

TIDINGS

SOUTHERN

Spreading Tidings of the Southern Union Adventist Family



One Voice, One Vision
¡LAS PRIMERAS NOTICIAS EN ESPAÑOL!

A Name to Live Up To

As I see it, Southern Adventist University lives up to its name. This is our Adventist place offering students higher education with a distinctly Adventist flavor. Consistently, I hear parents and students “brag” about their trust in Southern’s focus and mission. For example, this summer 86 students preached evangelistic meetings in the Southern Union and around the world, and the Lord blessed them with more than 4,000 people baptized. If one is Adventist, they must be eager to share the news of the second coming of Jesus with as many people as possible.

An Adventist believes God created all things and that the creation account in Genesis — which includes the record of God completing His creation in seven literal, 24-hour day periods — is trustworthy and accurate. The professors at Southern Adventist University adhere to this Adventist belief, and the faculty in the School of Religion fully supports and teaches a literal creation week.

Moreover, an Adventist believes in whole person health — balance and joy and healthy lifestyle and the eight principles of creation health. Adventists live years longer than average. What a testimony! Southern Adventist University is at the forefront again, having recently completed the fabulous, state-of-the-art Hulsey Wellness Center. I’m excited that this new facility gives us fantastic new opportunities to impact students, employees, community, and our Church at large for the enhancement of all aspects of life, resulting in quality and quantity of life. Phil Garver, Ph.D., director of the Wellness Institute housed within the Wellness Center, comments that, “we need to pursue balance and healthier lifestyles in ways that create and embrace joy.”

So through this Wellness Center, Southern students will enjoy a wide variety of new opportunities to develop habits and practices that will serve them for life. Gordon Bietz, D.Min., Southern president, and the board of trustees believe this is consistent with a well-rounded Adventist education. However, there’s an interesting twist. Not only will this center enhance the lives of students, faculty, and staff, but the goal is to make the Wellness Institute programs available to the community and to the constituents of the Southern Union.

It is never too late to develop life-changing health practices. Our new Wellness Institute is making plans and laying the foundations for becoming a place that will empower clients to achieve their God-given potential in all aspects of life and health by promoting balance, joy, love, acceptance, and quality decision making. As Phil Garver summarizes: “We want to impact the health and well-being of individuals on their wellness journey.”

We have a great opportunity to help shape the future by filling in the Wellness Institute questionnaire. Southern Adventist University wants to know how best to serve the health and wellness needs of members within the Southern Union. Thank you for joining me in answering a few questions to help guide this new Wellness Institute initiative. This can be done by completing the survey online www.southern.edu/wellness_survey, or by mailing the survey inserted in this issue of *Southern Tidings*.

Southern Adventist University: a special place, an Adventist school doing its best to live up to its name.



Gordon Retzer
*Southern Union
President*

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Cover Caption: "One Voice, One Vision" was the theme for the historic Southern Union Women's Conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia, September 4-7. Nearly 2,000 women representing eight southeastern states, other U.S. states, and England attended.

Cover Feature

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans, stands in a field of golden wheat. She has her arms raised high in the air, and her mouth is open as if shouting or singing joyfully. The background is a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The overall mood is one of freedom and happiness.

ONE Voice, ONE Vision

BY GIANNA SNELL

Holy hands were lifted, emotional tears were shed, and shouts of joy resounded as women of different cultures, ethnic, and language groups held hands together in unity, and cried out to God in one voice, seeking one vision — unity.

Nearly 2000 women attended the historic Southern Union Women's Conference held September 4-7, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference was sponsored by the eight conferences in the Southern Union. Attendees came from eight southeastern states, other states within the United States, and England. The theme for the conference was "One Voice, One Vision."

"The Southern Union is working to initiate unity within the eight conferences. The department of women's ministries executive/planning committee decided, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, to plan a Union-wide women's conference. The goal for the conference was that we should as a Union, would speak with one voice and have one vision," said Laura Smith, Southern Union Conference women's ministries director. "As sisters in Christ who are awaiting the return of our Lord, we must speak with one voice and have one vision as we model the love of Jesus Christ to all women through meaningful relationships and significant ministries. In order to do that, we need to be united"

"But being united does not mean that we need to be a carbon copy of each other," said Smith. "Our differences should be acknowledged and celebrated. The Southern Union is diverse in its constituents and cultures, yet we have one vision. We can be different, yet united in the ultimate goal, which is being saved in God's kingdom and helping others to be saved."

At the opening session on Thursday evening, the eight women's ministries conference directors: Debbie Rapp, Carolina; Sheryal Vandenberghe, Florida; Mary Jo Dubs, Georgia-Cumberland; Janice Shipbaugh, Gulf States; Gail McKenzie, Kentucky-Tennessee; Sylvia Wilson, South Atlantic; Shirley Scott, South Central; Nicolle Brise', Southeastern; and Cheryl Retzer, Southern Union women's ministries ad-

visor, marched in followed by women who represented their native countries and dressed in their native attire. Others joined in the procession cheered on by the audience.

Vicky Zygouris-Coe, Ph.D., motivational speaker and educator, was the speaker for the opening session. She challenged listeners to speak with one voice and have one vision in service. "We need to become militant about going after lost people," said Coe. "Are we sharing our challenges or what God's Word says about our challenges? We need to share more of Him; that's what will set people free, not our circumstances. When we reach out with the love of Jesus first, we won't make more Church members, but more disciples of Jesus Christ."

As Coe closed with the appeal, the congregation sang "Make Us One Lord" as they held hands and rededicated their lives to be witnesses for Jesus through outreach.



To conclude the convention on Sunday morning, Laura Smith and the conference women's ministries directors, and the attendees, lifted their hands as they sang "Side by Side We Stand."

One Voice, One Vision: Prayer

Throughout the weekend, prayer was a major part of the convention experience. Upon arrival at the convention, there was a giant scroll laid out on a long table flanked by praying-hands statues and Bible promises about prayer. Women constantly wrote their prayer requests, nearly filling the scroll by the end of the weekend. In various locations throughout the hotel, there were tables with treasure boxes where women could insert their prayer requests. There was also a prayer room decorated with a fountain, rock garden, decorative pillows, and a prayer request book.



GIANNA SNELL

Divine worship speaker Deborah Harris, Ph.D., passionately challenged the women to praise God through their circumstances.

“The emphasis on prayer was so crucial,” said Janice Yancheson from Murphy, North Carolina. “I think that’s why we felt the Holy Spirit here. One of the ladies in our group, Corky Cook, also from Murphy, had an experience where she felt impressed to pray with the bellman today. The man was so grateful that he told her that it was the best tip he’d gotten all day.”

On Friday, while many of the women participated in outreach, hundreds attended the 30-minute prayer intensives from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The prayer warriors cried out to God about the residents and Adventist churches of Atlanta, and the need for the Holy Spirit and Spirit-led ministries.

“The thing that really moved me this weekend was to see how many women were seeking to be a part of the prayer intensives,” said Smith. “That room was crowded to overflowing — they were willing to stand and even to sit on the floor. There seemed to be a hunger and thirst to commune with God and to be involved in this ministry.”

While the prayer warriors were praying, there were seminars going on simultaneously, led by the guest speakers for the weekend.

On Friday night, Ginny Allen, international speaker and founder of Joy Ministries, spoke and inspired women with her personal testimonies of God’s saving power and deliverance through the death of her 35-year-old son, six years ago. “God will use our experiences to reach out to a broken world,” she said. “Whatever you’re going through, keep on praying and remember it’s not about us, or what we do or

don’t feel like doing. We just have to obey and keep on praying.”

One Voice, One Vision: The Word and Worship

On Sabbath morning, Joann Davidson, Ph.D., the first female professor to teach in the theology department at Andrews University, spoke about the need for the Word to be engrained in our hearts and mind as we seek unity. She led listeners on a journey through God’s Word and showed the importance of attention to details in making the Bible come alive in daily devotion.

“When I read the Bible and I get to a phrase that is preceded by, ‘And God said...’ I get excited because I know that these words came from the very mouth of God,” said Davidson.

The experience continued with divine worship when the melodious voices of the Korean Choir and the Convention Choir rendered selections. The congregation sang the beautiful theme song, “One Voice, One Vision,” written and led by Gayle Jones-Murphy.

Deborah Harris, Ph.D., founder of Praying for our Children, began her message with her tradition of having the women pray for their children by calling their names aloud. As women interceded for their children and children of this world, tears and shouts of joy were released as mothers, grandmothers, and others left their burdens at the altar. Harris spoke on worship and challenged everyone to “praise Him anyhow,” in spite of circumstances.

“Even when no one else is around you to encourage you, God will send



GIANNA SNELL

Carolyn Karlston from Vancouver, Washington, and other prayer warriors lifted their hands in prayer for women in the congregation who needed to forgive someone who had hurt them.

angels to surround you and lift you up. God will take care of you; praise Him anyhow!” Harris said. “If we keep our eyes on God and focus on Him, then we will have one vision.”

After lunch and a Sabbath rest, Richard Stenbakken, a retired Adventist pastor, presented a moving, first-person, biblical narrative on the power of forgiveness. An appeal was made for prayer warriors to come forward and pray aloud for women in the audience who were struggling to forgive someone who had wronged them.

For Saturday evening entertainment, Gayle Jones-Murphy sang songs and told stories that conjured up emotions from tears to laughter. The evening concluded with fun games and prizes, including a hula-hoop contest. Women young and old participated, and others cheered those who were competing from the sidelines.

One Voice, One Vision: Unity

Sunday morning was the closing session and the climax of the spiritual focus on prayer. As women convened in the hall, the last call for prayer requests was made, and the scroll and treasure boxes were brought in. Every written petition was presented before God at the altar. Women scurried up to the platform, bringing more requests up to the last second before the prayer began.

“It was so beautiful to see the constant parade of women throughout the services going to put their prayer requests in the baskets and in the treasure chests,” said Smith. “It was obvious that the women realized the importance of prayer and that it is through prayer that we can seek the Holy Spirit.”

The conference planners had two goals in mind, first to provide opportunities for women to be blessed through the intensive prayer times, inspirational music, messages and seminars, and second for the women to be a blessing to individuals in the City of Atlanta through the God in Shoes community outreach. The written and verbal comments of the attendees validated the successful accomplishment of both goals. Praise God!

After the closing message, the



GIANNA SNELL

Raquel Arrais, General Conference associate women's ministries director, issued the final challenge on Sunday morning for women to join in unity.

women joined hands, gathered in a gigantic circle around the prayer petitions, and cried out one last time for each prayer request that was placed at the altar. As the tears flowed, and as women sensed that the mountaintop experience was ending, the sentiment was echoed that if only they could just linger there in the presence of God, they'd never have to come down from this glorious experience.

Raquel Arrais, General Conference associate women's ministries director,

closed out the service with a message to remind everyone why they had come to the convention, to experience unity. Moreover, while many would have to go home to find that life at home was still the same, the women were going home changed, united, and speaking with one voice and one vision.

"I'm taking away from this convention a desire to go home and encourage the women at our church to do more and be about our Father's business more than we have been," said Felecia Hawkins, women's ministries leader at Emmanuel Church in Albany, Georgia.

"What really blessed me was hearing the testimonies of other sisters who have struggles just like I do. If God can help them, He can help me too!"

There was an expressed desire for a Southern Union Women's Conference next year by those who attended, according to Smith. "For the next two years our schedule doesn't allow

another Union-wide convention, but there will definitely be another event in the future," added Smith.

In 2009, the North American Division will sponsor a women's convention in Dallas, Texas, and General Conference will convene in Atlanta in 2010, according to Carla Baker North American Division women's ministries director.

Gianna Snell, freelance photographer and journalist, resides in Georgetown, Kentucky



GIANNA SNELL

Danyielle Jackson (left) of Atlanta, Georgia, and Carmen Bucknor of Madison, Alabama, competed Saturday night in a hula-hoop competition judged by Cheryl Retzer (center).

"God in Shoes" An Intricate Part of the Women's Conference, Reached Out to the Needy in Atlanta

BY REBECCA BROOKS

Approximately 700 women reached out to people in Atlanta, Georgia, through God in Shoes outreach ministry on September 5, during the Southern Union Women's Conference. The women visited sites such as homeless shelters, the Salvation Army, a children's hospital, and other areas where they could serve those in need.

The God in Shoes outreach ministry, coordinated by Jo Dubs, women's ministry director for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, enabled women to serve "hands-on" by giving away shoes, creating and giving care bags, holding children's programs, and assisting with meals, among other things. "It is one of many ways to 'touch a heart' that tells the world of God's caring love," says Dubs.

One group of 200 women visited the Peachtree and Pine Men's Shelter where they distributed care bags filled with items such as socks, toothbrushes, and other personal care items. "This is where the need is. This is where they need to know that they are not for-



REBECCA BROOKS

Cyndra Peggau, member of Kingsport, Tennessee, Church, helped pack care bags at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

saken or forgotten, but God still has a plan for them," said Delphine Gainey, member of Baldwin's Chapel Church in High Pointe, North Carolina, who visited the shelter with God in Shoes. "I'm just blessed to be a part of this today — to bring a little hope and a little cheer to these brethren here. They are a part of the family of God and we're here to show them His love."



REBECCA BROOKS

The women were transported from Hyatt Regency Hotel to various sites in the Atlanta area on September 5, to minister to adults and children.

TEEN MINISTRY

BY REBECCA GRICE

This year's teen mission participants went back to the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming where they had ministered the year before. The trip was a joining of two groups, including 12 staff and 38 youth from the Gulf States Conference; four staff and 38 youth from the New York Conference; and a past participant, Christy Whitehurst who lives in Riverton, Wyoming.

For more than six months, Whitehurst searched for a place for the mission teams to stay.

Rick Riley, mission trip director, says "God answered our prayers by opening the doors of the United Methodist church in Riverton. They allowed us to stay in their church class/meeting rooms, kitchen, and cafeteria. It was just the right size for our needs. God also provided for our food storage needs with a refrigerator that we purchased for \$50 and a freezer that we were able to rent for the two weeks [for] \$25. God was opening doors and making arrangements for our arrival."



The Native American children enjoyed working with their crafts and their teen instructors.



SANDRA CORBIN

These teens and staff, plus participants from the New York Conference conducted two Vacation Bible Schools and numerous work projects.

The team left the Birmingham, Alabama, First Church shortly after 11 p.m., on July 12, after a communion and dedication service led by Karl Doerner, pastor of Birmingham First. The group traveled to Great Plains Academy in Enterprise, Kansas; then on to Champion Academy in Loveland, Colorado, where they were welcomed by Dwight and Serena Laubsher, former Pathfinder leaders in the Gulf States Conference.

The New York group arrived later that night. The next morning, both groups traveled on to their destination in Riverton.

The participants enjoyed a full schedule of activities with work projects and two Vacation Bible School (VBS) programs. They cleaned the yards at each of the hosting churches. They took down and built a new fence at the Assembly of God church where one of the VBS's was held, and installed partitions at the Adventist church in Riverton where the other VBS was held. They didn't forget the Methodist church who had allowed them to spend the week. Four large sheds and most of the outside doors at the church were painted by the team.

