

# T SOUTHERN TIDINGS



**Stewardship**

## An Urgent Call for Prayer

During the 2010 General Conference Session, a delegate requested an official Church study of ordination. In response to this request, General Conference administration informed the Session of its commitment “to establishing a process to review the subject of ordination and ... report back to Annual Council during this quinquennium.”

Consequently, the General Conference Administrative Committee suggested a process of study for the Division Biblical Research Committees, and appointed a Theology of Ordination Study Committee. Committee membership included more than 100 individuals of both genders serving the Church as theologians, pastors, administrators, and laypersons. As in previous commissions, the Theology of Ordination Study Committee did not arrive at a consensus regarding a biblical position, or Ellen G. White’s counsel on the matter of whether or not ministerial ordination should be gender inclusive. Diverse interpretations of Bible passages give rise to firm convictions in favor of or in opposition to the ordination of women to the Gospel ministry.

Recognizing the importance of this question with respect to understanding the Bible, the multinational and multicultural nature of the Church and its mission, and the biblical example of addressing differences that do not directly involve fundamental beliefs, the General Conference Executive Committee chose to again call for guidance from the global Church. The decisions of the Church in a General Conference Session are recognized as the will of the Church. Ellen G. White affirmed this view as follows: “I have been shown that no man’s judgment should be surrendered to the judgment of any one man. But when the judgment of the General Conference, which is the highest authority of God upon the Earth, is exercised, private independence and private judgment must not be maintained, but be surrendered.”

The Southern Union Administration asks you to partner with us surrounding the formal request that will go before the General Conference constituents for action. Thank you for your commitment for praying for God’s will to be done in June 2015.

### REQUEST TO THE 2015 GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION

WHEREAS, The unity for which Jesus prayed is vitally important to the witness of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and;

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Adventist Church seeks to engage every member in its worldwide mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ among people from every nation, culture, and ethnicity, and;

WHEREAS, Various groups appointed by the General Conference and its divisions have carefully studied the Bible and Ellen G. White writings with respect to the ordination of women and have not arrived at consensus as to whether ministerial ordination for women is unilaterally affirmed or denied, and;

WHEREAS, The Seventh-day Adventist Church affirms that “God has ordained that the representatives of His Church from all parts of the earth, when assembled in a General Conference Session, shall have authority,

THEREFORE, The General Conference Executive Committee request delegates in their sacred responsibility to God at the 2015 General Conference Session to respond to the following question:

After your prayerful study on ordination from the Bible, the writings of Ellen G. White, and the reports of the study commissions, and;

After your careful consideration of what is best for the Church and the fulfillment of its mission,

Is it acceptable for division executive committees, as they may deem it appropriate in their territories, to make provision for the ordination of women to the gospel ministry? Yes or No



Ron C. Smith,  
D.Min., Ph.D.  
*President of the  
Southern Union  
Conference*

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# Contents

## FEATURES



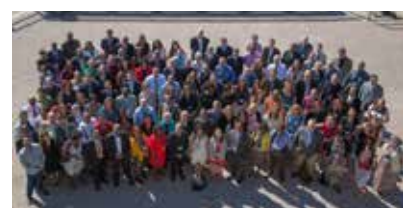
**Who Owns Your Fries?**

4



**Single Moms' / Kids' Retreat Offers Healing**

7



**25 Years of Communicating Excellence**

8



**Praying for a Little Miracle**

11

## NEWS

- 12 Adventist Health System
- 13 South Atlantic
- 14 Carolina
- 16 Florida
- 18 Georgia-Cumberland
- 20 Gulf States
- 22 Kentucky-Tennessee
- 25 South Central
- 26 Southeastern
- 28 Oakwood University
- 29 Southern Adventist University
- 30 Obituaries
- 36 Classified Advertising
- 39 Events Calendar / Announcements





# Who Owns Your Fries?

BY OSCAR L. SHERROD JR.

You and I are blessed with an awesome amount of financial guidance placed in the Scriptures. What's amazing is that our heavenly Father not only chose us as His stewards with specific responsibilities, He also provides numerous blessings if we fulfill our responsibilities, and are faithful to His instructions. As His stewards, He has blessed us with the management of our time, talent, and temperance. He created us, and then blessed us with the "Operators Manual." Not only are we blessed, the rewards waiting for our children and grandchildren are awesome if we have faith, and practice His instructions.

## Stewardship

Imagine as a steward, reporting back to God as follows: "Clean bill of health, family practicing health

principles; my teaching, singing, and administrative talents are devoted to God's service; my time priorities are in place, with God as first priority; and, the financial blessings are awesome — no loans, no credit card debt, no financial bondage to student loans and mortgage companies. And, the church mortgage, where I attend, was paid within five years due to the faithful commitments and practices of our members."

A steward is "one who manages another's property, finances, or affairs," according to *The Merriam-Webster Dictionary*. To the Christian, a steward is one who takes care of God's business first, and realizes that his own is secondary and subject to God's approval. Everything we possess belongs to God. The house, no matter how simple or majestic it is, belongs to God. He simply allows you to

live there. The car you drive belongs to God. He just allows you to drive it. So it is for everything in your life.

Brian Kluth, inspirational speaker, pastor, and author, shares an illustration he titled "Who Owns Your French Fries?" A man buys his little boy some French fries. Then the father does what all fathers do: he reaches over and takes one French fry to taste. The little boy slaps his father's hand and says, "Don't touch my French fries." The father thinks his son is selfish. The father knows that he bought the French fries, and they belong to him. The father also knows his son belongs to him. The father could get angry and never buy his son another French fry again to teach his son a lesson, or the father could "bury" his son in French fries. The father cannot understand his son's selfish behavior. He tells himself, "I have

given you a whole package of French fries, I am only asking for one.” God has given us plenty of French fries (money), and He’s just asking for one also (one tenth of our gain). People figuratively slap God’s hand and say, “Keep your hands off my money.” Everything we have belongs to God.

We must never “forget that we are placed on trial in this world to determine our fitness for the future life. None can enter Heaven whose characters are defiled by the foul blot of selfishness. Therefore, God tests us here by committing to us temporal possessions that our use of these may show whether we can be entrusted with eternal riches,” *Councils on Stewardship*, page 22. We must never forget, God owns everything. The Earth is His — including mankind, Psalm 24; the beasts are His, Psalm 50; the silver and gold are His, Haggai 2. God owns everything. We are simply His managers.

### **Time Management**

Time management is another gift of vital importance. God has given to each of us 24 hours in each day, 168 hours each week, 730 hours each month, and 8,760 hours each year to accomplish His goals. Once time passes, it doesn’t return, so we need to be careful how we use it. There is no way of calling back time, not even one fraction of a second.

God gives us life, but we don’t know how much time we have in that life. We must realize whatever time we have, it is a precious gift from God, and we should be careful how we use it. Paul reminds us in Ephesians to redeem the time because the days are evil. We don’t want to become procrastinators. As a pastor, I have witnessed church members with potential talents and gifts; yet they were not used in some cases due to laziness or procrastination.

The Bible tells of a man who left various talents to his servants. These talents were given out according to the servants’ abilities. They all used their talents wisely except for one who buried his talent in hopes that his master would be pleased



*Time management is crucial in any success in life.*

that he held on to it. Unfortunately, this servant would not step outside of his comfort zone to invest his master’s talent wisely. He refused to use it; therefore, he lost it. God gives us potential talents when we are born. Each of us can share in God’s plan in his/her own way with the use of these talents. In this parable, we are reminded if we use our talents wisely, we will be given additional talents; but, if we don’t, we will lose everything.

Some talents are inherited, others are acquired through training. If

we work at our talents, we will hear, “Well done thou good and faithful servant.” When God gives us a talent to use, He gives his servant full responsibility. That’s why Jesus gave His servants 10 pounds, and told them to occupy until He comes in Luke 19:13. To whom much is given, much is required.

### **Temperance**

Temperance is another facet of stewardship which impacts our health for life. I have learned I cannot eat whatever I want. We must eat the



right foods in moderation. Due to my own intemperance and poor food choices, I found myself in a doctor's office diagnosed with hypertension and diabetes. I eventually wound up having triple bypass heart surgery. I was devastated, simply because I was careless and a poor steward of the body God gave me. It has been nearly eight years since my heart surgery, and to this day I am still reminded that Jesus wants me to present my "body as a living sacrifice," because above all things He wants me to "prosper and be in good health." It took me a while, but, I finally got it. My body belongs to Christ.

### Tithe and Offerings

David tells us in the Psalms to honor the Lord with our wages, and put God first with the increase of our finances. For those who do not heed David's message, Malachi further instructs us as to why we may not receive God's blessings.



*Financial planning instructions can be found throughout the Bible. If followed, these principles can lead to personal wealth and financial success for our churches.*

We fail miserably when we leave God out of our financial plans. When God tells us to be faithful with our tithe and offerings, it is for a good reason. There is a promise in the text that many people miss: He said to "prove Me." In other words, try Him, trust Him, depend on Him, and see if He won't keep His Word as He pours out many blessings that we won't have enough room to hold. He will even rebuke our enemies. These are precious promises that God will keep if we are faithful.

Not long ago, I had an interesting situation that I know only God delivered me from. I invited church members to my home for Sabbath dinner. It was Friday afternoon, and while

I was cooking, I heard a voice in my head that said, "Go outside."

I ignored the voice and kept cooking. The voice came back to me a little stronger. Something came over me and I felt that I needed to go outside. I stepped outside and a pink slip fell to the ground from between the front door. It read, "Your gas is disconnected." I was frustrated.

The gas couldn't have been turned off. I was currently using the gas to cook. I quickly called the gas company who confirmed the gas was turned off, and would not be back on until Monday. I



*God promises to preserve our health if we are faithful and follow His promises.*

told the representative the gas was not off. I pleaded with her to allow me to pay my bill over the phone, but she wouldn't budge. I decided not to mention again that my gas was on, so I hung up and continued cooking.

On Sabbath, the gas remained on. Sunday it was still on. Monday, I rushed to pay my bill. During the weekend, the gas was never turned off. I believe I found favor from the Lord because I have always tried to be faithful with my stewardship.

Would you believe a week later the sun was shining brightly in my eyes as I was driving to work. I pulled down the sun visor, and an envelope fell on my lap which held the gas payment I forgot to mail. God takes care of us even when we make mistakes. Be faithful to the Lord, He will never let you down. ✨

*Oscar L. Sherrod Jr. is the stewardship director at South Atlantic Conference in Decatur, Georgia.*



## SINGLE MOMS'/KIDS' RETREAT OFFERS HEALING

BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

*Fallon Jimenez, from Ooltewah, Tennessee, enjoys snacks and down time with her two boys at the S'more Camp (Single Moms of Real Excellence) retreat weekend, October 24-26, 2014, at Cobutta Springs Youth Camp in Crandall, Georgia.*

Cohutta Springs Youth Camp was home for the first S'more Camp, a free retreat weekend for single moms and their children, held October 24-26, 2014.

They probably did toast s'mores at some point, but these single moms also enjoyed spa time, spiritual renewal, and plenty of time to bond with their children, including an adventurous scavenger hunt, hay rides, and a fall extravaganza.

"I enjoyed being away from Chattanooga. Out here there is just trees and water and grass. The boys love the openness and the serenity of it. There are other people who understand your situation, and who know exactly how amazing you feel right now," said Fallon Jimenez, who lives in Ooltewah, Tennessee; is a member of the Apison, Tennessee, Church; and attended the event with her two boys.

Wendy Wilds, who recently moved to Collegedale, Tennessee, from Colorado, said a friend got a flier in the mail and passed it on. She is a single mom with a three-year-old daughter, and was touched when she arrived at her cabin to find a gift for her daughter (every child received a gift). "I am the only one who has ever given gifts to her."

Wilds said, "It is very healing. It is a place where mothers can go to seek and receive support, just a warm embrace. A time to just be with people who can relate to you; and to listen to people who have something to share, to help you in the journey, reaffirm that you are doing an important job and that you are not the only one that has the hard days and the struggles. I think it is just all around a very healing and supportive embrace for a human being who has been doing it alone, and who just doesn't have anybody else to give it to them."

Sarah said, "It is important that the conference sees the day and age that we live in. We have a lot of single parents, male and female in our conference, and it is a real need. The fact that they went through the planning, the time, and finances to put forth this weekend and brought people in and then to host — it is awesome."

"It gives us moms the break and the ability to get together and share, and not feel so isolated and alone in this," said Sarah. "It is amazing. And, having family stuff: We always want to do things with our kids, because that is our world and we are their world. I think they did a really great



TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

job with the whole weekend."

"Is there a stigma, single mothers shouldn't be singled out or rewarded in a way because it is affirming?" asked Wilds. "It is real life. It happens. People are at a place. We are where we are, and why not help somebody who needs just a little bit of encouragement, a little bit of something."

"Single parent households are a growing reality in society. It is important for our Church to show love and acceptance, and a feeling of belonging to the Church family. This is one way that we can affirm moms and their kids," says Jo Dubs, Georgia-Cumberland women's/family life ministries director. The event was a joint effort by the women's and family ministries teams. About 75 moms and children attended the weekend retreat. ❖





*Pictured are attendees of the 25th anniversary celebration of the Society of Adventist Communicators in Jacksonville, Florida, October 16-18, 2014.*

If you surveyed Adventist communicators in the last 25 years, they would tell you the city of their first time attending the Society of Adventist Communicators (SAC) convention. Some might say Orlando, Florida; Huntsville, Alabama; Ontario, California; Nashville, Tennessee; Rochester, New York; Denver, Colorado; Dallas, Texas; Albuquerque, New Mexico; or many other locations across the country.

Before long, you would encounter an Adventist communicator who remembers the early days when the association was called Southern Society of Adventist Communicators (SSAC). Martin Butler, Florida Conference communication director, is one of these individuals.

"We had 15 individuals come that [first convention] weekend," Butler remembered. "We had a great time."

### **The Early Days**

George Powell, former Southern Union Conference communication director, dreamed of creating an organization for Adventist communication professionals. He wanted communicators inside and outside of the denomination to have a common place to fellowship,

network, and mentor students.

Powell organized the first organizational meeting in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, in 1988. Todd Parrish, then communication director of Emory Adventist Hospital in Smyrna, Georgia, was asked to serve as the first SSAC president and plan the first convention at Camp Kulaqua in High Springs, Florida.

The annual conventions in the early days brought communicators together in Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, or Alabama.

Irisene Douce joined the Southern Union communication team in 1995, began her association with SSAC, and continues to be involved with SAC today.

"The organization today is staying true to its initial mission," Douce said. "Communicators still get together, learn from each other, rub shoulders, and mentor students."

### **A Broader Network**

In 1999, Celeste Ryan Blyden attended the convention at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, as a representative from the North American Division. Kermit Nette-

burg, then North American Division communication director, wanted Blyden to learn more about this group of Adventist communicators.

"I couldn't believe all these professionals were coming together, sharing ideas, and having panel discussions," said Blyden. "It was awesome."

She talked with Mark August, then SSAC president and former reporter for the Tampa Tribune, about the potential for growing the professional network to a national organization. He took the idea to the board composed of communication professionals Pam Harris, Olson Perry, Brenda Wood, Sheila Elwin, Irisene Douce, Dick Dower, and Nadine Dower.

"She envisioned something bigger," Douce recalled. "The very next year, it happened!"

"They embraced the idea for growth," Blyden recounted. "I went back to Silver Spring, Maryland, and talked with Kermit Netteburg. Like he always did, he said, 'Make it happen.'"

