneness. The growing child thrives in the atmosphere of married love and unity in

which he or she was conceived, and has the benefit of a relationship with each of the natural parents.

The monogamous union in marriage of a man and a woman is affirmed as the divinely ordained foundation of the family and social life and the only morally appropriate locus of genital or related intimate sexual expression. However, the estate of marriage is not God’s only plan for the meeting of human relational needs or for

knowing the experience of family. Singleness and the friendship of singles are within the divine design as well. The companionship and support of friends looms in importance in both biblical testaments. The fellowship of the Church, the household of God, is available to all regardless of their married state. Scripture, however, places a solid demarcation socially and sexually between such friendship relations and marriage.

To this biblical view of marriage the Seventh-day Adventist Church adheres without reservation, believing that any lowering of this high view is to that extent a lowering of the heavenly ideal. Because marriage has been corrupted by sin, the purity and beauty of marriage as it was designed by God needs to be restored. Through an appreciation of the redemptive work of Christ and the work of His Spirit in human hearts, the original purpose of marriage may be recovered, and the delightful and wholesome experience of marriage realized by a man and a woman who join their lives in the marriage covenant.

This statement was approved and voted by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administrative Committee (ADCOM) on April 23, 1996.

Adventist GlenOaks Hospital Executive Team Attends SDA Rider Retreat

“But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them that those who love your name may rejoice in you,” Psalm 5:11.

Whether he’s wearing a business suit and serving as chief executive officer of Adventist GlenOaks Hospital in the Chicago suburbs, or he’s wearing a leather jacket and riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle through the winding hills of the Smoky Mountains, Bruce C. Christian places his trust in Jesus Christ. With God as his constant companion, Christian continuously seeks out ways to sing the Lord’s praises and share with others the blessings bestowed upon him.

Four years ago Christian and his friends Rodney Corker, Tom Murrell, Howard Scoggins, Dick Tibbits, and Bucky Weeks came together to celebrate the Lord by hosting the first ever SDA Rider Retreat. The SDA Rider Retreat is a special time of fellowship, spiritual reflection, activity, and joy for those who love the Lord and who enjoy riding their motorcycles. This four-day event combines morning and evening worship and fellowship sessions with daytime motorcycle rides through the majestic Smoky Mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee.

The SDA Rider Retreat proved to be so popular



Members of Adventist GlenOaks Hospital’s executive team attended the SDA Rider Retreat. Pictured are Erin Gerber (left), administrative director, marketing and service line development; John Rapp, regional vice president/ministries and mission; Bruce C. Christian, chief executive officer; and Rich Roehr, assistant vice president, administrative services.

that it has become an annual event that has grown in attendance each year, bringing together old and new friends from all across the country and from all walks of life. Christian will once again host the fourth annual SDA Rider Retreat, September 12-15, 2013, in Fontana Dam, N.C. This remote location is highly regarded for its majestic views, peaceful setting, and nearly unparalleled number of scenic routes available to motorcycle enthusiasts. The charming Fontana Community Church serves as the site for the fellowship sessions, where speakers give personal testimony of their journeys to accepting Christ in their lives. In addition, attendees are treated to the uplifting gift of song by Christian and his fellow singers and musicians.

In 2012, more than 120 riders and attendees shared in their love of the Lord at the third annual SDA Rider Retreat. Attendees included John Rapp, D. Min., and Erin Gerber, of Adventist Midwest Health; and Richard Roehr of Adventist GlenOaks Hospital. As busy hospital executives, they traded cell phones and laptops for hymnals and handlebars.

It is so seldom people

are afforded time away from the hectic minutia of their lives to immerse themselves in celebration of the Lord and reconnect to what’s truly important. With the SDA Rider Retreat, Christian and his friends truly extend the healing ministry of Christ to many and make a lasting difference in their lives. The SDA Rider Retreat is so much more than just another time of worship or just a new place to ride. The SDA Rider Retreat is a very special and unique opportunity to experience the teachings of the Bible, the magnificence of the Lord’s Creation, and improved health and well-being.

For information about the fourth annual SDA Rider Retreat, visit <http://www.sdariderretreat.com/> or e-mail Erin Gerber at aghmarketing@ahss.org.

—BY ERIN GERBER



Dianne Christian (left), Bruce C. Christian, Erin Gerber, and Rich Roehr take a break after a long morning ride during the SDA Rider Retreat in Fontana Dam, N.C.

Oklahoma Tornado Victims Receive Bedtime Backpacks

After hearing the devastating news of the tornado that hit Oklahoma on May 22, 2013, the employees of Manchester Memorial Hospital in Kentucky decided to lend a helping hand. The hospital teamed up with a local charity organization, Bedtime Backpacks for Oklahoma, to buy and fill

backpacks with bedtime supplies for children and teens. These included toiletries, personal hygiene products, pajamas, books, games, and toys. Manchester Memorial employees managed to bring in 90 backpacks stuffed with helpful materials

for the youth of Oklahoma. “With these donations,



we wanted not only to brighten up the children’s day, but also wanted to tell them that there can be life after a ‘storm’ and hope can be restored,” said Hurriyat Ghayyur, the hospital’s director of community outreach.

—BY STACIA CARWELL

Farmers’ Market Boosts Community Health

In an effort to promote the health benefits of fresh fruits and vegetables, Gordon Hospital is hosting a CREATION Health Farmers’ Market every Thursday through the month of August. The market is held in the field near the Emergency Department entrance off of Red Bud Road in Calhoun, Ga.

There, community members can enjoy musical entertainment while learning more about the vitamins,



minerals, phytochemicals, and antioxidants that boost their health. Each event will also feature recipes and information about a fruit or vegetable selected as the Cancer-Fighter-of-the-Week.

“Since we’ve started in June, the CREATION Health Farmers’ Market has been

a huge success,” said Judy Fehlenberg, hospital nutritionist. “The best part about it is having the opportunity to teach people how to proactively care for their health and make good choices. To us, that’s an integral part of fulfilling our mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ.”

—BY KAREN SHAW

Park Ridge Health Named Among Top 100 Health Care Employers by Becker’s Hospital Review

Park Ridge Health was recently selected as one of “100 Great Places to Work in Healthcare” by Becker’s Hospital Review and Becker’s ASC Review. Other hospitals recognized in this list include Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic, and New York-Presbyterian Hospital. Recognition is based on a set of standards that place Park Ridge Health among the top 100 health care

organizations in the country for robust benefits, wellness initiatives, professional development opportunities, and work environments that promote employee collaboration and satisfaction.



“At Park Ridge Health, we’re proud of our exceptional team of more than 1,200 caregivers and staff who provide

a nationally leading patient experience, and are pleased to provide an award-winning work environment for them so they can serve with excellence and compassion,” said Jimm Bunch, hospital president/CEO.

Some unique benefits available to employees of Park Ridge Health include a health savings plan; semi-yearly bonuses based on completion of quality, financial, and patient satisfaction goals; a tuition reimbursement program;

and a 50-percent retirement matching program for up to four percent of employee contributions. Team members at Park Ridge Health also enjoy the opportunity to earn up to \$600 annually through a wellness incentive plan.

A full list of winners was featured in the May/June issues of Becker’s Hospital Review, Becker’s ASC Review, and Becker’s Spine Review, and on the publications’ websites.

—BY KIRSTEN CUTLER

Accreditation Granted to Occupational Therapy Program

On May 1, 2013, the master of occupational therapy (OT) program was granted full accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA). ACOTE found no areas of noncompliance and granted the maximum accreditation length for new programs, seven years.



Since its launch in August 2011, the program has operated under Developing Program Status.

“The OT faculty has worked very hard to build

an exceptional program. Receiving full accreditation with no areas of noncompliance is a huge testimony to the excellent job they’ve done,” said David Greenlaw, D.Min., president of Adventist University.

With the new accreditation status, graduates are now eligible for national certification to achieve occupational therapist, registered (OTR), standing.

“The recognition from ACOTE ensures students and the community that our OT program meets all of the standards required for entry-level practice,” said Tia Hughes, chair of the Department of Occupational Therapy. “Now it is up to our students to take that education and become leaders in the field while practicing healthcare as ministry.”

—BY SARAH CROWDER

CREATION Health

Outlook: The Key to a Fulfilling Life

Beating the Odds

Did you know that having a pessimistic outlook is associated with a 50 percent increased risk of early death? To put it another way, by choosing an optimistic outlook, a person may decrease his or her risk of early death by 50 percent.

What is Outlook?

Outlook is the lens through which we choose to view the world, others, and ourselves. It regulates our levels of hope, joy, and gratitude. It also influences our health by affecting the creation and/or progression of disease.

Benefits of Optimism

Martin Seligman, Ph.D., renowned psychologist and

educator, says in his book, *Learned Optimism*: “Over and above their talent-test scores, we repeatedly find that pessimists drop below their potential and optimists exceed it. I have come to think that the notion of potential, without the notion of optimism, has very little meaning.”

Bottom line? Optimists are happier; enjoy better physical and social functioning; have increased vitality; and are healthier emotionally, physically, and spiritually. The great news is that optimism is a learned habit — it is a choice.

Start with Gratitude

Every day we either count our blessings or our burdens. Why not begin

each day by thanking God for His abundant gifts? Expressing gratitude weakens the part of the brain that is prone toward depression and discouragement.

Charles Spurgeon said, “It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness.” He was right. And, choosing an optimistic outlook is the first step toward unlocking and enjoying the abundant life that Jesus offers.

That’s CREATION Health!

—BY LYNELL LAMOUNTAIN



CREATIONHealth.com

World Youth Group Goes from Carolinas to Cuba

In 1994, Henry and Arleen Stubbs were asked to start a youth group in their church in South Carolina. Now, 19 years later, that youth group has expanded from their hometown to the whole world.