The Gulf States teens held a

VBS at the Assembly of God church, where they had been the previous year, and the New York group, with the help of six Gulf States youth, held a VBS at the Riverton Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Because they were working in the same neighborhoods they worked in last year, the parents and children remembered them. "The first day parents brought their children who were not ready when the bus came through for pick-up. This had not happened last year, so I feel we had left a good impression," explained Riley.

At the Assembly of God VBS, there was a 40 percent increase in attendance. Both the mission team participants and the Indian children who attended last year remembered and enjoyed being with each other again. Many of the youth obtain the addresses of the Native American children and plan to keep in touch with them.

Riley echoes the thoughts of all the staff members when he says, "I can't wait to find out in Heaven how this changed our youth and the Indian children's lives for eternity. I thank all who contributed and made the trip possible."

Florida Hospital Announces Details for Disney Children's Hospital

Florida Hospital in Orlando announced new details on their plans to shape the "Children's Hospital of the Future." The Disney Children's Hospital at Florida Hospital will help change the lives of children throughout central Florida and be a model for pediatric hospitals beyond the region.

Expected to be completed by 2010, the hospital will be a seven-story, 200-bed facility with family-centered pediatric rooms, pediatric Emergency Department, an Advanced Center for Pediatric Surgery, destination pediatric programs, and a health and obesity platform.

The facility is de-

signed to engage and soothe young patients. Areas throughout the department will feature lighting and design elements to bring the comforts of outside into the hospital setting. Patient treatment rooms will offer animation selections on the ceiling accompanied by soft lighting and music, allowing "escapes" to areas such as the beach or mountains. In the lobby, children of all ages will be able to draw markings on a cave wall, create jungle sounds on musical step pads, fish for virtual salmon, or play in a magical world of popping bubbles and dancing sea horses. Additionally, each night the lobby will feature constellations on



Disney characters stand with Shannon McAleavey (second from left) and Florida Hospital executives Des Cummings (left), executive vice president; Marla Silliman, administrator; and Lars Houmann, president.

the ceiling and a musical score created by the young patients.

"The partnership between Florida Hospital and Disney demonstrates that central Florida is quickly becoming known just as much for medicine and

science as it is for its thriving tourism industry," says Lars Houmann, president of Florida Hospital. "We believe Disney Children's Hospital will provide the blueprint for other children's hospitals in the future."

Park Ridge Hospital Receives Commission on Cancer Outstanding Achievement Award

Park Ridge Hospital, Hendersonville, N.C., is one of 66 facilities across the country to receive the 2007 Commission on Cancer Outstanding Achievement Award from the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons. These 66 facilities not only passed the Approvals Program survey, but also excelled at a Commendation level.

This award recognizes the significant commitment by the

administration and personnel at Park Ridge Hospital for providing high quality cancer care to their patients, also meeting and exceeding the standards set by the Commission on Cancer's



Park Ridge Hospital, Hendersonville, N.C.

Approvals Program. At this time, Park Ridge Hospital is the only facility in western North Carolina to receive this distinction.

The Commission on Cancer's Outstanding Achievement Award (OAA) is designed to recognize cancer programs that strive for excellence in providing quality care to cancer patients. A facility receives the OAA following the on-site evaluation by a physician surveyor, during which

the facility demonstrates a Commendation level of compliance with standards that represent the full scope of the cancer program: cancer committee leadership, cancer data management, clinical services, research, community outreach, and quality improvement.

"This is truly an inspiring award for us," stated Maria Moore, M.D., director of Park Ridge Cancer Services. "It speaks to the high level of professionalism and dedication to this service."

—BY CHRISTINA VARBLE

Concord Church Welcomes 40 New Members



BECKY CARPENTER

Richard Halvorsen, pastor, and Bob Grant, Concord Church pastor, had the privilege of baptizing 34 individuals and welcoming five more through profession of faith into the Seventh-day Adventist Church family in Concord, N.C., on August 8, 2008.

Weeks before, more

than 40,000 abridged *Steps to Christ* booklets had been mailed to homes in Cabarrus County inviting them to attend a five-week evangelistic series at Concord Church.

On opening night, the church was filled to capacity, and extra seating was placed down the center aisle to accommodate the crowd. Each night, between 150 to 200 people were in attendance — some traveled more than 40 miles every night to hear the exciting topics.

Evangelist Richard Halvorsen (pictured left, center) presented the Prophecy Seminar, assisted by eight seminary students from Andrews Univer-

sity Theological Seminary. These young men followed up with Bible study interests and visited the homes of attendees, along with pastors Halvorsen and Grant (pictured below, right).

The Lord worked in many different ways to bring people to these meetings. Larry and Elizabeth Love had always been interested in Bible prophecy, and had received many invitations to attend meetings at Concord Church, but never had an interest in attending. When they received the *Steps to Christ* booklet, instead of throwing away the invitation, they decided to attend. Each night they were excited to learn something new.

Others, like Tom and Jennifer Paller, had been searching for a church, but after visiting many local congregations, they had not found one that met their spiritual needs. Tom said, “No sooner had we asked

the Lord to send us to a church, we received the *Steps to Christ* booklet in the mail. If we had lived just one block over we would never have received the booklet or the handbill.”

It was through the CHIP (Coronary Health Improvement Project) program that Gloria Blount first learned about Concord Church. She came for the health meetings, and when the Prophecy Seminar was planned with Halvorsen, Blount received a personal invitation to attend. “I thank God for sending me to this church,” said Blount.

When Halvorsen gave the invitation to join a church family who keeps the commandments of God and follow the truth in the Bible, Blount accepted the invitation and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church through profession of faith.

—BY LOUISE VENABLES



BECKY CARPENTER

Mobile Classroom Becomes an Answered Prayer

Imagine a four-church school constituency where, instead of contention and differences of opinion among the members, there are “amens” and a definite sense of harmony. Sound too good to be true? Well it’s actually happening at Tri-City Christian Academy in High Point, N.C.

After several years of student enrollment in the 40’s, and doubts about the future survival of the school, TCA has experienced a steady growth during the past five years. The budget has been in the black for the second year in a row. With the addition of a pre-K class, and an increase in the number of students in AE21 (the 11th and 12th grade distance education offered through Forest Lake Academy in Apopka, Fla.), enrollment for the 2008-09 school year currently stands at 94 students.

The addition of the new pre-K class and growth of the AE21 program created a dilemma of where to place all the students. The current physical plant was already filled to capacity. As a result, the school board and finance committee began planning in February to purchase a mobile classroom for the needed expansion. The going price for a single room mobile classroom with no restroom was estimated to be at least \$25,000 new and around \$14,000 used.

Following a school finance committee meeting



Robert Crux (front, third from right), Conference education superintendent; Julie Primero, Tri-City teacher; and Jim Ingersoll, Southern Union Conference secondary education director, cut the ribbon for the new mobile classroom.

on February 28, Don Davis, pastor, felt led by the Holy Spirit to search for a mobile classroom on the Internet. First he looked on eBay® but saw nothing promising. Next he did a Google search for “modular classroom, craigslist, nc.” Up popped a listing in Charlotte of a three-classroom unit for just \$3,000. By the next afternoon a search

committee was on their way to investigate. The unit was owned by the Jewish Day School in Charlotte. It had three classrooms, three separate restrooms, and two air conditioning units. An offer of \$2,000 was made and accepted. God was clearly setting the stage for what would happen next.

Following four weeks of intensive work this past summer by contractors and volunteers from the four constituent churches, a certificate of occupancy was granted by the inspectors on Friday, August 8. This al-

lowed the third and fourth grade teacher Julie Primero and her students to begin school as scheduled on August 11.

An education Sabbath in each of the four constituent churches on August 9 culminated in a rededication and ribbon-cutting ceremony the same afternoon. A group of nearly 80 individuals, with representatives from the Southern Union Conference, Carolina Conference, and Forest Lake Academy, attended the celebration.

The Lord continues to open doors and work miracles for Tri-City Christian Academy. Perhaps God is waiting do the same at your school.

—BY DON DAVIS



Robert Crux spoke at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Little Congregation with a Big Heart Reaches Out

Emmanuel Church members in Orlando, Fla., combined fun and fitness into summer outreach that left a mark on the community through Camp FUN-FIT, and gained a lasting reputation as the “little congregation with a big heart.”

Michael Bernard Sr., church pastor, envisioned a ministry in the ethnically diverse Pine Hills community around the church that would attract young people to a better way of life. When his dream was prayerfully and enthusiastically embraced by the congregation and board members, volunteers donated more than 220 hours to make the camp a reality.

Major contributors to Camp FUN-FIT were Florida Hospital Orlando and Byron and Dorothea Robinson from Apopka. Local businesses and community residents also gave their support with donations of time and resources.

Designed for 50 children ranging in age from



“Camp FUN-FIT provided an environment for learning life skills to be successful in this world,” says Jenique Wilson, camp director. “The children will remember this experience all their lives.”

10 to 18, the eight-week, Christ-centered program included field trips, moti-

onational presentations, arts and crafts, fitness exercises, swimming, pony rides, and

sign language classes. Nutritious food choices were provided for breakfast and lunch, thanks to contributions from area businesses.

“This camp was a wonderful experience for me,” said 17-year-old Leslyn. “Before camp, I thought if someone was mean, they’d always be mean. Now, I realize people aren’t always the way they seem if I give them a chance.”

When Camp FUN-FIT ended in August, certificates were presented to all campers for their participation in the activities, and special recognition was given to those who excelled in various categories. In addition, donated new bicycles were presented as awards to those who read the most books during the FUN-FIT Read-a-thon.

The spirit of outreach in the Pine Hills community continues with a 2008–2009 school year mentoring program while plans progress for Camp FUN-FIT 2009.

—BY BENNETTE WOOLEY

Leon and Connie Karr Celebrate 65th Wedding Anniversary



Leon and Connie Karr celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary August 26. They met in high school and were married in West Chester, Pa.

Connie was baptized at age 11 and became a charter member of the West Chester Church. She is the last living charter member of that church.

Leon is a veteran of the European Theater in World War II. He was employed for many years with Wyeth Laboratories, and Connie at West Chester University.

After the couple married, Leon was baptized, and they became actively involved in the church. Twenty-one years ago

they moved to Florida and joined the East Pasco Church in Zephyrhills, where they have served in various capacities.

The couple has two children: Leon James Karr Jr. and Nancy Lathrop. They also have five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

—BY GLADYS NEIGEL

Walker Memorial Students Earn High Computer Certification

The Microsoft Corporation recently awarded its highest level of computer certifications, IC³ (Internet and Computing Core Certification), to eight freshmen from Walker Memorial Academy in Avon Park, Fla.

“According to Microsoft, the ability to pass the difficult exams required for certification demon-

strates critical computer and Internet skills,” says Walda Farmer, computer class teacher. “These skills are highly valued in today’s academic and professional environment. With 175 computers on the Walker Memorial campus, our students are getting lots of exposure to technology.”

—BY WALDA FARMER



HIGHLANDS TODAY PHOTO BY KATHY WATERS

Avon Park Church member Marilyn Bennett Justesen has albums full of photographs that document her experiences as a missionary nurse in war-torn Vietnam from 1968 to 1970. This photo appeared in the June 23, 2008, issue of the Highlands Today newspaper.

Avon Park Member Receives Honor

Marilyn Bennett

Justesen was awarded the Alumna of the Year award by Loma Linda University School of Nursing — an honor given to the Avon Park member in recognition for her years of service in the nursing profession.

One year after graduating from Southwestern Union College (now Southwestern Adventist University) in 1968, Justesen was asked by the General Conference to establish a school of nursing in Saigon, South Vietnam, during the middle of the Vietnam War. In 2007, her name was

placed in the Alumni Hall of Fame at Southwestern Adventist University, in part, for bravery shown as a young missionary nurse in war-torn Vietnam.

Overseas posts where she has also served include Borneo, Tanzania, Lesotho, Sudan, Madagascar, and Nepal. Justesen presently works as a rehabilitation nurse in Wauchula, Fla., after serving as a nurse in New York and North Carolina, where her now retired husband, Jerry Justesen, was a pastor.

—BY DON ROTH AND NAOMI ZALABAK



JEANNETTE ZESCH

IC³-certified Walker Memorial Academy students: Gopaul Sankar (left), Rexley Demiar, Jacob Cook, Ephraim Paustian, Nikki Paradero, Rochelle Mendoza, Karl Asumen, and Illiana Kuiper. By achieving this certification, the students qualify for one semester hour of college credit.

Umatilla Pathfinders Man Fair Booth

The Umatilla Warriors for Christ Pathfinders and their leaders gave away more than 1,000 books and numerous DVD’s and CD’s at the 10-day Lake County Fair in Eustis,

Fla., April 6-15, 2008. The Pathfinders were especially excited about the number of teenagers who said they liked to read and wanted the Christian books and DVD’s.

When one woman saw books by Ellen G. White, she was very happy. She first became acquainted with these books in 1965 when she studied with an Adventist

minister. Since then, she had been looking for the books so that she might read them again. She also requested the DVD’s on Bible prophecy.

—BY GERI BOWER

GCA Provides Laptops to Students

Georgia Cumberland Academy recently put a new laptop computer in the hands of each of the 267 students on campus.

Greg Gerard, principal, believes the laptop program is helpful to students and teachers alike. "These computers will enable teachers and students to access appropriate internet sites, computer-based enhanced textbooks, and other valuable learning resources. We believe students will learn to use this powerful tool and that we will see improved student achievement. In addition, because the academy owns and controls the computers, we believe we will better prevent the

misuse of technology. Students graduating from GCA will be better equipped to be successful at college or in the work world because of their experience with technology while at GCA."

Giuliano Lombardi's favorite aspect of the computers is the wireless Internet. "The ability to ac-

cess wireless Internet from any campus location helps me complete assignments faster. I used to have to take inconvenient trips to the library or computer lab to work on projects."

Besides enjoying the benefits of the Internet, students like Kevin Block and Joel Greve, both sophomores, also enjoy learning how to use technology. "We have used computers before, but never like this. I've already learned so many new things."

Parents are also more aware of what their child is doing. Each night, parents receive an email with a list of websites visited by their teens. They may request a lower tier of access if they feel it is appropriate.

Teachers have also increased creativity in the classroom. Bruce Boggess, English/history teacher at GCA, finds this feature es-

pecially helpful. "I can have my students look up anything on the Internet during class to help them understand what I am teaching. They can watch educational videos, type their notes, read their textbooks, and do research — all from one location. The laptop program is phenomenal!"

The teacher's computer has a feature to monitor all the students' computers to ensure the student is staying on task.

Ernest Staats, the information technology director for the school, says, "The world is constantly changing and advancing in technology. Students now have easy access to that technology so they will be prepared for the future. They will not be afraid of change, but will instead lead in it, as Georgia Cumberland Academy is doing."

—BY CASSIA GALLIMORE



CASSIA GALLIMORE

Each student at Georgia-Cumberland Academy received a laptop this school year.