The next October, the first national convention was held at the North American Division in Silver Spring.

"By expanding the organization



to communicators across the nation, it has provided resources which has enabled SAC to grow, and also meet the needs of the Adventist communicators who are employed by non-Adventist organizations," said Olson Perry, former communication director of the Southern Union Conference. "This has also raised the level of fellowship and training among our members," he adds.

### Living Purpose

Alicia Goree Adams attended the 2002 convention in need of finding a job. As a recent graduate, she had a bit of experience at Amazing Facts and in the public sector. She had previously attended the SSAC convention in Jekyll Island, Georgia, as a student.

As she was standing in line for a meal during the Ontario, California, convention, Adams started chatting with Gerry Chudleigh who had just been hired at the Pacific Union Conference. "More or less, he hired me on the spot before we even got to the salad," Adams said.

La Sierra University student Laura Samano came to the Newport Beach, California, convention thanks to the prompting and kindness of her advisor. "I brought 16 resumes to the convention because I had no more paper," Samano said. "I prayed, 'Lord, show me who I should give these 16 resumes to.' Fred Kinsey [then North American Division communication director] received the first one, and that is the job that I got!"

### A Maturing Organization

After many years of sponsorship and leadership from the Southern Union, the Society of Adventist Communicators officially transferred to the North American Division in 2006. "At that time, the NAD started managing the Society of Adventist Communicators," said George Johnson Jr., who became a long-time champion and leader of the organization at the Division level.

Kimberly Luste Maran, *Adventist Review* assistant editor, attended the first national convention at the NAD. Through the years, she helped

wherever needed and served as a special interest group coordinator, vice president, and president of the organization.

"I have always been interested in the organization because it is such a good group of people," Maran said. "We are involved in so many different things from print to broadcasting to design and more. It is awesome to come together with all these people."

The challenge with a maturing organization is continuing to foster programming that appeals to top-tier professionals and students. SAC leaders have purposefully developed program elements such as tours, special interest groups which address six areas of communication, in-depth training sessions, multi-interest workshops, and recognition through awards.

"A lot of us have different stories to share," said Johnson. Favorite activities through the years include touring Eastman House in Rochester to learn more about the founder of the Kodak company; exploring Old Town in Albuquerque, New Mexico; visiting Niagara Falls; navigating through The Holy Land Experience in Orlando, Florida; and going any place where this team of communicators could take photographs.

### International Network

While the Society of Adventist Communicators continues to provide a network for communicators in North America, the association also appeals to an international network of communicators. Representatives from India, Ghana, Australia, and Spain have attended specific conventions. The Inter-American Division in 2013 officially launched a chapter of SAC with their own group of leaders, awards,

and training activities. Additional divisions are exploring the possibility of adopting the concept of a communication networking association.

### Silver Anniversary

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Society of Adventist Communicators, 150 professionals and students traveled to Jacksonville, Florida, October 16-18, 2014. In the crowd were seasoned communicators who remembered



RICHARD CASTILLO

*Kevin Krueger (left), Society of Adventist Communicators president and general manager of Washington Adventist University WTGS radio station in Takoma Park, Maryland; Gerry Chudleigh, communication director of Pacific Union Conference in Westlake Village, California, was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award; and Daniel Weber, Society's CEO and communication director of the North American Division in Silver Spring, Maryland.*

the early days, mid-career professionals who found their first job through the organization, and current students eagerly looking for their first job. About a third of the audience attended the convention for the first time. John S. Nixon II, D.Min., pastor of Decatur Church in Decatur, Georgia, was the guest speaker for the worship hour on Sabbath morning.

"Twenty-five years: It's a long time," Johnson said. "We hope the organization will continue to grow and train future generations of communicators."

### 25 Years of Excellence with Awards

The 25th anniversary celebration culminated with an awards ceremony on Sabbath evening.

The Lifetime Achievement Award went to Gerry Chudleigh, communication director at the Pa-

cific Union Conference. This award is designed to honor veteran communication professionals who have made substantial contributions to the field for at least 25 years.

“Gerry is no stranger to the Society of Adventist Communicators, as he is a constant presence at our event,” shared George Johnson Jr., awards host. “In fact if there is a communication event of any kind in the North American Division, it seems like Gerry is always there with his camera taking pictures. His smiling face is something that can always be counted on at an Adventist event.”

Chudleigh’s career path began in youth ministry before transitioning to communication. As a photographer for Hope for Humanity, Chudleigh traveled to Africa, Central America, and Asia to capture the needs and triumphs of the poor, sick, and uneducated.

Beyond his skills in photography, Chudleigh is also a thoughtful researcher and writer. He recently focused on several hot topic issues within the Adventist church. The awards committee noted how his research and writings on the issues of church governance and women in ministry provided a clear, level-headed voice to a conversation dominated by yelling and distrust.

“Some people may not agree with everything that Chudleigh has written, but no one will deny the level of professionalism and passion that he displays in all of his work,” said Johnson on behalf of the awards committee.



Kevin Krueger and Daniel Weber stand with Kendall Rittenour (center), recipient of the Student Award.

“Chudleigh is the definition of a professional communicator.”

As Chudleigh accepted the award, the audience of 150 student and professional communicators rose to their feet in a standing ovation.

Chudleigh took to the microphone to thank his friends in communication for their prayers as he faced his recent health struggles.

“This organization has meant a lot to me in the last 12 years,” said Chudleigh. “Most of what I learned about how to do this work I learned at SAC. In fact, yesterday I learned something new in a photography class. I just want to thank all of you for you what you mean to me, for your encouragement, and for the skills I’ve learned.”

### Young Professional Award

Nathan DeWild was the winner of the Society’s Young Professional Award that recognizes young talent in the communication field. DeWild has worked on several high profile projects that have been exposed to millions of people.

As a videographer with Journey Films, DeWild’s assignments have taken him from the jungles of the Amazon to the war zones of the Middle East. His projects include *The Adventists 2* and *The Blueprint*.

“A 2011 graduate of Southern Adventist University, this young man has been a



Nathan DeWild (center), winner of the Society’s Young Professional Award, poses with Kevin Krueger and Daniel Weber.

wonderful example of an Adventist professional who can make a difference in the world,” said the awards committee.

### Student Award

Southern Adventist University student Kendall Rittenour received the Student Award. Rittenour was noted for his technical skill in photo and video assignments in addition to passionately telling stories. Rittenour worked on the *Quiet Hour* film crew in Costa Rica to capture footage for a new documentary series, developed promotional films for Loma Linda University, and shot video segments for the Hope Channel in Oshkosh.

“Kendall’s energy knows no bounds,” said Stephen Ruf, Southern Adventist University professor. “He’s willing to get up at 4 in the morning to hike a mountain to capture a breathtaking sunrise. He never complains about the conditions or the people. He just goes and shoots and brings back stunning images and sound.”

“Kendall epitomizes the kind of drive and talent we seek in our students,” noted the awards committee. “He is using his skill to benefit his church, mankind, at home and abroad.”

For the full list of awards recipients, visit [www.adventistcommunicator.org](http://www.adventistcommunicator.org).

Heidi Martella Baumgartner is vice president for communication for the Society of Adventist Communicators and communication director at Washington Conference in Federal Way, Washington.



# PRAYING FOR a Little MIRACLE

BY ANTHONY VERA CRUZ

*Greyson Oliver Vera Cruz celebrates his original due date at home by sleeping peacefully, without any wires, monitors, poking, or prodding.*

“Honey, I’m really hurting,” my wife, Tiffany, called out in the dark.

Difficult words for any husband to hear, but coming from the woman who has spent nearly six months carrying your first child, they become ominous.

The doctor expressed grave concern over the phone and instructed us to meet her at the hospital. It was 3:00 a.m.



*Much of Greyson’s first days were spent under special lights for jaundice, but his parents were there to hold his hand.*

Upon arriving at Florida Hospital, I was surprised to see the doctor waiting for us in the hall. She quickly ushered us into the nearest room and began an examination. “It looks like you’re about to meet your baby,” she said.

The next few hours were a flurry of activity as caregivers began administering medications intended to prepare the baby for delivery, prevent infection, and maybe even stop the labor altogether.

I began sending out text messages and, almost immediately, my phone was flooded with notes of encouragement. My coworkers at Adventist Health System gathered, praying on our behalf for God’s nurturing touch.

The initial labor lasted nearly 18 hours, but by God’s grace, it finally stopped. With Tiffany stabilized, the medical team was able to continue administering critical medications for the baby. Every moment spent in the

womb is precious. Even with advances in medical technology, each gestational day lost to an early delivery requires about three days of care in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) to compensate. Ensuring that Tiffany stayed pregnant as long as possible became the paramount goal of our caregivers and the focus of our prayers.

Four days later, little Greyson Oliver was born — weighing 2 pounds, 10 ounces. He fit into the palm of my hand — or would have, if we had been able to hold him. Within moments of his arrival, he was whisked away by nurses.

Due to his extreme prematurity, several critical issues were identified early on. However, from the beginning we witnessed many examples of God’s presence in Greyson’s life.

Like many preemies his age, it was anticipated that he would need the assistance of a ventilator to breathe for at least two weeks. Instead, they were able to remove the ventilator on the second day. Next the doctors discovered a murmur in his heart, which was completely undetectable by the next day.

Of greatest concern were early tests that showed he had an open blood vessel causing bleeding in his brain. Ultrasounds were ordered, but the bleed couldn’t be found. Follow-up tests were ordered. Shortly thereafter, our doctor came into Greyson’s room to share the results.

“It’s extremely unusual for a bleed of that severity to disappear this quickly,” he began. “But, I think we all know what’s going on here,” he added with a smile.

We knew what he was implying. The power of hundreds of prayers was at work; there was simply no other explanation for Greyson’s miraculous progress. Knowing that we

were both Christians, this physician was comfortable sharing his personal feelings on the miracle we were witnessing in our son.

Throughout his time in the NICU, Greyson continued to defy the medical expectations placed on him. As a result, we brought home a perfectly healthy baby — one full month before his original due date. In total, we spent 56 days in the hospital. We moved through 11 different rooms, and received care from eight doctors and nearly 90 amazing nurses, therapists, housekeepers, and chaplains who became like our family.

And now, as we are preparing to



*At one month old and weighing just under 4 pounds, Greyson takes his first family photo outside of the isolette with his parents, Anthony and Tiffany Vera Cruz.*

spend our first Christmas together, I am so grateful for our little miracle, and know that God answered our prayers for a healthy baby after all.

I can’t help but be reminded of another miraculous Baby whom we celebrate this season. He also defied the odds against Him, and established the ministry of healing that so many in our hospitals, like myself, experience today. ✨

## Adventist Health System Wins Success Story Award from Press Ganey

Adventist Health System's definition of patient experience is treating the

ner due to its rapid pace of improvement in patient experience during the past

Christ, leadership, and the implementation of evidence-based best-practices

has been the dedication of our caregivers at the bedside to the improvement of the patient experience, along with a commitment to this topic from leadership throughout the organization," Guler said.

As an example, Guler points to the system's unique approach to making best-practices — such as purposeful nurse leader and hourly staff rounding — a part of the culture. Teams across the system have focused



patient as you would the person whom you love the most. On November 4, 2014, the organization was recognized for its success in this area with an award from Press Ganey, the industry's leader in measuring, understanding, and improving patient experience.

Adventist Health System was chosen as a Success Story Award win-

ner due to its rapid pace of improvement in patient experience during the past three years. An example of this improvement is the movement of the patient's overall rating of the hospitals as a system into the top quartile of the nation when compared with other organizations in the Press Ganey national database.

"Our improvement is based on the combination of a strong culture of service as we work to extend the healing ministry of

that support patient experience," said Pam Guler, vice president and chief patient experience officer for Adventist Health System.

The Press Ganey Success Story Award is a highly-regarded symbol of achievement in the health care industry. Adventist Health System is one of only 15 organizations to receive this honor in 2014.

"A key to our success

their energies on educating caregivers on the clinical benefits of hourly rounding and regularly providing them with patient feedback, which allows them to more proactively care for their patients as they work to extend Adventist Health System's mission to every patient every time.

—BY RAINEY TURLINGTON

## More than 4,000 Pounds of Food Collected for Charities



Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center,

along with the Daytona Beach Fire Department, collected 4,216 pounds of food during the hospital's 13th annual Food Supply Drive to distribute to community

charities in need. "There is a real need

in our community. One out of 10 Florida households struggle with hunger or food insecurity," said Farzad Nourian, chaplain at Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center. "With a giving heart, our employees donated nonperishable foods like canned soup, fruits, and vegetables, as well as pasta, rice, and so much more. To see their

outpouring of support for their neighbors — it truly touches the heart."

Charities that benefited from the collected items include Veterans Transitional Home, Jewish Federation, Calvary Christian Center, and the Daytona Beach Seventh-day Adventist Pantry.

—BY LINDSAY REW



## Ephesus Members Take on Spartan Race



TIFFINEY MILES

Andrew Singleton climbs over a mud hill during the Spartan Race on October 26, 2014.



TIFFINEY MILES

Quadirah Lance crawled under barbed wire, which is one of the last obstacle courses before the finish line.

When one thinks of the word Spartan, bravery, fearlessness, and strength come to mind. A Spartan is not afraid to take risks, tackles challenges head-on, and endures to the end. For nine members from Ephesus Church in Columbia, S.C., these characteristics were put to the test in Winnsboro, S.C., during the Spartan Race on October 26, 2014.

The Spartan Race is not an average marathon. The high-intensity race puts participants through a three-, eight- or 12-mile trek filled with several obstacle courses along the way, including carrying 50-pound objects, climbing ropes, crawling under barbed

wire, and walking through mud — lots of mud.

Calvin Green, committee member of Ephesus' health ministries, was inspired to do the race through church member Sonya Johnson. Green asked other members to join him. "I've always wanted to do an obstacle race, like the IRONMAN, but those races were always on Sabbath," said participant Kevin Cox. "So when I heard that our church was doing the Spartan Race, I said, 'Put me down, sign

me up.'" Andrew Singleton, another participant, was also eager to join. "When I saw the Spartan Race series on television, I definitely wanted to do it."

"We trained in the park almost every day," Green said. To maximize the effectiveness of the training, he simulated different obstacles that would help the members become successful during the race. "He would get cinder blocks for us to carry. He also found javelins that we could throw," said participant Olive Sease.

After 16 weeks of training, the self-proclaimed Southern Spartans met at Carolina Adventure World at

9:30 a.m. for the race. "From watching a number of the videos, I had one expectation: It was going to be brutal," Cox said.

And brutal it was. If a racer could not accomplish an obstacle, that person had to do 30 burpees before moving on. "I had a hard time carrying the bucket filled with rocks up and down the hill," said Jessica Sumpter. "I stopped several times along the way, and I thought I couldn't make it, but I got it done." Leslie O'Neal was also able to conquer some difficult obstacles. "I thought the monkey

bars would be tough, but I got through it. I also didn't like walking through the mud, but I pushed through that one, too."

The team found different ways to motivate themselves to finish.

"I realized that there was no way out. I absolutely have to finish this race," said Sumpter. Kevin Cox agreed. "Not crossing the finish line was not an option," he said. The encouraging words of other teammates also played a role in finishing the race. "I felt like I was dragging my team behind, so I kept telling them to go ahead without me, but they would

not leave me," said Sease. "If they didn't stay and talk to me the whole way, I don't think I would have completed the race."