This group, called World Youth Group, is a passionate group of young people who spread the Word of God in foreign countries.

One sabbath, after giving a testimony in church about their last mission trip, a member of the church asked if the group would go do work in his country,

Cuba. The World Youth Group was happy to embark on the new mission. However, as it became clear that small yearly mission trips to Cuba were not enough to reach the entire country, a new vision was formed.

Because there are more than 1,000 towns with no Adventist presence in Cuba, Henry Stubbs felt that God was calling him to reach the unentered areas. With the ultimate goal of reaching the unreached, the World Youth Group has had these four annual goals for the past three years: 1) Hold a 30-day training session for the Cuban youth to become Bible workers and medical missionaries; 2) Select four

unreached towns to plant a church and hire four Bible workers to help at

attendance of more than 200 individuals, which



each one; 3) Take a group of young people from the United States to hold a two-week evangelical series; and 4) Raise money to build new churches.

God has been at work in Cuba. In January, 70 youth graduated as Bible workers, and 16 of those Bible workers were hired to help at the new churches being built. During the

more than doubles last year's record. This will be just another step toward their goal of reaching every corner of Cuba.

Learn more about World Youth Group's past and future projects online at worldyouthgroup.com, where you can also make a donation to help with the planting of new churches.

—BY DAVID RUMSEY



RON QUICK

Young Canvasser Prays for the Faith of Joshua

Do you think the God of Joshua is still alive and well today? Marli Cavriales does.

Worship that morning had been about Joshua's prayer for God to hold the sun, so that His army could defeat the nations. That got Marli to thinking — if Joshua had enough courage to ask God to hold the sun, why wasn't she asking God for more? Why didn't she have more faith? So, Marli started praying for the faith of Joshua.

Marli is spending the summer doing the canvassing program in Charlotte, N.C., with 15 other students in preparation for John Bradshaw's and It is Written's evangelistic series this coming Fall.

It is customary for canvassers to set goals for themselves every day, giving them something to strive for when things get rough ... something to keep them going. Usually Marli's goal was to be able to give out 40 books by the end of

the day. That day, however, she set her goal higher. Praying with the faith of Joshua, she set her goal at 50 books.

When her lunch break came around and she tallied her books, she realized that she already had given away 35 books. With still a good four hours to go before heading back to the church for the night, Marli was confident that God could give her much more than her goal of 50 books. She started praying for 60.

As the hours passed, books were flying: 50, 55, 59 — Marli held her breath — 60. God had answered her wildest prayer! With a total of 63 books out that day, and more than \$1,000 in donations, she set the record for the whole Southern Union for most books out in a day by a single person.

"God always comes through," Marli said, smiling.
—BY KARA HOLLAND

Carolina Conference Churches to Build New K-10 School

The Greensboro, High Point, Kernersville, and Winston-Salem, N.C., churches have launched an ambitious capital stewardship campaign to construct a new \$4.75-million school facility for Tri-City Christian Academy. After having been at their old location for 55 years, they decided that it was time for a new building.

In February the churches launched the capital campaign, and nearly half the funds have already been raised. Fundraising is currently underway to secure the remaining \$2.75 million. An additional \$939,000 is needed before groundbreaking can begin. The committee hopes that the school will be ready by the 2014-2015 school year.

Tri-City Christian Academy has averaged from 80

to 90 students during the past 10 years, with seven full-time teachers and seven additional support staff. The low student-teacher ratio, the intentional interaction of students in different grade levels, and the emphasis on Christian service all make the school unique.

School principal Peter Cousins is confident that the new school will be built.

"I have faith that when we put our hand in the hand of God, great miracles will take place," he said.

Mark Andrews, school board chair, together



with Bryan Hall, building committee chair, is just as positive, adding, "We invite our brothers and sisters throughout the Carolinas and Southern Union to join us in prayer that this new facility may soon become a reality."

It is hoped that once the new facility is completed, the school can expand to a full 12-grade program.

To learn more about

the school or to make a donation to the capital campaign, visit www.tricityschool.com. To view the architectural plans and archived videos, visit www.buildingforeternity.com. To arrange a visit or learn about student enrollment, contact the school at 336-665-9822 or via email at tcaoffice@tricityschool.com.

—BY DON DAVIS

Westchester Spanish Church Burns Mortgage

After 25 years of sacrifice and God's mercies, members of the Westchester Spanish Church, Miami, Fla., completed payment of their church mortgage and the release of such debt, which included the original mortgage and an extra loan for the addition completed years ago. The May 18 celebration included burning of the mortgage and dedication of the church.

"On behalf of Florida Conference and the beloved



ELIO HERNANDEZ

Westchester Spanish Church held a mortgage-burning ceremony on May 18, 2013, as part of a dedication service. Participants included José LeGrand (left), executive secretary of the Florida Conference Association; Daniel Amich, senior pastor from 2003 to June 2013; Nubia Tapia, founding member; Melba and Rogelio Llauradó, founding members; Jorge Hernandez, treasurer; Briceida Valencia, founding member; and Celina and Nelson Bernal, founding members.

congregation of Westchester, we declare this house of prayer, this church, the property of the Almighty God," stated José LeGrand, executive secretary of the Florida Conference Association.

Daniel Amich, pastor, who guided the 900-member church during the past 10 years, presided over the ceremony. Orlando Lopez Sr. is the new senior pastor, and Freddy Rodriguez is associate pastor.

—BY ELIO HERNANDEZ

Ocala Church Members Serve Their Community

Ocala, Fla., members have found a new way to serve the community

by assisting the non-denominational Interfaith Emergency Services (IES) ministry in Marion County. Interfaith provides a large variety of emergency services to individuals and

families in crisis, regardless of race, color, or religion. Ocala members help by preparing the nonprofit organization's monthly newsletter for mailing.

Volunteer Dee Dee Hirschi states, "It is a great way to get better acquainted with our fellow church

members, a fun time to catch up on church news, and a rewarding experi-



DAVE SWINYAR

Jerry and Brenda Sutton (left) and Dee Dee Hirschi prepare the next Interfaith Emergency Services newsletter for mailing.

ence to have a part in helping the needy."

"We feel that Interfaith is a blessing to the community with all the different needs they meet," say Jerry and Brenda Sutton.

"We are happy to serve in a small way."

Another Ocala Church

member, Karen Couch, brings her sons to assist in the newsletter mailing,



DAVE SWINYAR

Karen Couch and her sons, Ricky (left) and Jacob, also participate in newsletter mailing preparation.

knowing that it instills in them a hands-on reminder of Christ's words, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Interfaith's April newsletter tribute to more than 200 volunteers shows a

picture of Ocala members at work with the comment, "Thanks to the folks

from Ocala Seventh-day Adventist Church for their help with our newsletter every month!"

Dave Swinyar, recently retired pastor, observed,

"IES has been a blessing to our church members, and we have been a blessing to IES. It gives me a good feeling that our church is a part of our community."

—BY HERB PRITCHARD

150th Anniversary of Adventist Church Commemorated at Fort Pierce

“We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history.” These familiar words rang clear May 17 and 18 as Fort Pierce, Fla., Church members commemorated the 150th anniversary of the official formation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Bernie Andersen, vice chair of Adventist Heritage

Ministry’s Historic Adventist Village Site Committee in Battle Creek, Mich., was the guest speaker.

The weekend began

Friday morning at James E. Sampson Memorial School, where students listened as Andersen shared the story of Ophelia Edson pleading

speaks to your heart, respond just then.”

Friday evening, Andersen led those gathered at the church through some of James and Ellen White’s favorite hymns, interspersed with stories. “The singing was absolutely amazing,” he testified.

Sabbath morning, Andersen’s topic, “The Heir,” linked the origins of the Advent movement to the period of the Reformation, clearly showing how

the Seventh-day Adventist Church was raised up by God to continue the work begun during that incredible period of history.

In the afternoon, Andersen shared “Stories of the Pioneers,” recounting fascinating experiences of those instrumental in establishing the Advent Church. The weekend closed with the award-winning film, Meet Hiram Edson, in which events just before and after the Great Disappointment of 1844 were recreated.

Rodney Sanders, a frequent visitor to Fort Pierce Church, said, “I discovered a great deal about Adventist history and the dedication of pioneers like James and Ellen White. I look forward to joining this church and growing in my faith.”

More information about Adventist Heritage Ministry is online: www.AdventistHeritage.org.

—BY RICHARD CECERE



Bernie Andersen of Adventist Heritage Ministry shares stories of early Adventist pioneers with students at James E. Sampson Memorial School in Fort Pierce, Fla.

GRANT IVERSON

Kendall Spanish Church Dedicates New Facility

After a long wait of 20 years, Kendall Spanish Church, Miami, Fla., is worshipping in its own building, thanks to the work and contributions of dedicated members and those interested in the progress of the church. From June 8 to 15, members celebrated the blessings of God at Sabbath worship services



Kendall Spanish Church’s new sanctuary was filled to capacity at the dedication service.

CARLOS GOMEZ

and Sunday through Friday evenings.

The members listened to inspirational messages

and offered praise and thanksgiving to the Lord for leading them to this point in the history of their congregation. Those who, in one way or another, were part of the church’s spiritual, material, and physical growth came to celebrate with the 332 members of the congregation.

—BY FIDEL FALCÓN

Mission Team Makes a Difference for Oklahoma Tornado Victims

Opportunities for mission trips come up frequently in a town like Collegedale, and when this trip to Moore, Okla., was brought up it seemed like the perfect way to really begin summer without going to another country. The group was small and consisted of five teens: Sydney Davis, Morgan Nash, Preston McKnight, Joëlle Kanyana, and Isabelle Kaneza; and four adults: Lorraine Rollins, Jojo Macatiag, and LeClare and Shelly Litchfield.