Calhoun Youth Repair Home

A group of 11 youth from three churches in north Georgia worked together on a mission project in Cleveland, Ga., Aug. 5-7.

The house of a needy family in the Cleveland area was in dire need of repairs. Paint was peeling, the porch was crumbling, the gutters were falling off, and shrubs around the home were overgrown.

After a few days

of hard work, a major transformation took place. The appreciation for their help was great and a big burden was lifted from the shoulders of the family.

The project was coor-

dinated by Albert Handal, associate pastor of the Calhoun, Ga., Church; Greg Hudson, associate pastor of the Georgia-Cumberland Academy Church in Calhoun, Ga.; and David

Wright of the Cleveland, Ga., Church.

Besides the pastors, adult participants were Melanie Thomas and Bill Schutter. Youth who participated were Daniel Acevedo, Sam Constante, Eliel Cruz, Jaely Cruz, Olivia Hamilton, Taylor Mittleider, Ben Mock, Melissa O'Connell, Derek Schutter, Rebecca Theus, and Sarah Theus.

—BY BARBARA MITTLEIDER



DON KEELE



ALBERT HANDAL

Before the project, the house (left) was in dire need of repair. After, it looked like a different home.

Hispanic Churches Experience Miracles

It was a week of miracles. The Knoxville, Tenn., district held evangelistic meetings and, as a result, 27 people gave their hearts to Jesus and motivated a surge of revival within the participating churches.

This was the case for Zamudio, a young man

whose life had been ruined through drugs and alcohol. Tired of living without hope, he took his burden to the Lord. In turn, he received an invitation to come to the meetings, "Esperanza Anhelada" (Desired Hope). He then called Richard Urdaneta, pastor of the Mor-

ristown, Greeneville, and Knoxville Hispanic churches in Tennessee. He asked if someone could take him to church because he needed help, wanted to change his way of life, and wanted to give his heart to the Lord.

That same night, he was brought to the church where the meetings were held. He responded to the call and gave his heart to the Lord. He continued to attend the meetings faithfully and asked to be baptized as a public testimony of his new-found faith and liberty in Jesus Christ.

The church in Morristown witnessed a small day of Pentecost on the afternoon of Sabbath, July 12. After holding the baptismal ceremony, Urdaneta made an appeal and, all of a sud-

den, a number of people arose and came forward. They not only wanted to be prayed for, but to the pastor's surprise, they came into the baptistery just as they were in order to give their hearts to Jesus.

Indeed, how wonderful and powerful is the Gospel. It becomes the channel and opportunity for the Holy Spirit to perform "modern miracles."

—BY RICHARD URDANETA



RICHARD URDANETA

Richard Urdaneta, pastor of the Knoxville, Tenn., church district, baptizes one of the new members.

Ringgold Church Reaches Out at Fair

For seven years in a row, the Ringgold, Ga., Church has sponsored a large booth at the 1890's Days Festival in Ringgold, which is held around Memorial Day each year.

"We have met former Adventists thinking of coming back to church. We have made warm connections with people interested in the unique teachings of our church. It has been a great witness in our community to people from all walks of life," says Mike Lombardo, church pastor.

Julie Thomas, the church's booth coordinator, says, "In the seven years we

have participated in 1890's Days, over 20,000 cups of water or lemonade have been given out, hundreds of pieces of literature have been picked up, and hun-

dreds of blood pressures and computer health screenings provided, not to mention lots of appreciation for the ministry we provide."

—BY MICHAEL LOMBARDO



MICHAEL LOMBARDO

The Ringgold Church has participated in the 1890's Days Festival for seven years.

Jones Celebrates 110th Birthday



Reeta Jones is a member of the Heritage, Tenn., Church. She was born October 17, 1898, and turns 110 years old this year. She lives in Monterey, Tenn., in her own home with a caregiver. She gets around inside her home independently. She is still alert, recognizes everyone, and enjoys having visitors and talking with individuals. Reeta has been a vegetarian for more than 60 years. She thanks God for His many blessings and for her long life. She has five sons, one daughter, 16 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great grandchildren.

Evangelism Strong in Montgomery First Church



Evangelist Hiram Rester (back row, left) and Montgomery First pastor Barry and Sharryn Mahorney (right) stand with the new members.

More than 20 people have been or will soon be baptized into Montgomery, Ala., First Church, as a result of the Unfolding Revelation evangelistic meetings. Seminar speaker Hiram Rester began the meetings in the new downtown convention center at the end of July and then moved to the church. Many who attended the meetings came because of the sowing work the members had done earlier with the leadership of Barry Mahorney, pastor. This preparation included giving DVD's of Rester's sample presentations to friends and

then later invited them to attend the meetings. Other preparations included a continuing program of holding cooking schools and weight loss seminars, and distributing Discover Bible School lessons.

Each of the newly baptized members has a story to tell of God's leading. June Simmons took Amazing Facts Bible studies years ago, then someone convinced her they were of the devil and she threw them out. She works for FEMA and had been assigned to Montgomery a few months earlier. She attended every meeting. Now

she is a baptized member.

Years ago Christine Parrish's parents purchased books, including the *Triumph of God's Love*, from a literature evangelist. At one time Parrish had infrequently attended an Adventist church in southern Alabama and was given additional literature. Then more than a year ago, while living in Montgomery, she began studying her Bible. As she studied, she became convinced about the Sabbath and began looking for a Sabbath-keeping church. While searching the Internet she found Montgomery First Church's

website, and after checking everything out she began attending. Parrish went to the meetings and has been baptized.

Christy and Jeff McKay were searching for a church and had tried several different denominations, but nothing satisfied their longings. Christy began attending the Revelations meetings and would then come home and share what she had learned with Jeff, who was homebound because of health problems. Jeff wanted to attend the meetings, so special transportation was arranged. They both have been baptized.

There are many more stories that could be told of lives changed because of God's leading, church members' dedication, and an evangelistic series of meetings. Now the members are looking forward to the future and much more reaping.

—BY SHARRYN MAHORNEY
AND REBECCA GRICE

Pastor Dedicated at Fairhope Church

A dedication day was held on Sabbath morning, April 11, 2008, for Victor Vaughn, pastor of the Fairhope, Ala., Church. The dedication was conducted by Mel Eisele, Conference president. Eisele, who has known Vaughn for many years, noted his dedication to his family and the Church.

He also spoke of Vaughn's interest in evangelism.

"The Church welcomes Pastor Vaughn, and we believe that God's work will develop as we all rededicate our lives to the advancement of the Gospel in our community," explained one of the members.

—BY MARTHA BILLINGSLEY



Church leaders gather around Victor Vaughn for a prayer of dedication.

Life Long Weight Management Seminar Held



John and Pat Latham attended the Life Long Weight Loss Seminar and a cooking school. When they were invited to a Revelations series, they attended and are now new members of the Church.

The Montgomery First Church health teams were excited when they were asked to hold a Life Long Weight Management program at Jackson's Hospital's Goode Building every Tuesday night for 10 weeks. More than 50 indi-

viduals called to register for the seminar, and 41 registered the first night. The 21 attendees who completed the 10-week course lost 500 pounds and walked more than 1,000 miles.

"I think we have wasted our money," Joyce whis-

pered to her daughter as she watched Amy Mapp, director of the Life Long Weight Management Seminar, welcome the participants. "Look how fat she is! She needs to be in the Seminar, not teaching it."

Later when Mapp complained of the heat and asked her husband Bernell to help her shed her shirt, Joyce gasped in shock as Mapp also removed the 20-pound "fat vest" that she had concealed under her shirt. As she left that evening, Joyce confessed her reaction to Mapp's appearance when she first arrived, and tried on the "fat vest" to motivate herself to stay on the "Jump Start" eating plan for the next week.

Paul Corbier, M.D., Norm and April Hobbs, Barry and Sharryn

Mahorney, Bernell and Amy Mapp, and Joan Beck were the nightly presenters. Samples of healthy, nutritious plant-based foods were featured each night. Corbier held a health seminar at the church during the middle of the seminar, and an invitation was extended to the Life Long Weight Management seminar participants. Eight individuals came to church on Sabbath for Corbier's seminar and stayed to enjoy the vegetarian potluck.

"You need to do this more than once a year," most of the seminar members wrote on their evaluation sheets, "two or three times would be just about right."

—BY JOAN BECK

Phenix City Church Sponsors Fun Day

On the afternoon of July 20, the Phenix City, Ala., Church held a Fun Day for the young people of the church and community. Activities included making Chia heads, a balloon pop, hula hoops, a Frisbee throw, and refreshments. As they left, children were given gift bags filled with age-appropriate literature and other items.

More than half of the children who came were the results of a community witnessing program the church members started one year ago. On most Sabbath afternoons, the

members participate in door-to-door visiting to give literature and Bible studies. As a result of these visits, a van ministry began with Joyce Meyer and other members, to pick up groups of children and sometimes their parents, and bring them to church. The church sponsors one of the children so that she can attend the nearest Adventist Christian school which is in Columbus, Ga.

—BY KAREN MOSER AND REBECCA GRICE



Children of the community and the church enjoyed the Fun Day. This event was part of an ongoing effort to reach members in the community.

Conference Employs Youth Outreach Coordinator

Cesar Quispe served as the leader of the student literature evangelist program in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference this past summer. The student program started in Lexington, Ky., and later moved to the south Louisville area. Because of the great success of the program, Keith Reid, publishing director, proposed a year-round student program concept — something



Cesar Quispe

not done before in the Conference.

Quispe has been invited to lead this new program for the Conference. His goal is to work with the pastors to conduct up to six student programs throughout the year — two in the summer, two in the winter, and one each in the spring and fall. Part of the objective will be to cultivate interest and generate Bible

studies that may bear fruit in reaping meetings conducted either by the pastor or student evangelists.

Quispe believes that literature evangelism is a great way to help our youth develop a personal relationship with Jesus and learn how to share Him with others as well as to develop leadership skills to equip them for future service. One of the reasons Quispe believes this so strongly is because of what it has done in his own life. He was once told that “being a colporteur makes you a better pastor, a better person, and keeps you humble.”

Quispe is a native of Cuzco, Peru, but his family moved to the United States when he was very young. He grew up in Maryland, where he graduated from Albert Einstein High School in Kensington. He has attended Antillean Adventist University in Puerto Rico, where he was pursuing a degree in theology in preparation for ministry. He has taken time off to work in the literature ministry in Puerto Rico, the Potomac, Florida, and Kentucky-Tennessee conferences. He hopes to eventually complete his ministerial training and become a pastor.

—BY MARVIN LOWMAN

Oasis Holds First Vacation Bible School

Members of Oasis Seventh-day Adventist Life Development Center conducted their first Vacation Bible School (VBS). As a new church company, organized in January of this

the power received through Jesus Christ to do amazing things.

With only 20 children in the congregation, leaders were pleasantly surprised to have a total of 60 children

enroll for the event from the Portland, Tenn., community.

The children rotated through four fun and thought

along with it. The “walking on water” day was a huge hit. The activity consisted of giving the children the experience of walking on water like Peter the disciple.

They discussed how Jesus gives us the power to be brave in all aspects of our life, including being brave enough to tell others about Him. Through brainstorming, the children came up with some insightful ways to tell others about Jesus.

An exciting result of the VBS is a new family attending Oasis’ Friday night program as well as Sabbath School and church. One of the community mothers asked a VBS teacher about the Oasis Church service and when and where they

meet. She commented on how much fun her girls were having during VBS and the fact that all the people were so friendly and accepting of their whole family. The week after VBS, this mother and her three girls started attending services weekly. Members feel the Lord is working in the small church company. And, members are blessed with the opportunity to serve Him.

Leaders are so pleased with the outcome of VBS that they are currently working on additional ways to do similar outreaches for the community children throughout the year.

—BY MONICA BADGER



year, community outreach is one of their top priorities. The program started with three fun-filled days of “Power Lab,” demonstrating

provoking centers each day. “Bible Blast” was particularly rewarding. Each day a Bible story was discussed and a fun activity was done

Vacation Bible School Features Journey

"Jesus for the Journey" was the theme for the Vacation Bible School (VBS) conducted at Glasgow, Ky., July 7-11. The title reflects the purpose of VBS — to help children and adults recognize that Jesus is the provision of all our spiritual needs, and to encourage them to journey into the community with this message.

Each evening's focus was on one of Jesus' names and how it helps us understand what Jesus wants to provide for us. These names included "Bread of Life," "Living Water," "Light of the World," "Rose of Sharon," and "The Word."

The nightly program included singing, an in-

troductory dialog by the pastor and his wife, Terry and Terri Carmichael, and crafts which were tied into the topic for the evening.



Kate McCoy (left) and Rhonda Caswell pass out Steps to Christ.

During this time, the adults worked to complete the preparation for what proved to be the most exciting part of the program — community outreach.

Bible enrollment cards

and simple notes were attached with a ribbon to give-away items. These items were then given out in nearby neighborhoods.

During the week, 53 loaves of bread were given away in an apartment complex, 96 bottles of water were given away at local parks, 85 candles were distributed to homes, four dozen roses were presented to residents and workers at a nursing home, and 105 *Steps to Christ* were passed out.

It was exciting to see the enthusiasm of the attendees for this part of the program. The first night out, 7-year-old Bryson Bailey, having distributed a number of loaves of bread, exclaimed, "This is fun!"

After going to the nursing home, two visiting girls asked their aunt if they could come to VBS next year. All enjoyed comparing notes of their experiences when they returned to the church for refreshments and a game.

The best part of the VBS journey was enjoyed a couple of weeks later when Jim Pierce, head elder, shared that the church had received two requests for Bible studies as a direct result of the VBS outreach.

Members of the Glasgow Church hope to continually enjoy all that Jesus provides for life's journey and to help others receive all He has to offer along the way.

—BY TERESA CARMICHAEL

Development Program Benefits Worthy Students

A new development program has begun at Highland Academy. Its mission is to find new ways to market the school, recruit new students, and raise awareness of opportunities for individuals to get involved at the school. The first goal of the new department is to grow the worthy student funding so that more students can receive a Christian education.

"I firmly believe that no student who desires a

Christian education at Highland should be turned away because of financial chal-

lenges," shares Karen Schimp, the new director of development. "The exciting news is that, as I speak with alumni and friends of the school, I find that many of them agree and are happy

to make a difference in the lives of students by investing in their future through generous donations to the



Karen Schimp

Worthy Student Fund."

Even though each student participates in the work-study program on campus, and the family contributes all they can, scholarships often make the difference in whether a student can receive a Christian education at an Adventist academy. This year more than 35 students will receive some form of worthy student funding.

"I was fortunate to have someone who cared enough to help me with my tuition when I was a student at Highland Academy and it changed my life. Now it is my turn to help those

who need assistance today, and I am glad to meet the challenge," explains Randy Holcombe, class of 1984.

Of the \$60,000 needed to meet the new goal, nearly \$40,000 has already been paid or pledged by supportive alumni, staff, board members, and constituents. Highland students send their warmest appreciation to their sponsors and supporters.

If you would like more information about helping a student attend Highland Academy, contact Karen Schimp at kschimp@highland-academy.com, or call 615-325-2036, x247.