Eight miles, 20 obstacles, and five hours later, the Southern Spartan team defeated the Spartan Race. Waiting for them were finisher medals, T-shirts, water, and protein bars. "When I crossed the finish line, I looked back and said, 'Wow, I just did that?' I felt like I could accomplish anything after that," said Esther Munoz.

Ultimately, the team knew that God was with them all the way. "After this



TIFFINEY MILES

Andrew Singleton (top row, left), Calvin Green, Leslie O'Neal, Kevin Cox (bottom row, left), Sonya Johnson, Quadirah Lance, Esther Munoz, Olive Sease, and Jessica Sumpter from Ephesus Church in Columbia, S.C., completed the Spartan Race on October 26, 2014, in Winnsboro, S.C. The team's finish time was 4:13:46.

race, I learned that I could do all things with Christ," said Sumpter. "You can accomplish anything with Him."

The Southern Spartan's motto was, "Pray. Aim high. Stay focused." The Spartan Race reflects the Christian life: pushing through trials and, with the Lord's help, becoming victorious at the finish line, which is Heaven.

—BY TIFFINEY MILES

## Cross Training 2014: “The Experience”



CONTRIBUTED

Young people from around the Carolinas came together for the annual Carolina Youth for Christ program.

The Carolina Youth for Christ (CYC) held their second annual 10-day Bible and evangelism program, Cross Training, on July 11-20, 2014. The CYC, a supporting ministry of the Carolina Conference, was founded by the creative vision of several young adults from the Boone, N.C., area. Their expressed intent is to foster spiritual growth, and educate young minds for witnessing and outreach opportunities, keeping the spiritual fervor alive between regional GYC events.

This year's location was the North Anderson, S.C., Church. Austin Funderburg, a freelance apologetics blogger and clinical

psychology alumnus of Georgia Regent University, spoke about apologetics and understanding sound arguments for the defense of the Christian faith. Henry Johnson from Greenwood, S.C., AFCEE graduate, presented on the *Great Controversy* and its implications for preparedness of the second coming of Christ. Brian Hindman, a history instructor from Mt. Pisgah Academy, gave a chronological expose on the Seventh-day Adventist faith, detailing its origins and current worldwide scope. Thomas Biehl was the men's dean, and conducted the entire outreach leadership campaign.

Spiritually-speaking,

the young people who attended this July event gained a great deal of new insights into what they believe, why they believe it, and how to effectively share and defend their faith. It taught them the value of moving beyond a mere intellectual understanding of God into how to have a genuine, practical, and heartfelt relationship experience with Him. They also grasped the importance of the very near reality of Christ's second coming, and the urgent desire to reach souls for eternity.

During the outreach activities, the youth and young adults went out into the local community where

they conducted surveys for interest in Bible studies, stop-smoking classes, grief recovery seminars, a local Vacation Bible School, and several other church community projects. Distributing GLOW tracts, *The Great Controversy* books, and having personal prayer with community residents gave them the chance to shed some of their discomfort with home visitations. Also, many laughs, personal testimonies, close-knit friendships, and lifelong memories were experienced as a result of the uplifting, spiritual camaraderie of Cross Training.

Many of the local church youth were also able to participate in the door-knocking campaign. They were greatly blessed by their personal experiences — meeting many souls desperately searching for the hope, joy, and contentment that ultimately comes from a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Carolina Youth for Christ prays they can continue to educate and mentor many more hearts and minds for God's glory in the weeks and months to come. For more information, visit: [www.carolinaYOUTHforCHRIST.com](http://www.carolinaYOUTHforCHRIST.com) or [Facebook.com/carolinaYOUTHforCHRIST](https://www.facebook.com/carolinaYOUTHforCHRIST).

—BY AUSTIN FUNDERBURG



## Clemmons Church Plant has Mission Focus



CONTRIBUTED

Right next to the Clemmons ice skating rink, a group of faithful worshipers gathers each Sabbath to give thanks and share what God has done for them. Originally proposed by several members of the Winston-Salem First Church in Winston-Salem, N.C., the Clemmons Fellowship

came as an answer to their overflowing membership.

Church leaders prayed over the project, and in September of 2010 the church board issued its formal approval for the church plant. This was followed by the approval of the Carolina Conference in December. By that time a small group had

already begun meeting and planning under the leadership of David Bermudez. A two-year growth plan was formed, with about 20 people showing interest and commitment. The group had their first Sabbath worship service on January 8, 2011.

A highly mission-oriented group, the Clem-

mons Fellowship jumped at the opportunity to move into a larger, more central location in April of 2012. Their new facility has given them access to a broader audience for increased community outreach. This summer they hosted a successful Vacation Bible School program and distributed *The Great Controversy* to neighboring areas.

Church leader David Bermudez said, "Attendance this quarter has been great! [An] average of 40 [people] — potluck Sabbath could swell up to 50."

The Clemmons Fellowship plans to continue growing over the next several months. A friendship evangelism campaign is expected to begin soon, which will lead up to a series of prophecy seminars.

—BY AIMEE GARVER

## Dorm Facelift Welcomes MPA Girls in Style

On any given evening, you can find many girls relaxing, studying, or just talking in the Mount Pisgah Academy (MPA) girls' dorm lobby. Throughout the years it has had lots of love, but very little money has been put into it to make a big impact. The vision for a renovation on this 50-year-old dorm began with Lucy Hall, who visited Mount Pisgah Academy, saw the need, and began a fundraising campaign for Orchill Hall.



CONTRIBUTED

Enough money was soon raised to welcome the girls back to school with a beautifully-renovated lobby. Several individuals, including Amy King, Beth

Grissom, Ernie Boughman, and Tammy Vaughan, worked with Idaia Janiniere, head dean, to make the finished project simply amazing. On the day of

registration, many "oohs" and "ahhs" could be heard in the lobby from students and parents.

Although the lobby looks beautiful, there is still a lot of work to be done to completely renovate the dormitory. Thank you to Lucy Hall for raising funds along with the Carolina Conference Women's Ministries Department, and for making the MPA girls' dorm a major project.

—BY ABBY KING, MPA JUNIOR

## Florida Living Artisans Exhibit Work



LEE BENNETT

Carol Janssen exhibited her quilts and facilitated the Florida Living Retirement Center Artisan Exhibit.

Residents and friends of Florida Living Retirement Community (FLRC) in Apopka, Fla., recently held a two-day fine arts, crafts, and hobbies show highlighting their talents in recent and past accomplishments.

While browsing through

23 exhibits, attendees gained new perspectives about the talented artisans. "I'm excited about the variety of arts done by this age group, including lost arts that have reappeared," said FLRC's administrator, Nancy Pleasants. "It's very insightful

of those who included these arts from the past that are memory connected."

Facilitated by FLRC resident Carol Janssen, the exhibition showcased needlework, crafts, paintings, woodwork, photography, and published works. The mediums, materials, and skills used made each of the items unique. One talent which could not be hidden was the aroma of fresh baked bread.

Many who exhibited their handiwork were retired missionaries, pastors, or

professionals in the fields of medicine and education. Two students from Forest Lake Academy joined the exhibit and displayed their quilt-making abilities.

—BY BETTY KOSSICK



LEE BENNETT

Artist Von Stimpson served as a missionary nurse to Pitcairn Island on three different occasions with her pastor husband, Ollie.

## Umatilla Church Expands Space for Ministries

Umatilla, Fla., Church members dedicated the newly purchased Hill Top Plaza adjoining the church

property on September 21, 2014, Albert Ellis, interim pastor, led the dedication, with Conrad Duncan,

Florida Conference vice president, offering words of encouragement.

One week later, the Community Service Food Pantry opened its doors as the only food pantry serving the community on Sunday. On that first day, visitors received lunch and a *Steps to Christ* booklet, and more than 150 of them took home food from the pantry. When one worker apologized to a client for having to wait so long, the person replied, "Oh, I'm enjoying being here."

A welcoming registration area in the pantry includes a television with repeat infomercials, bookcases with free books and DVDs, and a waiting area. Personal ministries volunteers, directed by Edith



While volunteers, including Michael McHone (left), were delivering food to cars from the Pantry, a little girl was overheard saying, "Mommy, these people are so nice."

Tokics, are available for prayer or visitation in an adjacent overflow area with more free materials and



WINSTON ROBINSON

Interim Pastor Albert Ellis and his wife, Elaine, serve lunch to visitors on the opening Sunday of Umatilla Church's Community Services Food Pantry.



a television showing the Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN) channel.

The plaza currently houses the Community Services program, directed by Becky Russell, and the Food Pantry, which is open one Sunday each month.

Additional church ministries, including Pathfinders, youth, health, and temperance, will move into the seven-unit facility when existing leases expire in December.

Led by former pastor Jim Appel, Umatilla Church members tried to buy Hill

Top Plaza a year ago, but the owner didn't accept their offer. Members made another offer this year — \$70,000 less than the asking price — and the owner accepted. Appel transferred to another district shortly before the closing, and Umatilla mem-

ber Jack Bennett facilitated completion of the purchase and became director of the property.

—BY GERI BOWER, JULIEN JOACHIM, HEATHER MARKHAM, AND BECKY RUSSELL

## Margate Church Holds Women's Ministries Day

"Whatever we are going through, it is important to remember that Jesus paid the price," said Sharon Roberts during a sermon for Women's Ministries Day at Margate, Fla., Church on September 20, continuing, "We are too blessed to be stressed." The acronym of GRACE

(God's Riches At Christ's Expense) lent itself to the theme for the day of "God's Amazing Grace."

The event lauded two young people for their contribution and leader-



Platform participants, and most everyone in the audience, wore pink and gray attire in support of Margate Church's Women's Ministries Day program.

The color scheme of pink and gray, showing their support for the program, was evident on the women in the congregation and also in the pink shirts and ties worn by the men. Sheryal Vandenberghe, Florida Conference director of women's ministries, sent her

ship skills: Tianna Fention, women's ministries teen track, and Omri Coke, youth ministries director. Dawna Wright-Mullings, Upper Gold area coordinator for women's minis-

tries, received a plaque for safety and care given to the women attending the yearly retreat. The Margate elders were also recognized for their dedicated service to the church.

special wishes for "a spirit filled worship."

The youth ministries program for the day was an interactive workshop entitled "Women and Confidentiality."

—BY JULIA TEDIM

## Port Charlotte VBS Highlights Fruits of the Spirit



VBS director Angela Denis helps Brandon Cassell plant a corn seed.

Children at the Fruits of the Spirit Vacation Bible School (VBS) in Port Charlotte, Fla., planted corn and learned how to garden by providing water, light, and soil. "This process is just how Jesus plants His

seed of love in the children's hearts so they can grow to be like Him," said VBS Director Angela Denis.

Each day, Brian Cassell, senior pastor, or Alex Voigt, associate pastor, spoke on how the day's gardening theme applied to life: Grow Love, Sprout Joy, Plant Peace, Produce Patience, and Pick Kindness.

As an outreach follow-up, several children visited

a nursing home to sing songs, distribute handmade pillows and cards, and give lots of hugs.

—BY LYNN PRICE

## Carl Hartman Receives Citizen of the Year

Carl Hartman of Andrews, N.C., was given the Citizen of the Year award for Cherokee County at a ceremony on September 23, 2014, for his health ministries and other accomplishments.

Hartman served as the Seventh-day Adventist Church pastor in Murphy and Andrews in the late 70s and the early 80s, and again after his retirement in Andrews in 1996. He emphasized health ministries, and was the first one to conduct a stop-smoking seminar in the new Murphy Medical Center in 1980. Throughout his ministry and in his retirement, he continued to conduct stop-smoking programs, cooking schools, and exercise classes.

In 2007, he coordinated a simulated walk of the Appalachian Trail, with individuals adding up their miles until they completed the 4,336 miles from Springer Mountain, Ga., to Mt. Katahdin in Maine, and back again. Later they walked the circumference of the United States, another 10,870 miles.

When Hartman was the grand marshal in the Andrews Christmas parade in 2009, he chose to jump rope for more than a mile rather than ride in the customary convertible car.

Hartman started the citrus fruit program at the Murphy Adventist Christian School in 1979. This program has added to the communities health, and



PHOTO BY SCOTT WALLACE/CHEROKEE SCOUT

*Congratulations are in order for Carl Hartman (left) on being awarded the Citizen of the Year for Cherokee County, N.C. He received the award this past September.*



ANDREWS JOURNAL

years, he has been swimming at least 100 miles each year; and he has also run several marathons in his 70s.

For the past nine years, Hartman has coordinated the monthly Manna fresh produce program in Andrews. This program gives free fresh fruits, vegetables, and baked goods to the local needy.

Hartman rang in the new millennium by conducting a Bible reading marathon that included many churches in Cherokee County. They read the Bible, night and day, non-stop, from Genesis to Revelation, from Tuesday night, December 28, 1999, until Saturday noon, January 1, 2000.

Hartman is very interested in religious liberty. He makes sure most leaders in Cherokee County receive *Liberty* magazine, and he makes changes to the list when necessary. He presented the offices of all four newspapers in the area with Harry Anderson's painting, "Free press - free people."

He also personally invited several hundred people to the Messiah's Mansion, a full-scale model of the ancient Hebrew sanctuary that was set up in Murphy, N.C., in September of 2014.

—BY BETTY HARTMAN

has brought in thousands of dollars to help fund

Christian education. For the last several



## McDonald Road Burns Mortgage, Dedicates Wing

“Normally fires are bad, but when they burn up mortgages, they’re great!” shares Don Gettys, who pastored the McDonald Road Church in McDonald, Tenn., from its organization until his retirement in 2011. “I am so thrilled that this church is out of debt and that this building belongs 100 percent to God.”

The church had been working to pay off the mortgage since members decided to add a new children’s wing, which opened in 2003. Church members completed payments on the \$775,000 debt in January 2014, which was five years early. A special service was held May 10, 2014, to burn the church’s mortgage and dedicate the children’s wing.



MCDONALD ROAD CHURCH

*Former pastor Don Gettys (left); current pastor Fred Fuller; Warren Oliver, church member/fundraiser coordinator; and Ken Oliver, church member, watch the mortgage burn.*

“What a wonderful opportunity it was to celebrate the dedication of the children’s wing, built especially for our young people and youth,” says Fred Fuller, church pastor.

“I appreciate the hard work and faithfulness of more than 1,000 people working together to accomplish this goal.”

Sara Turk leads the pre-kindergarten Sab-

bath School for ages 2-4 and says, “The Sabbath School rooms have been a wonderful addition. I was teaching before the addition, and the rooms were so small and so crowded, and children didn’t really have room to stretch out. The hallway was narrow, and the children just really had a hard time getting to and from [Sabbath School].

“As a church, we have just made our children a priority, and made sure that they have the resources they need to love to come to Sabbath School. They really feel like they are an important part of our church with this addition,” says Turk. “It’s a really vital and important part of our church.”

—BY REBECCA BROOKS

## Adairsville Members Hold Grand Opening



ELDON GARMAN

*The new church facility in Adairsville, Ga., was dedicated on September 27, 2014.*

Members of the Adairsville, Ga., Church had the grand opening of their new church facility, September 27, 2014, and it was filled to overflowing.

This church began as

a small group of 29 who met for the first time in the Poplar Springs Methodist Church in 2001. Technically its beginning was in

1999 when Ken Wiseman, head elder at the Georgia-Cumberland Academy Church, was convinced there needed to be more evangelistic outreach in the area.

After a couple of local

moves, on October 23, 2004, the congregation moved to its permanent location on Highway 140, just a mile east of I-75. They met for the first time in their new church house (literally the house on the property) on January 1, 2005. Then a few months later God led them to a modular structure. In a short time the structure was renovated and moved to a piece of adjoining property generously donated by Don and Karey Taylor.

