

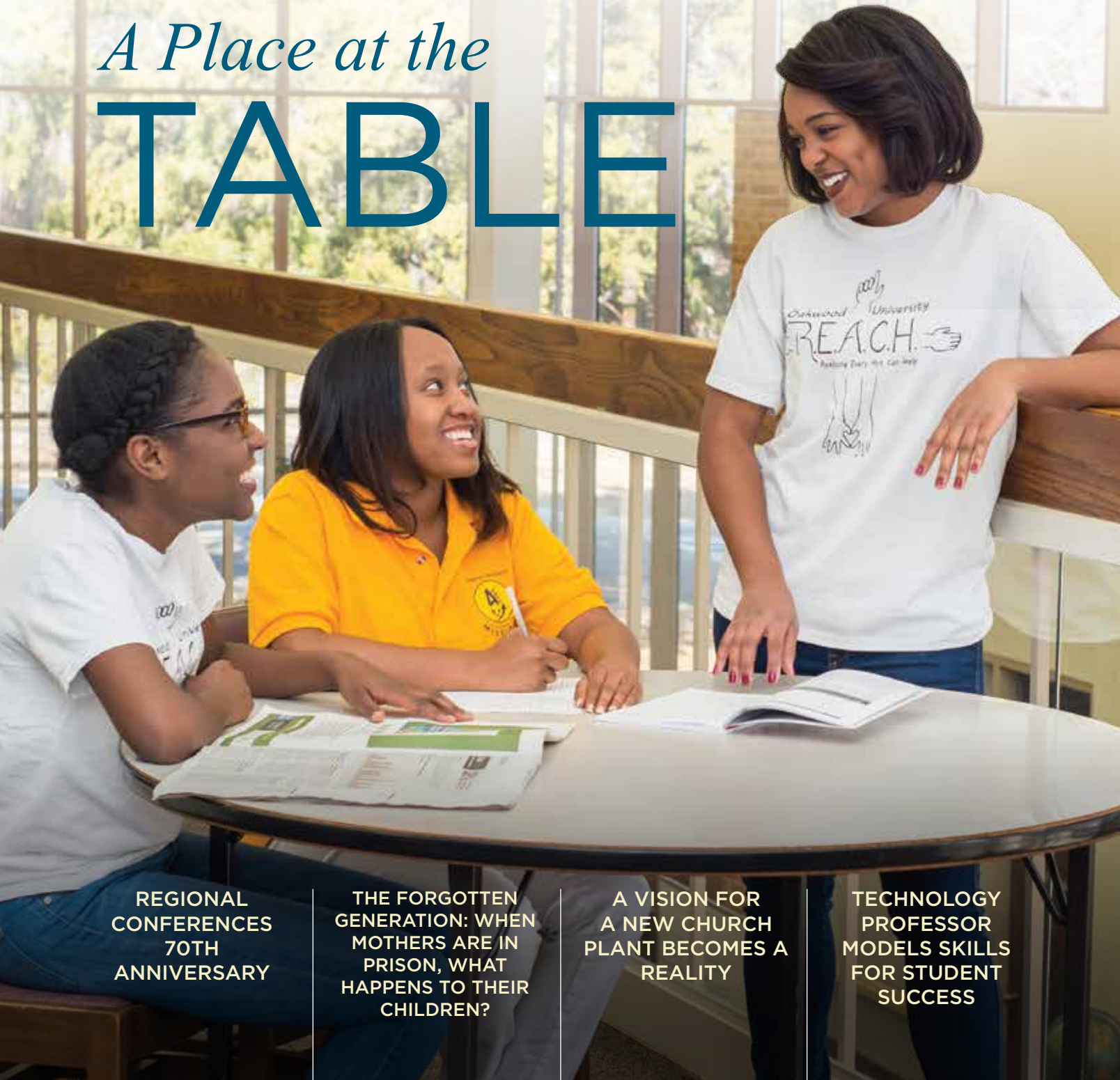
TIDINGS

Southern 

MARCH 2016

A Place at the

TABLE



REGIONAL
CONFERENCES
70TH
ANNIVERSARY

THE FORGOTTEN
GENERATION: WHEN
MOTHERS ARE IN
PRISON, WHAT
HAPPENS TO THEIR
CHILDREN?