Newnan Youth Join S.W.A.T.



Deondria Jeffries is youth director at First Newnan Church in Newnan, Ga.

School was out. Summer vacation was here. It was time for some fun, travel, and excitement with family and friends. But that was not the case for the youth at First Newnan Church in Newnan, Ga. They had a totally different agenda — youth evangelism.

Serious minded youth, along with adult members, converged as a S.W.A.T team (Soldiers With A Testimony) and launched hundreds of Bible studies throughout the city with the support of a team of theology students from Oakwood University.

Led by First Newnan youth director Deondria Jeffries, and supported by the pastor, Stephen P. Ruff, the team determined to know Christ and to make Him known.

The Word of God was received and welcomed into many hearts and homes, and a powerful relationship was established, building to an excitement in the city that drew individuals to the Voice of Hope Bible Conference.

Evangelist Stephen Brooks, Conference youth director, joined the youth



Stephen Ruff, pastor, baptizes one of the 19 candidates.

team to guide the evangelistic thrust and preach the Three Angels' Message nightly for the two-week Bible conference.

The youth team managed the program, from the praise team to the technical workings of the meeting. When the call was made to follow Christ, 19 individuals accepted the invitation to be baptized and 10 members of the church rededicated their lives in rebaptism.

Denisha Carson, a newly baptized single mother, declared, "I just want to do what God wants me to do!" On the Tuesday following her baptism, she left Newnan for Huntsville, Ala., to register as a freshman at Oakwood University to become a nurse.

She, along with all of the other individuals baptized and the members of the church, will



Denisha Carson's life was changed because of the youth evangelistic effort.

need our prayers as they seek to grow strong, share their testimony, and prepare for the upcoming Revelation Seminar.

—BY STEPHEN P. RUFF



Pictured are S.W.A.T. team members Jenna Robinson (left), Kashiri Favors, and Jasmine Sinkfield.

Durham Receives Community Service Van

The Adventist Community Services department at Immanuel Temple Church in Durham, N.C., gives God honor and praise for the donation of a cargo van.

The van was donated by Frederick and Annie McClain. The members and their pastor, John S. Nixon II, were very grateful for the McClains' act of kindness.

The van will be used to transport food items from the Durham Food Bank and personal items to senior citizens, and for picking up donated items given by the community to Immanuel Temple Church.



The members of Immanuel Temple Church stand in front of the van donated by Frederick and Annie McClain with their pastor, John S. Nixon II (center).

—BY JOHN S. NIXON II

West End Holds Bible Truth Conference



Patrick Carter, pastor, was the featured speaker of the Bible Truth Conference.

West End Church in Atlanta, Ga., held its annual Bible Truth Conference this summer with the associate pastor, Patrick T. Carter, as the speaker. The theme for

the Spirit-filled three weeks was John 8:32: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Each evening Carter presented truths concerning everyday issues such as marriage, finances, and health, as well as key Adventist doctrines such as the Sabbath and the Mark of the Beast.

The conference was an initiative that involved the whole church. Prior to the conference, the personal ministries team invited members of the community by passing out flyers

door-to-door and at local attractions. Various musical artists and groups participated, using their inspirational voices to minister to the attendees. Local church elders led out in the services each night, and the Bible counselors gave spiritual guidance to the perspective new members.

To be sure that there was a message for all age groups, Vacation Bible School was held during the final two weeks, and many children were blessed by a message from the Lord.

The Holy Spirit inspired 25 individuals to be

baptized at the conclusion of the conference, and many more hearts were convicted to live according to the truths learned.

—BY PAULA FARRINGTON



Candidates respond in the affirmative as they take their vows before baptism.

Burlington Church Promotes Community Health



Pictured are Renee Lea-Currie, Ph.D., and Wal-Mart store manager Matt Adams.

The Philadelphia Church's Take Back Tour was a multi-faceted, joint partnering, health outreach ministry that is continually developing under the leadership of the health and temperance leader, Renee Lea-Currie, Ph.D. The facets of the "tour" are "Take Back Your Health," "Take Back the Love," "Take Back the Fun," and "Take Back Your Faith." Partners include local

merchants, county agencies, and a local university.

With the help of Mebane, N.C., Wal-Mart store manager Matt Adams, the event was a huge success. A Take Back Tour table was prominently located in front of the produce section of the store. The table was staffed for nine hours during the course

of the weekend by Lea-Currie and church members. Items and information shared with store customers included *Vibrant Life* tracts about the negative effects of alcohol and the importance of a healthy diet and proper exercise. Other items given away included vegan recipes, coupons, and food samples.

A brochure was made

available entitled, "Where is the REAL Healthy Food?" The brochure was an aisle-by-aisle guide to the location of healthy foods in the Mebane Wal-Mart store.

Another helpful guide was also distributed entitled, "Caveat Emptor: Let the Healthy Shopper Beware: Healthy Shopping Tips."

Wal-Mart provided a product request form for customers to use to request specific items to be stocked in the store.

A total of 113 store customers stopped at the table to get information.

Lea-Currie stated, "The manager and assistant managers were very excited to have us there, and a return date has been requested."

As a part of the church's health min-

istries initiatives, the fourth Annual Wellness Walk was held. More than 90 people participated in the event at Joe Davidson Park in Burlington, N.C.

Activities for the day included a three-mile walk, healthy shopping tips, coupons, free blood pressure screening, and other helpful health information. There were also healthy food tastings and drawings for prizes. Lea-Currie found corporate sponsors to donate free organic food samples and prizes.

—BY VEDA HOWELL



Participants enjoy a brisk walk.

“The Revelation of Jesus Christ”

The excitement and anticipation of Camp Meeting 2008 was felt as the campers began filling campus housing and area hotels. God showered blessings on South Central's 62nd annual camp meeting held on Oakwood University's campus.

In his introductory comments to campers, Benjamin P. Browne, Conference president, stated, “Our main theme for Camp Meeting 2008 is ‘The Revelation of Jesus Christ’ as presented in the Book of Revelation. The messages this week are intended to remind us that we are still connected with the Creator of the Universe.” Attendance reached 2,500-plus before 10 a.m. About 5,500-6,000 were in attendance this year, reported Dana Edmond, Conference executive secretary.

Browne implemented two new events, a joint worship service during camp meeting and a finale concert, “Keys to the Kingdom.”

The first new event happened on Wednesday night. Camp meeting reporter Deborah Truitt said, “The youth, young adults, and adults worshipped together at Oakwood University Church. The speaker was Nigel David, youth camp meeting speaker for the week, from Seattle, Wash. The message was entitled, ‘Prayer Works.’ Mary Calhoun greatly enjoyed the sermon and stated, ‘The message had something for everyone.’ She was right. Pastor David shared experiences in his life as a troubled teen. David



PHOTOS BY FRED PULLINS

Thousands gathered on Oakwood University's campus in Huntsville, Ala., to attend Camp Meeting 2008. Dedrick L. Blue (inset, left), spoke for divine worship on the first Sabbath, and Fredrick A. Russell (inset, right), was the second Sabbath divine worship speaker.

gave his heart to the Lord, went to college, and became a pastor, as a result of the power of prayer. He is a living testimony that prayer does work.”

Following are varied reports from camp meeting news reporters and participants:

“Women's ministries sponsored a Purity Summit for young ladies. It was held at the new Bradford Cleveland Brooks Auditorium for girls between the ages of 13 and 17. Each girl was escorted by a parent. Sandra Johnson and Paula Wallace were the facilitators. The purpose of the summit was to celebrate the practice of abstinence until marriage. The evening included music, food, and fun.” —Terri Moore, Youth Reporter

“Olympics 2008 Beijing

has nothing on what the children experienced in the gym and the field at camp meeting. After four days of wonderfully challenging spiritual and mental children's afternoon activities, a very physical children's ministries Olympic Day was a welcomed addition for children of all ages. The events included long jump; high jump; shot put; 100-, 200-, and 400-meter runs; and the 24-foot-high, brightly colored, inflatable obstacle course. ‘The Olympics are always fun,’ said Treschan Hawke, a young

annual return participant. He is looking forward to next year's Olympic Day after only completing two of the eight planned events. The Service Cadet Club (‘Teen Helpers’), were enthusiastic facilitators of Olympic Day, and also helped to make the day a huge success.” —Joan Reid McClellan, Contributing Reporter

“Children's evening worship service in Wade Hall was nice. The short skits brought the Bible to life. Grandpa Cletus stole the show with his funny stories and good points for us to live by.” —Alexis Hughes, 9, Children's Ministries Participant

“I really enjoyed the children's evening service with new and exciting songs and lively music that the puppets presented. Grandpa Cletus was funny, too. I wish we could have children's worship on Sabbath — maybe next year.” —Alexis Henry, 8, Children's Ministries Participant

“We had a great volleyball game in the gym: Pastors' Wives vs. the Campers. The Campers beat the Pastors' wives with a score of 15 to 9. It was fun to watch

the adults playing with the youth. This must become an annual camp meeting event.” —Terri Moore, Youth Reporter.

These reports are just a brief snapshot of the blessings experienced at Camp Meeting 2008.



EDWARD GOODMAN, IV

Children's Ministries Olympic Day is a welcomed addition for children of all ages.

Keys to the Kingdom

A piano concert concluded Camp Meeting 2008. According to Deborah Truitt, "It was Heavenly! Awesome! Magnificent! Outstanding! Marvelous!"

The program began with opening remarks by Dana Edmond, Conference secretary, followed by an instrumental piece written by Lloyd Mallory, D.M.A., Nancy Dudley then gave an overview of the program. Next, a series of melodious hymns and Negro spirituals arranged by the featured artists were shared.

The congregation was hushed as each note was gracefully played. The gifted musicians praised God and encouraged the listeners. Gale Murphy said, "This is not a performance; it is worship." All were drawn closer to God, and were reminded

of Christ's love and mercy as the musicians honored Him. The concert ended with each musician playing their own arrangement of the hymn, "Amazing Grace." The audience was enthralled by each unique arrangement as they were led to ponder God's amazing grace. Then, the musicians did the unexpected — they played "Amazing Grace" in unison. Six musicians played the same song using pianos, keyboards, and an organ. The listeners rejoiced. By

the time the last note was played, the audience was on its feet. God's amazing grace was magnified and Jesus was glorified. Benjamin Browne, Conference president, thanked the musicians for the

outstanding concert and concluded the program and Camp Meeting 2008 with prayer.

—BY MICHAEL HARPE



"Keys to the Kingdom" is a two-piano concert like none other, inspired and directed by Nancy Dudley (seated, right), pianist, joined by other world renowned pianists: Wayne Bucknor (left) and Gale Murphy. Inset photos: Adrian Westney (top), Brian Jones, and Michael Andrews.

Ordination 2008



E. Earl Cleveland, retired minister and world evangelist, was the keynote speaker at the ordination service.

Juleun A. Johnson, pastor, was ordained June 14, 2008, during the last Sabbath of camp meeting.

He serves at Emmanuel and Maranatha churches in Greenwood and Panama City, Fla.

Johnson is the second son born to J. Alfred and Paula Johnson in Columbia, Md. He is a 2001 graduate of Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala. He attended Andrews Theological Seminary, Berrien Springs, Mich., and graduated in 2003 with a masters of divinity degree.

At Oakwood, Juleun met the former Melissa Morrison of Toronto,

Canada. According to him, "Heaven and Earth rejoiced" on their wedding day, June 8, 2003. She has distinguished herself as an excellent teacher in the public school system. She, too, is a graduate of Oakwood and Andrews. In October 2007, they celebrated the birth of their first child, Morgan Elise.

Retired minister and world Church evangelist E. Earl Cleveland gave an inspiring ordination sermon. Janice Browne, Ph.D., Shepherdess coordinator,

presented Melissa Johnson with gifts and a heartfelt charge.

—BY MICHAEL HARPE



Juleun, Melissa, and Morgan Johnson

Mt. Calvary Opens New Worship Center



ROBERT HENLEY

Pictured is the old Mt. Calvary Church. The facility will continue to house the Mt. Calvary Seventh-day Adventist School.

The Mt. Calvary Church recently opened its new worship center, located in the heart of the African American community in Tampa, Fla.

More than 3,000 people from various areas in Florida and even visitors from out of state were on hand to be a part of this momentous occasion.

For two and a half years, under the leadership of Patrick E. Vincent, D.Min., the members labored and toiled to see the fulfillment of a long awaited and much needed sanctuary.

Vincent, well known for his expertise in erecting church and school buildings, prayerfully and with a vision to victory, led the charge.

Through the sacrificial giving of members and friends, the worship center was finally completed to the honor and glory of God.

The week-long activities began

with a final worship service at 8 a.m., in the old Mt. Calvary Church, located at 3111 East Wilder Avenue. Roy Adams, Ph.D., *Adventist Review* associate editor, delivered the sermon.

At 10 a.m., church members assembled at the entrance of the new church for a ribbon cutting ceremony. The divine worship hour featured a 150-voice mass choir.

Charles D. Brooks, former speaker/director of Breath of Life Ministries telecast, was the featured speaker.

Tampa for the past 100 years, and the community has relied on its members for social services and educational opportunities. Its pastors have been influential leaders. Some even led the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

The worship center has many facilities, including the sanctuary which accommodates up to 1,200. The fellowship hall seats 600. The worship center has ample auxiliary rooms and facilities to cater to its 35 ministries.

These include a thriving children's ministries, growing youth involve-

ment, an active women's ministries program, and the Soul Winning Action Team (SWAT).

The culmination of the march from vision to victory will also serve to anchor Mt. Calvary's presence in east Tampa.

—BY GWENDOLYN A. WILLIAMS



ROBERT HENLEY

The new Mt. Calvary Church is strategically located on a major road which provides a tremendous amount of exposure. This is in stark contrast to the old church which was buried deep in a local community.



ALFONZO MITCHELL

The new facility features a wrap-around balcony. Mt. Calvary recently hosted the Southeastern Prayer Conference, the ninth Southeastern regular constituency session, and a Three Angels Broadcasting Network on the Road Series.

Lunch “N” Learn Initiative Delivers Results

Recognizing the need to develop innovative evangelistic programs, William C. Byrd, pastor of Miami Bethany Church, designed a unique concept, which he calls “Lunch ‘N’ Learn”, to reach out to the community that surrounds Bethany.

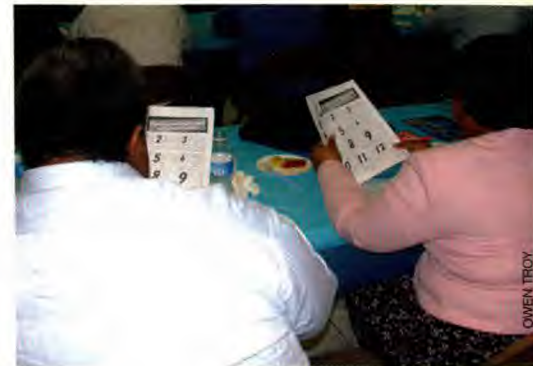
Conducted after divine worship service, the Lunch “N” Learn initiative is a mixture of visual presentations and discussion on Adventist Church doctrines, principles, and beliefs, presented by Byrd, and Conference Bible counselor Pat Staley.