On Sabbath, December 17 of that year, the Adairsville Mission Group joined the sisterhood of churches in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference when they were

organized into a full-fledged Adventist Church.

The church has continued to be active through the years, and has grown to a membership of 90.

September 27 was the grand opening, with representation from the Conference. Kurt Allen, vice president/finance, spoke during the worship hour, and encouraged the members, saying it is their responsibility and joy to share the last-day message God has given His church.

This is the first phase of the building program. The church will use the fellowship hall as a sanctuary until the next building phase takes place.

—BY BARBARA L. MITTLEIDER

## Conference Hires New Trust/Stewardship Director



Brian Danese

Brian Danese is serving as the new trust/stewardship director of the Gulf States Conference. For the past eight years, Danese has been pastoring the Gulf

Coast and Bay St. Louis churches in Biloxi, Miss. Since March 2014, the Wiggins, Miss., Church has also been a part of that district.

Danese's roots go deep in Gulf States. He grew up in Pearlington, Miss., and graduated from Bass Memorial Academy. He graduated from Southern College (now Southern Adventist University) with an undergraduate degree in accounting.

Brian began work in the accounting department of IPSCO (Insurance Planning and Services Company) the day after graduation. Everything seemed to

be going according to plan, except for the nagging thought that he was not where he was supposed to be. Through an unexpected series of events, he found himself pastoring the Forrest City district of the Arkansas/Louisiana Conference a little over a year later.

After serving there for almost two years, he moved to Berrien Springs, Mich., and attended Andrews Theological Seminary. He graduated with his master's degree in December 1995. Following graduation, he served in the Shreveport South district in Louisiana for 10 years. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Danese began pastoring the Gulf Coast and Bay St. Louis churches in February 2006.

Danese believes

strongly in following the guidelines for ministry given through Ellen White: "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me,'" *Ministry of Healing*, page 143.

You cannot know Danese without knowing that along with a passion for "fishing for men" he also has a passion for fishing for fish — particularly sockeye salmon from Bristol Bay, Alaska.

Danese, and his wife, Michelle, have been married for 24 years. Their children, Sara and Michel, have been a blessing for them.

## Huntsville Central Honors Barrs, Celebrates their Retirement

More than 150 church members, friends, and former members crowded into Huntsville Central's Fellowship Hall for a retirement and goodbye party for the pastoral couple, Chris and Valerie Barr. Beautiful songs and personal tributes celebrated the wonderful bond that the Barrs had developed during their years pastoring at Central in Huntsville, Ala. When the Barrs came to Huntsville, Chris Barr quickly became a pastor known not just for his British accent, but

for his all-inclusiveness, kindness and caring, and wonderful sermons that always pointed everyone to Jesus. As he retires, he is able to look back on a 26-year history of working for the Adventist Church in America and in Ireland.

He was born in England and raised in a non-church-going family. He emigrated from there to Canada in his teens and began working in the printing industry. Through a manager who was a former Adventist, Barr was

introduced to Jesus and the Adventist Church, which he readily accepted. He was then baptized. Soon after his baptism, while still in Canada, he met Valerie, who was the daughter of Adventist English missionaries to India. They were married and returned to England, where he worked in the paper-making industry. He worked first in sales, and then moved on to corporate marketing and personnel/human resources. However, ever since his baptism, he had felt

the Lord had calling him to pastoral ministry. Fourteen years after his baptism, he returned to college to pursue his degree for ministry.

The Barrs served six years in Ireland, eight years in the Iowa/Missouri Conference, four years in Montana, and almost a decade in the Gulf States Conference at Huntsville Central. Valerie has always been a strong partner in Chris' ministry. One of the emphases in their ministry has been the health message. By conducting whole-food



cooking schools, natural-remedy workshops, and health seminars, they have tried to encourage their church members as well as people in the community to practice healthy lifestyle choices. The opportunity to dramatically expand this side of their ministry came six years ago, when they were awarded grant funding from Florida Hospital to develop a church-based health ministry that would reach out to the community. This provided a very exciting opportunity in the area of community health evangelism. Huntsville Central is still providing health seminars on a yearly basis from this initial funding.

In 2011, Chris accepted the invitation to be the

health ministries director for Gulf States Conference while continuing to pastor at Huntsville Central. Since that time, he has been able to speak at many of the churches in the Conference, using and promoting the CREATION Health seminar developed by Florida Hospital.

Chris introduced the new CHIP training program, which has been made available to churches in the Conference, and has focused on initia-



Valerie and Chris Barr

tives for employee health and their spouses. While in Gulf States, he also shared

his wisdom and discernment as he served on the Executive Committee and the Personnel Committee of Gulf States, and on the Southern Union Executive Committee. Chris and Valerie have moved to Bozeman, Mont., to be near their daughter and grandchildren in their retirement. As the church members say goodbye, they extend warmest thanks for the wonderful leadership and spirit that the Barrs brought to Huntsville Central and to the Gulf States Conference. Huntsville Central is very thankful to have had them for so long, and would have been very happy to have had them stay longer. They will be missed!

—BY KATHY AITKEN

## Gulf States Conference Celebrates God's Blessings



NILTON GARCIA

Gulf States Conference new office building

The grand opening celebration for the new Gulf States Conference Office is scheduled for December 15, 2014. Many have been looking forward to the grand opening with eager anticipation

for more than a year.

They feel very blessed. Gulf States was able to sell their old office, and combine those proceeds with funds that were restricted to be used for the construction of

a new office. The combined funds permitted the Conference to build its new facility, debt free, in a highly visible location. Please plan to attend the grand opening on December 15, as they celebrate

how God continues to bless and lead Gulf States.

The new office is located at 10633 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36117.

—BY MEL EISELE,  
PRESIDENT

## Literature Evangelism Expanding

The Martin Memorial Church in Centerville, Tenn., has begun a ministry that is growing in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. Ana Paula Swingle, formerly a student MagaBook canvasser, now married with a lovely seven-year-old daughter, sensed the conviction that God wanted her to work again in literature evangelism. Since she didn't want to work alone, she shared her convictions with other women in her church.

A date was scheduled to begin with a morning training seminar, and canvassing in the field after a late lunch. It was thrilling to see four adult women and three female teenagers in atten-



*The new MagaBook canvassers are Katelyn Milano (left), Kaylene Milano, Dorita Milano, Clarissa Milano, Kbristilyn Nichols, Marissa Milano, and Ana Paula Swingle.*

dance. Preparations with a van, two experienced leaders, two-way radios, canvassing bags, and inventory

were ready in advance.

The team is well prepared for evangelism, complete with GLOW tracts,

and correspondence Bible lessons. There are no doubting, halting spirits here, only strong faith that souls will be harvested for Heaven.

The Taylor Mill Church in Covington, Ky., has expressed a desire to start a MagaBook program. They have already contacted the Publishing Department to schedule training and a start date.

"The church must give her attention to the canvassing work. This is one way in which she is to shine in the world. Then she will go forth, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners," *Review and Herald*, January 1, 1901.

—BY ROCKY DAVIS

## Nashville Area Community Center Changes Lives

The Adventist Community Service Center (ACSC) serving the greater Nashville, Tenn., area sponsored an outreach booth at the 2014 Tennessee State Fair. Free blood pressure checks and nutritional counseling were provided, along with the distribution of Christ-centered literature. Drawings were also held for a family Bible and a children's book. Many contacts were made, and seeds of love planted.

The Thrift Store and Outreach Center is



*Molly Alsip (left) receives the children's book she won from ACSC volunteer Linda McCracken.*

staffed by six to 14 non-paid volunteers. Hours



*Peggy Hincy (left), ACSC volunteer, presents Joyce Henderson with the family Bible she won.*

of operation are Monday to Wednesday, from 10

a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday, from 1 to 8 p.m. From January 1 to September 30, 2014, 10,624 hours were volunteered. The Thrift Store makes it possible to assist more than 110 families monthly with more than \$6,000 in financial assistance for housing expenses, utilities, food, clothing, medication, and miscellaneous household items.

—BY DEAN FLINT, ACSC DIRECTOR



## Conferences Join for “The Next Step” Men’s Conference



Michael Christian, Ph.D., speaker for “The Next Step” men’s conference at Indian Creek Camp in Liberty, Tenn.



The men enjoy a ride and the beautiful surroundings at Center Hill Lake.

For the second year in a row, the Lord blessed with stunningly beautiful fall weather as the men of the Kentucky-Tennessee and South Central conferences gathered at Indian Creek Camp in Liberty, Tenn., October 24-26, for a joint Men’s Ministries Conference. Approximately 75 men were in attendance from Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio, and Tennessee.

Everyone was blessed with a series of presentations by Michael Christian, Ph.D., a highly experienced therapist and Christian coun-

selor who has worked closely with Seventh-day Adventists in the Nashville area for a number of years. Christian is the founder of Intimacy Seekers, a group of therapists dedicated to the mission of helping individuals, couples, and families to live fully and experience healthy intimacy in their relationships. His greatest qualification is that the message he presents is not based merely on his training or his own experience in clinical practice, but rather on the timeless principles found in the Word of God.

The theme for the weekend was “The Next Step.” The ultimate goal is always to be better Christian husbands and

fathers, and Christian offered valuable perspectives on the steps they can take to strengthen their relationships with their spouses and children.

Of course, not all of the time was spent in meetings. The men had ample opportunity to enjoy Center Hill Lake, and to fellowship as brothers in Christ. The warm hospitality, good food, and beautiful scenery of Indian Creek Camp were greatly appreciated. Preparations are already being made for next year’s conference, “Set Your House in Order,” scheduled for October 23-25, 2015.

—BY AARON RAINES

## Academies Hold Annual Youth POWER Event

Fifty-three young people and sponsors participated in the second annual Youth



Mark Harrison (left), HA; Avery Kroll, MA; Bri Burks, MA; Abigail Anderson, MA; Ashley Gonzalez, MA; Will Anderson, MA parent (right)

POWER Event on September 24-27, 2014. Participants this year came from Madison and Highland Academies, and the event was held in Manchester, Ky. The POWER (Prayer, Outreach, Witnessing, Excitement, Revival) Event consisted of working on various community service projects in an

area that has been deemed one of the most economically depressed areas in the United States, and it ended with a youth rally on Sabbath.

On the first day, two groups were formed and sent to different work sites. Assignments included everything from pulling weeds and spreading gravel to building wheelchair ramps. It was a lot of hard work, but the lives of four families were changed. The main objective was to witness for God and show others how much He loves them.

Some of the participants had this to say about their experience at the POWER Event.

What, for you, was most satisfying about this outreach? “Getting to experience different cultures and different places.” - Maddie Hallam, Highland

Academy (HA) sophomore

What did you do during this outreach to improve someone’s life? “I don’t think it is what we physically did, but the company we gave to the people we helped.” - Ashley Gonzalez, Madison Academy (MA) senior

Did you see God during this outreach? “Yes, because I saw Him giving patience to all of our leaders. When we didn’t understand something, they were there to help.” - Dante Cheese, MA senior

What did you like most about this outreach? “Getting to learn new skills and meeting new people.” - Mark Harrison, HA sophomore

Why did you come to this event? “I enjoy helping people, and I feel like it is what God would want me to do.” - Macy Hulin, HA freshman

What have you learned from this experience? “When you have a need, sometimes you don’t realize that you have



Mike Downs (left, bottom), MA; Warren Downs, MA parent; Rabban Ley, MA faculty; Wyatt Cross, MA; Jackson Wood, MA; Dante Cheese, MA; Noah Glisson, HA; Macy Hulin (left, top), HA; Kayla Kimbley, MA; Jordan Brown, MA; Brianna Underwood, MA; Autumn Waterhouse, MA

that need until it gets too big. But, it’s not always for us to handle. God will make a way.”

- Thyrell Smith, HA junior  
—BY CLAIRE ASHCRAFT,  
HIGHLAND ACADEMY  
FRESHMAN

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## Madison Mission Church Members Partner with Maranatha Volunteers



Madison Mission Church, in partnership with Maranatha Volunteers, sent 23 members on its first international mission to the Dominican Republic on June 19, 2014. The primary mission was to build a one-day church for the Vislumbres de Sión congregation in El Dean — a tall order for 23 ragtag, non-experienced volunteers, but God's Spirit was with them in El Dean and

in the wonderful work He helped them to accomplish.

The miracle wasn't just in the erection of a building; it was also in the Vacation Bible School plans. The team was prepared for 50 children, but on the first day 150 jubilant children showed up.

A dental team was prepared to serve 600 individuals, but they surpassed that number in 30 hours. And God was not done! The town was infected with a vicious disease called the

Chikungunya fever. The team partnered with the local elder to visit and pray for the sick members, and the favor of God was on them. The report was astounding. Every person the team prayed with was healed by the end of the week.

Truly God blessed this mission endeavor. He used 23 inexperienced individuals to build a church in seven days and changed a town forever.

—BY DAMIEN CHANDLER

## South Central Constituents Minister at Congressional Black Caucus Event in Nation's Capital

The Congressional Black Caucus held its 44th Annual Legislative Conference (Gospel Extravaganza) at the United House of Prayer for All People in Washington, D.C., on September 25, 2014. It is an event where select congressmen invite choirs from their respective districts to minister in song. Four congressmen showcased singers from their respective districts: The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA), The Honorable James E. Clyburn (SC), The Honorable G. K. Butterfield (NC), the host of the event, and The Honorable Bennie Thompson (MS).

The choirs sang gospel songs that both praised God for His faithfulness as well as aroused the audience. Several Southern Union constituents were present at the Gospel Extravaganza, and represented well. At one point Rep. James

Clyburn (SC) lauded Seventh-day Adventists in his district citing that because of their music, particularly the choir in his district, which he invited, he was led to worship at an Adventist church and thoroughly enjoyed his experience. Rep. Bennie Thompson invited a choir that has its roots in Soso, Miss., called A.B.O.C. (Anointed Bodies Of Christ), founded and headed by Soso native Roscoe Henry Jr. Henry is a member of the Soso Church, and worships at the South Jackson, Miss., Church. He assembled a collection of people from several different denominations, ages, cities, and many members from the Soso Church as well as Soso's first elder, group photographer Ronald Henry, and Samuel Jeudin, pastor, who offered a spirited and stirring invocation for the evening's event.

As Rep. Bennie Thomp-

son takes great pride in his state and constituents, he believed that his invited choir, A.B.O.C., would represent well, so he saved the best for last, and they did not disappoint. A.B.O.C. opened up their set with a familiar song, "Perfect Praise (Oh Lord, How Excellent...)" by Walt Whitman. Their second song was "Oh How Precious is the Name of Jesus" by Myrna Summers. Mississippi Gospel Music Awards winner and psalmist Carrie Parker-Small was the lead soloist for A.B.O.C. All four choirs closed the event united in a mass choir singing the perennial praise and worship song "Every Praise" by Hezekiah Walker.

A.B.O.C. was able to tour the Capitol building as well as the White House, and several monuments on Friday. They ended their tour ministering in song at Capitol Hill Church



on Sabbath. It was truly an unforgettable experience for all who attended the Gospel Extravaganza, but for Roscoe Henry and A.B.O.C. it was just an opportunity and honor not only to represent Soso, the state of Mississippi, the South Central Conference, and the Southern Union, but it was a testament to a mighty God who places His people in enviable places so that His name might be lifted up!

