Momen: An Influential Porce

Prayer Breaklasts

Taπe 26

These Are the Women . . .

Pone 34.

Southern Prepares Students

Patte 37



"... I will pour out my Spirit on all people ..." Joel 2:28

Cover Logo Explanation:

The dove represents the Holy Spirit hovering over women's ministries.

The font used for the letters WM represents the Southern women, a femininity with strength.

The cross is central to our activities, as we provide opportunities for women to develop a closer relationship with God.

The dove's wings, as well as the letters extending beyond the window-defined border, signify dynamic avenues of service being discovered by Adventist women, and blessed by the Holy Spirit.

Southern Union Conference Office of Women's Ministries Mission Statement

The Office of Women's Ministries strives to minister, with affirmation and cultural sensitivity, to all women.

Our mission is to inspire each woman member to experience God by seeking spiritual renewal through the study of His Word and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and to experience special bonds of friendship through participating in social activities sponsored by women's ministries.

We encourage and help each woman to enlarge her faith by realizing and developing her unique talents and spiritual gifts in service for Christ, thus joining with other members in hastening His soon return.

We minister with love and compassion to the spiritual, physical, intellectual, and emotional needs of all women, men and children, by seeking to reflect Jesus in our personal area of influence.

or all working in our personal area of influence.
Our ultimate goal, in this end-time period of earth's history, is to bring people to Jesus Christ.

Women: An Influentia

by Evelyn VandeVere

omen are in influential force in the church. They cradle the future and shape the present with their attitudes and actions toward themselves, their families, friends, and fellow church members. The Women's Ministries Department of the Seventh-day Adventist Church encourages every woman to use her gifts and talents for the mis-sion of the Church. To this end the importance of spiritual growth, as well as supportive friendships, mental and physical health, and intellectual understanding is emphasized. God supplies each person with the resources for ministry--Scripture, spiritual power, God's character and spiritual gifts. Steady growth in these areas is every person's privilege.

Women ministries, as it is known today, began as two points of light; one on the East Coast and one on the West Coast of the North American Division. In the East, sometime during 1983, the newly-formed Office of Human Relations established a Women's Commission. The Commission's main task was to make church leaders aware of the needs and concerns specific to the female members in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Commission met three times a year in different unions and conducted town meetings where needs and concerns of the women in that

union were heard and considered.

About the same time, the West Coast experienced the first Adventist women's retreat directed by dedicated lay women. Word of this successful retreat soon spread to the Midwest and then to the East. By 1988, retreats had been

held in Colorado and Alabama. The name Women's Commission was changed to Women's Ministries in 1990.

Women's ministries is needed for the simple reason that women no longer visit over the back fence with their neighbors, giving encouragement and help when needed.

Most women work all day away from home, return in the evening to do household chores as well as care for a family that may include small children, and sometimes an aged parent.

There are many opportunities through the vehicle of women's ministries for professional and non-professional Adventist women, who have attained an expertise, to share their developed skills. Women leaders often exhibit the ability to enable others to contribute their best talents and energies to the Church.

They recognize that effective leadership includes "more nurturing than ruling, more guiding than demanding, and more serving than being served."

Women's ministries enables the Church to provide a place for women to grow in the knowledge

of God's Word. Women today want challenging Bible studies that are relevant to their lives. They seek to use their talents and spiritual gifts in significant ways so that they, in their own personal world, can make a tangible difference for the cause of Jesus Christ.

Women's min-

istries, in pioneering new ground, has altered church thought about women. As a result, women have become a more significant part of the Church's global mission. At the same time, much has been learned about the needs of women who are carrying self-destructive baggage from abused childhoods, disastrous marriages, and the disappointment of wayward children through retreats, one-day seminars, prayer breakfasts and small study groups. Filled with hopelessness, they need a break. They need help

They cradle the future and shape the present with their attitudes and actions toward themselves, their families, friends, and fellow church members.

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and encouragement. They need prayer and a caring church to

respond to their needs.

We must also remember the needs of the women who have chosen to leave the workforce and stay at home to care for their children. They, too, need recognition, encouragement, and a caring church response to their choice.

The North American Division Office of Women's Ministries focuses on the needs and concerns of the woman who sits in the pew of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The goal of directors is to inspire women to a deeper interest in the Church and to demonstrate that by participating in the Church's mission of nurturing members and bringing souls to Christ, their life's journey can be fulfilling, exciting, and joyful.

Force

Women's ministries is extensive. Today, women assist pastors in preparing elementary school children for baptism, speak at the worship hour, conduct Bible studies, and weeks of prayer. The result? People are baptized into Christ's kingdom. Former members have returned as a result of a friend's invitation to attend a retreat. Attention is directed toward the ethnic needs and concerns including translations of printed material and membership on committees. Scholarship funds are available to assist all women in need of financial help to attend the women's events.

Through participating in varied women's ministries activities, thousands of women have found peace, solace, spiritual renewal and a restored sense of self-worth through the love of Christ. Countless women have been reclaimed to membership and have recommitted their

lives with decisions for baptism. As voted at the 1993 Annual Council, positions considered by local church nominating committees include the office of women's ministries coordinator. In 1994, the NAD Office of Women's Ministries reported that 116 retreats had been attended by 18,342 women and that 1,298 of those women were members of other denominations. As a direct result of women's ministries activities, as many as 84 were baptized and 251 were reclaimed and baptized. ConferKentucky-Tennessee

A Door of Hope by Rena Majors

Desolation . . . Despair . . . Hopelessness . . . Fear . . . DeathThe valley of Achor in Hosea 2:15 is a place where these feelings were experienced. The valley of Achor was the place where Achan, his family, and all their possessions were stoned. It was a place of bitterness, pain, fear, anger, and death.

Those of us who have experienced the horrors of abuse are very well acquainted with these emotions. We know what it means to feel punished for someone else's sin. We know how it feels to be innocent, but treated as though deserving death. The valley of Achor. That's my story. Growing up in an Adventist home with five sisters and two brothers, and hard-working parents yet isolated, lonely, confused

and afraid as I lived a life of sexual abuse.

Because of the trauma of the abuse I blocked out all memories of it. As I grew, the incidents could not be recalled but the resulting pain and emotions were evident. I became an angry, lonely, bitter woman. I masked my weaknesses by overcompensating. Everything I did was to prove I was better, faster and more efficient than anyone. I became invincible. This mask was necessary to cover my broken heart and wounded spirit.

Overwhelmed by the raging war between what I should do and what by impulse I wanted to, I cried out to God, "What is wrong with me?" In the fullness of time He returned my memories. God mercifully explained the reasons for my fears, rigidity, rebellion, and addictions. The pieces to the puzzle of my life fell into place,

everything made sense.

My journey from "holeness" to "wholeness" has been uphill. At each phase the Lord lets me choose to try to do it myself or to accept His grace as all-sufficient. Step one was to acknowledge this experience and the feelings as mine. I needed to get "real" with God.

"Yes!" I said, "You are right, God. I am angry with You. I don't understand how

You could let this happen. Where were You anyway?"

The Lord showed me Isaiah 63:9. "In all their affliction He was afflicted. In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; and He bore them and carried them all the days of old."

He gave me His view of the abuse, I saw where He was when I was hurt, then

I knew He was my Protector.

I have tried to hurry through my process. God let me know it took 35 years for I have tried to hurry through my process. God let me know it took 35 years for me to get into this emotional mess. It will take time to change it. He must work within the confines of my choice and will. He said, "Daughter, I won't go anywhere or do anything without first being invited." It took time for me to agree with God to be taken to the valley, to experience the depth of the valley of pain, anger, betrayal, and abandonment. I am comforted by His promise that this valley is a shadow of death. He promised He would be with me (Psalm 23:4).

At each step He asks me "Will you trust Me, Daughter?" I must remember to say Yes. One step took me to a painful place; God revealed the truth about my heart and my sin against Him. I acknowledged my responses to the abuse and my choices as sin against my Lord, instruments of torture which crucified Him. The rebellion, self-right enumes.

self-righteousness, bitterness, murderous heart, judgementalism, criticism and control of others was what I used to bring Christ to an open shame. All these were hidden like Achan's garments and others were made to suffer because of it. This step led me to the sea of forgiveness. You see, how can a guilty man condemn another guilty man who does the same thing? (Romans 12:1,2). I could see that I had perpetrated others and my Lord.

Without the comfort of the Holy Spirit I would have died in this valley. With each

forward motion I am comforted to the degree I allow the truth to cut through the lies. I have been comforted by the promises of God, but first I had to believe them.

Once I saw the lies, I believed and renounced them, God could plant the truth in my heart. Now I read His Word with surety that it is for me personally.

Many people ask, "Why go through all this? Why not forget about it? The past is the past. Let's press forward." The problem is we can't press forward. We are stuck responding the same way, and dealing with people in the same fashion, and having the same roller coaster experiences. To those who doubt the need for this process I give Hosea 2:15. "I will give her... the valley of Achor for a door of

hope; and she shall sing there, . . ."

God says, "In this place you will find a door," "A door?" "Yes, a door of hope."

The door is through the valley. My experience has been to go down in the valley because that's where I have found "a door of hope."

I encourage those who are hurting. Don't draw back. Acknowledge the truth about the past and your heartfelt response. Allow the Healer to show you your valley and take courage, for He will be with you as you walk through it.

God entreats His wounded sons and daughters, "Venture to walk through the valley, remember it's just a shadow. There you will find Me, your open 'door of the your "".

hope.

A Door of Hope Ministries is a team of Adventist women who are in the process of healing from the pain of abuse. They desire to share their strength, hope, and experience and the wonderful freedom available when healing in the Master's hand. The first Door of Hope retreat sponsored by the South Central Conference is July 21-23 at Cohutta Springs Center. For more information contact Laura Smith, Director. P. O. Box 241233, Montgomery, AL 36124-1233.

ence directors sponsored 200 training seminars for local coordina-

my seminars for local coordinators of women's ministries.

More than 95 percent of those who participate in women's ministries activities on the conference and local church level territy of life-changing experiences.

Women's ministries provides special times available for women

special times available for women to break out of their routines and spend quality time with the Lord. One such time is the annual weekend retreat in each of the conferences. Retreats in the Southern Union usually include sisters of

other faiths as well as friends not of the Christian persuasion, Many times, women from all over the United States find their way to a retreat.

Why do they come? What are they seeking? Admittedly for some, the weekend retreat is a time to escape the harried routines of everyday life, the endless struggle for balance in the juggling of homemaking, parenting and career; for others, it is a special time of reunion with mothers, daughters, sisters, grandmothers and aunts. But according to countless surveys

received, the number one reason given is to seek a better understanding of God and to obtain a closer walk with Jesus.

And what do they find when they arrive at a retreat site? Often it is a time of opportunity to see old friends and discover new ones. The women love to sing old familiar hymns and learn new choruses, to enjoy uninterrupted time for listening to spiritual truths.

During the past several years, thousands of women have been grateful for this time that allows them to stop in the midst of very

Kentucky-Tennessee

by Sandy Powell

"Imagine you have never read a book or a poem, a card from someone you love, or you have never read a book to a child in your lap. These are some of the things a blind person has never done. But now imagine you are not blind, and you have never read at all." Ron Horseman, literacy stu-

Shirley Floyd lived in a seemingly insurmountable world of darkness. She experienced a blind-

ness that has nothing to do with sight, because she was unable to read.

"I felt embarrassed and ashamed. My children would bring papers home

from school for me to sign, and I couldn't read them. There was no way for me to help my kids with their homework. I couldn't read the Bible, or the newspaper, or a cookbook, or the instructions on prescriptions, or the warnings on bottles. I had to rely on my husband or my children to read things to me. And I knew I could never get a good job. I felt so useless and sad because I couldn't read," she said, "but I tried to cover it up so people wouldn't know.

Shirley did a good job of covering up until that day in 1991 when her helplessness and frustration finally came to the surface. I know, because I was there that day.

We were at a Kentucky-Tennessee women's retreat at Indian Creek Camp and had broken into small groups at the direction of the retreat speakers, Gall McKenzie and Renee Coffee. Gail asked us to go around the circle in our group and share the answer to this question: "If you could change one thing that you don't like about yourself, what would it be?"

Shirley shares a passage from Scripture with her

daughter JoAnn.

There were five women in our group. When it was Shirley's turn to share, she began to cry. Then the awful truth tumbled out. "I wish I could read," she sobbed. We were stunned. Four of us in the circle were members of the same small church

out. "I wish I could read," she sobbed. We were stunned. Four of us in the circle were members of the same small church in Gratz, Kentucky, but none of us had known that Shirley was unable to read.

"Oh, Shirley," I said, "We can do something about that. That's something we can change. When we get back home, I'll check with the library. I know they have a literacy program, and I'll get information and training I need to teach you to read. You're going to learn to read."

Before our small group time ended, we prayed around the circle for the special need that each woman had expressed. With hands clasped, we prayed fervently for Shirley, that she would learn to read.

When the retreat was over, I signed up as a volunteer tutor in my county's literacy program and received the materials and instruction I needed to teach Shirley to read. We met at the church one day a week for about a year. I was amazed at Shirley's progress. She was so motivated to learn, and she became more and more excited as her reading skills developed and improved. and improved.

Her fondest dream was to read her Bible. One day I gave her a modern translation of the Bible, and you should have seen her excitement as she read the 23rd Psalm, the Ten Commandments, and John 1:1-14 with very little assistance. She was ecstatic.

Reading has opened a whole new vista for Shirley. She can now read and study her Sabbath school lesson and read the words to the hymns. Through the years she had memorized many of the hymns, but now she can actually read them. She can also enjoy a personal devotional time, because she can read the Bible for herself, or read a Christian book or

Since that first year, Shirley has continued in the adult literacy program under the tutorship of another volunteer. She continues to make remarkable progress. Not only is her reading improving, but her self-esteem is growing. At one end-of-the-year banquet, she received five certificates for her accomplishments and contributions. They included recognition for being a new reader, for recruitment, for public speaking, for participation in the Book Discussion Club, and for contributions to the Student Newsletter. She has also had two personal stories published in a book entitled Slices of Life:

contributions to the Student Newsletter. She has also had two personal stories published in a book entitled Slices of Life: Kentucky Writers for Kentucky Readers. This publication features the writing of literacy students across Kentucky. Shirley is well known and respected in the reading program. She has been instrumental in recruiting new tutors and new participants to the program by talking with people personally, by writing an article appearing in the local newspaper, and by sharing her story and making an appeal on the local radio station.

Shirley urges people who cannot read to quit hiding their feelings and to enroll in the reading program. "A tutor can help you learn to read," she testifies. "They helped me and I know they can help you, too."

Perhaps you'll hear God speaking to you in her appeal for tutors: "We need more tutors because there are other people out there who cannot read and write, and I want other people to have the same chance I have had."

If you would like to experience the exhilaration of helping people on a journey from darkness into light--from the blindness of illiteracy into the joyful radiance of being able to read--contact your local literacy program and volunteer as a tutor.



The thing Shirley Floyd values the most about learning to read is being able to read the Bible.



At an end-of-the-vear banquet for the participants in her adult reading program, Shirley received five certificates of recognition for her accomplishments and contributions to the program.

busy lives, and be able to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speak to their minds words of wisdom and peace. In these quiet times women can recall old dreams of service for God, and receive inspiration to make new goals of service.

Our younger women and girls are another important focus. treats and special meetings for them are being held simultaneously with the adult women's retreats. Special weekends are planned entirely for them. Mother-daughter events for girls in grades six through eight are being planned in local churches.