“It provides a forum for

informal interaction through fellowship and doctrinal study with prospective baptismal candidates,” states Byrd. He adds, “We must not be afraid to explore new methods to spread the Gospel.”

With the recent harvest of 11 individuals baptized, including a former local church elder from another city, the Lunch “N” Learn concept has proven to be successful.

Follow-up programs have been formulated and implemented to assist and give support to all recently baptized members. One such program is the New Member Mentorship program. Through this program, members of Bethany



Lunch “N” Learn attendees review the program literature while eating lunch.

are assigned to each new baptized member. “The follow-up programs will ensure that the new believers will not slip out of the back door,” states Byrd.

The members of Bethany are rejoicing and praising God for this abundant harvest of new members recently added to the church family.

—BY CAROL BYRD



William C. Byrd (right), pastor, invited Jonathan McCottry (left), pastor, to accompany him in performing the baptismal rites of candidates, because one of the candidates was one of McCottry’s roommates at Oakwood University many years ago.

David Peay Tapped for Disaster Response

The Southeastern Conference executive committee appointed David Peay to serve as the director of community services, inner city, prison ministries, disability ministries, and Adventist Disaster Response on July 27, 2008.

The appointment reduces the amount of responsibilities of Clarence Wright, who served as director of those departments, from nine to five departments.

Wright will continue to serve as director of Sabbath School, personal ministries,

children’s ministries, and adult ministries.

The committee also added Adventist Service Industries (ASI) to Wright.



Peay received a B.A. in theology from Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., and a master of divinity from Andrews Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, Mich.

Among his many accomplishments as a pastor for more than 24 years, he is proud of his work in the establishment of the Perrine Seventh-day Adventist School, which has entered its 11th year of operation; as well as the establishment of a food distribution program in Quitman, Ga., that serves seven counties in

two states, and feeds more than 200 families per week.

He is married to the former Marva West and has two children, David Jr. and Maria.

Prior to this appointment, he served as pastor of Tabernacle Church in Miami, Fla.

He has served on the Conference executive committee and K-12 board, the North American Division executive committee, and is presently on the Breath of Life Ministries telecast board.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY

DO KIDS NEED DISCIPLESHIP?

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Did you know that at least 51 percent of children born and raised in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination are leaving the Church? Did you also know that the median age in the United States is 36? However, the median age for members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is 62.



Don MacLafferty leads the group in prayer for the children in Cuba during a "Footprints for Kids" small group.

According to statistics, when children are 13 years old they have formed their spiritual identity. Are you afraid for our children's future? A unique ministry called Kids In Discipleship seeks to train parents how to disciple their children for Jesus.

Director Don MacLafferty, associate pastor at the Collegedale, Tennessee, Church, says, "We are living in difficult times. Families are under attack. Satan has a plan to steal the hearts of our children. It is time to intentionally disciple them to stand tall for Jesus in this final era of Earth's history."

A text upon which Kids In Discipleship is based is Deuteronomy 6:5-7: "Love the LORD your God

with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

Kids in Discipleship offers a three-day seminar called K.I.D. University to train volunteer leaders on how to conduct Kids In Discipleship in their home church. The pastor and three lay leaders attend this first training. The participants then lead a 12-week small group Bible study called Footprints for Parents and Mentors that trains members of the church in this child-based ministry.

The next step is to involve the children. Twenty-four interactive lessons in the Footprints for Kids curriculum help parents disciple their own children. There have been more than 161 churches trained internationally, 81



A mother and her sons discover the Word during a "Footprints for Kids" lesson.



Children learn about the power of "influence" through an activity with dominoes during a "Footprints for Kids" lesson.

of those in the United States and, of that number, 25 in Georgia-Cumberland. There are three training sites in the United States: Collegedale; Portland, Oregon; and National City, California.

Founded in 2002, Kids In Discipleship seeks to teach children to be "faithful, fruitful disciples of Jesus Christ."

"While this ministry may appear to target children, in reality it strengthens whole families, which in turn have an energizing influence on entire congregations. Never have I seen such a simple, yet biblically solid and effective model for discipleship and outreach — all built on the foundation of a Christ-centered home," affirmed Ed Wright, Conference president.

If you complete the training before the end of 2008, the North American Division will reimburse \$2,000 of the \$2,900 fee. For more information, see www.kidsindiscipleship.org or call 423-893-3266.

Building Walls Brings People Together in Romania

Usually walls are built to create a separation, but that's not the case when outdoor leadership students are doing the building.

This summer, a team of seven such students built walls and other ropes course elements at Adventist camps throughout Romania, then trained camp staff how to use these elements to instill principles of working together in unity. Once team members accomplish the goal of each activity, they debrief on what they did and how they could

apply what they learned to their lives.

"Sometimes activities can get really frustrating," says Ann Reynolds, graduate outdoor teacher education student, "but we keep doing it and talk about what happened at the end."

While the Romanian camps had started doing ropes course activities, the idea of debriefing was new to them, so much of the training revolved around



Southern students and some of the camp staff they trained stand in front of a newly built ropes course wall. This wall will be used to challenge groups to work together to scale its flat side.

techniques for successful debrief sessions.

Before the team

returned to the States, they learned of some positive results of their labors.

"The youth director at the first camp we trained told us that they had run their first group [parents of future campers] through the elements," says Amanda Durham, wife of an outdoor leadership graduate assistant. "They absolutely loved it and couldn't wait to send their kids. I think what we left behind has incredible meaning and will positively influence the youth of Romania for years to come."

—BY SUZANNE OCSAI

Southern Students Lead 4,561 to Baptism

Eighty-seven students, most of who had never preached a sermon, conducted evangelistic meetings in four countries as part of the summer evangelism program of the Evangelistic Resource Center.

"We are preparing the

next generation of pastors, doctors, and lawyers, to conduct evangelistic series," says Carlos Martin, Evangelistic Resource Center director, "because ordained ministers aren't the only ones who can save souls."

This is Southern's

eighth year conducting summer evangelism trips. Since 2001, 392 student evangelists have led 11,844 people to baptism.

—BY JAIME MYERS



Southern student Paulo Tenorio attends a mass baptism after evangelizing in Tanzania. Students also held evangelistic meetings in Ghana, Guatemala, and South Carolina.

Atkins Returns From Iraq to the Classroom

Chris Atkins, social work assistant professor at Southern, has returned from his tour of duty in Iraq as a U.S. Army social worker in charge of two combat stress clinics in Baghdad's International Zone.

Atkins worked with soldiers who needed supportive counseling to work through problems such as the stress of being away from home, marital distress,

the serious illness of a family member, post traumatic stress disorder from previous combat tours, and anxiety about upcoming missions.

"I saw new young men unfold before me," says Atkins, "born again in Christ. For example, as he sat down with me, one exuberant soldier announced, 'Captain Atkins, my wife and I are going back to church, and I've

asked God to tackle my addiction to all of these drugs, and He's doing it. He's working through me, and I don't want to do those things anymore!' This scenario happened over and over again."

Like the soldiers he treated, Atkins had to take time to face challenges while readjusting to civilian life after eight months in Iraq.

"To embrace my daughters and wife for the first time was a euphoric, loving moment of pure joy," says Atkins, "but readjusting to a life of such comforts, colors, and freedoms is difficult."

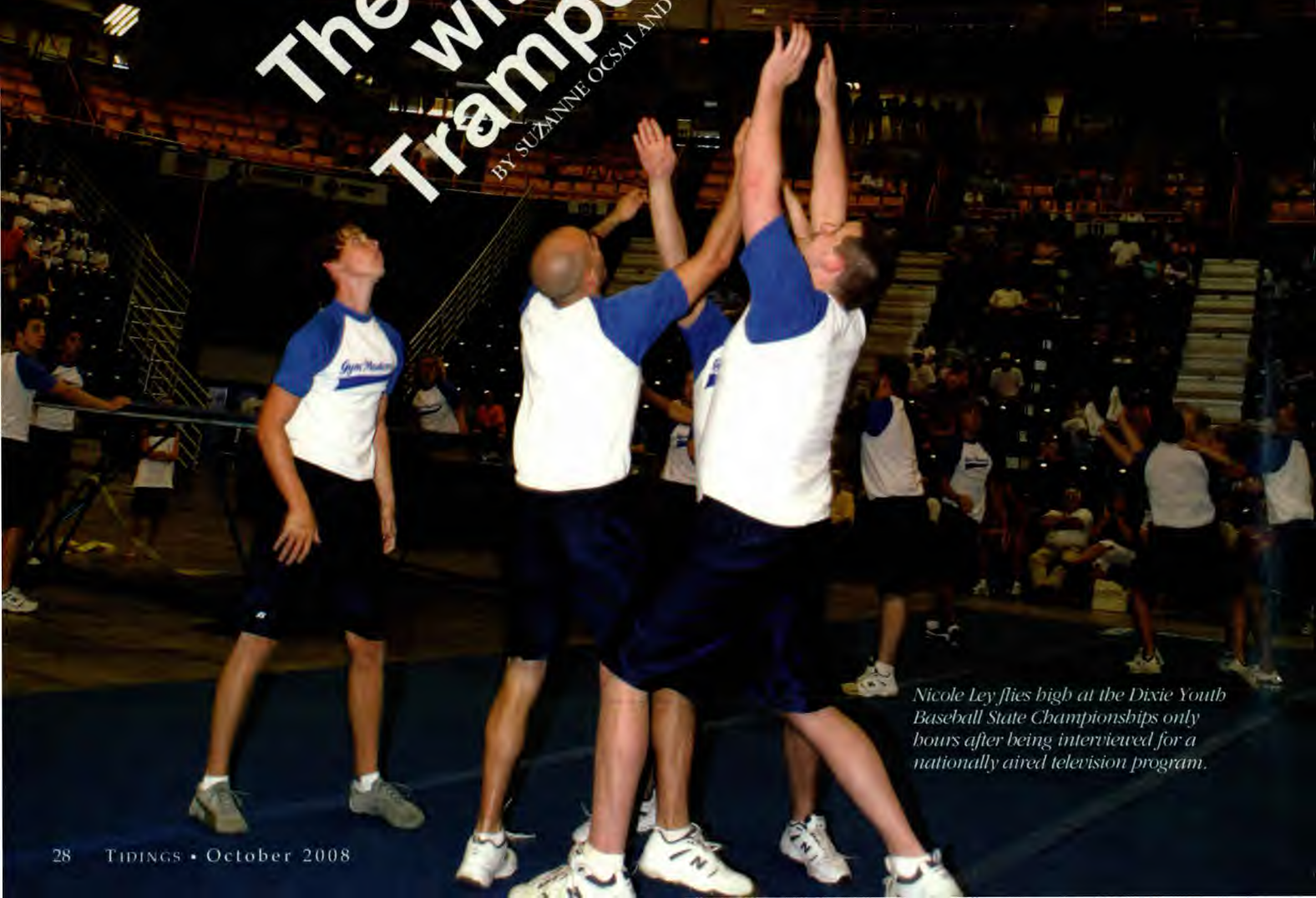
Atkins is incorporating his experiences in Iraq into the classes he is teaching this year.

—BY JAIME MYERS



The Church with a Trampoline

BY SUZANNE OCSAI AND LORI FUTCHER



Nicole Ley flies high at the Dixie Youth Baseball State Championships only hours after being interviewed for a nationally aired television program.

When Rick Schwarz, associate professor and Gym-Masters coach, came to Southern Adventist University, he saw the team as his church. Today, the gymnasts under his charge are doing what members of any healthy church would do — using their talents to witness for Christ.

“We do gymnastics, but that’s just an avenue to get peoples’ attention,” says Schwarz. “Our first goal is evangelism.”

During performances, the Gym-Masters present the benefits of making positive lifestyle choices, but much of the witnessing happens off of the mats, when Schwarz challenges his team members to make connections with people in the audience.

Knowing the power of this kind of personal interaction, Schwarz himself once questioned the validity of doing half-time shows and similar programs that didn’t provide an opportunity for team members to meet and greet before or after the performance.

Five years ago, this question haunted him as the team traveled to New York to do a half-time show for the Knicks. Was it being true to the team’s mission when there would be no chance to mingle with the audience? Schwarz wasn’t sure, but he went ahead and stepped through the door that he would later realize God had opened.

The summer following the performance, Gym-Master Kyle Littell was on a flight when he started making small talk with the woman next to him. Kyle talked about his involvement with Gym-Masters, mentioning that they had recently performed for the New York Knicks. As it turned out, the woman he was speaking with had been at that very game. As Kyle talked about how the team had participated in a mission trip, the woman seemed very interested, mentioning that she would like to do something meaningful with her life. Weeks later,

Kyle learned that because of their conversation, the woman quit her job as a clothing designer and joined the Peace Corps.

“You never know what a performance will do in someone’s life,” Schwarz says.

Dedicating Their Talents

It is because of this experience that Schwarz trusts God had a purpose for the Gym-Masters performing in front of nearly 1,000 young baseball players and their coaches at the 50th anniversary of the Dixie Youth Baseball State Championship this July.

Despite the challenges of pulling a team together in the middle of the summer, only to have several of the students unable to perform for medical reasons, Schwarz held on to words from his devotional that morning: “And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us” Psalm 90:17.

“The things we do are still going to be blessed if it’s the favor of the Lord,” Schwarz explains. “Give Him honor and praise for our talents, and He will bless what we do.”

Despite the need for last-minute adjustments, the performance went superbly. “Better than any of our practices,” Schwarz says. He gives all the credit to God.

Witnessing Through Adversity

Earlier that same day, Gym-Master Nicole Ley was publicly able to give credit to God in a taping for a nationally aired television show — an opportunity that presented itself because of a tragic event during a performance with her academy team when Nicole flipped back further than intended and fell flat on her back. Miraculously she didn’t have any broken bones or internal injuries.

“It was really scary,” says teammate Beth Hartman, “but she landed in

the best way. If someone had actually caught her as she fell it would probably have been a lot worse.”

A video of Nicole’s accident eventually made it on to YouTube, where the producers of the truTV network’s show *Most Daring* discovered the clip and sent a team to Southern to interview Nicole. During the interview, she was able to share how God had protected her and how her spirituality had helped in her recovery and return to gymnastics. Those who watched the taping marveled at how easily and naturally this young person spoke about God as she responded to the interviewer’s questions.

“Every year, I see more and more kids who are open about their faith and will stand up for it,” Schwarz says.

Coaching Others

This year, Schwarz created a tool to help coaches highlight spirituality even more — a devotional, *Meeting the Ultimate Gymnast*. The book was designed as a weekly devotional that takes object lessons straight from the gymnasts’ arena.

This book was introduced this summer at a first-of-its-kind gymnastics clinic when 40 coaches came to Southern from various academies, colleges, and Adventist-run private gyms for three days of focused training.

“The clinic was a great success,” says Schwarz, “I wanted to help our Seventh-day Adventist gymnasts have the best possible coaching from their instructors, and I felt it brought us closer together through a common goal of making a difference in our kids.”