The plan was to go to Moore and help with tornado damage clean up. Where the group would stay was unknown. It was likely that they would sleep on floors, maybe in tents, but God provided an angel. Brandy was her name. She opened up her home — showers, air mattresses, and all. She even allowed the group to do laundry, and prepared breakfast and dinner on her days off work. After a long day of hard labor, all were overjoyed to come “home.”

One of the many jobs assigned to the team was going to each home in a neighborhood to see if help was needed. Going door to door, they met Bill sitting on his front porch looking exhausted. He was packing up his belongings alone before his house was to be bulldozed. They offered to help and he said



A small group from Collegedale Church headed to Moore, Okla., June 9-16, 2013, for a mission trip. They went to help where they could, and were led by God to those in need.

that he had heart problems and a heart transplant, making the task very difficult. Throughout the week, they cleared Bill’s house, getting to know his story. Each item boxed seemed to hold a memory, and Bill enjoyed reminiscing. They prayed for Bill; he wasn’t the type of person who openly expressed his gratitude, but one could feel it in his mannerisms.

Another survivor encountered was Lois. Shelly Litchfield and Isabelle Kaneza were paired up, and nearly skipped her house because it looked okay. They checked it anyway, and Lois emerged. Her story was heartbreaking. She got news the morning of the tornado that her husband had passed away in hospice. They prayed for her. Her gratitude was poured out in

hugs, kisses, thank-yous, and tears.

The mission group only affected a small neigh-

in the town’s Veterans Park and worked at the ACS (Adventist Community Services) Center at the Hope Adventist Fellowship (Moore Adventist Church).

The last day they encountered a 17-year-old girl in her car. Kanyana approached her and discovered that Ashley was driving by her house to see if the city had bulldozed it. Apparently she had been driving by daily and found her house in the form of a stack of debris. Ashley said the house was all she had known growing up, and discovering it as a pile of trash was very emotional.

It was amazing how almost everyone who had damage or lost their homes



A group of nine headed out to Moore, Okla., to make a difference. They went door to door to make sure people were doing well, and were able to share the love of God through prayer and hard work.

borhood out of the 1,200 homes destroyed in Moore, but it felt good to see “their neighborhood” recovering. They performed cleanup

never said a word of anger and never blamed God. They always claimed to be blessed.

—BY ISABELLE KANEZA

Greenhaven Experiences Fruit in Christ

“Woo-hoo!” is something you hear often at Greenhaven, a church plant in Seale, Ala. It’s a praise response for what God is doing. It was a high Sabbath in early June because Betsy Peckham joined the church. They had a special service and a few visitors came to join in the celebration.

Peckham has been worshipping with the Greenhaven Mission Group since its inception three years ago. Coming from an Episcopalian background, she loved the small-group, intimate, family-style fellowship found in the house church atmosphere. Like a



Congratulations to Betsy Peckham on joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Greenhaven group gathered around to pray and praise God for what He has done, and what He is going to do through her in the future.

sponge, she’s been soaking up the love of God, and it has been a joy to watch her grow in the grace and love of God. For the last year she’s been seeing herself as a Seventh-day Adventist, but hadn’t made the final decision.

This year they studied the special truths, as windows through which the character of God is seen more clearly. More and more changes in her life brought her to the place where there was nothing keeping her from going forward to make a public profession of her faith in her Savior who she loves so much.

Sabbath, June 1, 2013, the special service took place. Doug Shears, mission pastor for the group, led out with thoughts about joining the body of Christ for the purpose of ministry, and what it means to cleave to the Lord in your daily walk. There was singing and sharing throughout the service. Peckham was presented with a new study Bible.

After she received her certificate and was voted in, there was a special prayer.

It truly was a “Woo-hoo” day!

—BY SHERYL SHEARS

AAA Few in Number, Big in Giving

Atlanta Adventist Academy (AAA) is a collection of campuses located in Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama. The educational format is unconventional because students from several different places are connected in real-time using interactive videoconferencing technology.

One of the traditional aspects of the program, however, is the chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS). Twenty-six students from several different campuses are members of the NHS. We recently finished a fundraiser campaign called “Pennies for Patients!” The idea for this campaign is to collect loose change during the month of February and donate those funds to the Leukemia and Lymphoma

Society. Day one kicked off the campaign with a special guest speaker for chapel. As the campaign was presented, there was an added twist — each class would try to out do the other, with the winner receiving a special award.

In the end, the juniors raised the most funds, but the final results were jaw-dropping. The students were told by an official at the NHS national office that \$1.00 per student was a good goal — after all, AAA is a small school. That would give AAA a grand total of about \$140. However, according to the final count, AAA raised more than \$6



Ken Brandon, AAA National Honor Society president, is excited to share how his school gives in a big way to help others.

per student with a grand total of \$867.24. That is six times the goal set.

Other campaigns, both with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and ADRA have produced similar results. For example, in the last fundraiser, AAA raised more than \$1,100 for

ADRA’s annual Gift Catalog Campaign. The approach was the same: collect pennies and loose change, then donate what was collected.

AAA isn’t large in number, but this does not affect its ability to do great things. As a result, AAA distributed significant gifts to those in need.

—BY KEN BRANDON

CORRECTION:

Two photo captions for the July 2013 Camp Meeting article were switched. They were the photos for Timothy Gillespie and Ron Malloch. We apologize for the error.

Cody Road Class Raises Money to Build Mission Churches

Several years ago Phil Stover, Sabbath School teacher at Cody Road Church in Mobile, Ala., started thinking about having a Sabbath School class outreach project. The idea didn't catch on until a recent quarter's lessons on witnessing. The class members researched several projects and became excited about the One-Day Church, sponsored through Maranatha Volunteers International. They committed to this being an extra offering after their regularly scheduled church offerings, and approval was given from the pastor and church treasurer.



Chikungu Adventist Church members in Malawi have a new pavilion to meet in.

They raised the money and made their contri-

bution to Maranatha in early 2013. When the class

learned the location of the church was in Malawi, Stover was surprised. His family had been introduced to the Adventist message by studying with Lowell and Josephine Cunningham Edwards, and had been enthralled with the Edwards' stories of being missionaries in Malawi.

As a result of the project, the class members have experienced a renewed sense of community. So far they have raised \$3,400, enough to fund a second One-Day Church. Now they are exploring other outreach projects.

—BY JANINE BRUNET

Retiring Conference Pathfinder Council Chairperson Receives John Hancock Award

Bob Kimbro, Conference Pathfinder Council chairperson, was awarded the John Hancock Award for Excellency during the first weekend of Gulf States Camp Meeting. The Pathfinder Council usually presents this special award to a club director as a result of their outstanding leadership, but this year the Council decided, without Kimbro's knowledge,

to give the award to him.

After serving as Council

chairperson since 1996, Kim-

bro is retiring from his posi-



James Mangum (left) presents the John Hancock Award to the Kimbros.

tion at the end of this year. He and his wife, Arlene, have worked with Pathfinders for 38 years. The Kimbros were elected to the council in 1992, and were asked to be the Teens in Leadership Training (TLT) coordinators in 1994.

Kimbro has spent many hours volunteering his time coordinating and directing Conference Pathfinder campo-

rees, fairs, outreach programs, and much more. When asked why he has been willing to devote so much time to Pathfinders, Kimbro responds, "It is for the young people." He pauses a moment and then adds, "I remember a young man who had been a real challenge on a mission trip, and then later at a Southern Union Camporee he came to me and wanted me to baptize him — that's the reward." He paused and then added, "If nothing else ever happens in my life, I've done my part for the Kingdom, and that is a good feeling."

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Richie Halversen Ordained to Gospel Ministry

Richie Halversen was set aside in the sacred act of ordination to the Gospel ministry, Sabbath afternoon, June 1, 2013, during the Gulf States Conference Camp Meeting. In 2009 Halversen accepted a call to pastor the Montgomery First Church. He ministered there for three years before accepting a call to pastor the College Drive Church in Pearl, Miss., where he is currently serving.

Halversen was born in Kansas City, Mo., in 1978. As the son of a pastor, Richard Halversen (a special blessing happened

during the ordination service when Richie's father delivered the ordination message for his son), he moved many times during his childhood.

Halversen graduated from Highland Academy in Portland, Tenn., and was a student at Southern Adventist University for a year before marrying his wife, Brittney. He graduated from Austin Peay State University in 2009 with a B.S. in public relations, and is currently working on his M.A. in pastoral ministry from Andrews University.

He and Brittney have



Pictured is the Halversen family: Tristen (standing, left), Kaleb, and Hayley; Brittney (sitting), and Richie holding baby Taylor.

four children: Kaleb, Hayley, Tristen, and Taylor.

Halversen says, "I count it the greatest privilege to be called into pastoral ministry. I have no doubt that God called my wife, Brittney, also, and I appreciate her support and love." It is Halversen's passion to point people to Jesus, and to create an environment where many can grow in Him, safe and unthreatened. He sums up his belief in six words: "Jesus loves me, this I know."

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Literature Evangelists Receive Special Training During Camp Meeting

"One worker who has been trained and educated for the work, [literature evangelism], who is controlled by the Spirit of Christ, will accomplish far more than ten laborers who go out deficient in knowledge and weak in the faith," *Evangelism*, page 109. With this quote in mind, David Sigamani, Gulf States director of publishing, planned a special time for the Conference literature evangelists (LEs) during Camp Meeting week.

Tim Merryman, an LE and former LE assistant director from Tampa, Fla., conducted a workshop for the LE workers. Each weekday morning the workers met for two to three hours of instruction from Merryman. After lunch

the LEs canvassed people in the area by knocking on doors, and calling on people who had mailed in requests asking for information about Adventist publications.