A VISION FOR
A NEW CHURCH
PLANT BECOMES A
REALITY

TECHNOLOGY
PROFESSOR
MODELS SKILLS
FOR STUDENT
SUCCESS

Spirituality



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

Spirituality is a word used in various ways and by people in a wide spectrum of faith groups. Most of us yearn for a functional and vibrant spiritual life, but don't know what that means, how to get it, or how to keep from losing it. Many people have viewed spirituality as some kind of mystical union with God. Others have taken a more down-to-earth perspective that sees spirituality as living human life in continual harmony with God. Stated differently, spirituality involves Christlikeness.

Spirituality also involves discipline. The spiritual life does not come automatically. It must be nurtured. Only by affirming both that God is totally the source of our spiritual life and that human beings are totally responsible for their spiritual progress, can we hope to grow spiritually and in accordance with biblical teaching. Spiritual growth and change are the outcomes of a disciplined life.

Spirituality and the movement toward spiritual well-being are not easily attained, and neither should the believer assume that spiritually maturing individuals will be free from trials, tribulations, and temptations. Jesus called us to take up a cross in following Him. His life on Earth was not easy, and He never promised that we would be free of problems. Instead, we are told that difficulties will come and can help us grow.

This does not mean that we can forget about prevention. Through the church, the Christian can be taught how to avoid some of the spiritual problems of life. Some Christian measures, surely well known to most Christian leaders, include the following:

- Committing one's life to Christ and accepting Him as Lord and Savior.
- Developing the practice of regular, consistent prayer and Bible study.
- Regularly confessing sin and asking for God's forgiveness.
- Yielding to the Holy Spirit's control, and expecting the Holy Spirit's filling.
- Becoming involved actively in a local body of believers.
- Reaching out to others in evangelism, service, and fellowship.
- Being alert to the devil and resistant to his influences.

This is not presented as a simplistic formula to prevent all spiritual problems. It is a basic foundation upon which the church's preventive and discipleship program must be built.

Of the many topics discussed, perhaps none is more familiar to Christian leaders than spiritual problems. These problems have concerned godly men and women for centuries, and the Bible deals with these in detail.

Spiritual problems have causes and solutions that most often are described in the Scriptures. The Bible, however, never claims to be a psychiatric diagnostic manual and textbook for counseling. While all problems ultimately stem from the fall of the human race, not all human problems are spiritual, in that they involve a person's specific relationship with God. Some problems, for example, may be caused by faulty learning, misinformation, early traumas, environmental stress, physical illness, misperception, and confusion over decision making, or other issues that may not be discussed by biblical writers. However, helping our members with these problems must be accompanied by the recognition that all truth, including psychological truth, comes from God. The Christian evaluates secular findings carefully, and discards what is inconsistent with the Bible. That which remains is used along with and in submission to biblical teaching. The church leader, so equipped, then seeks to be used by God to touch lives and change them so that people can be helped to live with greater meaning, stability, fulfillment, and spiritual maturity. 🕊

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features

4
A PLACE AT THE TABLE

7
REGIONAL CONFERENCES
70TH ANNIVERSARY

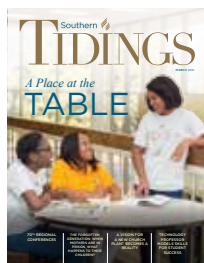
12
THE FORGOTTEN GENERATION

14
A VISION FOR A NEW CHURCH
PLANT BECOMES A REALITY

15
TECHNOLOGY PROFESSOR
MODELS SKILLS FOR STUDENT
SUCCESS

news

- 16 ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM
- 18 CAROLINA
- 20 FLORIDA
- 22 GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND
- 24 GULF STATES
- 26 KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE
- 29 SOUTH ATLANTIC
- 30 SOUTH CENTRAL
- 32 ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
- 33 OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY
- 34 SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY
- 36 OBITUARIES
- 41 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
- 46 ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 47 EVENTS CALENDAR



march 2016



COVER: Hailey Jones (standing), health sciences major at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, and director of REACH (Realizing Every Act Can Help), and Danika Desgazon (left) and Kimberly Mann, assigned to oversee the ministry, pause for a photo as they discuss and lay plans to extend their outreach to the community. REACH is a 14-year-old ministry of Oakwood University students who distribute food, clothes, and toys, and provide Vacation Bible School and Bible studies in the Huntsville community. Photo by Gianna Snell.

A Place at the TABLE

BY DAVID LONG AND OLSON PERRY SR.