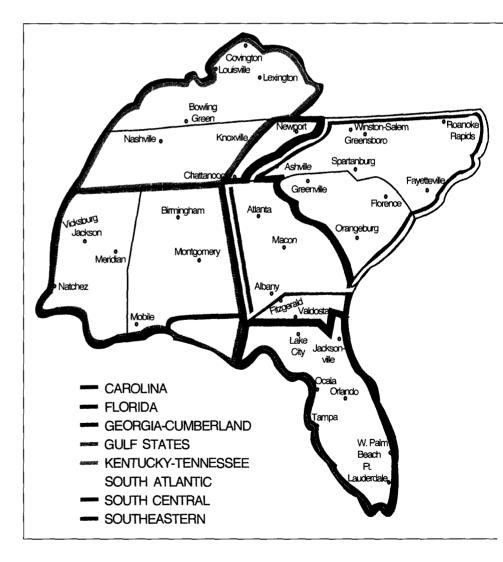
After attending the retreats and witnessing the positive results in the lives of their wives, a few men throughout the union are beginning men's ministries to serve those men who, like the women, seek spiritual renewal, fellowship, and ways to be better prepared to share the love of God. With so many

Union	Retreats	SDAs	NonSDA	Baptism
Atlantic	9	1,935	135	1
Canadian	10	986	53	1
Columbia	14	2,170	120	17
Lake	9	1,661	94	17
Mid-Amer.	18	1,837	234	0
N.Pacific	22	1,855	126	11
Pacific	13	2,757	174	10
Southern	11	3,414	30	25
Southwest	10	1,727	332	2
TOTAL	116	18,342	1,298	84

"Glorify the Lord with me: let us exalt His name together," should be the tie that binds all three ministries into one powerful witness for Jesus Christ this year of 1995.

one-parent families, whether it is a man or woman, struggling to play the role of both parents, there is a need for specific ministries for both our men and women, as well as a continuation of a strong ministry for the traditional family. "Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together," should be the tie that binds all three ministries into one powerful witness for Jesus Christ this year of 1995. God has promised, will pour out my Spirit on all people. (Joel 2:28).

The work of women's ministries could not be done without the wonderful support by administrations in each conference as well as on the union level who give freely of their time, verbal affirmation, financial assistance, their prayers and many kind words of encouragement.



I want to give a special lovefilled tribute of thanks to the women who serve with me on the Southern Union Office of Women's MInistries Executive Committee. Until recently most of them have carried on their dutires of conference women's ministries directors while still working fulltime, volunteering much of their off-work hours in women's ministries. They are to be commended highly for their dedication in this very important ministry. It is a joy to work with these women who love the Lord with all their being.

In no lesser degree are many local church women's ministries coordinators and their committees serving God, giving energy, time, and effort to help the women in their church toward spiritual refreshment, social renewal, and personal growth in order to fulfill God's plan for their lives. Many of these women extend their dedication to serving on the conference women's ministries committees, spending countless hours planning annual retreats and other special women's ministries events.

With a smile on His face, I believe God looks down from heaven and says, "These are my beloved daughters in whom I am well pleased." These women are building a network of caring, concern, spiritual and personal growth-the influence of which will not fully be known until Jesus comes.

The investment and support provided for the women's ministries department by any union, conference, or church will give that organization a tremendous lay workforce that will help to complete Christ's commission on this earth to "go and tell" the good news of Jesus' love and soon coming.

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7).

I know the plans I have for you, to give you a future and a hope, says the Lord (Jeremiah 29:11).

. . . being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:6).

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24).

Evelyn VandeVere is women's ministries director of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

Functions and Duties of the Women's Ministries Coordinator



1. Establish a Committee.

The women's ministries coordinator will work with the church board or Church Ministries Council to establish a committee. The committee may be composed of individuals interested in women's needs and concerns. The purpose of the committee will be to brainstorm, develop strategies, network, and assist in planning and implementing programs and activities relevant to women's specific and varied needs.

2. Conduct a Needs Assessment.

The women's ministries coordinator will work closely with the women's ministries committee in surveying and identifying the needs of the women within the church and community. This will include identifying the demographics of the female population such as age, ethnicity, educational level, marital status, etc., and identifying topics specific to their needs. Needs assessment tools such as survey questionnaires are available.

3. Plan for Program Development.

The women's ministries coordinator will work with the women's ministries committee and the pastor to develop and implement women's ministries programs or seminars, and network with existing support groups. Make appropriate referrals in the special needs such as support groups for abused women, senior citizens, single-parenting, teens, substance abuse, empty-nest syndrome, and child abuse; seminars on stress management, grief recovery, parenting skills, self-improvement, spiritual care, etc. Other activities may include prayer breakfasts, literacy programs, day care, and programs for the community elderly.

4. Serve as Chair of the Women's Ministries Committee.

This responsibility is essential to the effectiveness and success of women's ministries. The chair will function as a facilitator in encouraging the evolution of ideas and plans that produce efforts toward maximizing our church's mission. The chair is to put together an agenda, moderate discussion, and facilitate group cohesion through personal sharing, prayer, and fellowship.

5. Be an Advocate of Women's Concerns, Needs, and Contributions.

It is the responsibility of the women's ministries coordinator to keep the church membership informed of women's ministries and their contributions to church life. This task includes allotting time during the personal ministries time, announcement period, Sabbath school, or worship hour to share with the congregation at large. This responsibility includes being liaison between the women of the church and the church board or Church Ministries Council assisting them to keep in view the needs of women in the church and to recognize women's ministries as a vital part of church growth and church dynamics.

VOICES for Southern Union Women



Southern Union

I am very grateful for the tremendous blessing that women's ministries has been to evangelism and nurturing throughout the Southern Union. The many retreats for women, seminars sponsored at camp meetings, mother-daughter banquets, special retreats for young women, special days in many of our churches, along with other activities, have resulted in baptisms, rebaptisms, and untold recommitment to our precious Savior.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our women's ministries directors on the union and local conference levels and in our churches throughout the Southern Union. God bless you for your faithful, unselfish service, the

full results of which will not be known until the kingdom.

Malcolm Gordon, president

Carolina

Women's ministries in the last four years has grown from women's events such as retreats, to each woman within the church accepting that she is a part of women's ministries involved in any department of the church. The last year and a half has been an exciting turning point for this ministry. I feel this change has come about because women have received healing and affirmation from their home churches which has enabled them to unite with the mission of their church. They are cooperating with



their local church program of evangelism and in the Carolinas this resulted in 29 baptisms. Secondly, the heart-toheart ministry. This is a nurturing/mentoring type of ministry based on Titus 2:3-5. The third ingredient of growth has been that women's ministries has enabled the involvement of women on a local level to become active in outreach ministries such as prayer breakfasts, Bible studies, secret prayer partners, prayer chains, health and nutrition,

and one-day seminars.

Women of today face the challenges of their lives with courage and the use of all the feminine mystique God has given them to reach out to others in their suffering, trials, and pain. God has given the spiritual gifts of helping,

supporting, defending, and protecting others.

The overall picture we want to present of women is one of being daughters of God, using the spiritual gifts God has entrusted to each one of us. I believe the women in the Carolinas, as daughters of God, are fulfilling this mission. The main focus this year in the Carolina Conference is to promote literacy, so that all mankind can have the opportunity to enjoy reading the gospel message and to provide a safe environment within the church structure for all to receive the healing and affirmation needed for women and their families.

Ann Pendleton, director Women's Ministries

Women's ministries ... has done more to encourage women in church ministry than anything I have witnessed. As a result, many women have chosen to begin attending church again, a number have accepted Jesus and been baptized, and homes have been strengthened. It (women's ministries) has changed lives.

Ken Coonley, president

The goal of the women's ministries department is to be a facilitator in fostering spiritual growth among the women in our 170 churches. Our objective is to involve women in discovering and utilizing their God-given gifts so that this goal may be realized. It is a personal thrill to have a part in guiding women to discover "a higher

Hundy

purpose, ... a grander destiny," and to be involved in helping each woman "develop and cultivate her powers (and watch) God employ them in the great work of saving souls from eternal ruin." (Testimonies, vol. 4, p. 642)

Patricia Shanko, director Women's Ministries

By sponsoring seminars to assist women in coping with the special challenges they must face, the department of women's ministries is providing a much appreciated and greatly needed service to our constituency.

The major emphasis, however, has focused on a deeper spiritual experience and a personal relationship with Jesus. More than 1,300 women attended the three retreats conducted in 1995. Because of the continued increase, four consecutive retreats are being planned for 1996. We anticipate that there will be a 25 percent increase in those who wish to attend. Our local churches are feeling the impact of this spiritual renewal, and our ladies are becoming more and more involved in helping to spread the message of God's love and the blessed hope of the soon return of Jesus in their local churches and commu-

Obed Graham, president

Georgia-Cumberland

It has been my privilege for several years to see women come alive for God through participation in women's ministries activities. Their faith in Jesus grows stronger and the Holy Spirit is leading many women into personal ministries of speaking, writing, music, and mentoring. I believe this is good, for if there was ever a time for the voices of godly women to be heard, it surely must be today in 1995. It is



a time to speak boldly for God with wisdom that only a knowledge of His Word provides.

Thousands of ordinary women, influenced by

women's ministries, are doing extraordinary things for God. It fills me with great joy and gratitude for what God is doing through this relatively new program of the Church.

Evie VandeVere, director Women's Ministries

The women's ministries has provided the women of the church many spiritually enhancing experiences. The retreats and the stimulation of local church activities has provided many opportunities for involvement. As we strengthen the hands of all for involvement. As we strengthen the hands of all the members of the church in their ministries, we strengthen our Church.

Gordon Bietz, president

Women's ministries is about encouraging, enabling, and supporting my sisters in Christ as we develop our individual gifts in service to God and to those around us. It's caring enough to see the inner beauty of each daughter of God.

Phyllis Eisele, director Women's Ministries



During the past several years, one of the greatest blessings is that of women's ministries—dedicated women locking arms, uniting their strengths and inspiration to move forward the work of God in their local churches.

The women in our congregations often represent untapped resources of energy and wisdom from which the Church would benefit. As I look over the North American Division, I am amazed at the number of our smaller churches which are surviving primarily because of the efforts of women.

Another blessing the Church has experienced is that of the women's retreat—a time when the women can come together and listen to godly speakers addressing the needs of Christian women. For many, this experience has been a breath of fresh air and a renewed confidence that the Church recognizes the value of the women among us.

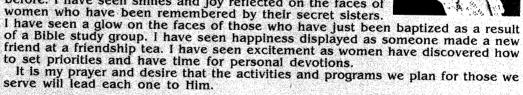
Jim Greek, president

Renderby Tennessee

Remember when . . women had time to get together to quilt or took turns helping each other can jars of fruit and vegetables from the summer harvest? Remember when ... you had time to listen to your children, or there was time to actually share a meal together as a family? Remember when ... there was time for family and friends? No, I really don't want to return to those days, however, our busy schedules

and deadlines do cause us to forget why we are here.

This is why I became involved in women's ministries. At the retreats, I have seen women discover a new love for their Lord. In prayer groups, prayers have been answered and interest and love shown to one another that didn't exist before. I have seen smiles and joy reflected on the faces of women who have been remembered by their secret sisters.



Helen Boskind, director Women's Ministries

I have been to our churches, heard testimonies of pastors and laity, and have even popped in on some of the women's retreats. My heart has thrilled as I have seen the results of this special ministry—changed lives, renewed and strengthened commitments in family and church relationships, a caring ministry to fellow members, and special outreach to the community. I have been proud that our ladies have not been sidetracked from these reasons for the existence of women's ministries. They have stayed on track. They haven't had an agenda for some "movement." They have touched the lives of people for Jesus.

Richard Hallock president

Richard Hallock, president



Women's ministries has presented to me the challenges of leadership and service in many wonderful, unique, and marvelous ways

Leadership, in any area of God's work, is a high privilege. My lead-ership abilities have been greatly improved as I have worked in women's ministries. I have gained confidence, self-esteem, and courage. I have been privileged to work with women from all walks of lifehousewives, teachers, doctors, attorneys, women in poverty, women



of affluence, Christians, nonChristians, young girls, mature women, sportswomen, handicapped, musicians, single mothers, teenage mothers, drugaddicted women, scholarly, illiterate, abused, to name a

I feel deeply committed to give of my best to the Master as I work with women who possess different interests, talents, gifts, and skills—all available for the glory and honor of God. I want to continue to meet the challenge of helping these women to stand firm in Christ and bloom of helping these women to stand firm in Christ and bloom where they are planted, being extensions of God's great love, and desiring, above all else, to represent His character to everyone they meet. I want to continue to encouracter to everyone they meet. age them to respond to Jesus with trust and hope—to continue to follow Him, supporting His work out of the substances of their talents and their means—until we shall all stand victoriously before His throne.

Carolyn T. Hinson, director Women's Ministries

Women's ministries has been a powerful tool in the mission goals of the conference. Because of this organized human resource, many positive benefits are re-

I hear the women joyfully talking about bonding, constructive lifestyle changes, and Christian growth and charflected. acter development. Day-to-day experiences take on qual-ity meaning because of improved self-concept and personal esteem. Single mothers and teen mothers are more focused and directed. Visions for the future inspire them

Women's ministries is one of the critical factors needed as "Hope Dealers." for implementing our vision and mission statement. I have always supported women's ministries and will continue my official endorsement. Ralph Peay, president

I believe the women of the conference have tremendous value and worth. I believe they possess unique talents and gifts that should be enhanced and utilized in and outside of the church. Among the women there is a common desire for greater spirituality, love, acceptance, and security. There is also the desire to be of service by reaching out to those in need. I believe there is a sense among the women that they share the responsibility to fulfill God's



eternal plan in the salvation of mankind. The women are convinced that they have been empowered to do a work that men are unable to do and can reach and influence those who cannot be reached by men.

My philosophy is reflected as follows in the aim and motto of women's ministries for the conference. Aim: To Know HIM and to Make HIM Known

Motto: In HIS Steps Caring and Sharing

Laura Smith, director Women's Ministries

Women's ministries has raised our consciousness to the significance of nurture in the lives of all of our members to new heights. The ability to understand and support one another is the strong suit of that ministry. That level of understanding and support leads to spiritual and emotional maturity. It is evident everywhere that there is a strong ministry by women for women.

The women are able to take back to the churches enough of what they experienced to make a difference in the lives of all of the women in their churches who did not attend the retreats. They expand and share the ministries to which they were exposed. Indirectly, they are having a positive effect on the

men in the church. The success of the ministry to women has raised to consciousness a glaring need for a specialized ministry to men. I hear from the brethren in the churches that they would like to duplicate for men that which is obviously happening for women. They are a positive example for the brethren. Joseph McCoy, president

It was at camp meeting in June 1990 that I was asked to provide leadership for the women's ministries commission in the conference. Without knowing what to do or what it was, I blindly accepted the call of that still small voice. In October I began to learn of the wonderful opportunities to work for souls, enhance pastoral ministry, and fulfill a variety of unmet needs for the women of this Church when I attended the Southern Union women's retreat at Cohutta

In January 1991 there were 14 elected women's ministries coordinators in the local churches and many other interested persons lending helping hands and enthusiastically spreading the good news of our mission. As of January 1995, God's work continues to move forward at six times the rate with 81 elected women's ministries directors in our local

I believe I was called to this service for a special purpose. Again and again my Lord amazes me with His everlasting goodness and power when He uses ordinary people to fulfill His will.

Iris Vanessa Melton, director Women's Ministries

Women's ministries has been a real source of inspiration to the women. It has been helpful in training them to win souls, strengthen the family ties, recognize their gifts, and to be more competent church workers on a

volunteer basis. To see the women experience deep spiritual growth has been most rewarding.

The statistics concerning the number of women in this part of the Lord's vineyard is not different from elsewhere. Women constitute the larger percentage of our members. Women's ministries has, with love, care, understanding, and compassion, reached out to shrink the number of problems faced daily in all the negative areas of life such as abuse, divorce, loneliness, et cetera. Women's ministries, because of its unique position, is able to bring about a better quality of life, and the Southeastern Conference territory is the richer for this mission-driven ministry.