New LE workers were paired with veteran LEs so that the experienced worker could share his knowledge with them. As a result of this work and training, the LEs received renewed



Each morning Tim Merryman (right) conducted a training class for the literature evangelists during Gulf States Camp Meeting.

inspiration and knowledge. Also, many families in the surrounding communities received a visit from a worker who prayed with them, showed them how to purchase life-changing literature, and offered to

enroll them in a Bible study course. Because of these dedicated workers, the June sales for the year show an increase of 148 percent over last year.

—BY ELIZABETH LONG AND REBECCA GRICE

Decherd Members Partner with Franklin County for Diaper Derby

Diapers. Let's see, would they be in the paper towel section or in cleaning supplies? For some grandparents, cruising the diaper aisle at the local supermarket was a long step into seemingly ancient memories. But, they were on a mission. The Franklin County Health Department put out a plea for diapers as a means of helping low-income moms stretch their budgets.

Launched just prior to Mother's Day, and extending through the whole month, the county dubbed the project "Delivering Diapers to Cover Our Bums," and prominently featured the backsides of several adorable diapered children in its publicity materials. Kathryn Prall, a member of

the county's Health Council and a retired community health nurse, brought the project to her church family where it was renamed the "Decherd Diaper Derby."



"This do in remembrance of Me," took on a practical application as diapers and wipes began to accumulate in front of Decherd Church's communion table.

As church members took up the cause, a mound of diaper packages and wipes began to grow

in front of the platform. By the end of the month, more than 500 diapers had been collected by church members.

When the diapers were being delivered to the Health Department, Tonya Garner, project organizer, was surprised when she came out of her office to help unload what she thought was a small supply of diapers. "Your church did more than any other single organization," she exclaimed.

At the following month's Health Council meeting, Decherd was presented a beautiful handmade wreath. In the heart of the circle hung a small wooden cross with a card of thanks attached.

Garner also said, "I'm

so glad Franklin County residents have you all, and I look forward to future endeavors together."

The next partnership with the county is already set for this fall's annual "Stuff the Bus" campaign — an initiative to collect school supplies for children whose parents have trouble purchasing the long list of required back-to-school items.

Though Decherd Church may not have the community service resources of its larger sister churches, it has demonstrated that linking hands with others can accomplish big things for the people of its community, and show God in action at the same time.

—BY JAY PRALL

Literature Evangelist's Work Reaps Baptisms

The butterfly effect theory states that a butterfly flapping its wings moves molecules of air which in turn moves other molecules of air and so on, resulting in a hurricane on the other side of the planet. This theory has since become the Law of Sensitive Dependence upon Conditions, and encompasses more than butterfly wings.



Jaclyn Lovell, and her son, John Wayne

Less than two years ago, Otto Kreuzer, a literature evangelist in the Nashville, Tenn., area, unassumingly went about his day, visiting homes to share truth-filled literature, Bible studies, and

prayer. He was directed to the home of Jaclyn Lovell, a young woman who had suffered a traumatic brain injury. While waiting in the doctors' offices, she read

the *Bible Story* placed there by Kreuzer, and the Holy Spirit began working on her heart.

During Kreuzer's visit with Lovell, she agreed to personal Bible studies, and began attending church. As a result, she was baptized



Duane Manor's 2013 baptism

during the 2012 Camp Meeting. She shared her new faith with her 12-year-old son, John, who was also baptized.

But, the story doesn't end there. Lovell was introduced to Duane Manor, who began to study with her, resulting in Manor's recent baptism at the 2013 Camp Meeting. It is safe to say, the story won't end there. All these and future baptisms relating to this contact may be traced back to one man moving molecules.

—BY KATHY HERWICK

Camp Staff Member Makes Decision for Jesus

It's not just campers whose lives are changed at summer camp. The first baptism of this summer at Indian Creek Camp, Liberty, Tenn., was a staff member. During staff training week, Michael Aldrich approached summer camp director Ken Wetmore and asked,



Ken Wetmore baptizes Michael Aldrich at Indian Creek Camp in Liberty, Tenn.

“How do you know when it's the right time to get baptized?”

After a discussion, Wetmore and Aldrich knew it was the right time for him to be baptized. Aldrich attended Indian Creek Camp as a camper for nine summers, and has served as a staff member for the last four summers. Each of those summers had gradually built in him the desire to fully commit to Jesus, and to become a part of God's family. However, up until this point, the time had never felt right.

“I always felt like the only time I thought about

it was when other people were doing it, and I wanted it to be my own decision and not based on what other people were doing. I wanted it to be a me-and-God decision,” said Aldrich.

On Sabbath afternoon of staff training week, Aldrich shared his testimony with his camp family and relatives who had driven in for his baptism. He shared how God has worked in his life, and how God continues to



2013 Indian Creek Summer Camp Staff

work in his life. And then as the sun began to go down, Aldrich was baptized.

His baptism is a powerful reminder of the power of summer camp for campers and staff, and that decisions to follow Jesus sometimes take time to germinate and grow.

—BY KEN WETMORE

Conference Organizes Danville Church

Danville, Ky., was the first state capitol, it is the home of Centre College, and has been consistently rated one of the top five cities of its size to live in by *U.S. News and World Report*. However, one important landmark was missing in Danville's history. Danville, with a population of more than 15,000, never had a Seventh-day Adventist church.

In December 2004, a group of Seventh-day Adventists from nearby churches met to brainstorm on how to change that. Led by Naren James, M.D., and Sam Soler, this small group resolved that, through the power of the Holy Spirit, Danville would have the first Seventh-day Adventist



Steve Haley (left), Conference president, is pictured with those who attended the organization of Danville, Ky., Church.

Church in its history.

The group began to meet in early 2005 with an evening Bible study every Thursday. By 2007, the group was big enough to begin a once-a-month branch Sabbath school and church service.

In the summer of 2009, the Grove congregation sponsored the group, and it became the Danville Mission Group. This was a major milestone for the effort.

The Holy Spirit continued to bring new souls into the congregation, and on July 16, 2011, the group was organized into the Danville Seventh-day Adventist Company.

On Sabbath, June 22, 2013, the Danville Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized, becoming the 99th church in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. Steve Haley, Conference president, and Steve

Rose, Conference executive secretary, participated in the service. Testimonies were shared by new members Joe and Donna Forgacs, Ramona Brummet, and Dale Wilkinson.

—BY NAREN JAMES, M.D.



Steve Rose (left), Conference executive secretary, and David Clark, pastor, at the organization of Danville Church

Praise Tabernacle Members Recognize Retirees

David Hughes, retired pastor, is a member of Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C. At 91, he is one of the oldest retired ministers in the Southern Union. Hughes spent 47 of his 91 years of life as an Adventist minister and missionary, working in three African countries for 15 of those years. He made his mark as an educator working in Nigeria,

accepting at one point in his career the presidency of the North Nigerian Mission. He also worked in Ghana and Liberia preaching and teaching, and was instrumental in the development of new church schools, especially in Liberia. His dedication, and more than six years of service in Liberia in this capacity, caught the attention of the President of The Republic of Liberia, V. S. Tubman. In May of 1958, Hughes was honored by being knighted Sir David Hughes, Knight of the Republic of Liberia, in the Order of 'African Redemption.' This award is limited to those who have performed extraordinary work for the betterment of the Liberian people.

Hughes, who is a U.S. Navy veteran and served in World War II, had been appointed, before his



David and Eunice Hughes

retirement, senior pastor of churches in California and London, England. While pastoring in England for three years, he expanded the educational opportunities available to the students of his church, opening up the door to expose students to the curriculum available at the University. In 1995, being retired, Hughes and his wife, Eunice, were vacationing in North Carolina visiting their son and daughter-in-law, Leon and Charlotte

Verrett. He says that this was when he fell in love with the people and beauty of Columbus County. "We're going to retire in

North Carolina," he said. The weather reminded him of Africa. Both he and his wife have continued to be active members of Praise Tabernacle Church, where Stephen Davis is pastor.

From its beginning, the Hugheses have had a special interest in the education of the children of their church and of Columbus County. They, especially Eunice

Hughes, volunteer precious time and funds at Carolina Adventist Academy — the only K through 10 South

Charlotte Verrett, M.D., and Richard Berry, M.D. practice.

Hughes has seen the hand of God directing him in his life on numerous occasions. He has experienced miracles in his missionary work, and if you sit for a while in his presence you will be blessed with the many stories he tells of how God has used this humble servant to accomplish great works. Though he has been in danger countless times in the mission field, even at one point being threatened during civil war in Nigeria, he says God has always brought him through.

Hughes attributes his longevity to genetics and

the fact that he is a vegetarian. He has always tried to stay physically fit, and at the ripe young age of 70 he ran and completed a standard 26.2 mile marathon.

This past June, Sir David Hughes turned 92. The pastor, elders, and members of Praise Tabernacle Church are very pleased to have the Hugheses as

senior members.

—BY RICHARD G. BERRY, M.D.



David Hughes is knighted into the Order of African Redemption in 1958.

Atlantic Conference Academy east of Atlanta. The Hugheses are chaplains for Signet Healthcare Medical Clinic in Whiteville, where

86-Year-Old is Baptized for the First Time

The Harris families were elated and thankful to God to see the patriarch of their family, Bennie Harris Sr., get baptized for the first time on Sabbath, April 27, 2013, into the Seventh-day Adventist faith at the age of 86. Calvin B. Preston, senior pastor of West End Church in Atlanta, Ga., gave the affirmation of faith as Harris went down into the watery grave to come up as a new creature in the Lord Jesus Christ. Harris has always been a remarkable, hard-working man who worked two jobs to support his family, and retired with top recognition

and honors. His household grew up following the Baptist faith.

One of his sons, Bennie Harris Jr., was introduced to the seventh-day Sabbath; he then shared his faith with his siblings, and some have accepted the message. One of Harris' daughters, Trina, gave

him and his late wife Bible studies, and both gave their hearts to the Lord. Bennie Harris Sr. was married to the late Carrie Louise



Bennie Harris Sr., 86, is baptized for the first time at Atlanta West End Church in Atlanta, Ga., on Sabbath, April 27, 2013.