—BY SAMUEL JEUDIN

## Shiloh Members Dedicate Community Services Building



*More than 300 individuals attended the dedication service of the Jay Winston Lifestyle and Community Center at Shiloh Church on August 23, 2014.*

The members of Shiloh Church in Ocala, Fla., held a dedication service for its newly built community services center on August 23, 2014.

The purpose of the center, which was the vision of the late Jay Winston, former

pastor of Shiloh, was based on Winston's philosophy of ministry — the "Three C's: Connecting with God, Connecting with one another, and Connecting with the community." Winston believed that souls could be won in non-traditional ways — outside of the four walls of the church.

Once the church embraced his vision, God prepared the way. The members collected and received money from friends and sponsors, and sacrificed to raise the money for this project.

Shiloh faced a number of obstacles that threatened to prevent the erection of the facility. One such obstacle

was a land boundary dispute, but all was overcome.

Unfortunately, Winston died before he could see the project completed. The facility was completed under the direction of Curtis Crider, current pastor of Shiloh, who embraced and continues the vision of the three C's.

To honor Winston's memory, the members named the center Jay Winston Lifestyle and Community Center. The open air facility is equipped with a full-size basketball court and a kitchen.

To commemorate the center's completion, a weekend celebration was held from August 22 to 24. On Friday evening, Lewis

Edwards, D.Min., pastor of a close friend and comrade of Pastor Winston, challenged the members to "Think Outside of the Box." Hubert J. Murrell, D.Min., president of the Southeastern Conference, delivered the dedication sermon on Sabbath. Both were powerful messages.

More than 300 individuals attended the dedication service, including City Councilwoman Mary Sue Rich and City Manager Matt Brower.

Since the Center's opening, it has served as a shaded workout for Shiloh School students' B-Smart exercise program, and Shiloh's Community Services Department mass food distribution.

—BY SHILOH COMMUNICATION

## Twelve Students are Baptized After "Truth for Youth" Crusade



*A mother and son are baptized after the Truth for Youth crusade held at Mt. Sinai Junior Academy in Orlando, Fla., from September 22 to October 10, 2014.*

For three weeks, from September 22 to October 10, 2014, Dianne Ruff, Southern Union associate director of elementary education, conducted the Truth for Youth evangelistic crusade at Mt. Sinai Junior Academy (MSJA) in Orlando, Fla.

At the close of the crusade, 12 students were baptized.

For approximately an hour each day, Ruff preached to all the students in the K-10 school. Ruff began conducting the crusade during the Southern Union Year of Evangelism in 2009, when each departmental director was encouraged to participate in some form of evangelism. Instead of participating in traditional evangelism, Ruff decided to conduct an evangelistic effort in the Southern Union schools.

"Since I deal with youth, I felt a need to be intentional about giving them an

opportunity to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior," said Ruff who conducts the Truth for Youth crusade once a year.

In addition to conducting the crusades, she conducts training for churches on how to conduct the crusade in their churches.

This year's crusade marks the third time that the Truth for Youth crusade has been conducted in a Southeastern Conference school.

"The Truth for Youth crusade fulfills the mission of our schools, which is to teach our children of the Lord," said Carol Byrd, Southeastern Conference





*Diane Ruff, Southern Union associate director of elementary education, conducts the three-week Truth for Youth evangelistic crusade at Mt. Sinai Junior Academy in Orlando, Fla.*

they have been exposed to the Adventist faith.

“The crusade had a tremendous impact on the school,” said Betty Nugent, Ph.D., MSJA principal. “As a result of this crusade and the church’s Revelation Seminar, a young man and his mother got baptized.”

Ruff conducts the evangelistic crusade at the Southern Union schools that have received the Union’s School of Excellence

superintendent of education. The crusade was conducted in conjunction with Mt. Sinai Church’s Revelation

Seminar that was conducted by Herman Davis, pastor of Mt. Sinai. Twenty-five percent

of the students who attend MSJA are not Adventist. For some of them, attending MSJA is the first time that

Certification. MJSJA is one of three Southeastern schools that possess the certification. —BY ROBERT HENLEY

## Mt. Gilead Dedicates New Baptistry



*Mt. Gilead Church dedicates new baptistry.*

Nestled close to downtown Bradenton, Fla., is the home of Mt. Gilead Church.

Since its birth with 13 members from Mt. Sinai Church in Sarasota, Fla., it has gone through many transitions, filled with toils and triumphs, setbacks and successes, as it moved from place to place in an attempt to find a permanent home. In the interim it lost some of its members who became weary of moving from “church to chapel.”

The church also transitioned through several leaders, and they are happy

that two of those leaders are still with the church: Franklin Taylor and Earl Palmer. The Lord blessed this small group, and in 2000 they purchased a club and renovated it into a house of worship. Having a permanent building gave way to growth; however, they outgrew that building. God again blessed the members, and in November 2005 they purchased a new facility. Unfortunately, that facility did not have a baptistry. To baptize

individuals they utilized members’ pools and area churches. The church members longed for the church to have their own baptistry.

Their dream was finally realized when they dedicated a beautiful baptistry to God’s glory. On that day, four souls were baptized in the new baptistry: Christina Williamson, Jehiel Hamilton, Elizabeth Clarke, and her son, Jahael King.

—BY HENRICKA HAMILTON

## Oakwood to Become North American Division Institution



*Karnik Doukmetzian (left), Office of General Counsel; Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood University and secretary of the Board of Trustees; Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division and chair of the Board of Trustees; and Ella Simmons, vice president of the General Conference and chair of the Oakwood University NAD Transition Committee*

In a vote of 129 to 1, Oakwood University is being recommended to become a North American Division (NAD) of Seventh-day Adventists-sponsored institution of higher learning. This vote was taken on October 15, 2014, at a

called session of the Oakwood University constituency, held on the heels of Annual Council at the World Headquarters in Silver Spring, Md. “Oakwood University has been a vital part of the Seventh-day Adventist

educational system, training many leaders of our Church,” said Ted Wilson, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. “On behalf of the World Church, we value Oakwood,” he said. These words were shared as he opened the meeting.

The rationale for the recommendation of the Oakwood University Board of Trustees anticipates a number of benefits, which would accrue to the Oakwood University enterprise. These benefits include the following:

- Oakwood finds greater mission congruence and financial support within the North American Division, the Division most directly impacted by its operation.

- The decision to become a North American Division institution grants greater legal, constitutional, and voting influence to the core NAD constituencies served by Oakwood University.

- The new organizational placement would reconcile the historic purpose for Oakwood’s founding with the focus, scope, and results of its 118-year operation.

During the meeting, Dan Jackson, NAD president and Oakwood University board chair, praised the General Conference for taking the heed of God and the counsel from Ellen G. White on the education of African-Americans. It was White’s counsel in the late 1890s to open a school that would educate recently-freed African-Americans of the South. “We offer deep gratitude to the General Conference for the way in which they have fostered this work,” said Jackson. “And to Oakwood University, we say welcome home,” he stated.

The vote also included recommended changes to the University’s Constitution and Bylaws. Both recommendations were accepted at the North American Division’s Year-end Meeting, which took place November 3, 2014.

## Oakwood Performs Community Service Around Huntsville

More than 600 Oakwood University students and employees participated in 40 community service projects in the city of Huntsville, September 30, 2014. This annual event, called AGAPE Day, sets aside classroom instruction for a day of “service-learning” in the community. Some of the sites included Crisis Services, the Alabama Constitution Village, Highlands Elementary, Habitat for Humanity, The Salvation Army, Early Works Children Museum, Historic

Lowry House, Burritt on the Mountain, The Humane Society, and the free Dental Clinic, just to name a few.

The first AGAPE Day was held in 2005. According to Patricia Stewart Daniel, service learning coordinator, AGAPE Day provides an opportunity for the Oakwood University community to demonstrate its care and commitment to the Huntsville area. “AGAPE Day is a way to internalize and operationalize the University’s motto, ‘Enter to Learn, Depart to Serve,’” said Daniel. “We

begin to practice that which we hope our students will continue long after they have left the institution,” she said.

In sharing her AGAPE Day experience, Luanne Sams, a junior biomedical sciences major, explained, “I enjoyed painting the walls of the Mt. Calvary Church.” When asked why she chose to participate in AGAPE Day, she said, “I am a biology major studying to be a medical doctor. Instead of waiting until I am a doctor, I chose to help others now.”

Deborah Callins of the National Children’s Advocacy Program shared a thank you note saying, “You can be proud of how Oakwood was represented. We look forward to a return visit next year.” Opal Meek of the East Mastin Lake Homeowners Association shared, “This is a very helpful program; people on a fixed income were helped, who had no one who could help them do what the volunteers did.”

—BY GEORGE JOHNSON JR. AND MONICA SPENCER



## Undergraduate Research Facility Opens on Campus

The Biology Department and Allied Health Department held an open house and reception recently for their Undergraduate Research Facility. This new state-of-the-art facility was shared with friends and colleagues in the Chattanooga science and business communities to encourage biology internships locally. Alumni, students, faculty, and friends were also invited so they could meet Southern students currently conducting research for projects ranging from black widow spiders to the DNA of conifer trees.

“It’s extremely impressive,” said senior biology major Chad McLennan. “It will no doubt encourage



*Southern has more than 25 students pursuing data-driven independent research projects this semester.*

and excite future students to take part in research opportunities.”

This unique lab includes multiple work stations with ergonomic and space-saving designs, a fume hood with clear

panels on all sides so professors can demonstrate techniques while being viewed from any direction, touch screen computers, LED lighting, and a glass refrigerator with electric outlets among other nu-

merous features.

The Biology and Allied Health departments are developing a research culture at Southern, as is evidenced by the more than 25 students pursuing data-driven experiments this semester. With the new lab, more students will be able to participate and present their research findings at regional and national meetings, becoming better prepared for professional school, graduate school, and the science industry in the process.

To schedule a tour of the lab, or learn more about the sciences at Southern, call 423-236-2690 or email [wnorskov@southern.edu](mailto:wnorskov@southern.edu).

—BY LUCAS PATTERSON

## Land Dedication Ceremony Held for Sabbath Trail

Southern Adventist University’s large, rural campus in Collegedale

recently got even bigger as approximately 250 acres on the school’s eastern bound-

ary were donated by a local family through a land trust. Similarly, a private landowner is allowing Southern to manage an additional adjoining tract, meaning a total of 400 acres will be newly available for

public recreation beginning in 2016.

Administrators, students, and community members gathered for a property dedication ceremony on October 24, 2014. Southern is using a portion of this land to create 10 miles of hiking and biking paths, which will complement the University’s extensive and award-winning trails already in existence on the opposite side of campus. The blazing and maintenance of these new paths will largely be handled by Friends of White Oak Mountain, a grassroots organization in Collegedale. Of special significance is a

one-mile trail with a spiritual emphasis that is being developed and modeled after the Sabbath Trail in Washington, N.H. — home to the very first Seventh-day Adventist Church — that traces the history of the Sabbath from creation to the New Earth.

The recently-donated tract, which brings Southern’s total acreage to 1,300, was a contribution from two alumni who met as students at Southern in the early 1950s before graduating and getting married. Their children attended Southern, and their grandchildren currently attend.

—BY LUCAS PATTERSON



*For the land dedication event, Southern partnered with a national conservation group in the planting of two American chestnut trees, a formerly abundant species which struggled in the last century but is making a comeback.*

# Obituaries

**ADAMS, Julia Elizabeth “Betty,”** 91, of Collegedale, TN, died July 25, 2014 at her residence. A private burial was held at Collegedale Memorial Park.

**AUSTIN, Howard A.,** 75, born Nov. 9, 1937 in Auburn, NY, died Feb. 26, 2013 in Leesburg, FL. He was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. He is survived by his wife, Emily; two sons: David of Ooltewah, TN, and Bruce of Hendersonville, NC; two daughters: Nancy (Jeff) Coon of Vestaburg, MI, and Karen Austin of Maitland, FL; and 10 grandchildren. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Marc Genton at Umatilla Church.

**BECKETT, Robert Boysen,** 90, of Collegedale, TN, born July 21, 1924 in Los Angeles, CA, to the late Farley Elberg Beckett and Alice Peterson Beckett, died Aug. 10, 2014. He taught high school science and math and worked in a variety of construction-related projects during his lifetime. For 13 years, he and his wife made a living as doll artists. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Barbara Jean Kalebaugh, and his wife, June Lenore Allen Beckett. He is survived by his son, John A. Beckett of Collegedale; daughter, Cyndi Merka of Burlington, WI; sister, Betty Hill of Corvallis, OR; two grandsons; three great-grandsons; and one great-granddaughter. A memorial service was held on Aug. 16 at the Standifer Gap Church in Chattanooga, where he was a member. Pastor Mickey Mallory officiated. Interment followed in Collegedale Memorial Park.

**BENSON, Dennis Edwin,** 72, born May 19, 1941 in Waterloo, IA, died Feb. 25, 2014. He worked in the Yellow Page Business for more than 20 years, and served as general manager of consolidated directories of Effingham, IL, for eight years. A was a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He was a loving father and husband and loved to fish and golf. He was the son of the late Orlin and Joyce Benson. He is survived by his wife, Ann Benson; three sons: Joe Benson and Sam Benson of Chattanooga, TN, and Jim Benson, of Spotsylvania, VA; three daughters: Vickie Day and Lisa Bocquin of Kansas City, KS, and Stephanie Hernandez of Chicago, IL; one sister, Ramona Riedel; one brother, Mike Benson of Gurley, AL; and eight grandchildren. A private memorial service was held Feb. 28, 2014 in the Valley View Chapel with Pastor Dale Barnhurst officiating. Interment was in Hamilton Memorial Gardens.

**BLANTON, Gloria Couch,** 73, born July 18, 1940 in Miami, FL, died Feb. 15, 2014. She was the second child of Robert Miller Couch Sr. and Tommie Cheek Couch. After graduating from Collegedale Academy, she married David MacKenzie (deceased) in Atlanta, GA, where her son Douglas Scot MacKenzie was born. She also lived in Athens, GA, where she was proud to own a plantation farm named Smithsonian. Other homes included Philadelphia, PA, and lastly, Jacksonville, FL. She enjoyed the St. Johns River and the architecture of the Riverside area. In her earlier years she enjoyed sewing and was indeed an excellent seamstress. Other interests included collecting antiques, dolls, and teddy bears. She loved children and contributed much of her time, talents, and money toward Christian education, including the Pathfinders and the youth at Jacksonville Adventist Academy.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David MacKenzie; her mother, Tommie Cheek Couch; and her father, Robert Miller Couch Sr. She is survived by her sister, Barbara Couch (Walter) Pierce; her sister, Ruthie Couch (Bob) Self; her brother, Robert Miller (Kathy) Couch Jr.; one son, Douglas Scot (Jessie) MacKenzie; one grandson, Douglas Scot MacKenzie; many nieces; and nephews.

**CAMPBELL, Ray,** 85, born April 9, 1928 in Powder Mills, KY, died March 17, 2014 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 30 years. He was employed as the communication director for Adventist Hinsdale Hospital, IL, from 1965 until 1995. He is survived by his wife, June; two sons: Larry (Donna) of Nashville, TN, and Jerry (Sherri) of Deltona, FL; one daughter, Linda (Steve) Patrick of Apopka; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Barbara McCoy at Forest Lake Church.

**CARRIGAN, Genevieve,** 83, born July 27, 1930, died Feb. 12, 2014 in Port Richey, FL. She was a member of the New Port Richey Church for 27 years. She is survived by her husband, Spencer; son, Kenneth Carrigan of Virginia; one daughter, Kimberly Wicker of Elfers, FL; and two grandchildren. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Glenn Aguirre.