My biggest disappointment is that so many members of my church aren't on fire for the Lord and His return. When I became a Seventh-day Adventist two years ago, I thought I was joining a group of people who were as excited as I am, motivated to work for souls, and energetic to reach others for the same cause that brought me to this point. I am sadly disappointed, but that won't kill my spirit. I plan to keep telling others of my true love." *Karie Sheffield*

"I'm walking from Key Largo to Canada, 1,975 miles at 15 miles daily, telling about Jesus. I raised a sizeable sum walking across North Carolina for homeless youth. Why not do the same again for a more meaningful purpose — to tell others about Christ." *Jeff Moose*

"Involvement in ministering to what we may consider 'hard to reach individuals' is challenging and rewarding. Introducing Christ and Adventism to atheists, agnostics, Jews, and Moslems is gratifying — especially when they find the answers as I did a few short years ago. We are all looking for answers." *Morris Thompson*

"As young adults, we don't like to be told what to do. We feel as though we can do as we please and still get to Heaven. Fear tactics don't work. What we need to see are adults who demonstrate in sincerity what Christ has done in their lives. We need to see Christ in action and be introduced to that action." *Hailey Jones*

Many have responded and are fulfilling God's call to personal ministries. Age, nationality, personality, and interests are being applied to show and tell others about Jesus' love and hope in His coming.

"Everyone should be on the front lines interacting with people every day. Sheep produce sheep. At the point of baptism, individuals should be taught to spiritually reproduce others," says Ronald Chunn of North Carolina's Gethsemane Church. "There is a place for everyone. Everyone has a place. My responsibility is to reach out. I am a personal ministry operative. Soul winning is fun. If you take the time, allow the Holy Spirit to guide and match your interests and personality to the needs, you should actually be doing what you like to do. Simply let the Holy Spirit guide," he says.

There are times when you may be called out of your comfort zone, according to Daniel and Kristina McFeaters, who are heavily involved in health ministries in their community of Whitley City and Somerset in eastern Kentucky, "but let the Lord guide."

Cynthia Binns, who attends Maranatha in Miami Gardens, realized her call to ministry as a new convert. In her study of the Word, she understood she is expected to lead others to Christ. She has developed friendships into relationships by being sensitive to their needs, showing interests, and leading them to answers through God's Word. She said people want answers, but first you have to show you care.

Kristina McFeaters echoes similar sentiments. "Become an acquaintance. Become a friend. Build a relationship," she said. McFeaters wanted to assimilate herself into the community by developing friendships and attending community meetings. She became a part of something already happening rather than start something new that may be uniquely Ad-



Miki Tsuchiya (center), Southern Adventist University student, is with young attendees of her evangelistic meetings in Brazil.



Hailey Jones, health sciences major at Oakwood University and director of REACH (Realizing Every Act Can Help), finds reaching out to the community an awesome and exciting challenge as she juggles exams, studies, and work with the responsibilities of REACH, Bible studies, Vacation Bible School, and the distribution of food, clothing, and toys in the Huntsville community.



There is a definite moment of inspiration when a young woman gives her life to Christ and decides to be baptized.



PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

ventist. She volunteered for presenting health lectures thus building trust in the neighborhoods. Today, she is in demand. She is not a stranger who visits and leaves. She is part of the community. She is overwhelmed by requests to make health presentations and cooking demonstrations to the education system and colleges. The Health Department makes requests for presentations to diabetics; they request her presence at health fairs; and the Chamber of Commerce calls on her quite frequently for presentations which she juggles between getting away from managing Kristina's Kitchen, a bakery and vegetarian café, with her husband, and teaching cooking classes. (See *Southern Tidings*, September 2014.)

Personal ministries provides the opportunity to focus on Christ's mission through the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The department provides resources, and trains members to unite their efforts in soul-winning and assisting those in need. In practical terms, all ministries of the Church fall under the Personal Ministries Department. In most churches, all department heads are members of the Personal Ministries Council.

Personal ministries is all about following in the footsteps of Jesus to impact those in our sphere of influence or those who come within our grasp physically or otherwise. Paul wrote that, as members of the body of Christ, "wherever we go He (Christ) uses us to tell others about the Lord and to spread the Gospel like a sweet perfume," 2 Corinthians 2:14. In a world that is full of foul odors, physically and metaphorically, the Spirit of God desires that our lives give off the life-changing fragrance that is able to change the atmosphere and bring about a transformed life.

Everywhere Jesus, the Rose of Sharon, went and was received, the birds sang sweeter, the air was cleaner, the sun shone brighter, and hearts of those who inhaled the heavenly aroma were lighter. Like Jesus, our lives can influence others, not only in this life, but most importantly, affecting their lives for eternity.