Schwarz’s church may not have a pulpit or pews, but from the mats where young people bounce, tumble, and flip, the joy of God is soaring high and being shared without restraints.



Coaches from various Adventist academies practiced spotting and coaching techniques at the first-of-its-kind coaches’ gymnastics clinic at Southern.

Gym-Masters Performances

- September 7: Morning Point (in Collegedale)
- September 22: ViewSouthern (at Southern)
- October 9-11: Southern Union Clinic (at Southern)
- October 25: Alumni Weekend (at Southern)
- November 13-15: Acrofest (at Union College)

A Church in One Day

BY STEVE HAMSTRA

In sheer scope, the challenge is massive. Around the world some 100,000 Seventh-day Adventist congregations are worshipping under trees, in rickety shacks, in tiny rented rooms — they are homeless. Moreover, with 4,000 churchless congregations added each year, it is a burning problem.

“Our evangelism is bringing them in, but without a building, we lose them to the church down the street,” said Garwin McNeilus, a Minnesota-based businessman and member of Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI).

Each time a congregation has to change location, they lose an average of 30 members. Some groups have been forced to move multiple times, with disastrous effect to their membership.

Maranatha Volunteers International has been providing churches for Adventist congregations worldwide since 1989, and they knew an innovative approach was needed to help meet soaring demand. Attempting to solve this problem, Maranatha president Don Noble met with McNeilus and explored the idea of a steel church, one that would arrive as a pre-fabricated kit requiring minimal time and labor to build.

Thus, the One-Day Church was born as a cooperative project between ASI and Maranatha. And it is indeed a church unlike any other, a galvanized steel frame and vented roof measuring 20 by 35 feet when assembled — enough to seat 150 people. Engineered to meet hurricane and earthquake safety standards, the One-Day Church is durable and rustproof.

The One-Day Church is delivered to the construction site as one fully contained kit weighing 1,300 pounds. A team of four, using simple, readily available tools, can erect the struc-



The first One-Day Church was built in Valle Hermoso, Ecuador, this July.

ture in one day. In fact, the very first One-Day Church was completed in six hours.

Cost-effectiveness was crucial in planning the One-Day Church. Arrangements were made to purchase the processed steel kits at cost, and the entire structure was carefully designed for both maximum strength and efficiency. An entire One-Day Church, including transportation and construction, costs \$3,000. However, this year’s ASI Convention Special Projects Offering provided dollar-for-dollar matching funds for the first 4,000 churches.

Involving the recipient congregation is a key element of the One-Day Church. Local members will be tasked with selecting the construction site and obtaining all necessary permits. They are also responsible to finish the walls and interior of the church. This provides the congregation with a sense of ownership, with “sweat equity” in their new church building.

Adventist leadership is squarely behind the One-Day Church. Jan

Paulsen, world Church president, and Don Schneider, North American Division president, offered a special dedication of the project during this year’s ASI Convention in Tampa, Florida.

“Worldwide Church membership growth is tremendous; however, we haven’t been able to match that growth with church buildings,” Schneider later said. “It’s amazing how such a relatively small sum of money can build an entire church. And, the effect on the congregation from having a church of their own is so great. This project is going to bless countless people,” he added.

“The One-Day Church has tremendous potential and will benefit the worldwide Church in ways never before possible,” Paulsen said after the ASI Convention. He went on to describe how the Church is a family, and like any family a church needs

a home in which to grow and be nurtured. “The One-Day Church provides numerous such homes,” Paulsen said, “places where our family can continue to grow both spiritually and in number.”

The first One-Day Church is already standing — built this past July in Valle

Hermoso, Ecuador. Soon there will be thousands.

More information about the One-Day Church can be found at www.onedaychurch.org.

Steve Hamstra is communication director for ASI.



Jan Paulsen (left), world Church president, and Don Schneider, North American Division president, dedicated the One-Day Church project during this year’s ASI Convention in Tampa, Florida.

Catching the 2008 ASI Vision

Some said “inspirational,” others said “uplifting,” and not a few labeled it “camp meeting on steroids.” It was the 61st annual Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) Convention, held this year in Tampa, Fla., and themed “By Knowing Him.”

Beginning Wednesday evening, August 6, and

100 submitted to ASI.

A wide variety of undertakings and locations made up the 2008 projects. A large number were construction projects, including the finishing of the new lifestyle center at Uchee Pines Institute in Seale, Ala. Another project was the purchasing of a shipping container of disaster relief supplies for ACTS World Relief, based in Apopka, Fla.

Electrifying the convention, however, was the One-Day Church project. A joint effort between ASI and Maranatha Volunteers International, the One-Day Church will provide cost-effective, well-

built churches to “homeless” Adventist congregations around the world. It is a galvanized steel frame and vented roof that can be easily assembled by four people in just one day. The recipient congregation will be responsible to finish the walls and interior.

The response was overwhelming; an offering of \$8,034,672 was pledged, more than quadruple the 2007 offering. “It’s just fantastic,” says a beaming Dwight Hilderbrandt, interim ASI secretary-treasurer. “This year’s offering was about evangelism and

building churches, schools, etc., and the people really caught the vision and got behind it.”

Not only was evangelism emphasized in the offering projects, it was a powerful premise throughout the convention.

On Sabbath morning, attendees were even provided with a special ASI Convention edition of the New Beginnings evangelism DVD, providing them with an attractive, user-friendly means to become evangelists in their communities.

Involving young people in evangelism is an integral tenet to ASI, and during the Friday evening meeting a special presentation was made about Youth for Jesus (YFJ). An ASI-sponsored youth evangelism program, YFJ reaches out to the community where the ASI convention is to be held each year.

YFJ Bible workers had been in Tampa since January, and the youth-led evangelistic meetings began in July and ended right before ASI Convention. All told, 52 youth participated along with 19 Bible workers. And from their efforts, 103 people chose to keep the Sabbath, and

94 requested baptism.

Testimonies from ASI members are a part of every ASI Convention, and this year a wide range of active lay people were highlighted. Among them was Volker Schmidt, a businessman from Kentucky who does door-to-door outreach with his granddaughter.

Many convention attendees shared the excitement of April Tracy from Glasgow, Ky., who said, “There are so many projects I’d like to help with.”

Asked if she enjoyed the convention, Tracy replied with a big smile, “I called my granddaughter and told her, ‘Next year you’re coming with me.’”

Then there’s Kyle Tumberg. He and his wife spent their honeymoon at ASI Convention. “And,” he glowed, “I don’t regret it!”

The 2009 ASI Convention will be in Phoenix, Ariz., August 5-8.

—BY STEVE HAMSTRA



GERRY CHUDLEIGH

Damion Miller, a graduate of Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., spoke at the ASI Convention about his year of service with the National Association for the Prevention of Starvation (NAPS).

ending Sabbath, August 9, ASI Convention was attended by more than 2,500 people, including 500 young people. Three Angels Broadcasting Network provided live worldwide television coverage.

A full schedule included nine main meetings, 20 seminars under five different themes, and complete programs for children and youth.

A highlight at convention each year is the ASI Special Projects Offering, and this year the offering supported 41 projects chosen from approximately



GERRY CHUDLEIGH

Ken Norton (right with mic), director of the Lay Institute for Evangelism (LIFE) in Orlando, Fla., and LIFE students told the ASI Convention attendees about their evangelistic work.

Obituaries

COLLIER, Regine (Ginette), born Sept. 25, 1914 in Paris, France, and came to the US at age nine, died Sept. 7, 2008 in Gallatin, TN, just days short of her 94th birthday. She and her husband Norman were members of the Louisville, KY First and Dothan, AL churches. She is survived by three daughters: Doris Jeanette and Suzanne Carroll of Louisville, and Sandra Kovalski of Collegedale, TN; 10 grandchildren, and 20 great-grandchildren.

DAVIS, Kenneth R. ("KR"), 86, died Jan. 16, 2008. Originally from Green Bay, WI; he was a resident of Collegedale, TN, for the past 67 years, and a member of the Collegedale Church. He retired from Southern Adventist University as director of testing and counseling, and was former dean of men and dean of students. He was a longtime supporter of the Student Association. His wife, Jean Davis, predeceased him. He is survived by two daughters: Mariellen Davis and Peggy Elkins; one brother, E. Robert Davis; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

ELLIS, Ronald E., 81, born June 1, 1926 in Jamaica, West Indies, died March 29, 2008 in Ocala, FL. He was a member of the Silver Springs Shores, FL, Church for 15 years. He is survived by one son, Ivor Mark of Jamaica, West Indies; and one daughter, Marcia Ellis of Port St. Lucie, FL. The service was conducted at the Silver Springs Shores Church by Pastor Reynold Maxwell. Interment was at Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Ocala.

FERGUSON, Cynthia Benson, 82, born Feb. 19, 1926, died June 5, 2008 at the Loma Linda University Medical Center in Loma Linda, CA. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Martin E. Benson, Jr.; one son, Martin E. Benson, III; one daughter, Marie E. Benson; and her second husband, Glenn M. Ferguson. She is survived by two daughters: Melody Benson Chambers and Ruth Anne Ferguson Tillman; and two granddaughters: Amy L. Chambers and Kaitlyn M. Tillman.

FITCH, William L., 80, born Feb. 28, 1928 in Sioux City, IA, died May 26, 2008 in Avon Park, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park Church. His years of service include: teaching in Illinois from 1961-1954; teacher and pastor in Venezuela 1954-1962; and teacher and pastor Broadview Academy 1966-1974 and Platte Valley 1974-1991. He is survived by his wife, Jean; one son, Donald; one daughter, Karen; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

HALVORSEN, Lester, 83, born Sept. 13, 1924 in Rapid City, MI, died Aug. 16, 2008 in Zephyrhills, FL. He was member of the East Pasco Church in Zephyrhills, for 16 years. He was an accountant and served in West Pakistan, Indiana Academy, Sunnysdale Academy, Review & Herald Publishing Association, Dakota Conference, Kettering Hospital, and Community Services in Orlando, FL. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Reva; one son, Ken Halvorsen of Berrien Springs, MI; one daughter, Karen Gimbel of Brunswick, ME; two sisters: Ruby Roosenberg and Thelma Woolever of Zephyrhills; five grandchildren; and one great grandchild. The service was conducted at the East Pasco Church.

HAYWARD, Carol Elizabeth (Polishuk), 64, born April 29, 1944 in Viceroy, Saskatchewan, Canada, died Aug. 21, 2008 in Alliance, NE. She was the wife of Pastor Robert Wayne Hayward for 44 years. They served in the Dakota, Georgia-Cumberland, Southern Union, Gulf States, and Kansas-Nebraska conferences. She is survived by two sons: Bryant and Darren; three sisters: Jeanette Davis of Lacombe, Alberta, Marilyn Ilev of Calgary, Alberta, and Linda Spencer of Lincoln City, OR; one brother, Lauren Polishuk of Brooks, Alberta; and three grandsons: Dillon, Christopher, and Jonathon.

HUTH, Alice Martha, 87, born in 1920 in Centertown, KY, died July 23, 2008 in Louisville, KY. She was a member of the Louisville First Church.

JONES, William R., 81, born Feb. 26, 1927 in Prince George, VA, died May 19, 2008 in Ocala, FL. He was a

member of the Silver Springs Shores, FL, Church for 17 years. He is survived by his wife, Susie; one son, Nathan of Ocala; two daughters: Gwendolyn Scretching (Oliver) of Huntsville, AL, and Carole Johnson (Russell) of Lithonia, GA; five brothers: Alfred, Charles, John, Ronald, and Larry; two sisters: Agnes Smith and Ernestine Clay; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Silver Springs Shores Church by Dr. Creaton Francis and Pastor Reynold Maxwell. Interment was at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

KEPLINGER, John Edgar, 86, born June 10, 1921 in Jasonville, IN, died Jan. 31, 2008. He was a member of the McDonald Road Church in McDonald, TN. After serving as a pastor in the Carolinas, he became an Army Chaplain until his retirement with the rank of Colonel in 1972. Still able to affectively serve the Church he loved, he was on the faculty of Little Creek Academy, became the director of the Seventh-day Adventist Servicemen's Center in Frankfurt, Germany, served as chaplain at a private Adventist-owned Nursing Home in Evansville, IN, and was a part-time pastor at the Collegedale, TN, Church. His wife of 53 years, Nellie Lee Carter, predeceased him. He is survived by his second wife, Thyra Bowen Sloan Keplinger; one brother, Harold Keplinger of Arlington TX; two daughters: Bennie Sue Roesel of Cleveland, TN, and Jeannine Moore of Cleburne, TX; one son, Edgar Lee Keplinger of Richmond, VA; eight grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by his son-in-law, Elder Larry Moore and Elder Stanley Will. Interment was at the East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery in Knoxville, TN, with full military honors.

KEPPLER, C. Burton (Burt), M.D., 79, born Jan. 20, 1929 in Milwaukee, WI, died March 6, 2008 in Asheville, NC. He attended the Florida Hospital School of Nursing and graduated in 1953 as a registered nurse. In 1959, he completed his pre-med requirements while pursuing and receiving a bachelor's degree from Andrews University. He was accepted into the Loma Linda University School of Medicine where he received his M.D. degree. In 1966, the Keplers moved to Greenville, SC, where Dr. Keppler completed a year of internship at Greenville Hospital and began practicing family medicine with Dottie, a registered nurse. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Dottie; four children: Brenda Rodman, Susan Mullen, Karen Hoatson, and Ben Keppler; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

KOSIER, Merrill, 84, born Oct. 18, 1923 in Johnstown, PA, died Feb. 10, 2008 in Bonifay, FL. He was a member of the Bonifay Church. He worked in the space exploration and missile defense industry for more than 25 years, including various positions at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral and with Western Electric in Greensboro, NC. He and his wife founded the recruiting firm of Kosier Careers, Inc., where they both worked until retiring to Bonifay. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Loriene; four daughters and three sons-in-law: Gail and Paul Neuharth, Wendy and Bryan Hall, Merrillyn and James Kinoshita, and Michelle Mauch; and one granddaughter.

MAQUERA, Alfred E., 78, born Jan. 11, 1930 in Juliaca, Peru, died July 7, 2008 in Sebring, FL. He was a member of the Avon Park, FL, Church. He is survived by three sons: Alfred Jr. (Laurel), Wernher (Karinda), and Kurt (Lisa); 10 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

PLATT, Nancy R., 85, born June 27, 1923 in Union County, NC, died Aug. 3, 2008 in Asheville, NC. She was a member of the Columbia, SC, First Church, where she came as a teenager for school and became as Adventist. She shared her faith with her family resulting in having three siblings and her mother join the Church. She was active for many years as both children's and adult Sabbath School teacher. Her husband of 62 years, Less, predeceased her. She is survived by two sons: Don (Gwen) and David, and one daughter, Bobbie (Dennis) Millburn; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one brother, J. P. Rogers.