**CARTER, Herbert Benjamin,** 88 born Oct. 19, 1926 in Cadixton, Wales, died Aug. 6, 2014 in Greenbrier, TN. He worked at the Stanborough Park Press in England from 1941 until 1965, taking a break in the 40s to serve in the British Land Army. After coming to the States in 1976, he worked at Southern Publishing Association in Nashville, TN, until it closed. Then he and his wife, Betty, moved to Ontario, Canada, where he was foreman of Maracle Press and Betty worked in subscriptions. Following their retirement, they returned to Ridgetop, TN, but then spent several months in Russia, where he was asked to set up the bindery at the Adventist Seminary at Zaoksky. He was a faithful member of Ridgetop Church for many years, serving as an elder, head elder, and community service leader. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Betty; two children: Julie (Tony) Estella and Nigel Carter; three grandchildren: Kate (Russell) Walter, Cariad Estella, and Anthony Estella; two great-grandchildren; and two sisters: Thelma Smith and Bernice Harlin. Pastors Bob Korzyniowski and William Little officiated at the memorial service at Ridgetop Church on Aug. 16, 2014.

**CLARK, Lorraine V.,** 90, born March 21, 1924 in Hinsdale, IL, died July 5, 2014 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Florida Living Retirement Church in Apopka, FL, for six years. Her passion was using her God-given talents in music. She sang solos in many churches and with conference evangelistic teams. She is survived by her husband, Harold V. Clark; two daughters: Delores (Farrell) Gilliland of Niles, MI, and Cheryl Simpson of Loma Linda, CA; two sisters: Gwen (Harold) Howard and Etta Stolin of Apopka; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Jim King at the Florida Living Retirement Church. The interment was in Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

**COLEMAN, Vivian Alleen Harrell Cates,** 97, born Feb. 25, 1917 in Columbus, GA, died Aug. 28, 2014 in Ridgetop, TN. She was a member of the Bordeaux Church in Nashville, TN. Besides her role as housewife and mother, she held various jobs ranging from ice cream parlor employee to nurse's aide, and lastly as food service director at Memphis Junior Academy and Greater Nashville Junior Academy. She enjoyed a variety of hobbies. She is survived by her children: Vivian Jean Bell, Paul (Phyllis) Cates Jr., and Janice Towne; 12 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and nine great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two husbands, Paul “DeDe” Cates (1954) and Grady Coleman (1976); five siblings; and one grandson, Mike Cates. A celebration of life was held at Forest Lawn Funeral Home in Goodlettsville, TN, with Pastor Ed Sharpe officiating.

**COOPER, Renee Pearson,** 57, born Nov. 23, 1956 in Tallahassee, FL, died April 16, 2014. She was the third child of the late Missouriean A. Pearson and the late Wordell Pearson. The family moved to Apopka, FL, in 1959 when Renee was three years old. She attended Ellen's Memorial Kindergarten, Lovell Elementary School, Orlando Junior Academy, and graduated from Forest Lake Academy. She also attended Oakwood College, now Oakwood University, for two years. She was working to obtain a B.A. degree in English Literature from Ashford University, and was only 12 credits shy of that goal when she passed away. She was the epitome of a hard-working Christian leader. She was baptized at Mt. Olive Church in Apopka, while she was still a teenager, and throughout her life held several key positions within the church. She served as church treasurer, AYS leader, Sabbath School teacher and superintendent, minister of music, choir director, pianist, Adventurer leader, and Pathfinder leader. She was also well known in the central Florida area for her work with Oration contests and Bible Bowl competitions. She was a gifted musician. Not only was she blessed with a beautiful singing voice, but a classically trained French horn player and pianist. She won many awards for her playing, and participated in lots of concerts. She was offered a musical scholarship to Southern Adventist University, but made the decision to attend Oakwood instead. She formed a musical group in the late 70s with her friends called RCM—Renee (Cooper), Cynthia (Pryor), and Melinda (Muganzo). The trio was very popular and performed regularly in central Florida. Although they talked about a professional career, it was not what the Lord had in store for them. She was also an avid sports person. She played softball, volleyball, ran track, and loved to bowl. She won many awards and participated in field day events while at Forest Lake Academy where she set several school records in just about every sport she participated in. It was through her love for sports that she met her best friend and later the love of her life. She met Franklin Roosevelt Cooper at the age of 15 at a church basketball game at Mt. Sinai Church in Orlando, FL. Throughout their relationship they would continue to share a love for sports—football and bowling. She was a founding member of the Pinsetters Bowling League. Frank and Renee were married on Dec. 26, 1976. Their friendship and marriage lasted until his untimely death from cancer on August 27, 2012. To this union two children were born: Nicholas De Angelo Cooper and Lindsey Nichole Cooper; and one



# Obituaries

grandchild, Nicholas De Angelo Cooper II (baby Nic). Along with starting a family, she also made time for her professional career. The first and last position she held was as a caregiver in the family business—Pearson Rest Home. Jobs that she held throughout her life included United Telephone, Mercy Hospital, Princeton Hospital, and Florida Hospital. She also served as a Room Mother for Forest Lake Educational Center (FLEC), while her children attended there. Her many health challenges required her to give up her professional career in the 80s, when she devoted herself to being a loving mother, grandmother, and auntie. She leaves a huge void in the lives of all those who knew and loved her, including her son, Nicholas (Khandi) Cooper of Apopka; her daughter, Lindsey Cooper of Apopka; her grandson, Nicholas Cooper II of Apopka; her brothers; her half-sisters; one beloved cousin; many nieces; nephews; a host of cousins; in-laws; godchildren; and friends.

**ELLIOT, Mary F.**, 93, born July 1, 1921 in Richmond, VA, died June 30, 2014 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband, Eugene Elliot Sr. of Zellwood, FL; one son, Eugene (Lillian) Elliott Jr. of Hagerstown, MD; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The graveside service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

**ELLIOT, Eugene**, 91, born March 28, 1923 in Winchester, VA, died Aug. 14, 2014 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. He is survived by his son, Eugene (Lillian) Elliott Jr. of Hagerstown, MD; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The graveside service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

**ESTRADA, Fernando**, 81, born April 16, 1933 in Jennings, FL, died Aug. 9, 2014 in Jennings. He was a member of Madison Church for 15 years. He is survived by his wife, Betty; two sons: Ivan and Alex of Jennings; one brother, Alejandro of St. Petersburg, FL; three sisters: Zoila Chencinski and Sofia Lee of Jennings, and Judith Panduro of Peru; and three grandchildren.

**GILLIS, W. Jack**, 81, born June 15, 1932 in Seoul, Korea, died Jan. 3, 2014 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of Forest Lake Church, Apopka, FL, for more than 40 years. He served for many years as first elder, chairman of Forest Lake Education Center school board, and on numerous committees and other church related boards and commissions. He was employed as a sales engineer eventually specializing in the sale and design of medical gas pipeline systems. He was employed for 41 years by the same company, Hill-Rom, which had merged from E & J Manufacturing and Ohio Medical Products. He always led by example, and was a git-r-done type of person. He was always ready to lend a helping hand. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Betty Jo; two sons: Brian (Michelle) of Hutchinson, MN, and Mark (Cathy) of Hot Springs, NC; and five grandchildren. A memorial service was conducted by Pastors Barbara McCoy and Floyd Powell at Forest Lake Church. Interment was at Highland Memory Gardens, Apopka, FL.

**HAERICH, Donna Jean**, 72, born May 26, 1941

in Dayton, TN, died Feb. 9, 2014 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church, Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Fredric Haerich; one son, Dr. Paul (Amy) Haerich of Loma Linda, CA; one daughter, Nicole (Jim) Yarbrough of Altamonte Springs; and two grandchildren. A memorial service was conducted by Pastor Barbara McCoy at Forest Lake Church.

**HARRISON, Steve M.**, 51, born Dec. 30 1962 in Winter Park, FL, died Jan. 26, 2014. He attended Dalton's Church School before attending Laurelbrook and transferring to Georgia-Cumberland Academy, where he graduated in 1981. He made many lasting and close friends. After academy, he took classes at Dalton State College and worked for several years at the hospital in Dalton. He and three partners established a medical computer program consulting business. He attended Collegedale Community Church. He became acutely ill in Nov. 2013. The good that came from his suffering was forgiveness, and his beautiful prayers. He was his family's bright ray of sunshine for far too short a time. He is survived by his parents, Eugene Harrison and Bobby Jean Moore Harrison; sister, Sherry Harrison; brothers, Tom (Regina) Harrison and Tim (Jennifer) Harrison; and girlfriend, Angie Nanda. His memorial service was beautifully conducted by Greg Harper and Kevin Pires.

**HAWKES, William F.**, 88, born March 19, 1925 in Cannelton, WV, died March 4, 2014 in Lawton, MI. He served as a missionary in Maracaibo, Venezuela (1953-1956), opened an English-speaking Church school for oil workers' children, and served as pastor of the church. Returning to the United States, he was ordained and served as a minister in Holland, Lansing, Charlotte/Eaton Rapids, and Petoskey, MI; Cumberland, MD; Parkersburg, WV; Columbus, Kokomo, Ft. Wayne, IN; and Inverness, FL. He is survived by two sons: James (Shari) Briggs III of Visalia, CA, and William (Bonnie) Briggs of Kalamazoo, MI; three daughters: April Noland of Alexandria, VA, Rebecca Hawkes of Hannibal, MO, and Deborah Briggs of Penn Park, PA; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Lois; one son, William; and one daughter, Diana.

**HEINRICKS, Ethel**, 102, died Feb. 17, 2014 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She was a member of New Port Richey, FL, Church for 31 years. She is survived by three daughters: Donna Rose, Joyce Mueller, and Cassandra Hamer of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

**HEISLER, Ethel Florence Blabey**, 90, born July 25, 1924, in Dauphin, Manitoba, died Sept. 9, 2014. She was the youngest of 11 children born to Luke Blabey, a blacksmith, and Martha Ann Giles, who played the organ at an evangelistic program where Luke played the violin (where they met before later marrying). She took pre-nursing at Canadian Union College in Lacombe, Alberta, and then took nursing at White Memorial Hospital and Loma Linda University Hospital in southern California. Following graduation, she returned to Canada and took a job in January 1951 with Dr. Martin Hoehn, who was running a small hospital in Riverside, NB. While there, she met Ed Heisler, treasurer of Maritime Conference in Moncton, NB. The couple married on Sept. 17, 1951. In her retirement years, she re-

mained active in her church in women's ministries, floral and decorating committees, hosting potlucks, and taking charge of Sabbath School programs. She is survived by her husband, Ed Heisler; four children: Beth Adels, Barbara (Kurt) Styron, Beverly Heisler, and Bruce (Connie) Heisler; grandchildren: Keasha, Tayler and Kiersten Adels; Jeana (Andrew) Eszler, Kendra Styron, and Hannah (Caleb) Crawford; great-grandsons: Jason and Justin Sivak; and two sisters: Alma Reimche and Myrtle Neufeld. She was preceded in death by her parents, Luke and Martha Ann Blabey, and siblings Annie Jones, Lois Thompson, Stan Blabey, Pearl Strong, Ray Blabey, and Neil Blabey. A memorial service was held Sept. 14, 2014, at Collegedale Church with Pastor Dave Smith officiating. The cremains were buried with her parents in Chilliwack, BC.

**HOATSON, Esther T.**, 89, born Sept. 21, 1924 in Takoma Park, MD, died March 27, 2014 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. She is survived by one son, Tim (Joyce) of Longwood, FL; one daughter, Cindy (Bruce) Anderson of Longwood; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Tomm Lemon at the Family Cemetery in Emmett, ID.

**HOLIFIELD, Jerry**, born July 17, 1940, died May 5, 2014 in Laurel, MS. He was a member of Laurel Church. He is survived by his daughter, Dianne (Tony) Vanderslice of Ellisville; two granddaughters: Jessica (J.P.) Hust of Ocean Springs, and Erin (Andrew) Norris of Brookhaven; and six great-grandchildren; three brothers: David (Margie) Holifield of Brandon, Marvin (Susan) Holifield of Laurel, and Richard Holifield of Texas; three sisters: Elizabeth (Richard) Watson of Gold Beach, OR, Sylvia (Jim) Ledford of Brandon, and Glenda (Prentiss) Hood of Lafayette, LA; numerous nieces; and nephews.

**HYONEC, Jean Sue**, 70, born July 19, 1943 in Kalamazoo, MI, died March 23, 2014 in Tavares, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband, Thomas; one son, Steve (Sharon) of Lady Lake, FL; and three grandchildren. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at Forest Lake Church.

**INGRAM, Nancy Gail**, 75, died Jan. 10, 2014 in The Villages, FL. Ingram moved to The Villages in 2003 from Paducah. She worked at Lourdes Hospital for many years and was a member of the Paducah SDA Church. She is survived by her husband, Charles Ingram; three daughters, Tracy Ingram, Tami King, and April Vanzant; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**JENSON, Clara Belle M.**, 81, born Nov. 1, 1932 in Detroit Lakes, MN, died Feb. 28, 2014 in Collegedale, TN. She grew up in Washington State and Oregon and met her husband, Bill Jenson, at Stateline Church. They married in 1952 while at Walla Walla College, and in 1955 moved to Alaska. She assisted her husband, who taught in a mission school and pastored several churches in Anchorage, Dillingham, Juneau, Sitka, and Ketchikan. In 1966, they moved from Alaska to Peru to continue as missionaries, primarily stationed at the Lake Titicaca Mission in the Andes. Several years of team effort

# Obituaries

were spent in pastoral ministry in Washington State and Oregon, and in 1975, she graduated as a registered nurse while in Seattle. In the 1980s and 90s, while Bill worked at the ADRA headquarters in Silver Spring, MD, they also served on several short-term assignments around the world in addition to her working at Washington Adventist Hospital. She was an avid reader, and enjoyed studying language, health, psychology, and theology. Being a farm girl, she enjoyed getting her hands in the soil and was regularly out in the yard tending flowers, shrubs, vegetables, bird feeders, etc. She lived a rich and enriching life, and true to her desire, died at her home place. A memorial service was held March 8, 2014 at Apison, TN, Church. Interment was held in Washington State. She was preceded in death by her husband. She is survived by her brother, Howard Adkins of Vancouver, WA; two sons: Rod Jenson of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Russ (Crystal) Jenson of Collegedale; three grandchildren: Olivia (Hamza) Faouri of Amman, Jordan, and Bentley Jenson and Calvin Jenson of Chattanooga, TN; many nieces; and nephews.

**KABIGTING, Esteban "Roy"**, 96, born Aug. 2, 1917 in the Philippines, died July 12, 2014 in Nashville, TN. He was a member of Madison Campus Church, Madison, TN, since 1966 where he was in constant service as deacon, church treasurer, and Bible study class teacher. He married Adela C. Andal on Jan. 29, 1953. The Kabigtings felt education was very important and both pursued higher education in the Philippines and in the United States. He completed his M.B.A. degree at Golden Gate University, San Francisco, CA, in 1966, and Adela completed her post master curricula in nursing administration at the University of California, San Francisco, CA, in 1965. In 1966, the Kabigtings began employment at Madison Hospital (later became Tennessee Christian Medical Center), and retired from the Adventist institution in Madison, TN. He was preceded in death by his wife, Adela. He is survived by one daughter, Estela Menié (Steve) Bell.