Harris, who passed in May 2012. They were married 53 years, and to their union Allene Harris was born. Harris has six older children from a previous marriage, Bennie Jr., Patricia, Jerome, Gregory, Trina, and Derrick. There are a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It does not matter how old you are when you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior, just as long as you do. Blessed be the Name of the Lord!

—BY JENAL DAVIS HARRIS

Ada Mae Thomas Davis - 1918-2013

Ada Mae Thomas Davis of Atlanta, Ga., passed from this life on January 6, 2013, at age 95.

“Ma Davis,” as she was affectionately called by many, prepared meals during South Atlantic Conference Camp Meetings and other events for more than 35 years, spanning the administrations of six conference presidents. Known for her signature bun hairdo, meticulous style, and witty personality, she also was a dedicated community services leader, deaconess, choir director, Bible worker, usher, and Rainbow Choral Club member at Atlanta Berean Church in Atlanta, Ga.



Ada Mae Thomas Davis

For more than 20 years, Davis provided housing and spiritual support to traveling col-

porteurs and ministerial students from Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala. She received several awards and accolades from the South Atlantic, Lake Region, South Central, and Southeastern conferences for her boundless support of young people.

She was a talented seamstress, hairstylist, caterer, and floral and interior designer. She was a graduate of Washington High School and the Apex School of Cosmetology, and was certified by the American Red Cross in lifesaving techniques.

Davis was married to the late Lucious Davis Sr. Preceding her in death were children Bobby, Nathaniel, Lucious Jr., Lenton, and Carl.

Continuing to cherish

priceless, heartfelt memories of her are daughters Catherine (Carlton) Lenon, and Mary Frances (Theodore Sr.) Thompson; sons Willie George (Shirley) Davis Sr., Melvin (Martha) Davis, and Harold (Georgette) Davis; daughters-in-law Clara Davis and Selestine Davis; sister-in-law Myrtis Thomas; 33 grandchildren; 79 great-grandchildren; 38 great-great-grandchildren; and 10 godchildren.

—BY LESSIE SCURRY

South Central Office of Education Conducts Outdoor School

South Central Conference educators and sixth-grade students participated in Outdoor School learning activities at Camp Alamisco in Dadesville, Ala., on April 22-25, 2013. Angenette Hill, South Central associate superintendent of education/camp director, and Elaine Bedney, South Central office secretary, coordinated the Outdoor School using the theme from Psalm 19:1, "The Heavens Declare the Glory of God; and the Firmament Show His Handiwork."

The Camp Alamisco directors were especially supportive, and the students enjoyed the scrumptious meals they provided.

Everyone had a rich, wonderful experience connecting God with nature. The daily morning devotions led by pastors Wayne Hewlett, Willie Bussey, and Troy Brand brought about a spiritual transformation in the students. Of the 57 students attending camp, 38 accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior, and wanted to have a closer relationship with Him. God provided an opportunity for their faith to grow by answering the prayers for a stay of forecasted rain and thunderstorms. God showed up and showed out. The students walked to their outdoor classes and continued with all planned activities. They saw faith in action and believed in the

power of the Almighty. The counselors and teachers were very supportive and caring, and offered assistance wherever needed. The students enjoyed their camp stay so much that some did not want to leave. They stated, "It was the best time ever."

A great "shout out" to Ben Roy, science professor of 3ABN, for presenting his dynamic science demonstrations, and inquiry-based science classes that connected God and nature. The mathematical Fibonacci patterns of nature, taught by Willie Bussey, pastor, were Heaven inspired. Brenda Cowan, principal, instructed the students in the writing of creative Haiku poetry, that included designing wonderful art illustrations showing God in nature. Musical sounds rang through the air as students played the hand bells and learned to appreciate hymns of inspiration taught by Zeola Allston and Ida Beth Jacobs. The students learned — in a

short time — about the history of bells, theory, and reading notes. The finale of their instruction was a melodious hand bell concert. Wayne Hewlett, pastor, taught outdoor survival classes that showed the students about God's provi-

sion for nature survival.

Finally, nurse Terri Coachman provided Christian love and tender care as she met the medical needs of the boys and girls. This is what Outdoor School is all about.

—BY ANGENETTE HILL



Non-Profit Organization Receives \$5,000 Grant

Deborah H. Gant, CEO/founder and president of Focus on Natural Health Education & Community Development Inc., recently received a letter from Versacare. The letter reads as follows: "Dear Ms. Gant, the Board of Directors of Versacare, Inc., completed its evaluation of 130 grant applications and approved 48 Versafund Grants for full or partial funding. Congratulations! Your grant application has been funded in the amount of \$5,000, and the check is enclosed. Final decisions were made based on the rating sheet, diversity of projects, and eight different categories, as well as regional geographical locations in North America and other areas outside of the United States. We deeply appreciate your interest in Versacare and the Versafund. We wish you and your associates many

blessings as you continue to make a difference in the lives of many through your ministry."

Deborah H. Gant, a certified master gardener, recently received a letter from The National Gardening Association: "After reviewing your application, you have been selected as a winner of this year's 2013 Youth Garden Grant Award sponsored by The Home Depot Garden Club and presented by The National Gardening Association.... Of 1,700 applications submitted, you are one of 95 winners selected to receive a \$500 package from the Home Depot and the National Gardening Association. Your award includes a \$500 gift certificate to Home Depot, curriculum from the National Gardening Association, and a garden sign."

In addition, Gant also

received a \$500 grant from The Muhammad Ali Center Peace Garden Grant: "Of 200 applications submitted, you are one of the 50 winners selected to receive a \$500 package from the National Gardening Association."

Gant purchased a Cub Cadet Garden Tiller with the \$500 gift certificate from Home Depot. The Cub Cadet Garden Tiller is being used religiously by her and several of the volunteers in the Community Garden for the Needy. Please visit the website, www.fonhe.org.

Lastly, the month of May 2013, Rainbow CO-OP Health Food Store in Jackson, Miss., raised a total of \$2,778.04 for the non-profit organization. The money raised by Rainbow will go toward some renovations in the non-profit organization donated building. In

addition to the funds that Rainbow raised for the organization, they also set aside a special (the first Annual Food Revolution Day) event for the organization. At this event, different individuals either prepared a vegan or vegetarian dish or donated \$5 to the event. All of the participants enjoyed the nutritious, delicious dishes. The \$5 donations were given to Focus on Natural Health Education & Community Development, Inc., as part of the fundraising in the month of May. The organization is still in need of computers and printers, new or used. Volunteer services are always needed, especially in the Community Garden for the Needy. You may call 601-278-1868 for further information.

—BY DEBORAH GANT



New Hope Teacher Receives National Award

Olga Simmons, principal and teacher at New Hope Seventh-day Adventist School in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., was presented with a national award on Saturday, June 22, 2013. Simmons is among 10 teachers selected this spring by the Alumni Awards Foundation (AAF) to receive a 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award.

The award ceremony was held at Camp Hawthorne in Hawthorne, Fla. The award includes a medallion and \$2,000 gift sponsored by Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala.

Holding dual roles as principal and teacher, Simmons engages her students in one-on-one instruction to cater to their individual needs, while implementing new programs to advance student learning.

“She is an excellent teacher in the classroom, innovative, creative, and caring to all of her students at all times,” says Carol Byrd, Southeastern Conference superintendent of education. “Her students are performing on and above grade level due to her hard work and dedication as a teacher for many

years.”

Simmons quickly identified the multiple needs of the school, such as no textbooks, broken stairways, and very low student census, and then addressed them by visiting all Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Fort Lauderdale area to advertise for the school. She also made phone calls and personal visits to parents to help increase enrollment.

“Her love for Jesus is demonstrated in her relationship with the people with whom she interacts,

whether they are adults or children,” says Thelma Mundy, a teacher and colleague at New Hope.

By accepting God’s call to teaching in an Adventist school, Simmons acknowledges that her spiritual life has grown. “The Bible curriculum provides and gives you the personal encounter with God before you meet your colleagues and students,” she said.

AAF annually selects 10 teachers from the Seventh-day Adventist school systems across North America. The 10 finalists will be

celebrated in upcoming weeks. Simmons is the second teacher from Southeastern to win the award. Amber Willis from Miami Union Academy won the award in 2012.

Each year AAF partners with Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities to honor 10 excellent teachers. Simons’s award was made possible through the generous support of Oakwood University.

AAF is a nonprofit organization that has awarded grants to Seventh-day Adventist schools and teachers totaling more than \$2 million. Since its establishment in 1995, the organization has recognized 115 exceptional teachers with an Excellence in Teaching Award. In 2011, AAF refocused and created the Renaissance Network, an initiative that improves the level of excellence in Adventist schools by providing leadership expertise, vision, resources, and training. AAF aims to awaken the Adventist community to the full potential in Adventist education. Learn more at AlumniAwards.org.

—BY LAUREN BROOKS



Pictured are Hubert Morel (left), Southeastern Conference president; Carol Byrd, Southeastern superintendent of education; Gregory Mack, Southeastern executive secretary; Thomas Werner, AAF board member; Marcellus Howard, New Hope Church pastor; award recipient Olga Simmons; Gwendolyn Parker, Southeastern treasurer; and Barbara Davis, Southeastern associate superintendent of education.