DIRECTIONS



Carolina

Several singles gathered at Nosoca Pines Ranch May 12–14 to enjoy a **SINGLES' RETREAT** with guest speaker Paul Van Buren.

Tony Cirigliano has held several **GOSPEL WORKERS TRAINING CLASSES AND A SEARCH FOR TRUTH CRUSADE** recently. Cirigliano received a letter requesting the program be sent to Mongolia.

In preparation for the **NET '95 EVANGELISTIC EVENT,** the Brevard, N.C., church purchased property March 13. The members completed a new building before the evangelistic meetings began. Pews were installed the day before the crusade started. The satellite crusade brought 25 people each night and resulted in two baptisms with several more still studying. At the church open house on April 29, 200 packed the auditorium. Ken Coonley, conference president, gave focus and direction for the future.

Within the Blythewood church, a group called **VOLUNTEERS FOR JESUS**, made up of every age group, is working to clean up the city both physically through the highway program and spiritually by sharing the gospel with those they meet.

Approximately 90 students at Mount Pisgah Academy recently participated in a **RESEARCH PROJECT** conducted by Don Morgan, Ph.D., assistant professor of exercise and sport science at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The purpose of the study was to examine coronary risk factors influenced by lifestyle choices in youth, both Adventist and nonAdventist. The team attained dietary and demographic information from the youth as well as physiological information through blood tests and basic height/weight measurements. Although the results have not yet been released, Morgan and his assistants

told the staff an obvious difference was noted in significantly lower blood pressures in the Mount Pisgah students as opposed to the public school students.

Thrilling stories continue to come in relating to **NET '95.** In Jacksonville, N.C., at the Camp Lejeune Marine Base, Mark Tensley, a young marine who spent his first six years of schooling at Mt. Pisgah Academy Elementary school, was impressed to attend the Adventist church. The young marine looked back after his rebaptism and reflected that "It was no accident that NET '95 began that very evening." Though struggling with the Sabbath issue as it related to military service, this young marine has committed his life to the service of the Lord.

In Greenville, S.C., Laura Herbert's schedule was so hectic, she only had time to drive her 18-wheeler to the **NET '95** meetings. Church members were always excited to see Laura's big truck parked out front. Laura was baptized at the conclusion of the Discoveries in Prophecy meetings.

Members of the Pembroke, N.C., church were elated to welcome **TWO NEW MEMBERS** to their family at the conclusion of the Discoveries in Prophecy meetings.

In October of this year, you will be able to find the name of Dr. Daniel Gibran of the Raleigh, N.C., church, in the '95-'96 edition of **WHO'S WHO WORLDWIDE.** He is presently listed in the four-volume register of *Who's Who in America*. The letter from Who's Who states, "Inclusion in the worldwide Who's Who register is recognition and confirmation of exceptional people." Dr. Gibran modestly states, "I don't know what makes me an exceptional person, but I guess if I can make it, anybody can."



Florida

More than 700 young people took part in the 38th **MUSIC FESTIVAL** at Forest Lake Academy, April 20–22. Twenty-five conference elementary schools and junior academies participated in the event featuring choir, band, and string groups.

Ten people were baptized in the Jupiter-Tequesta church as the result of a recent **PROPHECY EXPO CRUSADE.** Jupiter pastor Ed Stokely says church membership is now 100—its highest ever.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE'S MEDICAL/DENTAL RETREAT attracted 150 Adventist doctors, dentists, and their families to Daytona Beach for a weekend of camaraderie and inspiration, April 21 and 22.

Florida Hospital and Loma Linda School of Dentistry provided **CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES.** Martin Weber, author, and pastor of the New Hope, Burtonsville, Maryland, church was the featured speaker.

Four nonAdventists have attended St. Peters-

burg church services as the result of **NUTRITION CLASSES** conducted by the church in May. Natural Lifestyle Cooking videos featuring It Is Written's Mark and Ernestine Finley were shown. In addition, Jan Miller, wife of St. Petersburg pastor Mike Miller, coordinated hands-on cooking demonstrations.

Twenty-six local businesses and 140 players took part in Forest Lake Academy's **CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNAMENT** recently held in Longwood. The event raised \$3,500 for the school's computer science and physical education programs.

Glen Coon, Jr., of ABC Prayer Crusades International, attracted 21 people to a recent **ABCs OF PRAYER SEMINAR** sponsored by the St. Augustine church. Topics discussed included: How to Claim a Promise; Guarding Against Presumption; How to Hear God's Voice; Abiding in Christ; and Memorizing Scripture.



Georgia-Cumberland

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE has called a special constituency meeting for the fall of 1995 to consider capital improvements to GCA faculty housing and student dormitories.

Sixty-eight pastors and family members will participate in a conference coordinated **HOLY LAND TRIP.** Groups will travel before and after

the General Conference session in Utrecht.

The spring issue of the Conference *Communique* included **A TWO-PAGE SURVEY FOR CONSTITUENCY EVALUATION** of local church and conference-wide programs and services. Results of the survey are scheduled for publication in September.

DIRECTIONS

Georgia-Cumberland Academy has a firm commitment for **MISSION PROJECTS** in Belize. The graduating class of 1994 made the first trip in 1993 as their class trip. They built a church, which was finished by the class of 1995 on their class trip during the past Thanksgiving holidays. A school bus was donated to Belize last October to facilitate the transportation of students.

A COOKING SCHOOL was held at the Lakeland, Ga., church via satellite featuring Mark and Ernestine Finley. More than 30 people attended the sessions and enjoyed the food samples.

One hundred seventy-five GCA students, under the direction of Ron Cook, have participated in MISSION OUTREACH TO CALHOUN AND GOR- **DON COUNTY,** Georgia. Visiting and helping the elderly, building trails or cleanup in area parks, painting a church or home, and giving Bible studies, are some of the witnessing activities carried on during the school year. To conclude the year, Bible studies are being continued in seven locations.

Five of six **AREA CONVOCATIONS** have been completed in different areas of the conference. Convocation areas include coastal, Augusta, south Georgia, east Tennessee, and the Cumberland Plateau. Convocations are designed for churches in a specific geographical area to join together for spiritual enrichment and service-oriented training.

Kentucky-Tennessee

the speaker. John van Zyl is the pastor.

Joe McCoy, pastor of the London and Manchester, Ky., churches just completed **AN EVANGE-LISTIC SERIES** in Manchester. Thirteen were baptized and others continue to study and prepare for baptism.

Jim Thurmon, ministerial secretary and evangelism coordinator, reports that 29 BAPTISMS WERE REALIZED FROM THE CONFERENCE PAR-TICIPATION IN NET '95. Ten churches participated.

John Estrada, pastor of the Dickson/Centerville/ Lobelville district and Scott Shafer of Amazing Facts teamed up for an **EVANGELISTIC SERIES** in Lobelville. Two have been baptized thus far.

Students at Lela Whorton Elementary school in Ridgetop, Tenn., raised \$862.78 in the annual ST. JUDE'S CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL MATH-A-THON. The hospital is the largest pediatric research facility in America established solely for the study of childhood cancer and other catastrophic diseases.

Bob Wint, associate pastor in Pewee Valley and Shelbyville, Ky., churches just concluded an **EVANGELISTIC SERIES** in a school auditorium in Owenton, Ky. Three individuals made a decision for baptism.

A MAJOR EVANGELISTIC SERIES began June 10 in the Memphis First church. Richard Halversen with the Adventist Evangelistic Association was

AHS/Sunbelt

James A. Greene, M.D., was **A DELEGATE TO THE 1995 WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING**in May.

Florida Hospital, Orlando, recently **HONORED** A CHARTER MEMBER of the FH Auxiliary; Genevieve Roadman began volunteering when the volunteer program was established 40 years ago.

A birthing center and a fitness center at the new hospital at Sun 'n Lakes, Fla., will benefit from **A RECENT DONATION OF \$100,000** to Florida Hospital Heartland Division, Avon Park, Fla.



The new six-bed, family-focused maternity center at Gordon Hospital, Calhoun, Ga., opened with **RIBBON-CUTING CEREMONIES** on May 12.

tended a celebration dinner April 6.

The medical director of the SeniorLife Center at Tennessee Christian Medical Center, Madison,

Southern College

accommodate guests at reasonable rates who are visiting the greater Atlanta area next summer to attend the **1996 CENTENNIAL OLYMPIC GAMES.** The Conference Center on the campus has a toll-free number, 1-800-277-7273, for reservations.

DATES ARE SET FOR PREVIEW-SOUTHERN AND VIEW-SOUTHERN, special days for campus visits by prospective students. Preview-Southern is scheduled for October 15 and 16 and planned especially for public high school seniors and students considering college transfer. Academy students are particularly invited to ViewSouthern on March 31 and April 1, 1996. Campus visits can be arranged at other times by calling 1-800-SOUTHERN.

The alumni office is working with Alumni Research, Inc., to publish a **NEW ALUMNI DIRECTORY.** The previous edition was printed in 1989.



A NEW AREA CODE FOR TELEPHONES AT SOUTHERN COLLEGE will begin service in September, when eastern Tennessee activates area code 423. After January 1996, area code 615 will func-

tion only in the western portion of its current area. The physics departments of Southern College and St. Petersburg University in CIS (Confederated Independent States) have published their second JOINT REPORT CONCERNING GROUP THEORETICAL PERIODIC SYSTEMS OF MOLECULES. Authors are Southern's physics department chair, Ray Hefferlin, Ph.D.; Chris Carlson '94; and Q. V. Zhuvikin, adjunct professor.

THE 1995-96 SOUTHERN COLLEGE CATALOG IS IN THE MAIL to students accepted for the new school year. It is also available to prospective students by calling 1-800-SOUTHERN.

Plans are being laid at Southern College to



·Education-



Sean and his family rejoice over his graduation.

Students Celebrate Graduation

Carolina—It was all hugs and congratulations for Sean Butman of Fletcher Academy. Sean's family traveled from Fall Rock, Ky., to attend the Fletcher Academy graduation.

Sean was one of 16 who graduated from this popular self-supporting school. On the same day, Sunday,

May 21, and less than 30 miles away, another graduation was taking place.

At Mount Pisgah Academy, 59 seniors happily moved the tassels on their caps from the left to the right side. Denver Cavins, former pastor of the Mt. Pisgah Academy church, returned to give the commencement address. Mt. Pisgah Academy is owned and operated by the Carolina Conference.

Ron Quick

Concert Band Ends Year With a Bang

Southern College — The Southern College Concert Band, under the direction of Patricia Silver, closed the 1994-95 school year with an exciting tour of the east coast May 7 to 14.

Highlights of the tour schedule included a visit to the Naval School of Music, attendance at the season-opening concert of the Boston Pops orchestra, an afternoon of whalewatching in the

north Atlantic, and free time in Washington, D.C., and New York City.

Concerts were performed for enthusiastic audiences at Greater New York Academy, Greater Boston Academy, New England Medical Center Seventh-day Adventist church, Adventist world headquarters, and Pine Tree Academy.

Soloists with the band were John Foster, Pablo Alvarez, and Steve Gensolin, trumpets; James Johnson, David Greene, and Jeremiah Weeks, trombones; and Mary Wilcox, flute.

Jeanne Dickinson

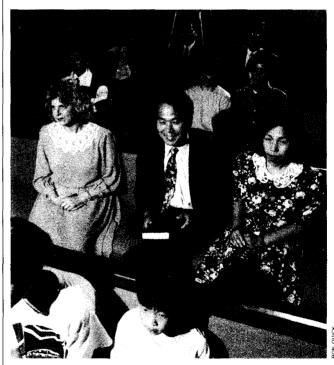
—Outreach-

NET '95 Impacts Small Churches

Carolina—Through satellite technology, NET '95 has broken through the doors of churches all across North America. The Spirit of God took human efforts and has broken through into the hearts of hundreds of people. Church members are revitalized, rejuvenated, and reborn.

Recently, the communications staff in Carolina asked several pastors for their opinions regarding the impact of NET '95. The response was thrilling. It was discovered

that every church that participated had a positive response; the biggest impact, overall, was how it revitalized church members; and the event had a dramatic effect on the smaller churches. Several churches located in remote areas of the conference have realized the connection they have to the larger world church through NET '95. This realization has inspired church members to reach out to their various communities. In two of the churches, it has also brought down the walls of ethnic barriers creating a multicultural congregation. Teri Fowle



NET '95 is helping to create multicultural congregations.

Party Builds Friendships

Florida—Last Christmas season was much brighter for several Bosnian war refugee families thanks to the

efforts of the Markham Woods junior and youth departments. Best of all, the relationships have continued through the year.

Joy Drapiza, youth leader, along with junior leader Rebecca



Ornament decoration was part of the fun at the party for Bosnian war refugee families.

Smith and her husband, Dan, searched for a way for the children to provide a meaningful holiday for others. Fellow church member Lily Martin, who works at Catholic Social Services, mentioned a group of Bosnian war refugees she knew of who could use help. The juniors and youth decided to host a Christmas party and invite the Bosnians. Also invited were two Russian Pentecostal ministers who had been persecuted for their faith and later immigrated to the U.S.

With the enthusiastic acceptance of the invitation from the children, came the touching simple wish for English Bibles with pictures.

Plans were set into motion as the Markham Woods youth began to raise money for the gifts. Some of the Bosnian children, meanwhile, visited Sabbath school and held their new friends spellbound as they related stories of

persecution and eventual escape. Since the children met each other before the party, the Adventist kids were able to shop for gifts with specific children in mind.

The weeks of planning resulted in a "Welcome to a USA Christmas" for the five families. So that they would feel a part of the festivities, the refugees brought some of their native decora-tions for the Christmas tree and native desserts.

By having them share part of their traditions with us, we learned from them, plus it made them feel the party was not just a 'hand-out'," said Smith. Each child was given a set of clothes, shoes, toys, a Bible, and money for the family.

The evening also included making ornaments, singing with associate pastor John Bennett, a story by Jim Coffin, pastor, and singing Russian carols led by the two Pentecostal ministers.

In the months since

the party, some of the group still attend Markham Woods church regularly, according to Smith. "We've been keeping in contact with them. Some have been

assisted by getting jobs with church members. We plan to make these new friends our longterm project," he said. Lynn Huff and Dan Smith

Key Largo Enjoys Spirit of Unity

Florida—With just 22 members, the Key Largo church is blessed with a spirit of unity, according to treasurer Martha Piton.

When we built our church nine years ago, we had only 12 mem-bers," she said. "But we placed an ad in the local paper asking for donations, and this small close-knit community responded. Contractors donated windows and doors. It was amazing. We had five different offers for organs."

Within approximately 18 months, the church's mortgage was paid.

The church is located on heavily traveled U.S. 1. It attracts a lot of attention with the unusual shape of its mailbox. Piton explains, "Our mailbox is in the shape of a church. The local newspaper printed a picture of it. We find it makes it easy to give directions.

Piton said members



John Agard, pastor, baptizes Mary Fleming.

find it a challenge to get locals to come to church as the entire Keys area is geared to tourism and most people are working on the weekends. But many members are involved in giving Bible studies, particularly since NET 95. Five new members were added in the past two years.

The church just began a community services program and is now helping seven families. The church is the only organization in Key Largo that offers a food bank.

Martha Piton and Lynn Huff

Sixty-five Attend Media Seminar

Florida—Church communication directors are implementing practical tips they learned at the "Getting Your Church in the News" seminar April 2.

According to Gloria McLaren, communication director of the St. Petersburg First church, participants left the seminar with a better understanding of their responsibilities. "It's been hard for me to get things published in St. Petersburg, but I'm

anxious to give the new tips I learned a try.