This polluted world in which we live causes the majority to believe that its stifling environment must control their out-

look on life. But, thanks to God, the ever-present foul odors of this world cannot overpower the delightful and heavenly fragrance of the Rose of Sharon. May our efforts to enter putrid areas filled with precious souls, be "a sweet-smelling sacrifice that pleases God well," Philippians 4:18 TLB.

Individuals involved in personal ministries have at least one thing in common. They have developed a love for Christ and humanity through prayer and study, which may not have been present from the beginning.

In 2016, personal ministries provides an ideal opportunity to reach and involve millennials. Outreach ministry in the 21st century is not like Dad's approach of inviting someone to a Bible study or to your local church. More often than not, it may begin by inviting someone to play a game of basketball. It may be a round of golf. For that matter, it may be an introduction to a Sony PlayStation, for you.

Hailey Jones, health sciences major at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Alabama, appreciates that many youth today live a life of ease compared to previous generations and, therefore, do not appreciate the importance of seeking a better life through Jesus. They need exposure to third world countries to get a reality check, and see what people really want to get away from. They need exposure to other ministries to see how they can fit into the puzzle. They need to see what Christianity is — instead of simply going to church, and then going home, and that's it until the next Sabbath.

In speaking of her passion for ministry, she doesn't skirt around the challenges of classes, a social life, and conflicting schedules. She faces them head on, but emphasizes the importance of addressing social issues through the Gospel. "As Christians we may take a less radical approach," says Hailey, "but that does not mean we stand and do nothing. Jesus had passion. He cared for people. He didn't avoid danger, and He confronted when necessary. Applying the Gospel to address social issues causes us to think before acting, avoid anger, and be assertive with biblical approaches," she says.



Southern Adventist University students chat with visitors to the ReCreate Café, a free coffee house and worship space located in the Chattanooga, Tennessee, Salvation Army Center.



One of the expanding young adult small groups studying with Morris Thompson in Miami, Florida, includes several individuals who are not Adventists, but have been attending church through their small group family.



Mark McDonald, REACH member, demonstrates guitar playing techniques to a youngster.

Paul Turner works with “uQuest Missions Office” at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee. He participates in foreign mission activities, provides a support base for students to Nicaragua on mission trips, and gives Bible studies in his community, where he is continually surprised to learn that so many people have no clue as to what the Bible teaches. His passion, however, is working with the Navajo nation in New Mexico, and addressing their social issues. “They really ‘need’ us. It’s not like we’re just helping out. Their survival is based on our help,” he says. “We address such issues as housing, civil challenges, poverty, and relationships.”

Sometimes addressing social needs may be the only way to reach people. Christ’s methods provide the perfect example — meet the people where they are, help solve their problems, be patient with them, and lead by example.

Paul credits the influence of his mother and grandmother in showing him God’s love. However, he places a surprisingly strong emphasis for a 22-year-old on home training. “Parents need to save their children by moving the television and replacing it with a family altar. Parents should instruct, not the television. Parents need to show children how to guard the avenues to their souls, offer daily devotion, and encourage church involvement, and the Holy Spirit will direct to ministry,” he says.

Morris Thompson’s approach to “hard to reach groups” in his ministry at Miami Temple Church in Miami, Florida, also ap-

plies to millennials: seek them out, create an atmosphere for community involvement for answers, and provide an environment for authentic and organic relationships. Everyone is looking for answers to God’s existence, the truth of the Bible, peace of mind, etc.

People want to be part of a community that’s making a difference. They want to belong before believing. They want to feel safe in a place to grow and build organic, authentic relationships, while impacting community issues such as Christianity’s answer to sex trafficking, youth violence, and spiritual challenges. It is thrilling to watch these individuals gradually give their lives over to Christ and be baptized.

Millennials want guidance from older people, but want to feel and develop authentic, transparent relationships. “We don’t want or expect the more seasoned people to get out of the way. We want them to teach us, show us the way, and give us the opportunity while appreciating what we bring to the table,” says Thompson.

Stephanie Johnson at Forest Lake Academy in Apopka, Florida, team teaches a servant leadership class which trains students to lead like Christ led. More than 40 high school students voluntarily signed up this semester for the class which includes lectures on conflict negotiation, leading small groups, building community relationships, how to treat others, leadership preferences, commitment, and how to bring Jesus to the workplace.

“They have the training. They want to work and are available. All they need now

is a place at the table,” says Johnson. She consistently asks the students: How will you keep your faith three weeks after leaving the class? How will you find a church willing to let you work and give you the responsibility? How will you use what you have learned? If you can’t find a place in your church for ministry, will you find another denomination which will allow you to use your training, as some others have?