**KEELER, Ann Gene**, 96, born June 12, 1917 in Plymouth, PA, died March 18, 2014 at the home she shared with her daughter. She was from Collegedale, TN, but spent most of her life in Maryland as a wife and homemaker, and worked for 17 years at the Review & Herald Publishing Association. She was a cherished mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend. She was preceded in death by her brother, Homer Suhr; her sister, Trovilla McNally; her husband, Loreda Keeler; and her daughter and son-in-law, Doris and Lester Kilmer Jr. She is survived by her daughter, Juanita Keeler; two granddaughters: Laurie (David) Lyon and Sharon (Eddie) Hodges; two great-granddaughters: Michelle (Sean) Buffaloe and Allison Martin; four great-great-grandchildren: Caitlin Ridley, Hannah Buffaloe, Amberly Buffaloe, and Sean Buffaloe Jr; a host of cousins; nieces; and nephews. Interment was held March 23, at Hamblen Memory Gardens in Morristown, TN. A memorial service was held March 30, at Collegedale Church.

**KEPPLER, Virginia E.**, 96, born Feb. 2, 1918 in Detroit, MI, died July 28, 2014 in Apopka, FL. She was member of the Adventist Church for 66 years, and a member of the Florida Living Retirement

Church in Apopka for eight years. She was employed at the Fletcher, NC, Hospital in patient accounts for nine years. She is survived by her son, Leonard (Marita) Keppler Jr. of Helena, MT; two daughters: Judy (James) King of Apopka, and Susan Weiss of West Palm Beach, FL; one sister, Carol Demsey of Dahlonga, GA; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Her husband, Leonard Keppler Sr. preceded her in death in 1997. The service was conducted by Pastor Stephen Yost at the Florida Living Retirement Church in Apopka. Interment was at Glen Haven Memorial Park in Winter Park, FL.

**KENYON, Donald E., Jr.**, 86, of Ooltewah, TN, died Aug. 14, 2014. He was the son of the late Donald E. Kenyon Sr. and Dorothy Rogers Kenyon. He was preceded in death by his wife of 64 years, Eleanor Ginger Kenyon. He is survived by his sons: Donald E. Kenyon III and Robert W. Kenyon of Chattanooga, TN; two grandchildren: Robert W. Chantanooga Jr. of Chattanooga and Victoria Kenyon of Loma Linda, CA; one great-grandchild, Gage Robert Kenyon; one brother, Gerald Kenyon of North Carolina; several nieces; and nephews. A memorial service was held Aug. 28, 2014 in the Heritage Funeral Home Chapel with Pastors David Kenyon and Cherie Smith officiating. Interment followed in Collegedale Memorial Park.

**LIPPERT, Helen Jeanne**, 82, born Jan. 5, 1932 in Orlando, FL, died Feb. 6, 2014 in Altamonte Spring, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church, Apopka, FL. She was employed by Florida Hospital for 26 years. She is survived by her husband, Richard Lippert Sr.; two sons: Richard (Karen) Lippert Jr. and Leighton "Randy" Lippert of Longwood, FL; and four grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Andy McDonald at Florida Hospital Church, Orlando, FL, and interment was in Highland Memory Gardens, Apopka, FL.

**LUNA, Jason**, 38, born Dec. 28, 1975, died Feb. 10, 2014 in Mt. Juliet, TN. He was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. He is survived by his parents, Harold and Peggy Luna; and one sister, Sabrina.

**LUZADER, Taffi (Arlene)**, 78, born April 6, 1935, died Feb. 28, 2014 in Madison, TN. She was a member of Madison Campus Church. She is survived by two daughters: Diane Roosenberg and Vicki Lounsberry.

**LOWRY, Roberta Clara**, 88, born July 20, 1925 in Jasper County, IN, died May 29, 2014 in Terre Haute, IN. She was a member of Highland Church in Portland, TN. She married Everett LeRoy Fry in October of 1946; George William Wappel in August of 1950; and Sherman Moore Glover in 1989, all preceded her in death. She is survived by one son, Steven George Fry; one daughter, Brenda (Jim) Monaghan; seven grandchildren: Steven Everett Fry, Kimberly Lynn (Terry) Johnson, Robert William Fry, David John (Angela) Fry, Barbara Jane Fry, Jeffrey Owen (Lori) Monaghan, and Julie Kay (James) Russell; 12 great-grandchildren: Amanda, Amylia, Julian, Travis, Cody, Tate, and Allie Fry, Victoria and Abigail Johnson, Lillian and Colton Monaghan, and Archer Russell; three sisters: Carol (Howard) Borchard, Charlotte (Bernard) Harris, and Mary Lynn Jackson.

**MAGERS, Andy**, 35, formerly of Collegedale, TN, died July 10, 2014, in Shasta County, CA. He graduated from Collegedale Academy. He is survived by his parents, Dwight and Sherry Magers of Collegedale; two sisters: Caryn Nobbs of College Place, WA, and Kimberly Magers of Sioux Falls, SD; and his grandfather, Harold Grundset of Ooltewah, TN. A private family graveside service was held at Collegedale Cemetery.

**MARSHALL, Mildred Inez**, 80, born 1933 in Moultrie, GA, died March 30, 2014 in Lumberton, MS. She was a secretary in the New Jersey and Ohio conferences. She was a member of Bass Memorial Church. She is survived by one daughter, Linda Small of Indiana, PA; one son, Pastor Glenn Marshall of Lumberton, MS; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Her husband, Walter A. Marshall preceded her in death in 2012. Pastor Jeffrey Marshall officiated.

**MAY-DICKINSON, Doris L.**, 86, born July 3, 1927 in Kandiyohi Twp., MN, died Oct. 3, 2013 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of Florida Living Church in Apopka for more than two years. She began 31 years of denominational employment at Chesapeake Conference, the General Conference, and Southwestern Union Conference. She began working as a trust officer in Southwestern Union Conference in 1980, and then in Florida from 1993 to 1995. She is survived by her husband, Kent Dickinson; two sons: Robert May of Garland, TX, and Michael May of Gaithersburg, MD; one daughter, Nancy Cotta of Altamonte Springs, FL; two stepsons: Gary Dickinson of Cherry Valley, CA, and Kevin Dickinson of Layton, UT; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor James King at Florida Living Church.

**METRY, Samia**, 61, born Oct. 1, 1952, died Aug. 17, 2014. She was a member of the Madison Campus Church in Madison, TN. She is survived by one son, Edward Bebawy; and one daughter, Sally Bebawy.

**MEYER, Mertice Alma**, 92, of McDonald, TN, died Sept. 6, 2014. She was the daughter of the late Henry Arthur Mitchell Sr. and Rosie Alma Fox Mitchell. Mertice worked for 27 years as administrative assistant for OD McKee, the founder of McKee Foods. She was active in her church and enjoyed quilting, canning, and her beloved children and grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 68 years, A.L. Meyer Jr. She is survived by six children: Mertice Marie Spencer, David Louis Meyer, Ronald Wayne Meyer, Dale Kent Meyer, Randall Cary Meyer, and Mearle Edwin Meyer; 10 grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild; three sisters; many nieces; and nephews. Services were held Sept. 12 at Collegedale, TN, Church with Pastor Dwight Herod officiating. Burial followed at Collegedale Memorial Park.

**MORRIS, Virginia**, 92, born Oct. 6, 1921, died March 7, 2014, surrounded by her loving family. She graduated from Rabun Gap Nacoochee School in 1939 and Crawford Long Nursing School in 1942. She married Arthur Montgomery Morris in 1943, and they shared 49 happy years together until his death in 1993. She was an active member



# Obituaries

of Atlanta North Church in Atlanta, GA, for many years, and remained a devoted student of the Bible throughout her life. She is survived by her sister, Frances Allan; three children: Robert Morris, Ronald Morris, and Judy Morris Lampert; five grandchildren: Brandon and Robert Morris, Samantha Naik, and Adam and Alexandra Lampert; and four great-grandchildren: Madison, Morgan, and Mackenzie Morris, and Asher Naik. Those who had the honor of knowing her will remember her formidable strength, her sweet demeanor, and her vibrant spirit. She was cherished by all who knew her, and was "Granny" to far more than her immediate family.

**OAKLEY, Albert Douglas**, 76, born June 27, 1938 in Franklin, TN, died July 13, 2014 in Madison, TN. He was a long-time member of Ridgetop, TN, Church, and through the years faithfully served in various church offices including Pathfinder director and head deacon. Prior to retirement he was a partner, then sole owner of Oakley Tree Care and Landscape. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Jane; three daughters: Brenda Roland, Patricia (Julian) Wheeler, and Teresa Oakley; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two brothers: Bobby (Carole) Oakley and John (Betty) Oakley.

**PALSGROVE, Carol**, 77, born July 2, 1936 in Rockville, NY, died April 12, 2014 in Chattanooga, TN. She was a member of Avon Park, FL, Church. She served four years as a secretary at the Southern Union Conference Office. She is survived by her husband, John; one son, Michael of Avon Park; one daughter, Diane Loweke of Tampa, FL; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The service was conducted at Avon Park Church by Pastors Frank Gonzalez and George Brown.

**PEARKINS, Nathaniel**, 75, born Sept. 4, 1938, died Feb. 5, 2014 in London, KY. He is survived by one daughter, Marilyn Phipps; two brothers: Curtis Phipps and Otis Phipps; and one sister, Dora Phipps.

**RAUSCH, Ida Mae**, 91, born Oct. 23, 1922 in New Castle, IN, died Feb. 12, 2014 in Leesburg, FL. She was a member of North Lake, FL, Church. She was a homemaker, writer, painter, and a proud veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Navy as a dental technician. She joined the U.S. Navy Reserve in 1942 as a pharmacist's mate third class, and was stationed at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Oakland, CA. She had the privilege of cleaning Bing Crosby's teeth while he was performing for the troops. She is survived by her two daughters: Janet (Jerry) Harms of Annandale, VA, and Barbara (Paul) Shaw-Clemens of Horsehoe Bend, AR; and one grandson. She was preceded in death by her first husband, William A. Schneider Jr., and her second husband, Oswald Rausch. The service was conducted by Pastor Ric Pleasants in Leesburg, FL, during which he shared snippets of her favorite writing subject—Heaven. Interment was at Lakeside Memorial Park in Winter Haven, FL.

**REED, Susan E.**, 57, born Oct. 29, 1956 in Chattanooga, TN, died July 9, 2014 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church, Apopka, for five years. She is survived by her husband, Michael; one son, Vince of Orlando; and one daughter, Virginia of Orlando. The memo-

rial service was conducted at Forest Lake Church by Denise Badger.

**REGAL, Sue McPeck**, 83, of Apison, TN, born March 29, 1931 in Springfield, OH, to the late Lowell and Erma Todd McPeck, died Aug. 29, 2014. She and her husband, Ervin Kenneth Regal, were active members first at Orlando Central Church and then Forest Lake Church in Forest City, FL. She was involved in children's and youth Sabbath Schools, deaconess, bereavement program, women's ministries, and Pathfinders. They owned and operated Alpha Manufacturing Company and the Regal Mobile Home Park in Orlando, FL, and lived there 51 years before moving to the Chattanooga, TN, area in 2010. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Ervin Kenneth Regal; four children: Ruth Regal of Montebello, VA, Connie (Gary) Walls of Apison, David Regal of Orlando, FL, and Renee Regal of Deer Lodge, TN; two brothers; two sisters; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. The funeral service was held Sept. 1, 2014 at the Collegedale, TN, Church. Interment followed in Collegedale Memorial Park.

**ROBERTS, Andrew W.**, 88, born June 23, 1925 in Stamford, CT, died March 7, 2014 at Homosassa, FL. He was a member of the Homosassa Church for 12 years. His denominational service included: church school teacher in Portsmouth, VA from 1951-1953; and taught New Testament History and Medical Cadet Corp. at Takoma Academy in Takoma Park, MD from 1953-1961. He also taught for 27 years at Montgomery County High School in Maryland. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Virginia; one son, Jim (Nina) Roberts of Missoula, MT; one daughter, Patti (Derek) Aldridge of Buda, TX; one sister, Christine Carlo of Connecticut; and six grandchildren. He was predeceased by one son, Bill (Lisa) Roberts of Dallas, TX; one brother, Roberts D. Roberts of Cicero, IN; and two sisters: Laura Walker and Beatrice Parsons. The service was conducted by Pastors Dale Wolfe and Bill Beemdor. Interment was in the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

**ROBERTS, Ruby Grey**, 84, born Aug. 16, 1929 in Daviess County KY, died April 1, 2014 at Owensboro Health Regional Hospital. She was a member of Owensboro Church since 1968. She worked as a welder at General Electric for more than 20 years and at Owensboro-Daviess County Hospital for almost 20 years as a nurse's assistant, and then retired. After retirement, she volunteered for six years at her church as the community service director. She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Kenneth; one daughter, Vicki (Larry) Doss; two sons: Eric Dean (Jonell) and Bruce Alan; four granddaughters, Rana Stiles, Sherrie (Nick) Conkright, Christina Boarman, and Erica Roberts; two grandsons: Wesley (Courtney) Boarman and Brian (Jessica) Boarman; and eight great-grandchildren.

**ROBINSON, Evril E.**, 76, born Sept. 21, 1937 in Kingston, Jamaica, died March 2, 2014 at Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband, Lloyd; one son, Wayne (Avril) of Brooklyn, NY; one daughter, Cheryl Taylor of Queens, NY; and four grandchildren. The service was conducted at Forest Lake Church in Apopka with interment in Highland Memory Gardens.

**RUSHING, Patricia Ann**, 79, died June 26, 2014, two weeks after celebrating her 79th birthday and nearly three years after being diagnosed with leukemia. Affectionately known by all as "Patsy," she was a deeply treasured wife, mother, sister, grandmother, cousin, aunt, mentor, and friend to a great many people. Patsy was humble, smart, and generous. She loved her family, her friends, and her community. She played the piano and loved cold leftover cheese pizza and Friday night spaghetti dinners by candlelight. She married her husband of 56 years, Jan Rushing, in 1958 in Fletcher, NC. They had two children, Tami and Tim, and years later, their respective grandchildren, Summer and Jessica. She and Jan moved around the country several times serving as hospital administrators from Georgia to California to Massachusetts to Tennessee, where she taught clinical nursing at Southern Adventist University. In 1984, Patsy and Jan began looking for a new home. Jan said he would like to have a house on the lake, and Patsy wanted to live on the mountain. So, as Jan says, they compromised and moved up on the mountain in Collegedale, where they lived for the last 30 years, surrounded by their family and friends and an ever-changing cast of characters for Sabbath lunch. A memorial service was held July 6 at Collegedale Church.

**SCHIMKE, Alice S.**, 92, born March 27, 1922 in Ritzville, WA, died July 24, 2014 in Port Charlotte, FL. She was a member of Port Charlotte Church for more than 36 years. She worked in denominational service for 30 years. After WWII, she and her husband went as missionaries to China, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. Then they moved to India where they finished their term of service. For the next 25 years, she joined her husband in pastoring in Michigan, North Dakota, Washington, Idaho, and Oregon. She is survived by two sons: Dallas (Dorothy) of St. Petersburg, FL, and Clyde of Port Charlotte; one daughter, Sharon Walsh of Port Charlotte; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was married to Albert Schimke for 66 years before his death in 2005. The service was conducted by C. Lee Huff in Port Charlotte. The interment was in the Restlawn Memorial Gardens in Port Charlotte.