Organized by conference communication director Cindy Kurtzhals, this was the second year such conferencewide training was offered by the department, which included Spanish translation. It augments the monthly training correspondence

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Cruises for Seventh Day Adventists



Ron Quick (left) posed Nick vonKlock in an illustration of good photo composition.

to all directors, assistants, newsletter editors, and photographers.

Unlike any other church office, the success of local outreach programs often depends on the work of the communication director. The role comes with high expectations, but often is filled by one with no experience or training.

Leaders represented personal ministries, Sabbath school, home and school association, Pathfinders, and community services. Pastors, elders and deacons also attended. The seminar was open to them because they need to know the value to their ministry of getting in the media, or how to fill in for an absent or inactive communication director. The Mount Dora church brought a delegation of ten.

Seminar presenters and topics included Nick vonKlock, Daytona Beach News-Journal/ The Volusian staff writer, who discussed ways to receive newspaper coverage of events; Carolina Conference communication director and photographer Ron Quick gave

numerous photography tips; and Kurtzhals shared personal successes and how-tos on building relationships with the media. She and vonKlock are on the Board of Directors for the Central Florida Press Club.

vonKlock emphasized submitting information that is complete and concise, and to avoid assuming the public knows

anything about us.
Attenders learned how to submit a press release that will get results, how to obtain free church advertising, ways to group numerous photographed subjects, and alternatives to the typical "check passing" photograph. "lt's crucial to the awareness, credibility and mission of the Church to create, improve, and maintain a positive public image," Kurtzhals concluded. "People can't join us if they don't know we're there, can't find us, or know when we have programs. A business that has no sign (of business) is a sign of no business. We're in the soul-winning business."

Lynn Huff

Evangelism Plan Reaches Thousands

Georgia-Cumberland—More than 1,800 people have been reached through the Dark County Evangelism Plan. This program, directed by Ernest W. Dempsey, Jr., uses *Bible Research*, a new two-part Bible study. Six hun-

dred people have completed *Bible Research I* and 400 are enrolled in *Bible Research II*.

This program is a seedsowing ministry. However, six individuals have already been baptized and many more are being nurtured by local church members.

"Individuals are starving for love, truth, and greater understanding of the Scriptures," says Dempsey. "We ask for your prayers as we continue this ministry."

Don Livesay

Progress



The first Adventist Romanian church to be built outside of Romania will seat its congregation of 140 in a 348-seat capacity sanctuary.

Atlantans Build First Romanian Church

Georgia-Cumberland
—There was standing room only for the official opening of the Atlanta First Romanian church May 6. Located on the outskirts of Atlanta, this is the first Adventist Romanian church to be built outside of Romania, and joins several other Seventh-day Adventist congregations in North America who have rented or purchased worship facilities.

The 140-member congregation started construction on the 10,000-square-foot,

two-story building in October, 1993. The sanctuary will seat 348 and is complemented by five classrooms, four bathrooms, offices, a spacious fellowship room, kitchen, and several auxiliary rooms.

The church is located on 2.61 acres and cost \$386,000. The total project cost was \$470,000 and includes property, site preparation, paving, and landscaping. The appraised value is \$1 million. Stefan Radu, pastor, anticipates debt payoff and church dedication within two years. Sabbath attendance already averages 200.

Don Livesay

All Nations Church Witnesses With Visible Location

Florida—What a difference a year has made in the lives of St. Petersburg's All Nations church mem-

bers. "The Lord just keeps blessing us, week after week," says communication director Ifetayo Yancey.

Little more than a year ago, the 154-member congregation was pressured to vacate the Baptist

church they rented. It was yet another in a series of moves for the membership since their founding in 1986. But with fervent prayer, they soon found a suitable church building to purchase. Best of all, according to Yancey, the location at 2611 First Avenue North fare which connects the city to the northern suburbs. Its location is described as one that "cannot be missed" by approaching traffic.

Since moving to this highly visible spot, many people have stopped to request help from the community services. It is in an area that has been untapped by the church. The facility includes 13 Sabbath school rooms, offices, a sanctuary, and a fellowship hall. An added bonus is a fivebedroom house on the property which now serves as a thrift store.

is on a major thorough-

"Our members have

performed countless hours of work to beautify the property since we purchased it," said Yancey. "Our next project is the installation of a baptistry.

Yancey reported that it was with grateful hearts the congregation came together for the dedication of their new facility.

Obed Graham, conference president, was the keynote speaker, and Calvin Lindsay filled the sanctuary with melodious strains.

As a highlight of this spring's Community Guest Day, the church organ was dedicated. Donated by St. Petersburg resident Alfred Robinson, and his sister, Lillian Turner, the gift was made in honor of their mother, Martha Robinson, who was a Seventh-day Adventist. Robinson is a musician and a member of the Alumni Singers of St. Petersburg.

Ifetayo Yancey Lynn Huff



One of several choirs that provided musical inspiration during camp meeting.

The conference addressed the needs of a changing society through the many seminars available throughout the week. The Gospel Worker's Training class helped to equip members to share the good news with friends, family members, and neighbors. The family ministries department reached out through

selected topics and speakers. Raoul Dederen, Ph.D. presented his knowledge on the nature of Christ. And, Ernestine Finley and Ann Thrash jointly demonstrated how the home can be used as an evangelistic center through the use of Mark Finley's Discoveries in Prophecy videos.

Teri Fowle

NET '95 Results in Baptisms

Carolina—The Matthews, N.C., homecoming on April 8 not only celebrated the reunion of former church members and pastors with the current, but also the addition of new Matthews church family members.

Heinrich Strydom, pas-

tor, introduced Tanva and Gary Justice, two of the ten people who joined the Matthews church that day. There was a total of six baptisms, one rebap-tism, and transfers in from other churches.

The exciting event culminated the sixweek Discoveries in Prophecy crusade with Mark Finley, via NET '95.

Teri Fowle



At their new location on First Avenue North, members of the All Nations church enjoy visibility in a high traffic area.

-Update-

Camp Meeting Opens With a **Packed Auditorium**

Carolina-Camp meeting '95 opened to a nearly-packed auditorium at Lake Junaluska.

The banner, the camp meeting program, and the cheery welcome by Ken Coonley, president, set the tone for a week of serenity while surrounded by a world of turmoil.

Alfred C. McClure, NAD president, brought a message of hope, Journey With the King."



Tanya and Gary Justice joined the Matthews church family on homecoming Sabbath.



Esther Adams and Barbara Gahnz share their mutual experience with fellow "Sisters" at the Spiritual Sisters banquet.

Spiritual Sisters Provide Care and Unity

Florida-Women of the South Orlando church have enjoyed getting to know one another better by participating in their women's minis-tries Spiritual Sisters program. It has heightened the sense of church unity among those involved.

"This program helps our ladies become closer through friendship and spiritual support," said Joan Bova, women's ministries leader. "We took a survey of our female members and the foremost need mentioned was to know each other better. That's my goal, as I feel once we've achieved that, everything else falls into place," she said.

Spiritual Sisters replaces a Secret Pal program, which was fun, according to Bova, but interest began to drop as the pal's identity was never revealed. "We wanted to devise something more personal and long-lasting.

Women hook-up with their Spiritual Sister by drawing matching numbers. They pray before

drawing the numbers to ask the Lord to guide in the process. Sisters try to spend time together by calling, remembering special occasions, and, of course, praying together. "At church I see the women run up and embrace each other, and proudly announce, 'This is my sister!' said Bova.

Spiritual Sister Barbara Gahnz said, "I was so nervous the first time I called Esther Adams. I had two tickets to Sea World and asked her to go along. We had a wonderful time.

Adams replied, "It was my first trip to Sea World . we have been able to share things with each other ever since."

Boya said Orlando South is a typical church in that members have crises like those that occur in other churches. That's a specific time when a Spiritual Sister takes over.

The program continues to grow, as every six months all Sisters meet for a banquet and then draw the number and name of another Spiritual Sister. The original Sister is retained, however. In this way, the women will truly get to know one another.

Margaret Fisher, Lynn Huff

Bel Canto Goes to Disney

Georgia-Cumberland —The musical group Bel Canto of John L. Coble Elementary in Calhoun, Ga., performed recently at the Magic Kingdom in Orlando, Fla. Their performance was part of Disney's

Bel Canto, a 20-voice choir of selected fifth through eighth graders directed by Esther Farr Henson, was selected based on their submitted tape to Disney. Only a small percentage of

Magic Music Days.

auditions are actually asked to perform.

"Bel Canto is a very strong elementary vocal group," says a Disney representative. "It is very seldom that a young group has the qualities we demand of our performers. Only about three percent of auditioning elementary groups receive invitations."

After Bel Canto was accepted, they raised the money for the trip.

'We feel very privileged to have been a part of such a fantastic experience," says Henson.

Barbara Livesay



Bel Canto sings in Disney's Fantasy Pavilion.

Memphis First Celebrates 100 Years

Kentucky-Tennessee The Memphis First church celebrated its first one hundred years of ministry the week-end of March 25. The celebration started Friday evening with an hourlong program of narration, music, skits, and slides.

The program used more than 30 talented church members in the cast and crew. It was directed by Michael Magursky, a third-year dental student at the University of Tennessee.
Sabbath services

brought the best of



The emotional ending to the Friday evening program included a musical number by Murrell Tull. It included special visual effects.

past and present together. C. G. Edwards, pastor in the late 50s, delivered the sermon. In the afternoon there was music, slides, and remembrances by former and

current members. The exciting weekend concluded with a supper and an evening of mingling of friends, old and new.

Michael Magursky



W. C. Byrd (left), former pastor; Bobbie Grace, mayor; M. M. Young (former pastor); Earroll Smith, contractor and first elder; Marcus Faust, Home Savings Bank; Gregory Mack, current pastor; Elder and Mrs. Roy Brown, SEC president; and Albert Jones, city commissioner prepare for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Dania Celebrates Grand Opening

Southeastern—On May 26 Dania/Ebenezer church in Dania, Fla., celebrated its grand opening. The old structure, built in the 60 s, was perfectly blended into the new, much larger and more suitable structure so both facilities will still be used.

Bobbie Grace, mayor; Albert Jones, city commissioner; and Marcus Faust, senior vice president for Home Savings Bank joined new district pastor Gregory Mack and church leaders for the ribboncutting ceremony prior to Sabbath school.

The weekend activities began with a Friday night worship and communion service. W. Lester Taylor addressed the congregation and officiated at the communion service. Sabbath school featured a play titled,

Seeking the Lost." Several members told how they became believers through the witness of other members. Group and choir music were coordinated by Lois Johnson and Lenny Farrington, M. M. Young, former pastor, taught a very informative Sabbath school lesson while William Byrd challenged the hearts of the givers during offertory. Roy Brown, conference president, encouraged the members during the divine worship sermon with inspiring words from Psalm 1. He also reminded the worshipers that they did not do God a favor by constructing a church. They should not get too proud of their lovely building because God is just as comfortable in a burning bush.

Larry Harris, former associate pastor, gave a vesper thought to close the Sabbath.

W. L. Taylor

Smyrna and Emory Form Joint Venture

AHS/Sunbelt—A joint venture in which Emory

University System of Health Care, Atlanta, Ga., bought 35 percent of Smyrna Hospital, closed May 5. Smyrna became an Emory affiliate in 1994. The joint venture strengthens the relationship.

The joint venture with Smyrna allows Emory to expand its presence in the northwest Atlanta market. The 100-bed Adventist hospital provides primary-care services that Emory needs to complement its specialty services. For Smyrna, the new agreement means access to managed-care contracts.

Adventist Health

System Sunbelt, which owns 65 percent of the joint venture continues to manage Smyrna Hospital in support of the health care mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Smyrna became part of the Adventist Health System in 1974. It houses 88 acute-care medical-surgical beds and a 12-bed transitional care facility.

Jane Allen

FH Makes Administrative Changes

AHS/Sunbelt— Several changes in Florida Hospital administration were made effective recently.

Des Cummings, Jr., executive vice president, will focus the majority of his time on the Celebration project while continuing to manage other duties, including marketing and spiritual emphasis.

Rich Reiner, senior vice president and former administrator of Florida Hospital Altamonte, moved to Orlando where he is assuming responsibility for the administrative direction of the physician hospital organization and management

service organization.

Reiner continues working with Sandra Randolph, administrator of Florida Hospital East Orlando, and Eugene Wedel, administrator of Florida Hospital Kissimmee. He also continues his administrative duties for home health, the laundry and Volusia Medical Center, Orange City.

Lars Houmann, vice president, assumes administrative duties for Florida Hospital Altamonte. He works with Verbelee Nielsen-Swanson, assistant administrator for Florida Hospital Altamonte and administrator for Florida Hospital Apopka. Houmann also provides administrative direction for engineering/facilities as well as for the Center for Psychiatry.

Jane Allen

-Youth-

Nonmember Donates Island Key for Pathfinder Use

Florida—Pathfinders from clubs around the conference enjoy a private island in the Florida Keys thanks to the generosity of a nonmember who owns it.

About eight years ago, conference Pathfinder secretary Jeanne Wolfe heard a rumor that a private island in the Keys might be available for Pathfinder campouts. However, she did not know whom to contact to pursue more information. A short time later she was in Homestead on a preaching engagement and went on a diving excursion planned by then pastor Bob Burns.

Wolfe happened to mention the rumor to her companions. The pastor's friend knew exactly who made the offer. A John Fenton,



Marathon Pathfinder director Ray Saladino presents a plaque to island owner, John Fenton and his wife Lily, in appreciation for the use of Molasses Key.

who owned an island off Marathon called Molasses Key was on the diving boat with them. Fenton's wife, Lily, is an Adventist. Burns then mentioned that a church family, the Saladinos, owned a fishing boat which could possibly be used to transport the Pathfinders to the island from the mainland and back.

The arrangements went forward from there, with Ray Saladino taking the lead in the Pathfinder weekends. Three clubs each year sign up for the adventure on the two-acre island. The last clubs

to camp on the Island were Altamonte Springs, Mount Dora, and Palm Springs Spanish.

Saladino donates the boat and fuel, and takes an active role in the program. He and his staff teach marine biology-related honors to the visiting Pathfinders, and Saladino has since become very active in the organization.

"The kids absolutely love this opportunity. They just have a ball," said Wolfe. "Everyone who participates in this program is blessed," added Saladino.

Lynn Huff

fore sex, the "True Love Waits" program encourages individuals to sign commitment cards promising to remain "sexually pure" from that moment on. "Sexually pure" means practicing abstinence from that moment forward, offering those who have already

been sexually active a second chance.

According to Fogarty, the teens signed cards and made a five person promise to wait until marriage—to God, their current date, their future mate, their future child, and themselves.

Bob Fogarty

Youth Attend Federation

"Earth is our challenge —Heaven is our goal" was the theme of the M. C. Strachan Youth Federation May 5-6 in Adam's Mark Hotel, Daytona Beach. Avis Cameron, Sabbath school superintendent, gave a thoughtful lesson study. The Youth Bell Choir of Gainesville/ Bethel provided special music with a medley of songs. The Pathfinders drum corps led out in the divine worship service.

There was drama South Central Conference.

Byrd reminded the

lenge of living here on earth is not ours to walk alone, but that of our Lord and Savior who is always willing to assist us and guide us through life.

Lawanna Williams received a plaque for dedicated service to the youth of the M. C. Strachan area. She was encouraged to continue working for the youth in her new field of service in North Carolina.

The afternoon featured a talent spotlight, Bible Bowl scrimmage game, and temperance oratorical contests.

Activities ended with the basketball championship games of each division of the M. C. Strachan areasjunior, women's and male varsity teams. After a challenging weekend each one present left with a clearer picture and determination of the theme . . . "Earth is our challenge . . Heaven is our goal."