Andrew Ashley, student association president at Southern Adventist University, was not accustomed to seeing youth involved in church. One evening he saw a young man involved in Bible study. It seemed unusual, so he began to ask questions. Pretty soon Ashley was reading the Bible for himself and falling in love with Jesus.

Andrew believes in youth-to-youth ministry. He thinks it is important to emphasize the reality of Jesus and His impact on our lives; the reality of prophecy as predictions from hundreds of years ago, and how it impacts youth today; and the importance of building relationships with other youth as they use the Gospel to address social issues.

“God doesn’t want us to be apathetic,” says Ashley. “Christ delivered the oppressed. He addressed the elephant in the room — class privilege, feminism, illegal immigrants, and violence. He doesn’t want us to be ignorant, apathetic, or indifferent. All we ask is for a place at the table as we minister together in faith, hope, and obedience to God.”

LEST WE FORGET

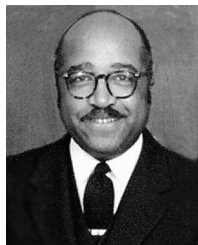
South Atlantic Conference Celebrates 70 Years of Mission

BY DAVID M. JONES

The Seventh-day Adventists in the South were given union conference status in 1901, and the Southern Union Conference was organized with its present boundaries in 1932. Fourteen years later, the South Atlantic Conference was organized.

On December, 4, 1945, at 10 a.m., officials from the General Conference and Southern Union Conference met at Berean Church on Ashby Street in Atlanta, Georgia, to organize a regional conference. A. F. Hackman, president of the Southern Union, presided over 398 delegates and 19 delegates at-large. The delegates came from the Colored (Black) Departments of Carolina, Florida, and Georgia-Cumberland conferences. The new conference was named the South Atlantic Conference, and included the states of Georgia, Florida, and North and South Carolina. Its beginning membership was 3,523 (or possibly 3,614 black members, as reported from another source). There were 62 churches and companies, 26 ministers, 28 church school teachers, and 31 literature evangelists (formerly called colporteurs).

The South Atlantic Conference has been blessed over the past 70 years with great presidents. H. D. Singleton was the first president, and served from 1945 to 1954. The legacy includes John H. Wagner, 1954-1962; Warren S. Banfield, 1962-1971; Robert L. Woodfork, 1971-1981; Ralph B. Hairston Sr., 1981-1988; Ralph P. Peay, 1988-1997; Vanard J. Mendinghall, 1997-2011; and the current president, William L. Winston, who was voted in at the



John H. Wagner,
second South Atlantic president



South Atlantic presidents: Warren S. Banfield (standing back row, left), Robert L. Woodfork, Ralph B. Hairston Sr.; Harold D. Singleton (front row, left), Vanard J. Mendinghall, and Ralph P. Peay.

24th Constituency Session on September 10, 2011, making him the eighth president of South Atlantic.

These men had great spiritual and developmental vision for South Atlantic. Singleton led in the purchase of 40 acres of land in Hawthorne, Florida, which was the site for the first campground. Later that same year, 20 additional acres were purchased. During his presidency, Singleton hired many pastors to foster the growth of the Conference. In 1946, the first Conference office headquarters was in the home of Richard P. Robinson, Conference publishing secretary, located at 150 Rosser Street in Atlanta. Later, the office rented space in the Odd Fellows Building on Atlanta's historic Auburn Avenue. Singleton later led in the purchase of the first Con-

ference office-owned building on Simpson Street.

In 1954, Singleton left South Atlantic to become president of the Northeastern Conference, and John Wagner of the Allegheny Conference became the second president of South Atlantic. The Conference continued the strong evangelistic drive with evangelists E. Earle Cleveland, Eric C. Ward, Walter M. Starks, Harold L. Cleveland, Calvin B. Rock, Lucious E. Daniel, Franklin S. Hill Sr., J. Malcom Phipps, Horace M. Barker, Joseph P. Winston, Donald L. Crowder, and others.

Wagner built a new Conference office in 1957, at 235 Chicamauga Avenue in Atlanta. Five years later, Wagner became ill and passed away in July 1962 at the Riverside Hospital in Nashville, Tennessee. He

was the only South Atlantic president to die in office. We are blessed that five of the eight presidents are still living.