RADA, Eladia, 95, born May 3, 1913 in the Philippines, died July 20, 2008 in Avon Park, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park Church for three years. She is survived by five sons: Eliezer and Israel of Avon Park, Sigfred of Hyappaville, MD, Hanamel of Gladstone, MO, and Gideon of Hendersonville, TN; two daughters: Redeem Echart of Brandywine, MD, and Nesse of Chicago, IL; 23 grandchildren; and 29 great-grandchildren. The service was conducted at the Avon Park Church by Pastor Eben Aguirre. Interment was at Lakeview Memorial Gardens in Sebring, FL.

RUSS, C. Martin, 88, born Oct. 23, 1919 in West Palm Beach, FL, died May 25, 2008 in DeBary, FL. He was a member of the Deltona, FL, Church. He served as a teacher in Jacksonville, FL, pastor-teacher in Okeechobee, and a teacher at Miami Academy. After working for Worthington Foods and Collegedale Distributors, he began working for the Review & Herald Publishing Association in 1975 until he retired in 1984. After retirement, he served as a volunteer in the publishing work in Kenya, East Africa. He is survived by his wife, Corinne; two daughters: Bette and Barbara; one sister, Carol Herrell; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

STANLEY, Lillian Marie, 85, born April 8, 1923 in Greensboro, NC, died June 1, 2008 in Sophia, NC. She was a member of the Greensboro Church for more than 60 years. Her husband, Richard G. Stanley, predeceased her. She is survived by one daughter, Jan Coates; one son and daughter-in-law, Richard M. and Kerri Stanley; and one granddaughter and her husband, Julie and Brad Hopson.

TRUBEY-ARELLANO, Alice, 72, born Jan. 26, 1936 in Tullahoma, TN, died July 26, 2008 in Fletcher, NC. Her husbands, Norman Trubey and Bernard Arellano, preceded her in death. She is survived by one son, Jeff (Ann) Trubey; two daughters: Pam Trubey Hughes and Lisa Trubey Knudsen; and four granddaughters: Amy (Rouse) Roth; Sophie and Emma Trubey; and Kate Knudsen.

UNDERWOOD, Doris W., 86, born May 27, 1921 in Battle Creek, MI, died March 15, 2008 in Winter Haven, FL. She was a member of the Lake Wales, FL, Church for 10 years. She was a teacher at Glenwood, Battle Creek Academy, Burlington, and Banfield Church schools. She is survived by her husband, LeeRoy; one son, Joel; two daughters: Laurel Underwood and Cheryl Brandt; two brothers: David Wrate and Herbert Wrate; four sisters: Glenna Briggs, Irma Church, Fern Palfi, and JoAnne Snelling; and five grandchildren.

WAMPLER, Eugenia, 86, born April 4, 1922 in Wytheville, VA, died June 6, 2008 in Buena Vista, VA. She was a member of the Jacksonville First, FL, Church since 2006. She is survived by three sons: Wayne, Darrell, and Edward; one daughter, Rhonda Greene; one sister, Juanita Reynolds; and four grandchildren.

WARD, W. Freeman, Sr., 97, born Oct. 30, 1910 in Paris, TN, died March 18, 2008 in Rio Vista, CA. He was a resident of Alabama for 68 years, a member of the Birmingham First Church, a charter member of the Roebuck Church, and the Clanton Church. His wife, Eleanor Stephens Ward, predeceased him. He is survived by one son, Buddy Ward; one grandson, Bill Ward; one granddaughter, Julie Jones; and one great-grandson, Tal Jones.

WOOD, William Meredith, 84, born Oct. 14, 1923 in Cleveland, OH, died June 1, 2008 in Madison, AL. He was employed by Cleveland's main US Postal Services branch for more than 37 years. He was married to the late Doris C. [Holt-Harpe] Wood. He is survived by one step-son, Pastor Michael A. (Selita) Harpe; two step-daughters: Teresa Harpe (Gerard) Johnson, and Deborah Harpe; two brothers: Albert G. and Madison M. Wood; five grandchildren; great-grandchildren; three nephews; two nieces; a host of great-nieces; nephews; cousins; and friends.

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Mount Olive para Cristo



Iglesia de Mount Olive, grupos pequeños

El sábado 9 de agosto, la iglesia de "Mount Olive", NC, llevó a cabo la ceremonia de inauguración de sus

nuevos 8 grupos pequeños por medio de un desfile, y bajo el lema: "Mount Olive para Cristo". El evento tuvo

lugar en una carpa que fue instalada en el terreno que esta iglesia ha adquirido para construir un templo.

La celebración concluyó con el bautismo de 2 almas que entregaron sus vidas al Señor.

Semana de Oración "Familias Felices"

A fines del mes de julio, la iglesia de Greenville, NC, disfrutó de una semana de oración dirigida por el pastor Boris Carbajal titulada Familias Felices. Se contó con la asistencia de un buen número de familias de la iglesia, y 10 visitas.



Pastores Sandoval y Carvajal (segundo y tercero a la izquierda) con un grupo de hermanos en la plataforma.

Como corolario de este bendecido evento, Ramón Deroncele y Libardo Aranda, entregaron sus vidas a Cristo por medio del bautismo.

Florida Noticias

Bendiciones Traídas por el Viento

Mientras la iglesia trabajaba en los arreglos de los daños producidos por el huracán Katrina, el paso del huracán Wilma dejó el templo sin techo. La tercera parte cayó a tres cuadras de distancia y el resto en el patio



PASTORES ALLAN MACHADO Y DEMETRIO HERNANDEZ

vecino. Esto produjo daños estructurales de una magnitud tal, que hizo que sea imposible salvar el edificio. La municipalidad envió una nota en abril del 2006, declarándolo "estructura no segura" y estableció un plazo de

30 días para su demolición. Una vez terminado este doloroso proceso, la iglesia se concentró en la tarea de planificar la construcción de un nuevo templo, la cual se dio por comenzada el pasado 13 de Julio. Se espera con la ayuda de Dios tener la ceremonia de inauguración dentro de un año.

El proceso no es sencillo; en un proyecto como

éste siempre hay retos que enfrentar. Sin embargo, hemos visto la mano de Dios dirigiendo y motivando a la iglesia en cada etapa. Estamos aprendiendo a confiar en Aquél que sabe escribir derecho en renglones torcidos. Personalmente, aprendí la diferencia entre el ¿Por qué? y el porque...

—PASTOR ALLAN MACHADO,
IGLESIA DE HIALEAH

La Obra del Espíritu Santo en Knoxville

El distrito de Knoxville, TN, tuvo su segundo ciclo de evangelismo con un resultado de 27 nuevas conversiones. Las experiencias vividas durante este evento, fueron de gran inspiración y reavivamiento para las iglesias. Un ejemplo es el caso del hermano Zamudio, un joven arruinado por las drogas y el licor. Cansado de su vida miserable, clamó a Dios por ayuda y recibió una invitación para asistir a las conferencias. Se contactó con un servidor para solicitar que alguien lo llevase a la iglesia, y

expresó su gran necesidad de ayuda, y de un cambio en su vida. Por su puesto su deseo fue concedido; asistió a las reuniones fielmente, y el sábado pidió ser bautizado como testimonio público de su fe y libertad en Cristo.

Pocos días más tarde, la iglesia de Morristown vivió un pequeño Pentecostés. Después de una ceremonia bautismal, un servidor hizo un nuevo llamado a entregar las vidas a Jesús, y súbitamente se acercaron al frente personas que no sólo deseaban

que se ore por ellas, sino también recibir el bautismo en ese momento.

¡Qué maravilloso es el evangelismo! Se convi-

erte en la oportunidad del Espíritu Santo para llevar a cabo "milagros modernos."
—PASTOR RICHARD URDANETA,
DISTRITO DE KNOXVILLE



Pastor Richard Urdaneta, con hermanos que apoyaron en la campaña, y nuevos miembros del distrito de Knoxville.

Gulf States Noticias

Inauguración del Templo de Hattiesburg

El 19 de abril, luego de mucho esfuerzo, la iglesia hispana de Hattiesburg, MS, tuvo el gozo de inaugurar su templo. Fue maravilloso ver la mano y dirección

divinas durante todo el proceso, ya sea en la compra de materiales como en la disposición que puso en los hermanos, quienes trabajaron y donaron dinero

para la edificación. Más de la mitad de los recursos provino de sus donaciones. Dios aceptó estas ofrendas e hizo posible que la deuda con la que se concluyó el proyecto fuera mínima. También bendijo a los hermanos generosos en forma personal. Muchos son los testimonios que se pueden compartir al respecto.

La mayor bendición

que se recibió como iglesia, fue el privilegio de ser el lugar en que se concluyó la Caravana de la Esperanza. Más de 400 personas del distrito Mississippi Sur se dieron cita en esta oportunidad, y 52 almas fueron el resultado de este esfuerzo.

—PASTOR NILTON GARCÍA,
DISTRITO MISSISSIPPI SUR



Nueva Compañía

El sábado 12 de abril el grupo hispano de Montgomery, Al, fue organizado como compañía. Un servidor fue presentado como su nuevo líder, y ordenado al ministerio al final de la ceremonia. Mel



Eisele, presidente de la asociación, Leslie Louis, secretario ejecutivo, Don Shelton, secretario ministerial y líder del comité hispano, y Rocío Roberts, estuvieron presentes en el evento.

—PASTOR JAIME POMBO,
MONTGOMERY

Bendiciones en Memphis



Veinticinco almas entregaron sus vidas a Dios luego del excelente trabajo de los evangelistas Ismael Hernandez, Mario Monzón y Pedro Rascón en la iglesia central de Memphis, y el grupo de Memphis Sur,

TN. Este fue un esfuerzo conjunto, ya que contó con el valioso aporte de los hermanos quienes han estado trabajando en los hogares iglesia, y apoyando las campañas con estudios bíblicos y oración.

—PASTOR ARMANDO DE LEÓN, COORDINADOR DEL MINISTERIO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

Un Sueño Descifrado

Jaime Sánchez pertenecía a una congregación evangélica. No satisfecho, oraba para que el Señor le mostrara la iglesia verdadera. Cierta noche tuvo un sueño: estaba herido y había sido llevado a un hospital. Como la herida era de muerte, luchaba por sobrevivir. En ese momento llegó una enfermera, y él, a pesar de nunca haber escuchado la palabra ADVENTISTA en su vida real, le preguntó: “¿Es usted adventista?” Ella contestó: “Yo soy adventista del séptimo día, y te voy a

curar y cuidar.”

Al despertar de este sueño se levantó y comenzó su rutina diaria; era sábado de mañana. Se dirigió primeramente a una tienda hispana a hacer compras, y en su camino pensaba en la frase “adventista del séptimo día”, preguntándose de dónde habría salido. Allí se percató de que el séptimo día es el sábado y pensó: “si hubiese una iglesia que tuviera sus reuniones en sábado, yo asistiría.” Al entrar en la tienda se detuvo para hojear los periódicos, y vio un vol-

ante de invitación a un ciclo de evangelismo que estaba ya vencido. No obstante se detuvo a leerlo, y para su sorpresa, el lugar en donde se había llevado a cabo este evento, era “la iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día de Nashville.” Inmediatamente decidió buscarla ya que era sábado de mañana. Al llegar escuchó un hermoso sermón sobre el amor de Cristo presentado por el doctor Atilio Dupertuis.

Al finalizar la reunión, un servidor lo saludó amablemente invitándolo para

el programa de la tarde, y obsequiándole el libro “El Deseado de Todas las Gentes.” Esa misma semana Jaime comenzó a recibir estudios bíblicos y no volvió a trabajar en sábado luego de estudiar sobre este tema. No mucho tiempo después, tomó la decisión de bautizarse y lo hizo junto a otras 14 personas. En la actualidad, Jaime alaba a Dios por medio de su canto y su guitarra,

—PASTOR CARLOS PINTO, IGLESIA DE NASHVILLE

South Atlantic Noticias

Bautismo en Casa

El 19 de abril fue una fecha memorable para la congregación de Saluda, NC, por haberse llevado a cabo el primer bautismo en la iglesia. El pastor Polloche instaló un bautisterio portátil, y se pudo celebrar la entrega de 9 almas a Cristo “en casa,” ya que en ocasiones anteriores se

pedían prestados templos de la zona.

Este bautismo fue resultado de una semana de evangelismo dirigida por el pastor Ezequiel Gonzáles, director de evangelismo de la asociación sureste de la Republica Dominicana.

—PASTOR JOSÉ REYES, IGLESIA DE SALUDA



Pastores José Reyes, extremo derecho, y Ezequiel González, extremo izquierdo, con el grupo de personas bautizadas.

Bautismo de Matrimonios en Somerset

La iglesia La Esperanza ubicada en Somerset, se llenó de gozo con el bautismo de cinco matrimonios el 5 de julio pasado. Fue inspirador saber que en cada pareja, uno de los integrantes representó la primer alma ganada para Cristo por el otro cónyuge. Fue una ceremonia altamente emotiva.

Este evento se llevó a cabo como conclusión del lanzamiento del programa de grupos pequeños en el

distrito. Berenice Machic, una de las personas que fue bautizada, estaba ya liderando un grupo bajo la supervisión de Estrella Castillo, previo a su bautismo. "Dios puso en mi corazón el deseo de bautizarme en esta iglesia, y de ganar a otros para su reino." Para completar su gozo, cinco miembros del grupo fueron bautizados con ella.

—PASTOR SAMUEL PEGUERO,
DISTRITO LATINO



Pastor Samuel Peguero junto a las parejas que fueron bautizadas.

Southeastern Noticias

Imágenes de Salvación



Iglesia El Buen Redil: Graduación de las 8 personas que estudiaron el curso bíblico, y fueron bautizadas el 21 de junio en el programa "Mil Almas en un Día."



Bautismo del programa Mil almas en un Día en el distrito de Hialeah.



Ceremonia de organización de la congregación de West Palm Beach que fue organizada como iglesia.



Primer candidato bautizado en el programa "Mil almas en un Día" en la playa de Miami Beach junto al pastor Anselmo Mesa.

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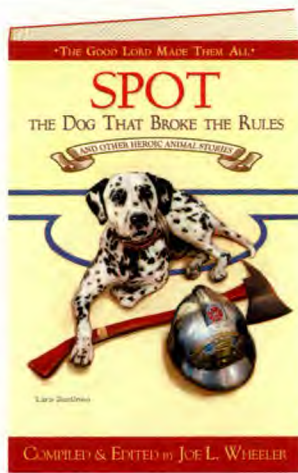
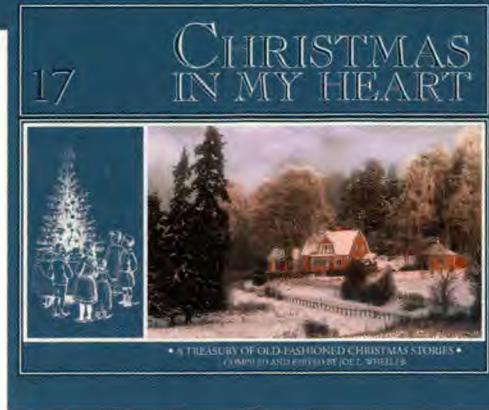
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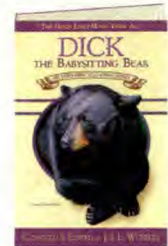
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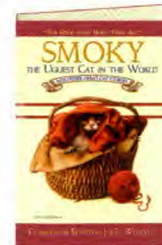
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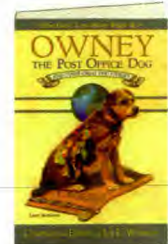
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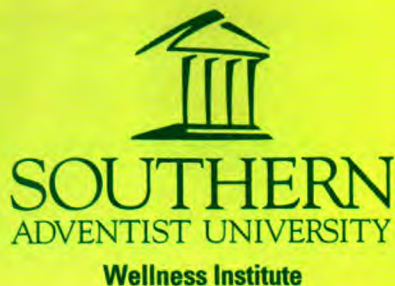
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One hundred and forty-five years ago, the Adventist health message was born as Ellen White received a vision about the connection of physical and spiritual health. Though much has changed since this vision was first received, the need for the health message is as strong as ever.