W. L. Taylor

Southeastern-

in the form of skits and pantomime; and music in the form of choirs, and individual talent. The divine worship sermon and vespers were given by Cariton Byrd, one of M. C. Stachan's former youth, presently employed as a pastor by

youth that the chal-



Carlton Byrd, divine worship speaker, at M. C. Strachan Youth Federation.



Lawanna Williams, former federation president, addressed the crowd.

Naples Teens Pledge Against **Premarital Sex**

Florida—A group of 14 teens from the Naples church made a commitment to wait until marriage for sex.

Listing their reasons as wanting to please God, understanding the negative impact of sex before marriage, and recognizing the rising threat of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, the teens recently participated in a national abstinence-based campaign called "True

Love Waits."

Originated by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, the campaign has flourished to become a nondenominational program. Earliteen teacher Bob Fogarty learned of the campaign and presented the idea to the teens for them to make their own decisions.

Young adults must be challenged to understand the facts about premarital sex and, armed with the truth, make wise sexual decisions, said Fogarty.

Based on the biblical mandate of marriage be-



Carolina =

Spanish Camp Meeting-Aug. 4-6. Nosoca Pines Ranch

K-10 Teachers Convention-Aug. 7-10. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

NAD ASI Convention-Aug. 9-12. Spokane,

LE Rally-Aug. 9-12. Nosoca Pines Ranch. Grades 9-12 Teachers Convention-Aug. 14-17. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership Convention-Aug. 25-27. Nosoca Pines Ranch. Family Camp-Sept. 1-4. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Caring For Marriage—Sept. 8-10. Charlotte,

Caring For You-Sept. 15-17. Charlotte,

Lay Pastoral Assistant Training-Sept. 15-17. Nosoca Pines Ranch

Eastern Carolina Youth Rally-Sept. 22-

Women's Retreat-Sept. 22-24. Nosoca Pines Ranch.

Florida =

Men's Ministries Conferences

July 29. Plantation

Nov. 4. Jacksonville Mandarin.

Evangelistic Crusades

In Progress-Aug. 5. Bushnell. Art and Margo Swaningson.

In Progress-Aug. 1. Palatka. Lester and Zula Pratt and Roy and Amy Pauley.

In Progress-Aug. 12. Altamonte Springs. Bob and Joyce DuBose.

In Progress-Aug. 12. Vero Beach. Gordon Henderson and John and Pat Thurber. July 29-Aug. 26. Jacksonville Spanish. Jose and Ofelia Fuentes.

Aug. 19-Oct. 7. Sanford. Art and Margo Swaningson.

Aug. 26-Sept. 30. Kissimmee. Lester and Zula Pratt and Roy and Amy Pauley.

Aug. 26-Sept. 30. West Palm Beach. Gordon Henderson and John and Pat Thurber. Aug. 26-Sept. 30. Cocoa. Bob and Joyce DuBose.

Adventist Singles Ministries Fellowship Dinners

Aug. 5. Florida Hospital. Aug. 12. West Palm Beach First.

Aug. 12. Forest Lake.

Aug. 19. University. Aug. 26. Kress Memorial.

Pathfinders Leadership Convention-Aug. 18-20. Camp Kulaqua.

Pathfinder Reveille-Sept. 15-17. Camp Kulagua.

Georgia-Cumberland =

Executive Committee—Aug. 23. Professional & Business Assoc.—Sept. 8, 9. Hispanic Camp Meeting-Sept. 1, 2. Cohutta Springs.

Evangelistic Crusades

Aug. 18-Sept. 16. Macon. Cliff Vickery. Aug. 19-Sept. 16. Ellijay. Harold Turner. Aug. 19-Sept. 23. Rome. Wendell Stover. Sept. 8-Oct. 7. Augusta. Pieter Barkhuizen.

Small School Summer Workshops

July 16-20. Language Arts.

July 23-27. Social Studies/Science-Health. Mission Challenge-July 2-17.

Pathfinder Leadership Convention-Aug. 18, 19. Cohutta Springs.

Gulf States

Teen Mission Trip-July 10-23. Camp Alamisco.

Retreats

July 21-23. Singles. Camp Alamisco. July 28-30. New Believers. Camp Alamisco.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Young Women. Indian Creek

Oct. 6-8. Women's Retreat. Indian Creek.

Out of Union

Adventist Broadcasters Association-Aug. 8.9. Sheraton Spokane Hotel, Spokane, Wash. Details: (516) 627-9350.

Campion Academy Homecoming—Oct. 20, 21. Loveland, Colo.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Volunteers to teach conversational English and Bible needed. Housing and stipend provided. If you are a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, have a degree (associate, bachelor's, or master's), and are a native speaker of English, contact Ray James, 40 Pleasant Drive, Sutter Creek CA 95685.

TEL: (209)267-0416. (209) 267-0342. FAX:

D

LANGUAGE

INSTITUTES

O R E

TRANSITIONS

On the Move



Georgia-Cumberland Wilma Zalabak, associate pastor of the Calhoun church, will be associate pastor in the Greeneville, Tenn., church.



Clay Farwell, director of Cohutta Springs Adventist Center, has accepted a call to be president of the Indiana Conference.

CALENDAR

2	3	4	5	6	7	1 8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

1995 Southern Union and NAD Women's **Ministries Events**

NAD Take Heart Retreat—Aug. 18-20. Dallas, Texas. Speaker: Janice Vance. Details: (315) 396-4213.

Carolina Retreat-Sept. 22-24. Nosoca Pines. Speaker: Ruth Jacobsen.

Kentucky-Tennessee Young Women's Retreat-Sept. 29-Oct. 1. Indian Creek Camp. (Georgia-Cumberland young women invited.) Speaker: Libby Roos. Details: (615) 824-1158

Kentucky-Tennessee Retreat— Oct.6-8. Indian Creek Camp. Speaker: Annette Stanwick. Details: (615) 824-1158

NAD Take Heart Retreat-27-29. Ontario, Canada. Speaker: Janice Vance. Details: (905) 591-5995

Gulf States Retreat—Nov. 3-5. Details: (205) 285-5818.

Southern Union Administrative and Departmental Meetings-Nov. 7-11. Daytona Beach, Fla.

South Atlantic Retreat—Dec. 8-10. Speakers: Deborah Harris, Lisa Smith, Details: (404) 344-1407.



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Beyond the weekly Sab-

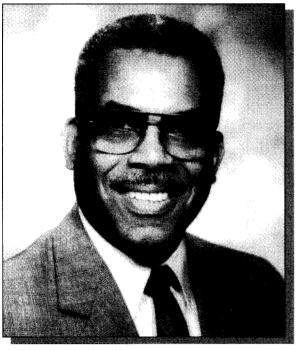
beyond the weekly Sab-bath, God also holds all humans accountable for their use of the other six days. Time is precious. We cannot multiply it, nor retrieve it. We believe we are to use it to multiply the talents lent to us by God and to help God's cause on earth—the salvation of all who will account it. will accept it. Myron Widmer

Sunset

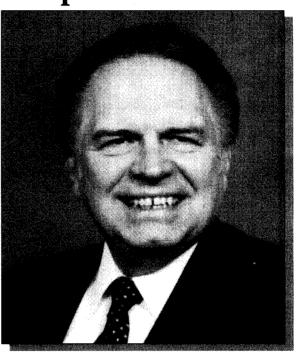
	July	July	July	July	Aug.	Aug.
	7	14	21	28	4	11
Atlanta, Ga.	8:52	8:50	8:47	8:42	8:36	8:30
Charleston, S.C.	8:32	8:30	8:27	8:23	8:17	8:11
Charlotte, N.C.	8:41	8:39	8:35	8:30	8:24	8:17
Collegedale, Tenn.	8:58	8:56	8:52	8:47	8:41	8:34
Huntsville, Ala.	8:03	8:01	7:58	7:53	7:47	7:40
Jackson, Miss.	8:11	8:10	8:07	8:02	7:57	7:51
Louisville, Ky.	9:10	9:07	9:03	8:57	8:51	8:43
Memphis, Tenn.	8:18	8:16	8:12	8:07	8:01	7:54
Miami, Fla.	8:16	8:15	8:13	8:10	8:06	8:01
Montgomery, Ala.	7:56	7:54	7:51	7:47	7:42	7:35
Nashville, Tenn.	8:07	8:05	8:02	7:56	7:51	7:43
Orlando, Fla.	8:25	8:24	8:22	8:18	8:14	8:08
Wilmington, N.C.	8:27	8:25	8:22	8:17	8:11	8:05

ealth Professional CONFERENCE

Sabbath Inspirational Speakers



Dr. Richard Neil, M.D., MPH, FACPM Associate Clinical Professor of Health Promotion and Education in the Schools of Medicine and Public Health at Loma Linda University / President of Rilenco Associates



Malcom D. Gordon President of Southern Union Conference Keynote Speaker: "Healing Hands'

Physicians, Physician's Assistants, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Occupational Therapists & Assistants, Social Workers

Eric Moore"Epidemiology & History of Substance Abuse"

Rhonda Robinson "The Good News and Bad News About Smoking & Disease"

Roy Lukman "Stress Management and Recovery"

Don Williams "Family & Co-Dependency Issues in Addiction"

CPR COURSE: Nancy McDonald, (Recertification or initial certification)

Eric Moore
"Management of Alcohol & Stimulant
Intoxication Withdrawal"

Rhonda Robinson "Practical Smoking Cessation"

Roy Lukman "Treatment Issues in Recovery" "Treatment of Alcohol & Stimulant Intoxication Withdrawal"

Don Williams "Food Addiction"

Panel
"Addicted to Life"
(Profession vs. Family)

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists

Gary Blinn"Current Trends in Difficult
Airway Management"

Other seminars to be announced

Physical Therapists

Lynn Millar Research in Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation" "Update on Re

Health/Temperance Leaders

Frank Baker The Role of the Health/Temperance Leader
"A Profile in Caring"
Activities, Events, Planning-"Nineteen Ideas
For Success"

Pat Mutch "Regeneration: Ministry For Recovery"

Gary Blinn"Use of the Larngeal Mask Airway"

Lynn Millar "Evaluation & Treatment of the Cardiac Patient" "Evaluation & Treatment of the Pulmonary Patient"

> Total Course 4 Hours Lecture 3 Hours Laboratory (hands on practice)

Frank Baker "What Happened to Adventist Health?"

"Teaching Adventist Health Through

"Recovery Support Groups"

"Outreach Activities" Smoking Cessation, Weight Management, Fitness, Screening Events, Health Fairs, Radio Spots, Newsletter, etc.

Pat Mutch
"Regeneration: Ministry For Recovery"

Continuing Education Presenters



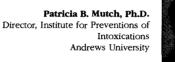
Audrey Lynn Millar, Ph.D., P.T. Visiting Professor of PT Andrews University

Eric Moore, M.D.

Asst. Director, Family Medicine Family Practice Residency Florida Hospital



Donald E. Williams, Ph.D. Asst. Director, Behavioral Medicine Family Practice Residency Florida Hospital

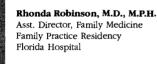


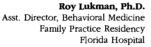


Director, Health/Temperance Oregon Conference



Nancy McDonald, R.N., C.C.R.N. **CPR** Instructor Takoma Hospital





Not Pictured: Gary Blinn, CRNA Erlanger Hospital Chattanooga, Tennessee



RECREATION:

Hiking, Swimming, Horseback Riding (Smoky Mountains), Tennis - personal reservations should be made with the City Park courts, Golf - personal tee tirreservations should be made with the golf course of your choice: Gatlinburg Golf Club (615) 453-3912 Bent Creek (615) 436-3947

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

(Cut off date is August 20 for room availability) Call Park Vista Hotel direct: 1-800-421-727 Identify yourself with the Southern Union Health Professional's Conference

ACCREDITATION

MEDICAL CONTINUING EDUCATION: Florida Hospi is accredited by the Florida Medical Association to spo sor continuing medical education for physicians.

Florida Hospital designates this Continuing Medical Education activity for 7 credit hours in Category I of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medic Association.

NURSING: Southern College has approved 7 hours of continuing education for nurses.

PHYSICAL THERAPY: Alabama, Florida, Mississippi (reciprocity with Florida), have approved 7 contact hours, Georgia does not prior approve, other Southern Union states have no requirement.

ALLIED HEALTH: Most Southern Union states requiri CEU's have approved 7 hours - call for particulars.

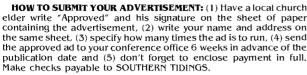
REGISTR	ATTON

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL'S CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 21-23, 1995

Name (Print)			Church				
Spouse's NameStreet Address				Conference			
				ne No. ()		
City			State			Zip Code	
Profession							
	Credit Approved	SELF	,	SPOUS	E		
Nurse, Nurse Practitioner	7 hours*	())	()			
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Physician's Assistant Category I	7 hours*	())	()		*Based on one hour credit	
Occupational Therapist & Assistants	7 hours*	())	()		per one hour lecture.	
Social Worker	7 hours*	())	()		•	
CRNA	7 hours*	())	()		** D 1	
Physical Therapist	7 hours*	())	()		** Based on one-tenth hour	
Pastor	.7 hours**	())	()		credit per one hour lectu	
Health/Temperance Leader	.7 hours**	())	()		-	
Other	.7 hours**	())	()			
Will you be attending Sabbath serv Child care will be provided for ago	vices?Yes No es 1-5 during Friday night so	ervice. A Sabb	Ages oath S	s of childr School an	en attending if u d Children's Chu	inder 18 irch will be provided for all children	
Registration fee: There will be a \$2	20.00 pre-registration fee for	all participan	its, oi	r pay \$25	.00 upon arrival	in Gatlinburg.	

Please send your pre-registration form and check made payable to the Southern Union Conference before August 20 to:

CLASSIFIEDS



RATES: Southern Union: \$19 for 20 words or less, including address. \$29 for anything longer than 20 words up to 45 words. \$1.10 per word beyond 45. Out of Union: \$25 for 20 words or less, including address. \$39 for anything longer than 20 words up to 45 words. \$1.25 per word beyond 45. Accepted as space is available. Ads may run in successive months as space permits.

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

PROPERTY AVAILABLE

NC MOUNTAINS. ADULT LIVING AT IT'S BEST: Two and 3 bdrm. manufactured home in lovely adult community. Own your home and enjoy the mountains in the Hendersonville-Fletcher area. Find old and new friends among 5 local SDA churches Contact Art Hudson (704) 697-8825 eves., 693-3429 days. (7.8)

CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST. 15 wooded acres, 800 feet on Basin Creek, Quiet rural neighborhood, \$36,000. Reliance, Tenn. (615) 253-7355. (7)

FOOTHILLS WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA. Rutherfordton, 23+ acres near Asheville, Hendersonville, Lake Lure area. Beautiful rolling woodland, spring, stream, privacy. Near hospital, SDA church and school. Good building sites for farm or horses. Possible owner financing. \$57,900. F. Lawter (704) 891-4224. (7,8)

MAUI OCEANFRONT STUDIO CONDO FOR RENT, superb location in Kahana. Beautiful sandy swimming beach. Super views, sleeps four, kitchen. Golf nearby, snorkel, scuba. From \$450 weekly plus tax. Marge McNeilus, Route 1 Box 37, Dodge Center, MN 55927. Phone: (507) 374-6747.