A few months after Wagner's death, Warren S. Banfield was elected president. Under his leadership, most of the major church buildings were initiated and completed during his term. Atlanta-Berean, Miami-Bethany, and Miami-Northside were organized and church buildings purchased. The Jacksonville, Florida, Church was erected; Tampa, Florida, Church was purchased; and the Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and Macon and Columbus, Georgia, churches were erected. Atlanta-Boulevard Drive was organized and a building purchased. Charlotte, North Carolina, Berean Church and Florence and Hemingway, South Carolina, churches were erected. Also, from 1960 to 1970, more than 200 of the rental cabins on the campground were constructed. It was in 1970 that the Conference membership reached 10,876.

In April 1971, Banfield was elected associate secretary of the Southern Union, and Robert L. Woodfork became president of the Conference. The new administration kept the momentum going with new incentives in evangelistic exploits with the combined efforts of ministry and laymen. Between 1970 and 1980, 15,584 souls were baptized during this 10-year period, which was an average of 1,558 souls per year. Because of the growth in membership and the increase in the number of churches, many of the pastors were



William L. Winston, eighth South Atlantic president, was elected September 11, 2011.

responsible for as many as five to seven congregations. The Conference had a program of reorganization and division of church districts to reduce the number of churches assigned to the pastor.

During 1970 to 1980, 36 church buildings were erected or purchased, 27 churches were dedicated, and 34 new congregations were organized.

In May 1979, a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Conference office took place at 294 Hamilton E. Holmes Drive in Atlanta, and the construction was completed in July 1980.

In 1980, with the hard work of the workers, members, and the leadership of Robert L. Woodfork, the membership increased to the largest in the Southern Union, which included the territory from the Florida Keys, Georgia, and South Carolina, north to the North Carolina/Virginia line. By December 31, 1980, there were 21,959 members in 128 churches and companies. On January 1, 1981, Southeastern Conference was born with 12,200 members, and South Atlantic with 17,364. Today, the membership for Southeastern is more than 47,000, and South Atlantic's membership exceeds 48,000.

In 1982, Ralph B. Hairston Sr., fifth president, led the Conference to purchase a 106-acre site for a campground in Orangeburg, South Carolina. The first building was a dining room-auditorium combination, which is still in use.

On April 17, 1988, Ralph P. Peay became the sixth president. The Conference continued to grow and prosper with the Hispanic and Haitian membership growth under his leadership. Evangelism and church growth were given top priority, and the Lord blessed greatly. From 1988 to 1997, 9,809 individuals became members of the Conference.

On Sunday, May 19, 1997, Vanard J. Mendinghall was elected the seventh president of South Atlantic, and has the distinction of serving longer than any of his predecessors. During his time, he called approximately 29 young interns

and 12 senior pastors to serve throughout the Conference. The campground was paid off by the end of 1997, the membership grew from 27,205 to 42,139, and the number of church congregations increased from 71 to 136.

The Union Baptist Church in Atlanta was up for bid. Mendinghall and Eric C. Ward went to the bidding, and the Lord blessed Atlanta-Berean to purchase the church. Berean moved from 312 Hamilton E. Holmes Drive to its current location across the street at 291 Hamilton E. Holmes Drive.

On May 9, 1999, Mendinghall began construction of the worship center at the campground in Orangeburg. The groundbreaking took place for the construction of the \$4 million, 4,100-seat worship center,



New South Atlantic Conference office in Decatur, Georgia

and 200-seat chapel (in the rear of the pavilion), and a baptismal pool. During the construction of the worship center, Camp Meeting was held at South Carolina State University for three days, June 14-16, 2001.

A new youth and recreational facility that accommodates nearly 1,500 in the gym and 300 in the chapel for daily services, was later constructed. There are also rooms for primary and junior youth. The expansion also included 80 beautiful motel lodging units that can sleep more than 400 people. More than 11 acres were purchased for further development for future ministries.

OTHER RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

In 2011, it was voted to receive the following churches into the South Atlantic Conference sisterhood of churches: Atlanta-New Jerusalem, Carrollton-Spanish, Covington,



Ebenezer-French, Ellenwood-New Hope, Jonesboro-Spanish, Maranatha-Forest Park, Marietta-Spanish, Philadelphia-French, Roswell-Spanish, and Salem-French, in Georgia; Charlotte Pregarious, Charlotte-Spanish, Franklinton, and Seven Springs-Spanish, in North Carolina; and Loris, in South Carolina.

A mega 2,000-person Youth Conference was hosted in Augusta, Georgia, with 380 delegates, and more than 3,500 in attendance. Personal ministries led in the “Ebony Evangelism” thrust to take the Conference membership to 30,000. And, *Message Magazine*, in partnership with Atlanta-Berean Church, raised 3,000

subscriptions, making it the number one church in the nation for *Message Magazine* subscriptions.