Announcements

Festival of The Laity FREE Virtual Conference – Sept. 11-14. Get equipped for effective ministry with no registration, travel, or hotel expenses! Training for Sabbath School, Personal Ministries, and Prison Ministries leaders. Sponsored by NAD. Visit www.festivalofthelaity.com to sign up.
Southern Society of Adventist

Attorneys’ 36th Annual Fall Retreat – Sept. 13-15. Amelia Island, FL. Email: [SSAA@southernunion.com](mailto:ssaa@southernunion.com) for details.
South Atlantic Prayer Summit – Sept. 14. Christ is the Answer Church, Orangeburg, SC 29118. Details: Olivia Morrison, 404-792-053 x107.
Sheyenne River Academy/Dakota Adventist Academy Alumni Weekend – Oct. 4, 5. Dakota Adventist Academy.

Honor classes: 1939, '44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '74, '84, '89, '94, '04, and '09. Details: 701-258-9000 x236, or www.dakotaadventistacademy.org/alumni/alumnievents.

Stewardship & Religious Liberty Convention with Ed Reid – Oct. 18, 19. South Atlantic Conference Convention Center, Orangeburg, SC. Details: Olivia Morrison, 404-792-0535 x107.

Society of Adventist Communicators 2013 Annual Convention – Oct. 24-26. Theme: “Communicating Christ in the Chaos.” Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah. Register at PlusLine.org and take advantage of the **early bird discount** which expires Sept. 19. Additional details: www.adventistcommunicator.org.

Charles and Taylor Ordained to Gospel Ministry

During the 2013 Southeastern Conference Ordination Service at Camp Meeting, June 29, 2013, two pastors, Erick Charles and Winston Taylor were ordained into the Gospel ministry. William Winston, president of the South Atlantic Conference, delivered the ordination message.

Erick Marcel Charles was born in the island nation of Haiti to Louise Charles and the late Marcel Hilaire Charles. A product of Adventist education, he attended the College Adventiste in Cap Haitien, then Seminaire Adventiste in Port au Prince, Haiti. He later attended Miami Union Academy, and then Greater Miami Adventist Academy (GMAA) in Miami, Fla. After attending GMAA, he went to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich., to pursue his studies in theology, which was cut short by an illness that nearly took his life.

After undergoing two craniotomies, the neurosurgeons explained to his father that he would either die in two hours or never be able to go back to school. Thanks to praying parents, he not only survived past the two hours, but completed his degree in theology at Washington Adventist University (formerly Columbia Union College) in Tacoma Park, Md.

The death of his father brought him back home to Miami where he was

able to serve the church of his childhood, Zion French Church. It was while there that he received a call from the Southeastern Conference to serve as associate pastor of Sinai French Church in Plantation, Fla. Under the mentorship of pastors Jean Renaud Joseph and Bienvenue Theodore, he learned the craft of pastoral ministry, which served him well in his first district where he pastored Shekina French Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., and Bon Samaritain French Church in Ft. Lauderdale.

He currently pastors Eden Church in Fort Myers, Fla., and Bethanie Church in Port Charlotte, Fla. He is happily married to the former Tamara St. Croix, and they have been blessed with two wonderful daughters, Ericka and Erianna Charles. During the course of his ministry, his passion for evangelism has led to the baptism of more than 100 souls for the kingdom of God.

Winston Taylor was born in the city of Kingston, Jamaica, to Beverly Russel. A product of Christian education, he graduated from Pine Forge Academy in Pine Forge, Pa. He graduated from Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala. Winston is currently pursuing a master of arts



Hubert Morel (right), president of Southeastern Conference, addresses Erick Charles (left) and Winston Taylor during the 2013 Ordination Service at Camp Meeting.

degree in pastoral ministry from Andrews University. Winston began his ministry in the Central Jamaica Conference where he pastored the Braeton, Palmers Cross, Central Village, and Royal Flat districts as an intern. In 2008 he received a call to join Southeastern to pastor Pines Church in Pembroke Pines, Fla., Morning Star Church in Sunrise, Fla., and Rays of Light Church in Ft. Lauderdale.

Taylor is currently pastor of Grace Fellowship Church in Valdosta, Ga. He can be seen praying with the mayor of Valdosta, sitting in churches of other denominations, sitting on boards of community organizations, and serving as a volunteer chaplain to the local hospital. He believes in serving the community. He has served as host for the Adventist Radio Pastor radio show on WAVS-AM radio in Davie, Fla., and Vision-FM in Ft. Lauderdale.

He is a lover of young people, and believes in a

liberal form of worship were the worship experience provides something for all who enter the doors to worship God. Winston's "down to earth" personality gives him a personal relationship with his members, which translates into making better disciples

for Christ. His open-door policy invites people of every age to be engaging at any level, leaving individuals feeling better than before they visited.

Taylor loves people, reading, writing sermons, and finding notes on the keyboard; and, though he is absolutely no good at it, every Thursday you will find him on the golf course. He is married to the former Kamala Glenn, and God has given them one precious daughter, Ariana Renée Taylor. He believes his righteousness is as filthy rags, so 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

Pollards Kick Off \$9M Capital Campaign's First Step

Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., Oakwood University (OU) president, and his wife, Prudence Pollard, Ph.D., Oakwood professor of management in the School of Business, and assistant vice president for faculty development and research, both leadership development experts and authors of three leadership books, pledged \$10,000 to start OU's \$9M Capital Campaign's phase one, entitled "Building on the Past: Framing the Future."

A totally renovated Carter Hall freshman women's residence, and an expanded Ford Hall facility to include a re-constituted communication department and new media center to initiate the Oakwood University Broadcasting Network, will serve as the first-phase projects.

"As we seek ways to enhance 'The Oakwood Experience*,' the Board of Trustees and the administration have approved a number of capital plans to enrich the lives of current and future Oakwood University students," explained Leslie Pollard. "We believe the 'Building on the Past: Framing the Future' cam-



Kisha Norris (left), Oakwood University advancement and development director, with Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., Oakwood president, and his wife, Prudence Pollard, Ph.D., Oakwood professor of management in the School of Business, and assistant vice president for faculty development and research

paign is the first step in a series of plans to upgrade and modernize the current buildings on the campus and revitalize our mission."

Kisha Norris, Oakwood University advancement and development executive director, outlined the first-phase projects:

1. **Bessie Carter Hall**, built in 1966 in anticipation of housing the school's growing female population which occurred in the late 1970s, will be renovated completely — a \$6.4 million project.

During this 12-month restoration, freshman women housed there traditionally, will be relocated to the Wade Hall residence hall, as the University will lease out apartments in University Place, adjacent to OU on Wynn Drive, to accommodate the upperclass women normally housed at Wade;

2. **H.E. Ford Science Hall** was built in 1954 for teaching quantitative sci-

ences. Since 1971 it has housed the Student Center.

Soon it will house the reconstituted Communication Department whose offices, studios, labs, and classrooms are now scattered across the campus; and

3. A newly-constructed **Media Center** will become the newest addition to the historic campus, to be erected between Ford Hall and the newly-renovated Cunningham Hall on the campus mall.

"Not only will the Media Center be a learning environment for our communication students, but we plan also to begin 'to tell our story' by establishing the Oakwood University Broadcasting Network — 'OUBN,' as we'll called it informally.

"This Oakwood story of God-ordained ministry is something that needs to be spread to the corners of the Earth. We believe

that OUBN will serve as the first step in blanketing the Gospel message to places that others cannot reach," Pollard concluded.

*Definition: "The Oakwood Experience impacts

our entire lifetime; it lasts, not simply for four years, but for 40 years! It is academically rigorous and emotionally gratifying — faith is integrated with learning. The Oakwood Experience is set in the American South, and it transcends the South. It arises from the blood-soaked sod of a former slave plantation. It flows east, and west, and north, and around the world — where Oakwoodites are found! Its music is bathed in the rhythms of black-church spirituality. The Oakwood Experience is connected by lasting friendships and joyous reunions. Caring teachers, loving staff, and wonderful students — the Experience spans generations. It is God-appointed, faith-grounded, and service-centered. The Experience puts God first! It is transformational, inspirational,



Artist sketch of Oakwood University Broadcasting Network Studio

exhilarating, and stimulating. To know it is to love it! And to love it is to never leave it. The Oakwood Experience — it's you and me, and 'we.'" *Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min.*

Master of Nursing Program Named Among Best in Nation

Southern Adventist University's School of Nursing has been recognized for providing one of the top graduate nursing degrees available in the nation by Master's Degree Online, an academic review website.

The website is dedicated to researching and rating the best graduate programs in the country and has evaluated Southern's master of science in nursing degree to be one of the top 50 nursing graduate programs in the nation for the



The School of Nursing offers both master's and doctoral graduate degrees. Students can also earn a dual master of science in nursing/master of business administration degree. Currently, 195 students are pursuing a graduate nursing degree at Southern.

2013-2014 academic year.

The goal of Master's Degree Online's top nursing list is to help prospective and current students gain

information about the best graduate academic programs available. The methods used by the website to rank graduate nursing programs is based on a combination of interviews with deans in the field, surveys of students, program reputation, and previous graduate successes.

"It is an honor to be listed as one of the top schools in the nation, especially since this distinction was not sought after," said Barbara James, dean of the School of Nursing. "The graduate

programs remain a hidden jewel in many circles, but we are proud of our mission, philosophy, and motto of providing Christ-centered excellence."

Hospitals in the Chattanooga area have been consistently impressed with the quality of Southern's nursing program, and praise the unique and talented professionals it produces.

"We hire a lot of Southern graduates; they make great nurses," said Janet Sullivan, nurse recruiter for Erlanger Health Systems. "Southern has a wonderful program."

—BY LUKE EVANS

Archaeology Museum Receives Award of Excellence for Recent Exhibit

It's been more than eight months since Southern's Lynn H. Wood Archaeological Museum opened "The Battle Over King David: Excavating the Fortress of Elah," its most recent exhibit. But, the unique and exotic arrangement of Middle Eastern artifacts is still turning heads. The Tennessee Association of Museums (TAM) recently recognized the display with their annual Award of Excellence under the category for small museum/temporary exhibition.