GATLINBURG CONDO & MT. VIEW CHALET FOR RENT: 2 & 5 bdrms., sleeps 6-10, 2 bath, f/place, full kit., heart-shaped Jacuzzi spa, pool, cable TV, Dollywood, skiing, hiking. Reserve early. John or Lois Steinkrause, (615) 428-0619. (C)

CABIN RENTALS GREENEVILLE, TN: Cabins nestled in woods. Fantastic view of river and mountains. Central heat, A/C, linens. Near Asheville, Gatlinburg, historical sites, antique shopping. Golf, fishing, recreation area nearby. \$560/week, daily rates available. (800) 842-4690. (C)

FLETCHER, NORTH CAROLINA, CONDO located near the church and hospital. Two bedrooms and one bath with large pantry, garage and deck. \$40,000. Ideal for seasonal use or retirement. Art and Bev Hudson (704) 697-8825, (704) 693-3429. (7)

SEVENTY-ACRE FAMILY RANCH near the Black Hills in South Dakota. Secluded country living with lots of water and good fresh air near a small town. Partly finished home and good garden spot. Grazing permit for 100 sheep. \$40,000. Phone (605) 837-2763. (7)

CUMBERLAND MOUNTAINS OF TENNESSEE. 41 acres, stream, 4-bedroom house, shop, greenhouse. Near Pikeville SDA church, \$68,000. Phone (706) 861-5256. (7,8,9)

FOR SALE—9.3 acres near church and church school, 3 miles from Altamont, Tenn., Franklin County, map 54, parcel 49, \$12,000. For more information contact Robert L. Uhrig, president Lay Church Builders, 7950 Dixie S'port Rd. Shreveport, La. 71107.

MEDICAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

DENTIST NEEDED to associate in very busy, well-established practice located about 15 minutes from Collegedale. Call (615) 396-2820. (7)

SDA NURSE PRACTITIONER needed with Louisiana license (or eligible) who enjoys patient education, witnessing and work part time in clinic of SDA family practice couple in northwest Louisiana. For information call (318) 377-8400. (7)

NON-MEDICAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE SEEKS QUALIFIED PERSONNEL for the following positions: major gifts officer, associate director of alumni relations, director of public relations and publicity, director of recruitment and marketing, experienced accounting professor (doctorate preferred, masters and CPA required), and experienced math and computer science professor (doctorate preferred, masters in both fields required). Send résumé to: Human Resources Office, Atlantic Union College, P.O. Box 1000, South Lancaster, MA 01561-1000.

HOME HEALTH DIRECTOR needed for busy Home Health/ Hospice Agency. Must be RN licensed with at least 3 years experience in supervisory or administrative position. Must also demonstrate good leadership, communication, interpersonal and organizational skills, work well in problem-solving situations. Tillamook County General Hospital on beautiful Oregon coast, 90 minutes from Portland. 1000 Third St., Tillamook, OR 97141. (503) 842-44444.

HOSPICE COORDINATOR needed for busy Home Health/Hospice Agency. Must be RN licensed with at least 2 years experience in community health or home health and/or hospice agency. Tillamook County General Hospital on beautiful Oregon coast, 90 minutes from Portland. 1000 Third St., Tillamook OR 97141. (503) 842-4444. (C)

WEIMAR PERSONNEL NEEDS experienced, devoted workers for its growing health and education facility—a rewarding ministry, not just a job. Positions open include: chief financial officer, industries coordinator, development/marketing director, pressman (with 5 years experience in camera, stripping, and plate making), desktop publishing/graphic designer with 5 years experience, telemarketing supervisor, food service director, food service shift supervisor, program director for the NEWSTART lifestyle program, medical director for the NEWSTART lifestyle program, RN in the NEWSTART lifestyle program, and outreach/work—ed director. Phone (916) 637-4111, or write: Weimar Institute Personnel, P.O. Box 486, Weimar, CA 95736. (7)

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION, an equal opportunity employer, is seeking qualified applicants for future opportunities within the company. Résumés are being accepted for these areas: book and periodical editing; production supervisory and technical including electronic publishing, maintenance repair technicians; and sales personnel. Résumés received will be kept for two years. Send résumés to Ms. Alix Mansker, Personnel Coordinator, P.O. Box 7000, Boise, ID 83707, Phones 208-465-2567. (7)

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SEEKS AIRPORT MANAGER/DEPART-MENT CHAIR for F.A.A. approved Flight and Maintenance School and Fixed Base Operations. Bachelor's degree minimum, Master's desirable. Adventists send résumé to Harry Lloyd, Chair. Search Committee, Andrews University, Department of Aviation, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-0930. Phone (616) 471-1455. (7)

BAKER/PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR needed for commercial bread/cake plant. Must have good work experience. Baker located near SDA elementary school and academy in Hagerstown, Md. Good salary and benefits. Never a Sabbath problem. Call (301) 824-3392. (C)

URGENTLY NEEDED: MISSIONARY VOLUNTEERS IN KOREA. College graduates with associate's degree or equivalent, as well as higher degrees to teach conversational English and Bible for one year or more at the SDA Language Institutes of Korea. Retirees are welcome. Benefits include: Airfare, housing, utilities and stipend. For more information contact Ray James, 40 Pleasant Drive, Sutter Creek, CA 95685. Phone: (209) 267-0416 or FAX: (209) 267-0342. (C)

LADY NEEDED TO BE ASSISTANT DEAN for residence hall at Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL. Paid hourly for working office desk days, part time. Apartment in dorm is free for being on call two evenings a week and every other weekend. Work closely with the dean to bring spiritual, mental, and physical continuity to the dormitory. Prefer someone retired or semi-retired. Call (800) 500-7747 or (407) 895-7747. Ask for residence hall dean.

VIDEO/EDITOR/ENGINEER—Work location in Sacramento, Calif. Position involves editing ½- and 1-hour evangelistic programs for national TV broadcasting. Desirable applicant will have formal training and at least 3 years experience in TV program editing with engineering experience. Send résumé to Allen Hrenyk, Amazing Facts, P.O. Box 680, Frederick, Md. 21701 or call (301) 694-6200.

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ASSIFIEDS

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE needs assistant professor, biology department. Will design and teach undergraduate level courses in biology department. Will also conduct research; prepare articles for publication in scholarly journals; present papers at academic conferences; advise biology majors; guide students in independent study projects; participate in adult degree seminars; and serve on campus committees. Must have master's degree in biological sciences and have demonstrated excellence in research with at least one year teaching experience subsequent to degree. Must have unrestricted authorization to work in U.S. Salary: \$35,000/40 hr. wk. Résumé only, in duplicate, to VP Student Services, Atlantic Union College, P.O. Box 1000, South Lancaster, MA 01561.

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Prayer S Breakfasts

By Patricia Shanko

Most women I know find it a pretty tough job to cram 30 hours into a 24-hour work day.

Most women I know enjoy getting together for social events.

Most women I know share a concern for the physical and spiritual health of their loved ones. Most women I know feel that inner longing for a more personal relationship with God.

ow, put these elements together, make a commitment to address these areas of L life, apply a few organizational skills, issue invitations, and you have the makings of a prayer breakfast. The time of day doesn't matter. So your "breakfast" may become a brunch, lunch, or after noon tea. What does matter is that a need is recognized and steps are taken to carve a little period of time out of hectic schedules to get away, relax, share, and enjoy mingling with others. All across the Southern Union, women are gathering in homes, restaurants, or in the church fellowship hall, monthly or quarterly, for a time of fellowship, spiritual encouragement, and good food. These gatherings, which frequently occur on a Sunday morning, afford that rare opportunity for women to come together to share their joys, trials, and challenges in a caring and supportive atmosphere. Such events have become an oasis for many women as they face the challenges and respon-

sibilities of daily living.

More than likely a committee has been very busy making plans for the event. Perhaps hand-printed name tags, or Bible verses are typed to be used as place cards at each place setting. The table decorations may carry out a special theme. On very special occasions the ladies may bring their fine china for an English Tea or a Victorian luncheon.

For a small group, a cordial atmosphere is created by having each woman introduce herself. In larger groups, perhaps only those who kave brought guests will make introductions. Following the introductions, time may be provided to recognize these guests by presenting a small gift, such as a book, corsage, or note paper.

Programming may include an opportunity to write "heart" needs on a piece of paper, then these requests are prayed over at a specific time. For an extra effect, dissolving paper, called Dissolvo, may be used. After writing out a prayer request, the small pieces of treated paper are placed into a bowl of water, and become completely dissolved. This is very effective in illustrating how we may give our problems to the Lord and the immediacy of His answer. There is no end of possibilities for programming. A guest speaker may be chosen. Two or three women could be chosen in advance to portray a woman of virtue

chosen from the Bible or from the last two or three centuries. It is most effective when the monologues are memorized and participants are dressed in the clothes of the appro-

priate period.

This can also be a perfect time to recognize "women of faith," someone who has been an inspiration and example in her home, community, or church by living the Christian life.

Several women's groups have chosen to have a fashion show. In one of our churches a local women's clothing store provided the clothing and two of their saleswomen nar-rated the event. The models were chosen in advance from among the church women.

The menu can range from a very simple punch-and-cookie fare to very elegant petit fours, croissants, and miniature quiches. It can be provided by each woman contributing an item for a planned menu, or the food can be prepared by a committee for the entire group. I'm aware of one church where the men do all the cooking and serving for their Mother's Day brunch, and the women reciprocate by preparing and serving the men the following month for a Father's Day breakfast.

All over the Southern Union women realize that these functions provide a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and relatives who are not of our faith. In some cases it may be inconvenient for a co-worker, friend or neighbor to accept an invitation to attend church on a Saturday morning, she might agree to meet for brunch, lunch, or tea on another day of the week. This could be the méans of bringing a few hours of happiness to a lonely person, courage to a young mother or comfort to a woman recently widowed or divorced. It also might prove to be a means of introducing someone to Jesus Christ or perhaps as a springboard for Bible studies.

Many churches have found that the ministry of Spiritual Sisters or Secret Sisters has stimulated a loving and caring atmosphere throughout the entire congregation. This plan is often used to exchange names and then reveal those names several months later. Throughout the period of time there are thoughtful gestures of kindness, notes, inex-pensive but meaningful gifts. There



"High afternoon tea" at the Florida Hospital church.

is no end of possibilities. The Holy Spirit uses this means to answer prayer and draw persons with cords of love into a friendship that would not have been possible in any other

How do you begin planning a prayer

breakfast?

First, find one or two others who share your desire. Now you have your committee. Start planning your first event. Here are a few tips in starting, executing, and promoting a prayer breakfast.

Have a planning committee.

- Advertise by way of the church bulletin or newsletter. The personal invitation is always the most effec-
- Decorate, color coordinate, and make the event as bright and cheerful as possible.
- Plan to have taped background music and/or live music.
 Make introductions around the
- tables.
- Plan a five- or six-minute devotional.
- Plan a special time for prayer.
- Testimonies are excellent. You will have more current testimonies if you ask the participants to tell what God has done in their lives during the past week. Consider planned testimonies by asking two or three ladies in advance to prepare a two-or three-minute testimony.

You may wish to end with a hymn that has been printed and placed at each person's plate.

It is always nice to give some gifts perhaps a small book on präyer to each visitor, or any other remembrance of the day's event. If the table decorations are not going to be saved, they could be used as the special gift items.

• If a speaker has been invited from

outside of your group, there should be a clear understanding regarding a fee and travel expenses. If a fee is not requested, an honorarium or a gift would be in order. As women discern the need of a

deeper commitment to God for themselves and others, the idea of the prayer breakfast is an excellent beginning point. It's a very easy nonthreatening way to meet others, to get to know them personally, and have the delightful experience of praying and sharing together.

Patricia Shanko is women's ministries director of the Florida Conference.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Secret Sister Angel Program



by Debbie Rose

riving toward home through the beautiful fall colors after attending our first women's retreat at Indian Creek Camp in October, 1990, our group reviewed the blessings received during the spe-

cial weekend. This sharing led to the question, How can we share the experience we have had with women in our church family who weren't able to come this year?
Our "cups" had been filled to
overflowing as we drew closer to
each other and to Jesus, and our desire was to be used by God as we returned to our church family.

From this wish came the idea of turning the secret pal idea from our grade school days into a Secret Sister/Angel program. Before we reached Louisville, we had each chosen a woman from our congregation for whom we would pray and remember in small ways during the next six months. One person volunteered to keep a master list to prevent duplication. A computerized letter was generated and copied which would introduce each Secret Angel to her recipient in an anonymous way.

Whether 18 or 88 years of age, all ladies like surprises, and it was fun to watch the interest generated from week to week as small surprises, gift bags, cards and flowers showed up on the church foyer table. In the spring, another letter was mailed to each recipient inviting her to a special fellowship dinner

at which time the Secret Angel would be revealed. Many times a recipient in turn volunteers to be a Secret Angel in a new year's program. It was often shared that a remembrance or note was received at a time of special need for encouragement, unbeknown to the sending Secret Angel.

This program has been carried on since 1990, and encourages participation by some who may not otherwise be involved in a visible church activity. The Secret Angel program is a natural agent to help make welcome those women who join our church family, both newly baptized and those who move into our church community

This modest, but significant, program has helped our local women's ministries fulfill Paul's admonition, "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one anotherand all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:24,

Debbie Rose is women's ministries coordinator in Louisville, Ky.

South Atlantic Women's Retreats

by Carolyn T. Hinson

he women's ministries department of the South Atlantic Conference is known for its involvement in almost every area of the Church: prayer groups/partners, education, self-esteem, health, children and youth, business and finance, abusive relationships, marriage and the home, and Christian service.

However, these retreats are especially earmarked by their wide range of attendance and involvement, and the "bonding" effects which are strongly developed.

The attendance has ranged from 1,000 to 2,500 women and young girls from all areas of the United States.

The retreats have been held in Black Mountain, North Carolina; Hilton Head Island and Fort/Mill in South Carolinazon a biennial schedule.

Women and girls come by airplanes, buses, vans, and private cars to attend these spiritual events.

There are well-planned seminars and workshops and religious services which feature presenters and keynote speakers of the highest professional caliber. There is time for social activities, revival of friendships, and the forming of new relationships.

The culminating sessions usually end in a special "bonding ceremony." The women exchange

names and addresses and promise to pray daily for the person whose names they have selected.

In many cases, the partnership has lasted through all of the retreats. In one case, a mature woman has "bonded" to a younger woman who was a drug addict. The mature woman was able to help her addicted friend to enter a drug rehabilitation facility, give birth to a healthy baby, and return to her other three children. With constant contact from her "bonded" partner and strong guidance and support from her mother, this woman should soon be drug free, and living a clean, healthy, normal life.

Many other experiences could be related, as a result of the successful "bonding of the sisters" at the ful "Donging of the Sisters South Atlantic Conference women's ministries retreats.

Carolyn Hinson is women's ministries coordinator of the South Atlantic Conference.

CHERISHING ANOTHER'S HOPES AND DREAMS

by Evelyn VandeVere

anet has given Susan a glowing report of her attendance at the recent conference-wide weekend women's retreat.

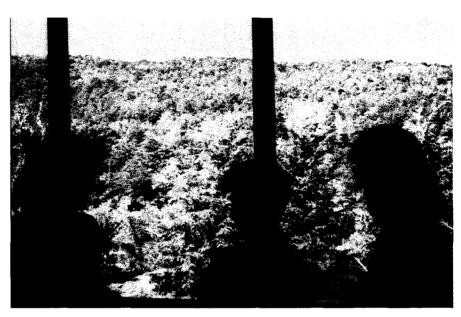
"I would like to have been there, too," Sally replied in a wistful tone, "I really wanted to go, but I just didn't have the money." The disappointment and longing in Susan's voice is echoed in many women's voices who, because they lack the money, are unable to enjoy the spiritual and social renewal experienced at a women's retreat.

Frequently during the holiday season in 1992 my thoughts were drawn to the story of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and her older cousin, Elisabeth, and their visit soon after the angel appeared to Mary. God provided Mary a special woman friend with which to share her awe-inspiring experience. Today in 1995, God is still providing women with special friends to give them hope and encouragement in their varied roles of daughters, wives, mothers, homemakers, single parents, and career women. I have seen this happen many times at retreats and other local meetings.