In April 2004 the Atlanta Education Complex opened, which houses Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy — the academy, grades 9-12; Berean Christian Junior Academy, grades K-8; Berean Child Development Center, 18 months to 4 years; and a cafeteria, library, gymnasium, and offices.

WILLIAM L. WINSTON

William L. Winston was elected the eighth president of South Atlantic on Sep-

tember 11, 2011. Prior to becoming president, Winston served as the executive secretary for the Conference for five years. Under his leadership, the churches and districts of South Atlantic have continued to grow, and 13 pastors have been brought into ministry to staff the growing districts. In early 2014, a new office facility was purchased at 3978 Memorial Drive, Decatur, Georgia, to better accommodate and meet the growing needs of the Conference and its ministries. 📍

DAVID M. JONES is the South Atlantic Conference historian.

A MEMOIR

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE — MAY 1946–MAY 1948

BY ETHEL MCKENZIE BRADFORD, FORMER OFFICE SECRETARY

The year was 1946. World War II had ended. Harry S. Truman was in the White House, and Herman Talmadge was governor of the state of Georgia. One by one, regional conferences were being organized. The South Atlantic Conference officially began operation on January 1, 1946. It was told to me by Richard P. Robinson’s wife, that her dining room served as the first office of the fledgling Conference.

The territory of the South Atlantic Conference included North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, all the way to Key West.

In the spring of 1946, Harold D. Singleton, Conference president, visited Oakwood College to recruit workers. I

was invited to join the secretarial staff. In May, I was a part of the professional seniors graduating class, with a major in secretarial science, and I decided to accept the position. I packed my trunk and traveled to Atlanta, where it had been arranged for me to live with Mrs. Bleaker Billups at 67 Fitzgerald Street. I was 19 years old.

My assignment was to serve as secretary to Harold D. Singleton, president; Norman G. Simons, home missionary and Sabbath School secretary; and Fitzgerald H. Jenkins, education and youth secretary. The offices occupied the top floor of the Odd Fellows Hall at 236 Auburn Ave., a few blocks away from the newly constructed Wheat Street Baptist Church, and the

historic Ebenezer Baptist Church pastored by Martin Luther King Sr.

In 1947, the Conference office moved to a newly purchased and remodeled property on W. Simpson Street. During that time, several new workers joined the Conference. I particularly remember typing the letters inviting Warren

Banfield, Eric C. Ward, and Major White, all

recent graduates of Pacific Union College, to join the South Atlantic workforce. Banfield and Ward accepted the invitation.

District workers’ meetings were held in parts of the Conference, some of which I attended as recording secretary. However, the first

full workers’ meeting was held in early

1948 in Atlanta, at Berean Church on Ashby Street, where Jeter Cox was pastor. In attendance were Southern Union officers V. G. Anderson, president, and H. E. Schneider, secretary-treasurer. I recall that when the Conference was being audited, all of the secretaries were asked to help out, and Schneider expressed his appreciation by giving us boxes of candy.

In May of 1948, I left the South Atlantic Conference to be married to Charles E. Bradford, a young intern in the Southwest Region Conference in Texas. I had spent exactly two years working in the South Atlantic Conference office. Our wedding was in my hometown of Jacksonville, Florida. At the same time, South Atlantic

was holding Camp Meeting for the first time in Jacksonville at the Moncrief Springs. Several of the Conference workers were able to attend the wedding because of Camp Meeting.

As I reflect upon these humble beginnings, and note that I am the only living member of the original office staff, I am truly amazed at how God has blessed me to serve the Church as the wife of a pastor/evangelist/administrator, and as a secretary at various levels of the denomination, including the General Conference. So blessed!

Ethel McKenzie Bradford, retired administrative assistant and talented musician, is the wife of Calvin E. Bradford, retired president of the North American Division.



ETHEL MCKENZIE BRADFORD, retired administrative assistant, talented musician, and wife of Charles E. Bradford, retired president of the North American Division, stands in front of the Odd Fellows Building in Atlanta, Georgia, on historic Auburn Avenue where South Atlantic rented office space.