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To succeed in this endeavor, we need to hear from you. Please fill out the attached survey or complete the online survey at www.southern.edu/wellness_survey to let us know about your health needs and interests.

Thank you for your help in continuing the health ministry here in the Southern Union.

Sincerely,

Gordon Bietz, Southern Adventist University President



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—John 10:10 (NKJV)



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Kentucky-Tennessee: Lin Powell, 615-859-1391
 South Atlantic: Lawrence Hamilton, 404-792-0535
 South Central: Michael Harpe, 615-226-6500
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PROPERTY AVAILABLE

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405-454-6538. Website: www.summit-ridge-village.org [10-4]

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FOR SALE. Wagener, SC – Peaceful 64.95 acres located 30 miles from Columbia, SC, and about 20 miles from Aiken, SC. Located 7 miles from I-20. It has lots of timber and has the possibility for a pond. Call Sam at 803-413-2858. [10-12]

FOR SALE. Northwest Ft. Lauderdale – Recent new roof and A/C, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1½ garage, 7 tropical fruit trees, solar water heater. 954-764-8056. [10]

FOR SALE. Smoky Mountain Home on 13 acres, featuring stone and steel siding, spring fed stream flowing under glass floor in great room, 4,500 sq ft, 5 bedrooms/4 baths, spa, 5-car garage, walk-in cold box, and much more. Outstanding retreat, B&B potential. Contact James Hoppa, Coldwell Banker Nelson Inc. 865-928-0500. Virtual Tour: www.6850HappyValley.com. [10,11]

FOR SALE. Collegedale area home on 2 acres. 4 miles to SAU, built in 2003 with wood floors, one-level with stainless appliances. Immaculate one-owner home. \$209,000. MUST SEE! Call Wendy Dixon, Crye-Leike Realtors at 423-883-0654. [10]

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and upgraded fixtures throughout. 10 mins. to SAU and 5 mins. to I-75. Call Wendy Dixon, Crye-Leike Realtors 423-883-0654. [10]

SHOPPING FOR YOUR DREAM HOUSE? Beautiful country hillside home on 47 acres (negotiable). 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, spacious kitchen and formal dining room, open great room, one bedroom & bath apartment over attached garage. Greeneville, TN, near SDA K-12 school & hospital. \$749,000. 706-602-0481 or 423-620-2222. [10]

FOR SALE. Home on seven acres near Roan Mountain, TN. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2,300 sq ft home. 85% complete, awaiting your finishing touches. Learn more by visiting: <http://jtbrunton.googlepages.com> or calling 502-352-1109. [10,11]

FOR SALE. Over ½ acre building lot in Knoxville, TN, in a very nice subdivision near University of Tennessee/Downtown/Knoxville Airport. All utilities, county taxes, survey on file. Can have basement. MLS# 630621, \$28,500. Call Debbie Yankey 865-414-8818, Coldwell Banker Wallace & Wallace at 865-966-1111. [10]

FOR SALE. Handicap Accessible Home 1,800 sq ft, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large pantry/storage off kitchen, private deck, 960 sq ft, attached garage/shop with sink and toilet, walkout basement storage. Near SDA Church in Rutherfordton, NC. \$175,000. Call 828-286-0972 or 828-817-3825. [10]

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Decatur, GA 30031-0849

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Advertisements

in Ooltewah, TN, nine miles from Southern Adventist University, 3,553 sq ft, 5 bedrooms, 3½ bathrooms. Large, partly finished basement. Call 423-510-1368. [10]

AFFORDABLE RETIREMENT ASSISTED LIVING in Tennessee is available for three ambulatory Adventist women. Beauty of nature on over 5 acres. Speaking French, Spanish, and English. Tennis court, comfortable, safe. Call 931-796-2365, 931-628-3053, or 931-628-3072. [10]

FOR SALE. Lakeland, FL. \$31,900. Doublewide mobile home in adult park with 1,040 sq ft, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, dining/living/Florida room, attached storeroom with washer/dryer and covered carport. Close to pool and clubhouse. Near SDA Church, regional hospital, and large mall. 707-756-0220 or benson2457@yahoo.com [10,11]

FOR SALE. Home and 25 acres near Atlanta, GA. 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths, basement, timber, stream, must sell. \$488K. www.75hightower.com, 910-339-8049. [10]

FOR SALE. Country home on seven acres near Waynesboro, TN. Small, 2-bedroom home with pond, cabin, and stream. See photos and description at billsherm.googlepages.com/topsyhome. \$89,800. 877-606-7873 or 931-722-5218. [10]

FOR SALE. Three Cemetery Lots at Highland Memory Garden, Forest City, FL, adjacent to Florida Living Nursing Center. Current market price at \$7,776, will sell all three for \$5,995. Contact Van McGlawn at 727-863-0480. [10]

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks an Adventist biologist-educator committed to undergraduate student learning and research for Fall 2009. Ph.D. preferred. Professorial rank will depend on degree, prior experience, and publications. Specialties in botany, molecular genetics, or field ecology are preferred. Successful applicants will provide evidence of commitment to Adventist higher education, teamwork skills, teaching expertise, research experience, and involvement in student learning and career advising. Please send CV, cover letter (including a statement of teaching philosophy), and names with contact information for three references to Dr. Keith Snyder, Chair, Biology Search Committee, Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN 37315, Call: 423-232926, Fax: 423-236-1926. Department website: <http://biology.southern.edu> / Email: kasnyder@southern.edu [10]

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR THE CHILDREN'S ACADEMY AT LOCH HAVEN. This individual must have a degree in a field related to early childhood education, elementary education, or child development and at least one year of work experience related to administration of schools and/or day care facilities. Responsibilities include

working with policies, enrollment, staffing, curriculum, and administration as well as communicating with parents and the community at large. This person should be a committed Christian who is enthusiastic, nurturing, and organized with the ability to handle crises situations and make decisions. Please forward your resume with references to John Monday, 2800 N Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32804, fax to 407 896 5518, or e-mail to John.Monday@flhosp.org. [10]

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

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BOOKS – Over 250,000 new and used Adventist books in stock at www.LNFBooks.com. Looking for a publisher? Free review of your manuscript. Call 1-800-367-1844 or visit www.TeachServices.com. [10]

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SPONSOR A CHILD! \$25 a month will send

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

WANT TO BE A SOUL WINNER? A proven method of evangelism that has already been responsible for the distribution of Spirit of Prophecy books, pamphlets, CDs, DVDs, Bible studies, and tens of thousands of people receiving the Three Angels' Message. If you would like to be part of this fast-growing ministry, Call 423-365-9933 or 423-775-1607. No financial investment required. [10]

FLEA MARKET EVANGELISM. Do you want to witness to people who come to you? Flea Market evangelism may be what you are looking for. Visit us at one of our booths; we may be able to help you. For information, call Wayne at 865-376-2142. [10]

SEE YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK in winter with skilled SDA snowmobile guides! Experience pristine beauty and amazing animals! Enjoy good fellowship, inspiring devotions, deluxe accommodations, and fine cuisine. Don't miss this unique experience—the only snowmobile tours traveling throughout Yellowstone Park. Limited openings for January 2008. Call John at 509-747-7622 (pacific time). [10]

CRUISE ALASKA. Seven-day southbound glacier route on Carnival's Spirit. Cruise will be hosted by Missions of Love, Inc., a non-profit corporation raising scholarship monies for Christian Education. Gospel vocal group "Except For Grace" will be in concert. For brochure, call Al Ferry, 661-889-0191 or e-mail al@missionsoflove.com. [10-1]

2009 OGDEN ADVENTIST TOURS. Kiev, Black Sea, Istanbul Cruise, July 11-28,

2009. Visit Kiev, Sevastopol, Yalta, Odessa, Romania, Bulgaria, Istanbul. Turkey extension June 28-July 2, 2009 to visit the Seven Churches, Patmos, and Pools of Pamukkale. Price includes air, cruise with meals, on-shore excursions, hotels, and guides. Call Merlene Ogden 269-471-3781 or ogden@andrews.edu. [10]

CHRISTIAN CRUISE TO NASSAU BAHAMAS. Sponsored by Port Charlotte, FL, Adventist singles. January 2-5, 2009, \$318.00 each person. Final payment is due by November 4, 2008. For information, call evenings, 941-255-1096. [10]


MEDICAL MISSIONARY TRAINING. Intensive 28-day course combining Bible and Health Classes. Dates: Oct. 27-Nov. 22, 2008. Site: Wildwood Health Retreat, Iron City, TN. Tuition, room, and board is \$620. For more information, call Lew Keith at 931-724-6706, or email Lew at lykeith@gmail.com [10]

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

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Events Calendar

Florida

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

Florida Pathfinder Events – <http://www.floridapathfinders.com/> or call 407-644-5000 x127.

Singles' Ministries Events and mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. <http://www.asamcf.org/>, djmiller4000@embarqmail.com, or 386-789-3235.

Florida Adventist Book Center – Winter Park: 800-765-6955. Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: <http://www.floridaconference.com/abc/> or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com

Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

Oct. 25. St. Petersburg.
Oct. 26. Clearwater, New Port Richey, Spring Hill, Brooksville, East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Plant City.
Nov. 1. Tallahassee.
Nov. 2. Perry, Cross City, Ocala, Silver Springs Shores, Belleview, Inverness.
Nov. 8. Port Charlotte.
Nov. 9. North Port, Venice-Nokomis, Sarasota, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.
Nov. 15. West Palm Beach.
Nov. 16. Midport Road in Port St. Lucie, Ft. Pierce, Cocoa, Titusville. (*Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, Palm Bay*)
Dec. 6. Maranatha in Miami.
Dec. 7. Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderhill, Pompano Beach, Jupiter.

Evangelism Series

Nov. 1-8. La Red 2008 from Miami Central Spanish. Rolando and Rebeca de los Ríos.

Planned Giving Clinics and Seminars

Nov. 15, 16. Winter Haven.
Dec. 13. Miami Springs.

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

Georgia-Cumberland

Complete calendar online— www.gccsda.com

Hispanic Lay Festival – Oct. 10-12.

Health Rally – Oct. 11. Knoxville Grace Church.

Pathfinder Fellowship Events – Oct. 17-20.

Men's Congress – Oct. 17-19. Cohutta Springs.

Pathfinder Fellowship Jamboree – Oct. 20.

Southern Adventist University Alumni – Oct. 24-26. Collegedale, TN.

Pastors' Wives Retreat – Oct. 24-26. Cohutta Springs.

Young in Ministry – Oct. 27-29. Cohutta Springs.

Pathfinder Teen Challenge – Oct. 31-Nov. 2.

Marriage Conference – Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Rome, GA.

Hispanic Couple's Retreat – Oct. 31-Nov. 2.

Kids in Discipleship Training – Nov. 2-5. Collegedale, TN.

Pathfinder TLT Reward Event – Dec. 5.

Gulf States

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

Pathfinder Camporee – Oct. 16-18. Camp Alamisco.

Conference Executive Committee – Oct. 21. Conference Office.

Family Ministres/Couples Retreat – Oct. 24-26.

Family Ministries Couples' Retreat – Oct. 24-26.

Teen Invitational Biking – Oct. 26.

Youth Rally – Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Bass Memorial Academy.

Women's Ministries Panhandle Area Meeting – Nov. 1

Honors Weekend – Nov. 7-9. Camp Alamisco.

Kentucky-Tennessee

Conference Association Board
Dec. 9. Jan. 13. March 17.

May 12. July 21.
Conference Executive Committee

Dec. 9. Jan. 13. March 17.
May 12. July 21.

Conference Pathfinder

Camporee – Oct. 23-26. Salt Lick State Park.

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

Southern Adventist University

"Face of Power" Museum Opening—Oct. 8.

PreviewSouthern—Oct. 9, 10.

Southern Union Gymnastics Clinic—Oct. 9-11.

Wind Symphony Concert—Oct. 12.

Alumni Homecoming—Oct. 23-26.

Hulsey Wellness Center Grand Opening—Oct. 26.

Announcements

Pioneer Valley Academy Reunion – Oct. 17-19. Camp Winnekeag. All former students, faculty, and staff are invited. Details: pvainfomanager@yahoo.com

Andrews Academy Homecoming Weekend – Oct. 17-19. All alumni of Emmanuel Missionary College Academy, Andrews University Academy, and Andrews Academy, plan now to join us for special services on Friday evening and all day Sabbath. Honor classes: '39,

'44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, and 2004. Details: 269-471-6140, or e-mail acadalum@andrews.edu

Orchard Park Church in Chattanooga, TN Celebrates 100th Anniversary – Oct. 24-26. Several previous pastors with Conference officials will be in attendance. Pastors Jones, Vincent, and Thomas will be featured speakers. The celebration will begin with Friday night Vespers and end with a Sunday morning prayer breakfast.

Coalfield, TN Church Homecoming – Nov. 1. Services begin at 10 AM. Friends, former members, pastors, and church school students are invited. Fellowship meal will be served. Details: 865-435-0434.

Evangelism Council – Dec. 7-10. Presented by Alejandro Bullon from the South American Division at Oakwood University, sponsored by South Atlantic Conference.

Sunset

	Oct. 3	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	Oct. 24	Oct. 31	Nov. 7
Atlanta, GA	7:20	7:11	7:02	6:54	6:47	5:41
Charleston, SC	7:03	6:54	6:45	6:37	6:30	5:24
Charlotte, NC	7:05	6:56	6:46	6:38	6:30	5:24
Collegedale, TN	7:22	7:13	7:03	6:55	6:48	5:41
Huntsville, AL	6:28	6:19	6:10	6:02	5:54	4:48
Jackson, MS	6:44	6:35	6:27	6:19	6:12	5:06
Louisville, KY	7:24	7:13	7:03	6:54	6:45	5:38
Memphis, TN	6:42	6:32	6:23	6:15	6:07	5:01
Miami, FL	7:06	6:59	6:52	6:46	6:40	5:36
Montgomery, AL	6:28	6:19	6:11	6:03	5:56	4:50
Nashville, TN	6:29	6:19	6:09	6:01	5:43	4:46
Orlando, FL	7:10	7:02	6:54	6:48	6:42	5:37
Wilmington, NC	6:54	6:45	6:36	6:28	6:20	5:14

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