Approximately 95 percent of the written evaluations received from attendees indicate extremely high satisfaction with the speakers, workshops, and general spiritual tone of the retreats. Many baptisms, hundreds of reclaimed members, and thousands of recommitments have taken place as a result of the retreats, not to mention the myriad of activities in the local churches, including Bible studies and neighborhood prayer fellowships.

In January 1992 there were still many women who needed the nurturing and inspirational time provided at our retreats and special seminars, such as Florence Littauer's class, but who were financially unable to attend. This is why the Mary-Elizabeth Scholarship Fund was established within the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.

I was impressed to establish this scholarship fund so that more Georgia-Cumberland women could reap the soul-inspiring benefits available at the annual retreats.



The Mary-Elizabeth Scholarship Fund has allowed 50 women to attend the annual conference retreats.

After setting up the fund with an initial donation, I wrote to several other women and invited them to join me in helping women financially unable to attend the retreat. The response was heart warming and in just six weeks \$1,300 was added to this scholarship fund. The Mary-Elizabeth Scholarship Fund was finally a reality, and I praise God for women's generous hearts.

A portion of the following year's retreat offering was used to replenish the fund, and today it is sufficient to help several women. Qualifications for the scholarship require that the recipient ask for only the amount she cannot provide for herself, for then she becomes a participant in assisting other women. The scholarship applies to rooms occupied by three or four others. The deadline for application is the same as the registration deadline and the early bird discount does not apply to the attendant's part of the fee. Additional discounts cannot be taken, and it is requested that scholarship recipients write a note to the scholarship committee, sharing what the retreat did for them.

The retreat scholarship fund is simply a new venture for women's ministries, another avenue through

which loving hope can be given to God's royal daughters in their spiritual journey.

The Mary-Elizabeth Scholarship Fund has helped more than 50 women attend the retreats and other women's ministries events. According to their testimonies, they have been blessed abundantly. A sister of another faith wrote, "Please extend my thanks to the special people who made my stay an inspiring event, and thanks to you for having me."

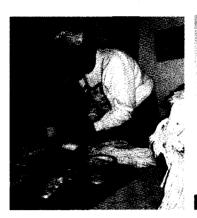
for having me."

From: a 29-year-old, "... the Mary-Elizabeth Scholarship is a wonderful idea. Thank you for having the vision."

One scholarship recipient responded, "I've had three wonderful and beautiful experiences in my life: my marriage, my son's birth, and the Christian women's retreat. After listening to the speaker, I gained the courage to completely surrender my life to Christ."

"You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand" Psalm 16:11.

Evelyn VandeVere is women's ministries director of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.



Sherilyn Gibbs taught a craft class on Amy Mapp shares her insights sonal testimony of God's Sunday morning.



of Mary and Martha.



Gail Wade gave her perintervention in her life.



Sherilyn Gibbs and Judi Hartman shared their talents in music (Phyllis Eisele is holding a candle for them).

by Phyllis Eisele

ince its organization in 1986, the Gulf States Conference women's ministries has purposed to inspire, assist, and support the women of the conference in organizing and implementing a ministry to women

by women. Edith Beans, women's ministries coordinator (1989-1994), led in coordinator-training sessions in churches throughout the conference. Emphasis was placed on introducing individual churches to the unique concept of women meeting the specialized needs of other women and providing the organizational skills to foster this ministry.

Area seminars were conducted to share resource materials and provide training for local leaders. Presentations included assistance in initiating the following programs: Welcome Baby, Moms in Touch, Mom's Circle of Love, Widow to Widow, church beautification, and organized prayer groups. Ramona Greek, a former director, presented a seminar on Christian leadership during the 1993 camp meeting women's ministries hour.

Resource materials are provided to local coordinators for recovery programs concerning grief, divorce, and abuse. An extensive video lending library is available with seminar presentations on a wide range of topics

Each March the local church coordinators are invited to bring a friend or assistant from their congregation to a mini-retreat at Camp Alamisco. The weekend program is carefully planned to include opportunity for spiritual and personal growth, fellowship, leadership direction, news, sharing of ideas, and resource materials.

The 1995 coordinators retreat featured a Friday night candlelight agape feast with fellowship in a relaxed environment. Gail Wade's personal testimony of physical healing and Kathy Ötis' costumed presentation of Dorcas made the evening memorable.

Gloria Eckenroth led out in a

Sabbath morning prayer-journaling seminar, guiding the opening of hearts to God and each other. Each lady also received her own personal 'Gift of Love" prayer journal.

Amy Mapp's presentation of spiritual insights on Mary and Martha included a mental trip to Bethany and an invitation to give Jesus our chairs, sit at His feet and talk to Him.

Judi Hartman and Sherilyn Gibbs blessed the ladies with instrumental and vocal selections throughout the weekend and closed the Sabbath with an inspirational concert.

Marsha Claus reviewed a selection of books of special interest to women and the Gulf States book center set up a mini-bookstore of carefully selected titles for our convenience.

The coordinators went back to their churches challenged and inspired to involve their ladies in Christian ministry and to utilize their own abilities in service for Christ. Truly this is the heart of ministry.

Phyllis Eisele is women's ministries director of the Gulf States Conference.

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Kathy Otis portrayed Dorcas.

Carolina

"Heart-to-Heart"

by Ann Pendleton

eart-to-Heart is what takes place when a woman possessing faith and spiritual maturity develops a nurturing relationship with a younger woman in order to encourage her and be a model of how to live for God's glory. This is what took place between Mary of Nazareth, mother of Jesus, and Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist. Mary and Elizabeth each had a special relationship with God, and they came together often to visit, talk about what He was doing in their lives, and to praise Him. This is called Heart-to-Heart. When women do for other women what Elizabeth, in her spiritual maturity, did for Mary, we will see young women's lives bring forth praises to God.

So it is today, when women in our churches come together to begin a Heartto-Heart relationship. After an explanation of the principles of Heart-to-Heart each woman writes her name on a piece of paper and places it in a basket. Then each woman takes a name partner relationship with the name drawn. The following guidelines are suggested: Make it a one-year commitment; contact each other once a week by phone; meet with each other at least once a month for lunch or some activity enjoyed by both; and take time to pray with each other; do some Bible studying together, and learn a new skill.

This ministry works, and many friendships are being made between older and younger women. It strengthens the young, encourages the middle-aged and single women, and enlivens the older women to do the work God has ordained them to do.

The Heart-to-Heart program is providing spiritual growth for families, reclaimed members, and is currently leading women into a strong prayer commitment. There has been a transformation of lives. Women are becoming part of small group Bible studies are embracing the body of Christ and are embracing the body of constant as they develop the model Christ has also peach to be daughters of God.



Bible study groups are an integral part of Heart-to-Heart.



Heart-to-Heart means praying over your problems



Teaching women's ministries group how to make wreaths.



Praver breakfasts offer

In the Heart-to-Heart program older women nurture the younger ones.

Ann Pendleton is director of women's ministries in the Carolina Confer-

South Central

by Laura Smith and Kyna Hinson

Momen's

omen's Day programs have a long history in the South Central Conference, and the tradition continues to flourish. At least 50 percent of the churches have presented Women's Day programs over the past year, and many churches offer them as annual events. The South Central women's ministries department has encouraged and embraced these services. Their successful implementation also fulfills some vital goals. One is to create a church environment that contributes to maximum spiritual growth for each woman.

Around the conference, women come together to pray, then plan their varied programs. They work with their pastors and with each other-the seasoned 'veterans" often working well in advance of the events. They choose themes for the day and topics for workshops; many invite guest speakers from all over the country: they form committees to handle every detail from food to flowers, and from the welcome to the benediction. All of this affords women opportunities to work and plan together. They allow God to use their talents and gifts that might otherwise remain dormant.

What do these programs do for the churches? The services spring from heart-felt desires to enhance the worship

experience. As the women develop skills and confidence in presenting church services, their congregations benefit.

Another goal is to identify and utilize, in service, the spiritual gifts of each woman in kingdom-building. The programs are as varied as the needs of the respective churches.

Some women plan whole weekends of activities, while others focus on Sabbath services. Church weekend programs have included agape love feasts, musical meditations and concerts, or prayer sessions

On Sabbaths, women have conducted special Sabbath school programs, often adapting the week's lesson to skits or other formats. Some churches have seen the personal ministries period transformed into a "Spotlight on Women" where presentations are made for service to the church and community. Special choirs of women often form to offer music just for these occasions, then many remain intact and continue to bless their congregations with music. These programs afford women the opportunity to conduct the divine worship. In many churches, the deaconesses exchange places with the deacons, and receive the morning's tithes and offerings. Women break the Bread of Life from the pulpit, then serve the literal bread in elegant style following the services. Both fill the needs of hungry souls.

Around the conference, Sabbath afternoon seminars have addressed prayer and spiritual growth, positive self-concepts, marriage, parenting, and improving communication skills. Some sessions have included younger women and teens focusing on the problems of these groups.

Some church programs end at sunset Sabbath, but many extend through the weekend. Some Saturday nights have been designed for socials which sometimes include the entire church, and some just for the women enjoying light refreshments.

Prayer breakfasts or brunches have been enjoyed on Sunday mornings. Some with devotional programs. Some offer opportunities to present special prayer requests. Some to review books along with other spiritual and practical resources. Some are designed as business and "wrap-up" sessions. Whatever the format, each Women's Day program or weekend brings interaction and growth to the participants.

The women's programs also clearly define the aspects of the NAD Women's Ministries Mission Statement-to honor God; to uphold and challenge women; to encourage and complement men; to nurture and educate young people, and to bring the unique perspective of women to the churches. The possibilities are limitless.

Laura Smith is director of women's ministries in the South Central Conference. Kyna Hinson covers SCWM pub-

Standing (left to right) Shirley Neal, Riverside church, Nashville; Rebecca Payne-Duke, Maranatha church, Columbia; Karla Brown, Ephesus church, Clarksville; Angela Traughber, First church, Springfield. Seated (left to right) Margarette Farmer, Oakland Park, Murfreesboro; Gwendolyn Brown, Hillcrest, Nashville; Laura Smith, South Central Conference women's ministries director; Debra Grant, New Life church,



Joyce McGlory, speaker, wor- Gwendolyn Brown, coordinator, ship service and Judith McCoy. receiving gift from Laura Smith.



30 Southern Tidings

Southeastern

Camp Meeting— A Time for Growth

by Iris Vanessa Melton

xcitement was in the air. Some wondered, What is it? After reading the camp meeting schedule on a colorful flyer, their curiosity caused them to join the other women in the meeting room which was quickly filled to capacity. This was camp meeting, 1991, the beginning of something wonderful designed with women and girls in mind

God has blessed women's ministries. It has gained recognition as one of the most effective endeavors on the campground in Hawthorne, Florida. It is a refreshing mini-re-

treat set aside for spiritual growth. Each year since that time, the department of women's ministries has offered a track of seminars and workshops conducted by personnel from Southeastern and visiting professionals. Many topics have been discussed—safety, abuse awareness, weight loss, healthy single lifestyles, food decorations, tips on entertaining, self-esteem, financial security, the transition from Mom's house, how to plan successful women's day activities, small group ministries, and prayer groups. The list of topics contin-



Presenter Marcia Armstead discussed "The Complete Woman" at one of the women's ministries seminars during camp meeting.

ues to expand as we seek to become better equipped to address life's daily challenges.

The women's ministries department is also responsible for coordinating worship services on Women's Ministries Emphasis Night. This is presented the second Friday evening of camp meeting.

Last summer we instituted a conference-wide arts and creat exposition displaying the great talent of the women of the conference. The participation was exceptional and the entries were beautiful and skillfully crafted.

Women's ministries is making an impact on the women in the churches in the Southeastern Conference and presents challenges to share the great news of salvation with neighbors, friends, and family.

Iris Vanessa Melton is director of women's ministries of the Southeastern Conference.

Southern College Students Receive Women's Ministries Scholarships

ne of the first scholarships awarded by the General Conference Office of Women's Ministries went to Libby Riano, in 1994, when she was a student and assistant to the chaplain at Southern College. Today, Libby is married to Curtis Forrester and lives in Gentry, Arkansas, where she is serving as assistant chaplain and Bible teacher at Ozark Adventist Academy.

This year a scholarship was given to Debra Carby who graduated in May from Southern College with a degree in biology

Funding for these scholarships is made possible through the sale of Among Friends and Listening Heart, devotional books written by women for women. These writers donated their time and skills in order to establish the scholarship fund, said Ardis Stenbakken, scholarship fund coordinator. The current women's devotional book, The Gift of Love, is available at ABCs along with a prayer journal by the same title.

Additional funds for future North American Division scholarships will come from a women's planning calendar, also available at the ABCs.



Debra Carby



Libby Riano Forrester

Women of Spirit **Features Libby Riano Forrester**

omen of Spirit, the first national church magazine specifically for women, is fea-turing Libby Riano Forrester in its summer issue. Libby is a graduate of Southern College with a degree in religion. Not only was she one of two women in her class, but she reentered college at the age of 29. The average Southern College student age is 19 to 22. Libby, who enjoys working with youth, is currently the assistant chaplain at Ozark Academy.

The premiere issue of Women of Spirit (April

1995) featured a wide range of issues from the reasons children stay in the church to reducing

Penny Estes Wheeler, editor, wants Women of Spirit to be a publication where ordinary women in the pew, from a variety of cultural backgrounds, can share with each other.

Women of Spirit can be ordered by calling your Adventist Book



Women's Ministries Resources for the Local Church

esources are available to advance women's ministries in a local church. According to the Southern Union Conference PlusLine, some of the finest include:

How to Start a Women's Ministry Program—A Trainer's Manual by Ramona Perez Greek, Ph.D. Produced by the North American Division, the three manuals and accompanying videos cover how to start, maintain, and expand a women's ministry. Available through the NAD Distribution Center, (800) 328-0525.

Women's Ministries Handbook by Dianne Emslie, a simple guide for the woman committed to showing Jesus' love through women's ministries. Includes steps in organizing a ministry, resource material, how-tos and ideals, Available from the Rocky Mountain Conference, P.O. Box 594, Akron, CO 80720, (303) 345-9818.

Successful Women's Events by Madlyn Hamblin and Cari Haus. Covers setting up a women's ministries committee, planning programs, site selection, food service coordination, child care, finances, public relations and more. Available at the ABC.

A Gift of Love—1995 Women's Devotional and A Gift of Love Journal, the 1995 women's devotional book and matching journal. Filled with stories written by women eager to share how God has worked in their lives. Use the journal to record your own spiritual journey. Available at the ABC.

1995 Christian Woman's Planning Calendar. Each weekly spread features an inspiring quote, Bible text, and prayer. Includes a special place to record birthdays, special occasions, and personal prayer requests. Available at the ABC.

Many additional excellent re-

sources for women's ministries can be obtained by calling the Southern Union PlusLine at (800) SDA-

July, 1995

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". . . I will pour out my Spirit on all people . . ." Joel 2:28

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These Are the Women We've These Are the Women

ou thought life was going to be easy, but it's much more difficult than you ever expected. It was easy at first because everything was simple and everything seemed true. You trusted everybody. But then, you were hurt.

"I'm not going to let that happen



"Unlike your rail service that you call Amtrak, my train never lost a passenger or went off its track. Your stations close for lack of interest, but the Underground Railroad was ever swamped with business. In 19 trips, I carried more than 300 passengers across 200 miles of slave country and perilous dangers, an impossible record with a manmade rail, but our Master Engineer took care of the minutest detail."—Harriet Tubman.

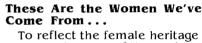
again," says Carla Gober about how we shield ourselves from hurts. "And, that's what we do in life. We start building a wall around our hearts. At first you loved everybody and everybody loved you. Then, there was a divorce, loss of a child, loss of a job. You were hurt and the wall of your heart got thicker."