TAM has 116 museums as members, and grants awards in three degrees: the Award of Excellence,

Commendation, and Special Mention. Southern's museum also received a TAM award in 2009 for its exhibit, "Faces of Power: Ancient Coins of the Biblical World."

"Winning the award has been great for the museum," said Justo Morales, museum coordinator. "When independent institutions like TAM praise the work you're doing, it really shows the public that you have something worth seeing."

The museum's current exhibit highlights the archaeological discoveries from the biblical site of Khirbet Qeiyafa in

Israel, a fortified city from the time of King David. These discoveries shed light on the historical reliability of the Bible, in particular the narratives concerning Saul, David, and the early Kingdom of Judah. Since it opened, the exhibit has drawn hundreds of visitors



The artifacts featured at the exhibit are on loan from the National Treasures of Israel and will be returned at the end of April 2014.

from all over the country to see the first display of the finds from the ancient site.

"Traditionally, mostly local people visit the museum, but since the new exhibit opened we have been getting a lot of non-locals and even non-Adventists," Morales said.

"People who normally have no reason to visit Southern have come to see the exhibit, and by extension have learned about the school."

For more information, including the museum's hours of operation, visit southern.edu/archaeology.

—BY LUKE EVANS

Advertisements

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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. ©

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]

RELOCATING TO SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY AREA? We have the expertise to assist you along the path to home ownership. Selling? only an experienced and licensed realtor can ensure the timely and effective marketing needed to sell your home. Contact Vincent Lopez, Crye-Leike, Realtors 423-316-1880. vincent.lopez@crye-leike.com. [8]

MOVING TO COLLEGEDALE, TN? Call or email me for a free list of homes and land for sale in the Southern Adventist University and Collegedale area. For Sellers: Please contact me for special pricing at 4.5%. Twenty years experience ready to work for you. Jon D'Avanzo, Licensed Real Estate Broker, Davanzo Real Estate. 423-834-4545. Email me at JDhelpingyou@gmail.com. [8-10]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY AREA— 5 bedroom home in Robinson Farm, \$164,900; Mulberry Park community featuring pool and clubhouse, \$229,900; 7.8 acres on Bancroft

Rd., build-able land, \$115,000. Lots of listings in the area, go to www.DixonTeam.com to search. Wendy Dixon Team/Crye-Leike Realtors. Phone #: 423-883-0656; ask for Herby. [8]

OOLTEWAH, 10 MIN. TO SAU! 2 newer log cabins for sale, on deep wooded lots. 2-3 bed, 2 bath, \$144,900. Also in Ooltewah: 4 bed, 2.5 bath home on 1.5 acres, \$189,900. A little farther out is a 3 bed, 1 bath updated vintage home priced at \$74,900. In Cleveland, a newer 3 bed, 2 bath home priced at \$149,900; on a pond with your own pool! Call the Twin Team: Sue Vosen, 423-774-1029 or Debbie Johnson, 423-605-4240. Crye-Leike Realtors. [8, 9]

PRIVATE COUNTRY LOTS on the Cumberland Plateau only 55 minutes from Southern Adventist University. Property features gorgeous long-range views, mature hardwoods, city water, underground utilities and a stocked small lake - all at 2,000' elevation at the end of county road, bordered by 3,000 acre tree farm. 2-10 acre lots starting at \$3,900/acre. Call 301-992-7472. For pictures, plats and more information: <http://kismetkennel.com/countryland.html>. [8-11]

ATHENS, TN – Private post & beam 3/2 on 41 acres with guesthouse, sweeping valley and mountain views. Another attached 3/2 50% complete. Perfect for multi-generational families or community. Beautifully landscaped. Fruit trees, berries, large organic gardens. 45 minutes to Collegedale. [#19517. 423-920-8380. \[8\]](http://www.greenhomesforsale.com)

NEAR COALMONTE, TN – 3.8 wooded acres with spring and pond. 2 paved road frontages. Call 678-617-8642 or 770-875-6414.

COZY HOME with 3500+ square feet. 2004 home, 4 bed, 4 bath, 2 kitchens, CH/AC, woodstoves, using year-round springs on 10 partly wooded private acres, DSL; hour north of Nashville. Churches, schools, academies 17 - 35 miles close. 859-333-0866. ©

IS LOCATION IMPORTANT? Portland, TN. Near academy and elementary schools, churches. Gorgeous 3225 sq. ft. home on 9+ awesome acres. 3 bed, 2 bath, office. Picture perfect kitchen with island. Built-in desk. Master bedroom suite/sitting rm/fireplace. 2-car attached garage. 2 shops, barn, 3-car detached garage. Call Pat Briley, 615-426-2992. Coldwell Banker Barnes, 615-452-0040. [8, 9]

PROPERTY NEAR HARBERT HILLS, TN – 5000 sq. ft. building with 30 acres land, stream and spring water. Use for assisted living or medical missionary work. Call 731-925-3171. [8]

CUSTOM HOME FOR LONG TERM RENTAL on 46 acre wooded lot. 5-year old all brick, over 5,000 sq ft. 6 bed, 6.5 bath open floor plan. Full daylight basement. 10 minutes south of Adairsville, GA. \$2100/month negotiable. 678-549-7459. [8-10]

COLUMBIA - BREEDING, KY – Country home on 28 acres. \$360K. 4000 square feet, 3 bed, 3.5 bath, mother-in-law suite, garage, barn, 2 wbfw w/

inserts. Built 1998, low maintenance. Energy efficient, geothermal heat/AC, average utility <\$100. DSL, paved road, 13 miles from town. 270-378-4890 or jimappleman@yahoo.com. [8]

RURAL, KENTUCKY LIVING near Adventist hospital, church and school. Beautiful custom 6500+ square foot home on 63 acres. Additional 1200+ square foot home and 40'x60' shot. Natural gas well on property provides monthly income, free heat/fuel to dwellings, shop and possible greenhouse. Call, text, or email for more information and photos. 916-880-8942. Kentuckyhome2@gmail.com. [8]

BEAUTIFUL HOME near Birmingham, AL. 4 bed, 3.5 bath, 6 acres, 30 minutes to UAB, 20 miles to SDA church. Complete apartment with extra laundry room, ground level, with separate outside entrance for rental or in-law suite. Can be viewed at www.kentjones.com/561939. \$239,000. Call 205-681-3379. [8]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

JELICO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL is looking for physicians to work in our hospital. We are currently seeking the following positions: **Family Practice, Family Practice/OB, Orthopedic, Nephrology, Internal Medicine.** Please contact Jason Dunkel @ jason.dunkel@ahss.org or 423-784-1187 for more information. [8]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a **mathematics professor** to begin August 1, 2013 or January 1, 2014. Master's degree in pure or applied mathematics required; doctoral degree preferred. Contact Dr. Amy Rosenthal at 817-202-6212 or arosenal@swau.edu. [8, 9]

OTR TRUCK DRIVER: Flat bed, no Sabbath work. Home every other weekend. Home base can be your house. Call 843-450-9206. [8]

THE SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE is searching for a **Manager** of its Adventist Book Center and Better Choice food distribution. Inquiries and resumes may be submitted to Joel Tompkins at jtompkins@sneconline.org or 978-365-4551. [8]

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST/LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST urgently needed. If you are qualified and feel called to serve, come join us in serving the Lord at Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital in Georgia. Please email your resume to: administrator@wildwoodhealth.org or call 423-315-3737. [8]

ELIJAH RADIO is seeking a full-time **station manager** to lead a new FM station in reaching the people of Birmingham, Alabama. A volunteer is preferred, but a stipend is possible. Housing can be provided. Radio experience is not required; aptitude with computers is. Contact: info@elijahradio.org. [8]

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system and more. If you are over age 60, you probably need vitamin D supplementation continuously. Buy now. Phone 423-238-7467. PO Box 1038, Collegedale TN 37315. [8]

NEED A PIANIST? *Hymns Alive, the Adventist Hymnal* on 33 CDs. Quality accompaniment music to sing God's praises. Organ and piano. Kid's hymnals on CDs also. www.35hymns.com. Hymns on videos – 12 DVDs – *Creation Sings*, with words and beautiful nature photos & videos. Call 800-354-9667. [8-12]

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PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER CLUB NAME CREST: Order your Pathfinder and Adventurer club name crest at www.pathfinderclubnames.com. For more information, call 269-208-5853 or email us at pathfinderclubnames@gmail.com. [8-5]

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! ©

SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? Find compatible SDA companions, ages 18-88, with common interests and goals. Get listed free and confidentially! No word limit! For information and application, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to: SDA Friendship Finder, P.O. Box 673, Blue Ridge, GA 30513, or email gamtwnmn@tds.net. [8]

ARE YOU MOVING SOON? Before you rent a U-Haul and do it yourself, check our price and save yourself the hassle. Plan now and reserve a time slot. Fast, direct, and economical. Contact: Gary Erhard, Erhard Moving & Storage, 610 South Mechanic Street, Berrien Springs, MI 49103; 269-471-7366 or 248-890-5700, evenings 8-11 p.m. ©

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. [8-12]

RELOCATING FROM ONE STATE TO ANOTHER? The move counselors at Stevens Van Lines can help! With special pricing for all Adventist families, and recommended by the General Conference for over 14 years, quality is inherent. Call the Clergy Move Center direct for a no cost or obligation estimate at 800-248-8313 or contact us at www.stevensworldwide.com/sda. [8-12]

WILDWOOD HEALTH RETREAT S.I.M.P.L.E. LIVING SEMINAR: Prevention and recovery of lifestyle disease, including hypertension, obesity, diabetes, osteoporosis, stress, depression, alcohol and tobacco. One week and two week programs begin every Sunday. Cost: 14-day seminars \$840. Butler Creek Seminars, Iron City, TN. For more information call Lew Keith: Ph. 931-724-6706. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org [8]