**SEELEY, Eileen Conger**, 91, of Rocky Mount, VA, died Jan. 26, 2014 at home surrounded by her loving family. She was a life-long, fourth-generation Seventh-day Adventist, and was firm in her belief in the soon return of her Best Friend, Jesus. She was a charter member and one of the founders of the Rocky Mount, VA, Seventh-day Adventist Church. She was organist there for many years and held numerous other church offices. She loved children and enjoyed using her SoJuCo education in teaching elementary and kindergarten classes. She also loved teaching children's Sabbath School classes, and would arrive early on Sabbath mornings to pray with her assistants for the salvation of the children in her class. She was famous for her delicious vegetarian cooking, and her dishes were a favorite at fellowship dinners. She read her Bible every day, and continued to attend church services until her final weeks of life. She is survived by her loving husband of 68 years, James E. Seeley of Rocky Mount; her daughter, Elita Seeley Elliott of Rocky Mount; son, James Seeley, M.D. and "daughter-in-love" Pam Seeley of Old Hickory, TN; sister, Sarah Cushing (Art) of Loveland, CO; sisters-in-law, Mary Baker of New

# Obituaries

Smyrna Beach, FL, and Sally Fuller of Ooltewah, TN; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; many nieces; and nephews.

**STILES, Jack C.**, 83, born Dec. 9, 1930 in Flint, MI, died Dec. 8, 2013 in Blairsville, GA. He was a graduate of Adelphian Academy and then EMC (Andrews University) where he earned a degree in education. He served as principal of Bradenton Elementary and Miami Greater Academy, building the new school for Miami. He also served as associate superintendent of education at Potomac Conference from 1973 to 1976, and served in education for the Michigan, Southern New England, Potomac, Florida, and Kentucky-Tennessee conferences. In total, he served 40 years within the Adventist educational system and was an ordained minister by the Potomac Conference. He was preceded in death by his brother, Henry Stiles, and sister, Barbara Jordan. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Joyce Lucas Stiles; siblings, Jim Stiles and Joan DeWitt; children: Brenda Stiles, Marcia (Ron) Gifford, Teresa Tate, and Harvey (Rosa) Stiles; and grandchildren: Brittany Gifford, Kirk Gifford, Stiles Tate, and Morgan Tate. A memorial service was held Dec. 15, 2013, at Blairsville Church with Dr. Dale Twomley officiating.

**STRINGER, Merle Ann**, 75, born May 26, 1938 in East Providence, RI, died Feb. 2, 2014 in North Port, FL. She was a member of the Sarasota, FL, Church and a past North Port Pathfinder leader. She is survived by her husband of 49 years, Glenn; one son, Theodore of North Port; and two grandsons. She was predeceased by her parents, Walter Campbell and Marian Eveline Sadler. The memorial service was held at Sarasota Church.

**TAYLOR, Charles Richard**, 92, born Nov. 2, 1921 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, died Feb. 18, 2014 in the Hospice Care Center in Chattanooga, TN. He was the son of missionary parents George and Gladys Taylor. He spent his childhood in Brazil, Chile, and Argentina. He returned to the United States to finish high school and attended Pacific Union College, graduating in 1942. He married June Laura Hulbert on Aug. 20 of that year, and then served a short time as an evangelist in Santa Fe, NM. In 1943, he accepted a position at what would become Antillian College in Santa Clara, Cuba. For the next 32 years, he worked in the Inter-American Division as a teacher, youth leader, school administrator, and division education secretary. He received a Ph.D. in education from the University of Maryland in 1965. In 1975, he was elected to a position in the General Conference. He was an associate secretary and then secretary of the General Conference Education Department. Later he worked as assistant to Neal Wilson, president of the General Conference. He was instrumental in the founding of Global Mission. Following a late retirement, he travelled widely with his wife and their friends, and enjoyed contact with a far-flung circle of friends connected with his work for the Church around the globe. In 2006, he and June moved to Collegedale to be near their son David. He is survived by his wife, June; his son, David Charles Taylor and his wife, Ann; two daughters: Myrna Jean Taylor and Donna June Evans; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Many of his students and co-workers from Inter-America stayed in touch with him throughout his life, and will remember

him with great affection. He dedicated his life to the work of the Church and lived with integrity. His children especially remember and appreciate his patient, gentle caring for his wife in their last years together. A memorial service was held Feb. 23, in the Valley View Chapel of Chattanooga Funeral Home with Pastor Dave Smith officiating. Interment was held in Collegedale Memorial Park.

**THORESEN, Dr. Francis Douglas**, 89, born March 14, 1925 in Cambridge, New Zealand, died Sept. 11, 2014 at his residence in Ooltewah, TN. He was the oldest of six brothers and four sisters. He received his Master's of Divinity from Andrews University and went on to graduate from Loma Linda Medical School. He completed a residency in family practice at Portland Adventist Hospital. He spent a great part of his life in the mission field in places like South Vietnam, Hong Kong, the Middle East, and South America. He also practiced medicine in Ashville, NC, and Cleveland, TN. He is survived by his wife, Laurel; three children: Garth, Nelson, and Rozanne (Muller); six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held Oct. 14, 2014 at the Collegedale, TN, Church.

**TRADER, Helen M.**, 93, born July 27, 1920 in Chester, PA, died Jan. 27, 2014 in St. Augustine, FL. She was a member of St. Augustine Church for 16 years. She is survived by one daughter, Margie Lane of St. Augustine; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Joel Klimkewicz at St. Augustine Church.

**TWOMBLY, David**, 47, died Jan. 9, 2014. A native of Tacoma Park, MD, he had been a resident of the Chattanooga, TN, area for the past 43 years. He was employed as a registered nurse in the emergency room at Memorial Hospital, and was a veteran and captain in the Army Reserve National Guard, where he served in Desert Storm. He was preceded in death by his maternal and paternal grandparents; his aunt, Helen Oliver; and his uncle, Clarence Twombly. He is survived by his wife, Tiger Shea Twombly; one son, Eli Twombly; his mother, Margaret Twombly; his father and step-mother, Bill and Sandra Twombly; two brothers: Ray Peet and Ken Twombly; and one sister, Kari Wilson. The funeral service was held Jan. 15, 2014 in the Collegedale Community Church with Pastor Don Maclafferty officiating.

**WHITMILL, Robert L.**, 85, born May 22, 1928, died peacefully surrounded by his wife and children on March 21, 2014. He was from Collegedale, TN. Graveside services were held March 25, 2014 at Lakewood Memory Gardens East with Pastors Jerry Johns and Mickey Mallory officiating.

**WILCOX, Audrey F.**, 82, born Oct. 15, 1931, died Feb. 14, 2014 in Maitland, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband, Jud; one son, Walt Fennell; three daughters: Pamela Fennell, Roz Fennell, and Aimee Yasses; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Andy McDonald at Florida Hospital Church in Orlando, FL, and interment was in Tampa, FL.

**WILLIAMS, Sharon Kaye Sandefur**, 57, born Sept. 27, 1956 in Lincoln, NE, died Sept. 2, 2014 in Brush Creek, TN. She was a member of Highland Church in

Portland, TN. She is survived by her parents, Manford "Sandy" and Dixie Sandefur; and two brothers, Alan Sandefur and Mike (Dona) Sandefur.

**WILSON, William J.**, 76, born June 2, 1937 in Clinton, MA, died March 17, 2014 in Punta Gorda, FL. He was a member of Port Charlotte Church for more than seven years. He was an ordained Adventist minister: 3.5 years in West Virginia Conference, 5.5 years in Arizona Conference, 10 years in Washington Conference, and three years in Wisconsin Conference. He then spent three years as personal ministries/Sabbath School director for Wisconsin Conference. He spent six years pastoring, and 11 years as trust services director for Minnesota Conference. Upon retirement, he volunteered as administrative pastor for Port Charlotte Church. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Frances; one son, James (Darcie) of Cambridge, WI; one daughter, Tralese (Paul) Syvertson of Anoka, MN; three grandsons; and two granddaughters. He was preceded in death by grandson, Ian Syvertson, and brother, Leland. The service was conducted by Pastor Brian Cassell, and assisted by C. Lee Huff and Alex Voigt at Port Charlotte, FL.

**WINES, Edward Clifton**, 91, died Aug. 13, 2014 in Signal Mountain, TN. He was a long-time educator in the Seventh-day Adventist Church, serving as vice president for advancement and public relations at Loma Linda University; president of Southwestern Adventist College in Keene, TX; and principal of Enterprise Academy in Enterprise, KS. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Moneta Caviness Wines; one son, Edward E. (Cherie) Wines; two daughters: Muriel Wines Phillips (Scott Saylor) and Mary Ann Wines (Randy) Graves; and eight grandchildren. Pastor Jack Blanco conducted a service of remembrance on Aug. 18, 2014 in the Collegedale, TN, Church. Interment followed in Collegedale Memorial Park.

**WOODS, Martha Louise**, 83, of Douglasville, GA, died June 18, 2014. She was a charter member of Douglasville Church when it reorganized in 1963. Her great-grandmother, Louisa Vansant, in 1892 became the first Adventist in Douglas County. She graduated from Collegedale Academy, and after attending a business college in Atlanta, GA, she worked for Chrysler Corporation for more than 30 years. She was very active in the Douglasville Church, having served as pianist and organist for many years. She also served as president of the Sweetwater Garden Club for many years. She is survived by her sister, Janice Woods Buchanan; her brother, Bob (Carolyn) Woods; sister-in-law, Nancy Woods; many cousins; nieces; and nephews. Services were conducted by Pastor Hal Peggau and Elder Tom Carter.



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# Events Calendar

## Carolina

**Elder's Certification Training** – Dec 6. Fayetteville Church. This session's focus is on "Preaching."

**Sabbath School Seminar** – Jan. 24. Myrtle Beach Church. Details: Contact Jayme Rouse at 704-596-3200.

**Men's Ministries Seminar** – Jan. 25. Columbia Church. Details: Contact Jayme Rouse at 704-596-3200.

## Florida

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

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

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**Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule**  
Resumes in early 2015.

**Judaism and Christianity—Repairing the Breach** – Dec. 11-13. Beth Tehillah Vetikva (House of Praise and Hope Company). 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Alexander "Sasha" Bolotnikov. Details: [bethtehillah@gmail.com](mailto:bethtehillah@gmail.com) or 786-514-7062.

**Women's Ministries Retreats. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs.** Theme: On Wings of Prayer. Cost: \$57.25-\$229 depending on meal and accommodation choice. All weekends include young adult and teen track. Registration: <http://www.campkulaqua.com/>.

Feb. 13-15. English-language. Speaker: Heather Dawn Small. Feb. 20-22. English-language. Speaker: Heather Dawn Small. Haitian track speaker: Joselle LaGuerre.

Feb. 27-March 1. Spanish-language. Speaker: Carolann de Leon.

**Florida Keys Camp Meeting.** Feb. 20-22. Camp Sawyer at MM34. Speaker: Lewis Walton, attorney and author. Potluck fellowship meals for lunch and supper. Details: 305-743-5268. Events Calendar-dec14. March 20-22. Pine Lake Retreat, Groveland. Speaker: Gary Patterson. Reservation information to arrive in retiree mailboxes or call 407-331-8249 or 407-924-6486.

## Georgia-Cumberland

**Collegedale Academy Christmas Concert** – Dec. 14. Features CA choirs and orchestra. Collegedale, TN.

**Peace on Earth** – Dec. 20, 11 a.m. A live musical, free admission. Calhoun Church, GA.

**One Bethlehem Night** – Dec. 20, 21. A live musical on the scene set at the inn that had no room for a baby. Ticket free, required due to space. Collegedale Community Church, Ooltewah, TN.

**NAD God's Harvest Day of Prayer** – Jan. 3.

**Pathfinder Directors' Appreciation** – Jan. 9-11. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

**Health/Personal Ministries Leadership Training** – Jan. 10. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

**Ministers' Meetings** – Jan. 11-14. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

**Pathfinder Junior Event** – Jan. 16-18. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

**Health/Personal Ministries Leadership Training** – Jan. 17, 3-6:00 p.m. Stone Mountain Church, GA.

**"Spreading the Gospel with Internet Radio"** – Jan. 25, 1-3 p.m. FREE Communication Workshop presented by Brian and Eric Hickman. Register at registration.gccsda.com. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

**High School Retreat Deadline** – register by Jan. 28 for event Feb. 6-8. For Adventist students not in Adventist schools. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp. Crandall, GA.

**Hispanic Children Ministries Convention** – Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Cohutta Springs. Crandall, GA.

**Most events require pre-registration at registration.gccsda.com.**

## Kentucky-Tennessee

**Conference Executive Committee** – Dec. 9. Conference Office.

**Ministers' Meetings** – Jan. 5-8. Location TBA.

**Highland Academy Board** – Jan. 22. March 19. Highland Academy.

**Conference Executive Committee** – Jan. 27. Conference Office.

**Evangelism Boot Camp** – Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Indian Creek Camp  
**Board of Education** – Feb. 24. Conference Office.

**Music Festival** – March 19-21. Highland Academy.

**Conference Executive Committee** – March 24. Conference Office.

**Louisville Festival of Faith** – March 27, 28. Pewee Valley Church.

## Southern Adventist University

**Christmas Concert** – Dec. 12. The School of Music's Christmas concert in the Collegedale Church features Handel's Messiah. Watch the event live online at [southern.edu/streaming](http://southern.edu/streaming) beginning at 8 p.m. Details: 423-236-2814.

**Preview Southern** – Feb. 16. Interested students can explore campus, talk with professors, learn about scholarship opportunities, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. Southern provides meals and accommodations for students and their immediate family. Call 1-800-SOUTHERN to schedule a visit.

## Southern Union

**Summer Ministries Recruiting** – January 12-15. Southern Adventist University Student Center.

**Senior Academy Prayer Conference** – January 21-24. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL.

**NAD Youth Advisories** – March 7-12. Union College, Lincoln, NB.

**Union Pathfinder Bible Experience Finals** – March 28. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service** – Jan. 19. For information on how you, your church, or school can get involved, visit [www.mlkday.gov](http://www.mlkday.gov).

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**LA SIERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI REUNION – April 24, 25.** Friday evening reception, 7 p.m.; Sabbath worship, 10 a.m.; registration 9:30 a.m. on campus. Class reunions TBA. Honor classes 1955, '65, '75, '85, '90, '95, '05. Details: [www.lsak12.com](http://www.lsak12.com), [JNelson@lsak12.com](mailto:JNelson@lsak12.com), or call 951-351-1445 x244.

	Dec. 5	Dec. 12	Dec. 19	Dec. 26	Jan. 2	Jan. 9
Atlanta, GA	5:29	5:30	5:32	5:36	5:41	5:46
Charleston, SC	5:13	5:14	5:17	5:20	5:25	5:31
Charlotte, NC	5:11	5:12	5:14	5:18	5:23	5:29
Collegedale, TN	5:29	5:30	5:32	5:36	5:41	5:47
Huntsville, AL	4:35	4:36	4:39	4:42	4:47	4:53
Jackson, MS	4:55	4:56	4:59	5:03	5:07	5:14
Louisville, KY	5:23	5:23	5:26	5:29	5:35	5:41
Memphis, TN	4:48	4:49	4:51	4:55	5:00	5:06
Miami, FL	5:30	5:31	5:34	5:38	5:42	5:47
Montgomery, AL	4:40	4:41	4:43	4:47	4:52	4:57
Nashville, TN	4:32	4:33	4:35	4:39	4:44	4:50
Orlando, FL	5:29	5:30	5:33	5:36	5:41	5:46
Wilmington, NC	5:02	5:03	5:05	5:09	5:14	5:19

SOUTHERN  
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