Then, pointing an index finger in the air as if it were an imaginary knife, Gober gestured, drawing the shape of a square—as if to cut a square hole in that imaginary hurt heart. She carefully leaned forward and peered over as if to peek out that window in the heart and said, 'Jesus makes a window through that wall and says, 'I see you, and you know what? I love you.' We are not afraid of this |Jesus looking in) because we want to be wanted and to be known. We want someone to look in and say, 'I know what you're about. I know what you think. I know where you've been. I know what you've done and how you've hurt. I know how you have hurt others. I love you.'

Gober is a spiritual care nurse specialist at Loma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda, California. She was the guest speaker at the two English-speaking Florida

Conference Women's Ministries retreats in February at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs. At only 36 years of age, she addressed issues facing Christian women with understanding, clarity, and a delightful sense of humor. The women loved her.

"I appreciate all that Carla had to say, and the whole opportunity of being away with God and having time for friendships," said Deborah Pfeifle, a member at Forest Lake church. "It was a joy to be with so many other women who are out there doing what I am doing-trying to raise Christian children in an unchristian world, keeping love alive in marriage, keeping life running smoothly at home with cooking, cleaning, meeting appointments, et cetera. It is just sooooo nice to stop for one weekend and not have to do all those thingsjust regroup, get priorities reorganized, and gain a new freshness for life." Shared comradery, shared life's experiences, shared joy, and shared spiritual blessings are the interactive benefits to women attending these retreats.



To reflect the female heritage of women who gave of themselves to further the cause of Christ, women's ministries director Patricia Shanko and her committee created ministages across the front of Kulaqua's gymnatorium. Lifelike scenes and models portrayed well-known women who dealt with struggles of their day, including Corrie Ten Boom, Susannah Wesley, Harriet Tubman, Helen Steiner Rice, Ellen White, and the Women of the '90s.

Harriet Tubman, portrayed by Betty Nugent of Kress Memorial church (the second retreat), vividly brought a slave woman's struggle alive as she ran around trying to catch chickens for supper. She did this between "dreaded sleeping spells caused by my last overseer hitting my head with a two-pound weight for trying to help a fellow slave escape." Tubman was most famous as a conductor of the Underground Railroad helping runaway slaves. Down deep she knew that Jesus would set all captives free.

Corrie Ten Boom came from a



Gerda Forbes, Daytona Beach, portrays Corrie Ten Boom.



Cheryl Murphy, Kress Memorial church, portrays Helen Steiner Rice.

Come From.. We've Become by Cindy Kurtzhals



"I see you. And, I love you."



Anna Marie Doying (left), Melissa Vandivier, and Sherry Canther.

Althea Spence (left), and Valrey Francis.

home whose gifts included hospitality and humor. Her mother "could stretch a penny until it cried." The family trade was watchmaking and Corrie was the first female watchmaker in Holland. During World War II, her family rescued Jewish people at the cost of their arrest and her father's life. Even in prison they smuggled a Bible to give Bible studies. Ten Boom has shared the Lord for 80 years. When money was too low to provide transportation to a speaking appointment she would say, "My Father owns the cattle on a thousand hills, and if it is His will that I should go, He will sell one of them.

Virtue Midst Struggle—These Are the Women We've Become...

"The annual Charity Rose Awards recognize outstanding women in the Florida Conference who have shown sacrificial love, and demonstrated a spirit of care and concern in their church and or community," explains Shanko. The awards idea was created in 1990 by then women's ministries director Hazel Gordon, and was inspired by her mother, Charity, whose favorite flower was the rose. The Charity Rose Award recipients this year were Elsie Facundas, Florida Hospital church; Joyce Nichols, Plantation; Althea Spence, Royal Palm; and Melissa Vandivier of the Naples church.

Melissa, abandoned by her mother at the age of five, was raised by her baby-sitter. Later, married and pregnant with twins, her husband's former wife dropped their three children off at the door. While raising the five children, she went back to school and got a B.S. and Master's degree in health care administration. She serves the

Naples church as school board chairwoman, associate Sabbath school teacher, prayer group leader, and president of the Florida Association of Admitting Nurses. Through all of this, while her husband was sick with prostate cancer, she was willing to call people, visit them, and take them grocery shopping. She lost her husband in April.

An eight-hour surgery for a cyst on her spinal cord left Althea Spence with physical limitations, yet this hasn't prevented her "from being assertive, persistent, bold and fearless in action and speech," says Valrey Francis. "Althea is blessed with administrative ability. She is an untiring worker for the Lord, never sparing her energies or talents to accomplish her tasks expeditiously. She serves the Royal Palm church as communication director, community services leader, and currently is engaged in efforts to renovate a house in the community to open a day care center.

There is a thread of consistency among God's women of long ago and today: a loving commitment to Him, actively helping others, and a perseverance regardless of personal challenge. Even now, as these stories are read, each of us, male or female, has all of heaven and the Lord's power at hand to heal our hurt hearts, strengthen our weaknesses, develop our gifts for his cause and our pleasure, and save us for eternity

"There is a special lesson that I have learned from this lady Althea," says Francis, "whatever your limitation, if you truly ask the Lord to guide you, He will take away the roadblocks if it is His

When something happens in life that you don't like or hurts you, you put your emotions in a box and say, "It's okay, no one will know.

"You know, it really hurts to lose a child but I'll go on. I'm not going to make people unhappy by sharing it.

You can become skilled at putting things in the box, but when a crisis comes, there's no more room and it all spills out. If you keep it empty, you have more peace in vour life.

Real living is what vou put inside the box being talked about on the outside. If it gets in the box it grows and grows. If it's outside the box, it stays small. That takes courage. You have to stare someone you love in the face and talk about it, now-not five years from now.



PHOTOS BY BARRY MAHORINEY

This student mounts the fossils he found.

Even a trip to the cemetery is a fun experience.



Outdoor School—

by Barry Mahorney

t's more than just going to school outdoors. Each April Gulf States Conference fifth and sixth graders spend parts of four days at Camp Alamisco participating in hands-on experiences which increases their knowledge of the world, and helps them to see that the One who made it all is a God of love and wisdom. Students learn more than just facts about the natural world—they come to appreciate God and the fact that He has made us stewards over the world He created.

If one were to simplify the three primary objectives of outdoor schools, they could be written with only three words—fun, facts, faith. Learning experiences are designed to be fun. Fun enhances motivation and enthusiasm which makes learning the facts easier and much more effective. Fun games like, "How Many Bears" or "Oh Deer," help students visualize the importance of protecting the environment and the natural habitat of the animal world, for ultimately we are all affected.

Games, crafts, and hikes make the learning experience more enjoyable, thus creating an environment where ways of thinking and acting are changed with regard to the world God has left to our safekeeping. The 1995 Gulf States Conference Outdoor School included many of these meaningful and fun activities.

One "classroom" was an old cemetery where some graves were more than 100 years old. Students learned something about the life expectancy of people 100 years ago as they saw the high percentage of graves of children and youth. By reading epitaphs, they could also determine the beliefs of many concerning the future life. This experience gave teachers the opportunity to review with the students the Bible teaching of life after death.

Another class used a variety of activities to understand how Native Americans show respect to land and animals and learn outdoor skills, but at the same time show-

ing students the importance of avoiding the teaching which deifies the earth. Observation games and games of physical skill provided fun ways to learn important facts about "our Father's world."

Scavenger hunts and night hikes were fun ways of teaching facts which would otherwise be lost in the classroom setting. Carl Swafford, of Southern College, led the group of students along the camp road in the dark and interpreted the sights and sounds of the night. These sights and sounds just can't be duplicated within the four walls of the classroom.

Fun and facts, as important as they are to learning, cannot and are not the final objectives of the program of outdoor education. The third objective—faith—is what outdoor school is really about. Faith in the One who created this world and Who redeemed the earth and Who, one day, will create it anew.

Who, one day, will create it anew. In a day of New Age thought, where the goal is to become one with the earth, outdoor education gives Seventh-day Adventist educators the opportunity to help students become one with the Maker. Students are helped to see that God wants us to have a real relationship with Him, not just some mystical experience.

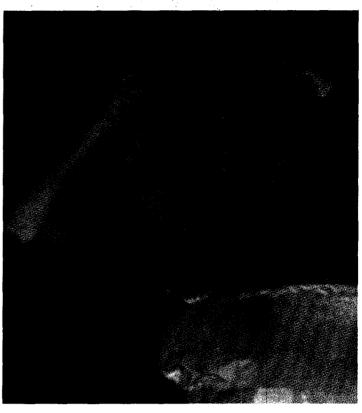
Morning and evening worship times keep this primary objective in focus. Stories from the world of nature aid in the understanding of the spiritual world. The seen helps to explain the unseen. Object lessons and illustrations from nature cement spiritual truths in the minds of the students. While this can be accomplished in the indoor classroom, the outdoor setting provides a context for greater motivation to learn and remember.

The goals of outdoor education for the Seventh-day Adventist Christian are to understand his or her relationship to the world around us in light of the commission of God to be stewards and to understand more clearly God's infinite power, wisdom, and love. In a nutshell, outdoor education is to have our minds directed from "nature to nature's God." Fun, facts, faith—it's such a natural progression.

July, 1995



A scavenger hunt makes students nature detectives.



Crafts are always a hit.



Games make learning more fun and meaningful.



vices. Both Jim Wampler, counseling director, and Midge Dunzweiler, associate director, joined the faculty two years ago.

"We invite students to discuss career options, skills, interests, goals, résumé preparation, interview techniques, and job seeking strategies with us," says Wampler. The center also has an active career library with a variety of resources, hosts recruiter interviews, and helps coordinate an annual job opportunities fair in Chattanooga.

All in all, what's the outcome? A study of 1994 graduates completed in April by the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research showed that 20 percent of the 200 bachelor degree graduates were continuing their schooling, 62 percent were working (most of them in their field), three percent were serving the church as student missionaries or in the Task Force.

Southern Prepares Students for Jobs

by Doris Burdick

hat do you plan to do after you graduate?" a church member asks the college student home for the summer.

"If I major in math, will I find a good job?" asks the freshman as she begins college. Helping students find these answers is a part of the education package at Southern College.

Areas of study from nursing (with 454 majors this past year) to technology (with 12 students learning to be auto body technicians or auto mechanics technicians) provide hands-on training that prepares students to enter careers.

Besides the practical nature of courses themselves, an ever-increasing number of internships, practicums, and directed-study opportunities offer students truelife experiences.

Where does a student get help in planning what classes to take? "Each student who registers has an academic adviser from his or her major field," explains Sharon McGrady, assistant director of advisement. "One of the strengths of our program is that the adviser follows the student throughout the entire college experience."

Often, the process goes beyond helping formulate a class schedule. "She takes time to get to know me personally and works with my schedule ideas," wrote one student concerning Barbara James, associate professor of nursing, this year's Adviser of the Year.

Since 1987, Southern College has annually recognized an adviser who symbolizes the college commitment to assist every student with a supportive and well-organized advisement program. Students find that they are not limited to their own adviser when seeking counsel concerning academic or personal problems. Many other faculty members share moments of prayer, words of advice, and times of listening.

Another area which helps prepare students to survive the transition from teenager to productive adult employee is the Counseling Center. The center offers something for everyone. Educational and career planning information, professional counseling, testing services, coping skills for learning differences, and resources for the job search are some of the ser-

and one percent were homemakers. (Placement of the remaining 14 percent was unknown.)

"We're proud of our graduates. Yet, we're always looking for ways to help our students be even better prepared for their future," said Don Sahly, president.





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Women's Ministries—As Old As Time and As New As Today

Some people can take an ordinary day and swirl a ribbon of happiness around it making a gift for all who pass their way.

I found this beautiful and inspiring sentiment on a friendship card recently. It could have been written expressly for our Southern Union women's ministries personnel, both leaders and members. I have been blessed to have both attended and participated in a number of women's ministries events throughout the Southern Union.

I'd love for each of you to be the proverbial "little mouse" in the corner as it were so that you too could listen in to the planning sessions led by Evie VandeVere, our most able and spirit-led Southern Union women's ministries director.

I know you too would be impressed with the leadership that God has chosen for this important ministry. How good God is to have chosen such capable leadership "for such a time as this." There is an unmistakable glow on each face and surrounding each person that indicates a very personal relationship with God. have listened as each conference leader expresses but one goal and that is to help finish the work so that Jesus can come.

After a thoughtful and inspirational devotion by Evie VandeVere we join our hearts and voices in prayer invoking God's presence to attend our every plan. This is followed by exciting reports of the events and various activities of each of our eight dy-namic conferences. These reports are a vital source of not only inspiration but they also serve as an opportunity to share with each other new and innovative program and speaker ideas.

I think that the new women's ministries magazine, Women of Spirit, is a perfect description of our Southern Union women. The women I have met are not wanting in any way to usurp power or position but are willing, ready, and anxious to be led by the Holy Spirit. They just want to be Christ's servants and to be whatever

God wants them to be.

In the little church of my child-hood, my mother, Charity, was the women's ministries leader of her day long before such a department existed. Our home was the center of service and outreach for our church. I'll never forget Mother loading the S.A.V.E. Bible study projector and screen along with the Schuler filmstrips into the old Buick. How she loved to share this message with others

Mother, by nature, was shy and retiring but she never shrank from an opportunity to serve her precious Jesus. Her hospitality was legendary as was her wise and loving council sought out by young and old alike. Besides giving Bible studies she

served as a Sabbath school teacher of both the children's and adult divisions. She also was church pianist and deaconess. In her later years she was very involved in community services both on the local and conference levels.

Yes, I can truly say Mother was the best possible role model. She was a godly woman who, taking the example of her Lord reached out touching, caring, and loving her family, her church, and her community.

I invite you to bow your head right now. With eyes closed and heart open to His gentle spirit, tell Him, "Here am

I, Lord, send me.

Hazel Marie Gordon



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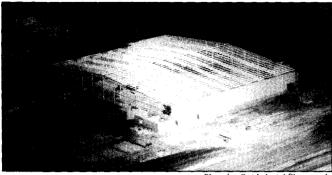
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Christian Edition Schedules First Southeast

Atlanta to host group in 7,000-seat cathedral

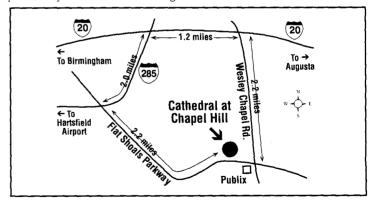


Christian Edition. a men's chorus from southern California. presents concerts of classic hymns and contemporary sacred selections under the direction of Calvin Knipschild. Now in its 14th season, the group's accomplishments include: five performances in Robert Schuller's Crystal Cathedral; appearances on the Hour of Power and It Is Written television programs; finalists in the McDonald's Gospel Fest competition; and two performances as back-up singers in Andy Williams' Christmas concerts

The Metro Atlantic Music Guild will host Christian Edition in the 7.000-seat Cathedral at Chapel Hill, 4650 Flat Shoals Parkway in Decatur, Georgia, on August 19 at 7:00 P.M.

The Guild will also sponsor A Choral Festival of **Praise** September 30 at 4:30 P.M. in the Cathedral.

The 400-voice mass choral group, comprised of nine choirs, will be directed by Dr. Marvin Robertson and accompanied by the Southern College orchestra.



Admission is free. An offering will be received.

Christian Edition's Southern Union Itinerary

Thursday, August 17, 7:00 P.M. Bowman Hills SDA Church

300 Westview Drive, NE, Cleveland, TN

Friday, August 18, 7:30 P.M.

Collegedale SDA Church 4829 College Drive East, Collegedale, TN Dalton SDA Church

Saturday, August 19, 11:00 A.M.

300 S. Tibbs Road, Dalton, GA

Saturday, August 19, 7:00 P.M.

Cathedral at Chapel Hill 4650 Flat Shoals Parkway, Decatur, GA