BUTLER CREEK MISSION SCHOOL – Spiritual and health classes combined with practical skills. Learn Bible, health, literature evangelism, vegan cooking, and home gardening. A six-month work-

study program: canvassing and other work pays for the program. For more information contact Lew or Darlene Keith: 931-724-6706, 931-724-2443. www.wildwoodhealthretreat.org. [8]

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

HAVE YOU WRITTEN a children's book, life testimony, story of God's love, or your spiritual ideas and would like them published? Contact TEACH Services at 800-367-1844 Ext 3 or email publishing@teachservices.com, for a FREE manuscript review. [8-4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, 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/graduatestudies. [8-5]

DEMAND IS HIGH for managers of skilled nursing facilities and senior care centers. Southern Adventist University's degree in long term care administration is available on campus or online. Enjoy being a leader in the business of caring. Call 1.800.Southern or email ltca@southern.edu for information. [8]

NEW ENGLAND ADVENTIST HERITAGE TOUR – Sep. 27-Oct. 7, 2013. See the cornfield, Edson Farm, stand on Ascension Rock, Miller Farm, view James White birthplace, home of Ellen's first vision, Joseph Bates boyhood home, plus many more pioneer sites. Alice Voorheis, Historian. Call Tarrie Geiger, 423-802-9617. [8, 9]



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Small Woman: BIG Heart

Ardith Greer, a retired United States Navy employee and former member of Gulf States Conference, was a small woman with a big heart. A lady friend described her: "What an amazing woman she was. Interesting and interested, always upbeat, a survivor, caring, and a woman of true faith."

Loving her Church as a faithful Christian, she remembered the Gulf Coast SDA Church and its ministries in her estate plan. As a clerical worker herself, she started about 35 years before her death to update her documents, making sure her desires would be carried out.

► To learn how you can receive continued income while benefiting the Church, contact your local Conference or University Planned Giving and Trust Services Department today!

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Ken Ford (704) 596-3200

Florida

Phil Bond (407) 644-5000

Georgia-Cumberland

Mitch Hazekamp (706) 629-7951

Gulf States

Rick Hutchinson (334) 272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee

Lin Powell (615) 859-1391

Oakwood University

Fred Pullins (256) 726-8278

South Atlantic

Lawrence Hamilton (404) 792-0535

South Central

Michael Harpe (615) 226-6500

Southeastern

Brent Waldon (352) 735-3142

Southern Adventist University

Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818



SUSDAGift.org

LET'S MOVE! DAY

Sunday, September 22, 2013

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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White Memorial Medical Center
Centennial Celebration Weekend
OCTOBER 25-27, 2013

IF YOU'VE BEEN a friend, patient, employee or graduate of White Memorial's residency programs, plan now to join us for a faith-building weekend of events celebrating God's work at WMMC, touring the new campus and reconnecting with old friends.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25 | Continuing Medical Education Event

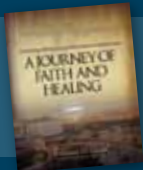
Well-known physician, writer and speaker Dr. Rachel Naomi Remen

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 | Hospital Sabbath Program

Elders Charles White, great grandson of Ellen White, and Gordon Bietz, president of Southern Adventist University
Concert by Sandi Patty, acclaimed Christian vocalist

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 | Centennial Gala

A fund-raising celebration for WMMC



READ THE FULL STORY in "A Journey of Faith and Healing," WMMC's centennial history book.

To learn more about the weekend or to order the book, visit whitememorial.com/centennial.

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Photojournalism Workshop for Church Communicators and Photographers

Featured Presenters:

Billy Weeks,
award-winning
photojournalist



Steven Norman,
Southern Tidings
editor

Sunday, September 8, 10 am–4 pm

Florida Conference office — Interstate 4, exit 88
655 N. Wymore Road, Winter Park, FL 32789

\$15 fee includes luncheon

Limit of 85 participants by pre-registration only

Register online by August 20

floridaconference.com/communication/workshops

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Events Calendar

Carolina

Carolina Teachers Convention – Aug. 1-5. NPR.

Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership Convention – Aug. 23-25. NPR.

Hispanic Men's Retreat – Aug. 30-Sept. 1. NPR.

Church Official Training Seminar – Sept. 13-15. NPR.

Carolina Prayer Festival – Sept. 13-14. Hendersonville Church. Featuring Elder Dennis Smith. Program starts at 6:15 p.m. All day on Sabbath, ending Sabbath evening. Lunch and light supper provided.

Eastern Carolina Camp Meeting – Sept. 28. Greenville North Church, 4658 Reedy Branch Road, Winterville, NC 28590. Starts at 10 a.m., and ends at sunset. ACBC opens at sunset. Bring your water, snacks, and a picnic lunch. Speaker/Seminar Presenter: Dr. Ron Smith, Southern Union President. Adult Sabbath School Speaker: Pastor George Wennerberg.

Florida

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

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

Singles' Ministries events and mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. <http://www.floridaconference.com/iym/childrenandfamily/events/>, esalzm@cf.rr.com, or 407-521-4751.

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

Florida Adventist Bookmobile Resumes in autumn.

Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics

Aug. 24. Margate.

Sept. 7. Emmanuel.

Sept. 21. West Palm Beach Spanish.

Sept. 28. Fort Lauderdale.

Oct. 26. Northwest Miami Spanish.

Photojournalism Workshop – Sept. 8. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Florida Conference office, Winter Park. Learn the secrets of photojournalism and tips for publishing photos in Adventist publications. Presenters: Billy Weeks and Steven Norman. Cost: \$15, includes lunch. Registration: <http://www.floridaconference.com/communication/workshops/>. Registration deadline: Aug. 20. Limit 85 participants. Details: 407-618-0209.

Camp Kulaqua 60th Anniversary – Sept. 20-22. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. Celebrate and reminisce with fellow staff and directors of years past. Registration: <http://www.campkulaqua.com/>. Details: 386-454-1351.

Foundation of Faith Community Nursing – Sept. 30-Oct. 4, 8 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Florida Hospital Trickle Building, 900 Winderley Place, Maitland. A course for nurses with active RN license that will empower you to view health through the CREATION Health philosophy and integrate a practical understanding of theology into the role of Faith Community Nursing. Cost: \$649 or \$499 if registered by Aug. 31. Details: <http://www.healthy100churches.org/2-tr-fcn.php>, yvonne.seballo@filhosp.org, or 407-200-1657.

Teaching Nature to Kids – Nov. 1-3. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs. A training weekend for teachers, leaders, and parents to learn how to better engage young people in nature activities. Details to be announced in church posters and the autumn 2013 issue of Florida Focus.

Georgia-Cumberland

Pathfinder Leadership Convention – Aug. 16-18. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Prayer Ministries Day – Aug. 17. Austell, GA.

LifeGroup Training Retreat – Aug. 23, 24. Facilitator: Kevin Kibble. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

Missional Pastor Orientation – Aug. 23-25. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall,

GA.

Health Rallies
Aug. 24. 2-5 p.m. Oak Ridge, TN.

Sept. 7. 2-5 p.m. North Knoxville, TN.

Sept. 14. 2-5 p.m. Greater Atlanta Church, GA.

Stewardship Sabbath – Aug. 24. Meister Memorial Church, Deer Lodge, TN.

Hispanic Marriage Retreat – Sept. 6-8. The WinShape Retreat, Mt. Berry, GA.

Adventurer Ministries Convention – Sept. 6-9. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Stewardship Sabbath – Sept. 7. Knoxville First, TN.

Festival of the Laity Virtual Conference – Sept. 11-14.

Pathfinder Drill Instructor Training – Sept. 20-22. TBD.

Gulf States

Complete Calendar online
<http://www.gscsda.org>

Teachers' Meetings – Aug. 4-6. Bass Memorial Academy.

Pastors' Meetings – Aug. 5-7. Camp Alamisco.

Bass Memorial Registration – Aug. 11.

Adventist Book Center Open – Aug. 11.

Leadership Training Pathfinders – Aug. 16-19. Camp Alamisco.

Executive Committee Meeting – Aug. 20. Conference Office.

Conference Fall Prayer Summit – Aug. 30-Sept. 1. Montgomery.

Hispanic Camp Meeting – Aug. 30-Sept. 1.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Literature Evangelists' Retreat – Aug. 1-4. Indian Creek Camp.

50+ Camp – Aug. 6-11. Indian Creek Camp.

Hispanic Youth Retreat – Aug. 14-18. Indian Creek Camp.

Teachers' Convention – Aug. 25-28. Indian Creek Camp.

Highland/Madison Academy Women – Sept. 5.

Women's Retreats at Indian Creek Camp

Sept. 6-8. Hispanic.

Sept. 13-15. Young Women.

Sept. 20-22. I.

Sept. 27-29. II.

Board of Education – Oct. 24.

Men's Conference – Oct. 25-27. Indian Creek Camp.

Outdoor Education – Oct. 28-30. Indian Creek Camp.

Southern Adventist University

Piano Concert – Sept. 10. The Pridonoff Duo, an acclaimed husband/wife team, will perform in Ackerman Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are required (free with Southern ID). Details: 423-238-2814.

Constitution Day Speaker – Sept. 19. Stephen Kelley, a Southern alumnus and current Superior Court judge in Georgia, will speak for convocation at 11 a.m. in the Iles P.E. Center. Admission is free. Details: 423-238-2814.

Announcements

See page 30.

| Sunset | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Aug. 2 | Aug. 9 | Aug. 16 | Aug. 23 | Aug. 30 | Sept. 6 |
| 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 |

Sept. 5-8,
2013



SOUTHERN UNION WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

CHARLESTON AREA CONVENTION CENTER

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EXHIBITORS

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2 **Step 2** Hotel Reservation
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