South Central Celebrates a

“LEGACY OF LEGENDS”

BY MICHAEL A. HARPE

In 1865, after the Civil War, Ellen G. White counseled the Church to work in the South, the territory God chose to inaugurate a legacy filled with legends — the people He chose to spread the three angels’ messages. The General Conference (GC) voted that labor in the South among the colored people should be entered upon. Elbert B. Lane, commissioned by the GC, was the first Seventh-day Adventist minister to serve the South. He married Ellen S. Edmond, the first Adventist woman to receive her license to preach in 1868. He preached several weeks at Edgefield Junction L&N Railway Station, a few miles north of Nashville, Tennessee, in 1871, and left a company there. In 1873, Lane returned and organized the first Adventist church south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Harry Lowe, an African-American Baptist minister in Edgefield Junction, attended Lane’s meetings in 1871, and later joined the Church in 1883. The congregation was biracial; however, because of heightened tension in the South, blacks at Edgefield Junction Church organized into a separate company called First Colored

Seventh-day Adventist Church, by Samuel Fulton. It officially became a church on November 9, 1886. Among the 10 charter members was Jennie B. Allison, possibly the first African American woman to join the Adventist church. Ellen White was an occasional guest in her home. Two of her sons became ministers in the Adventist church. Marvin L. Allison Sr., current Conference communication director, is a descendant of the Allison family. The first colored Camp Meeting was held at Edge-

field Junction in 1901. Harry Lowe became an Adventist minister, and worked with Charles M. Kinney and Alonzo Barry. Barry organized the Louisville, Kentucky, Church on February 16, 1890 (now known as the Magazine Street Church).

Led by the Holy Spirit, on March 21, 1891, Ellen White wrote “Our Duty to the Colored People.” On June 13, 1891, the Bowling Green, Kentucky, Church was organized with 10 members by Charles M. Kinney. Just a few years prior (1889), Kinney was the first black minister ordained in

Edson White worked in the South for eight short years, 1895-1903, during which time God blessed him to open approximately 15 schools and churches, the Gospel Herald Publishing House, and the Nashville Colored Sanitarium. Edson opened his first school in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on the corner of Walnut Street and East First Avenue in 1895.

Meanwhile, in Huntsville, Alabama, Oakwood Industrial School opened with 16 students on November 16, 1896. Ellen White visited Oakwood Manual Training School in 1904. Oakwood, a junior college in 1917, and a senior college in 1943, became a university in 2008. James L. Moran became the first black president in 1932; Leslie L. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., is the current president.

On March 16-23, 1901, Ellen White visited Southern Missionary Society, incorporated by her son Edson in 1898 for education and evangelistic work. She dedicated the colored church in



First South Central Conference office

the Adventist church. He and his congregation were embarrassed by the way they were segregated at the ordination, and denied admission to Adventist institutions — and Kinney proposed separate conferences for blacks. This materialized in 1946, and South Central and South Atlantic conferences were organized.

The Nashville Church (now known as the Hillcrest Church) was organized September 15-16, 1894, by C. L. Boyd and Charles M. Kinney, who served as pastor.



The Willie Allison family were the first black Americans baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Edgefield Junction, Tennessee.

Vicksburg, Mississippi, on March 17, and spoke at the Memphis Church on March

18. The next two days she met Adventist leaders in Nashville, and then visited the new Gospel Herald Office and Nashville Colored Sanitarium. One month later the Southern Union Conference was organized.

The First Black Youth Congress was held in Huntsville, Alabama, in 1934, on the campus of Oakwood Junior College, coordinated by Anna Knight, associate MV (Missionary Volunteer) director of the Southern Union. Knight, from Soso, Mississippi, was the first Adventist woman to serve as a missionary to India. She also served on the Colored Survey Committee that recommended formation of the South Atlantic and South Central conferences in 1944.

In 1945, the South Central Conference was organized at a meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, with a territory covering Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee, and the portion of Florida west of the Apalachicola River. The Conference was organized with 42 churches. Herman R. Murphy, former state man and Conference evangelist for the Alabama-Mississippi Conference, served as first president from 1946 to 1954.

In 1946, South Central officially began operations in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Hawkins Street home of Louis B. Reynolds and his wife. Later, the Conference moved to their first office at 1914 Charlotte Street. The first Camp Meeting was held on the campus of Oakwood College, June 27-July 6, 1946, and was held there annually for the next 70 years.

In 1954, Walter W. Fordham was elected the second president of the Conference. During that time, E. Earl Cleveland baptized 571 individuals in Montgomery, Alabama, the largest baptism in Conference history. A new Conference office was erected in 1958 by Fordham, 715 Youngs Lane. The third president of the Conference was Frank L. Bland, elected in 1960.

Two years later, 1962, Charles E. Dudley was elected the fourth president. He was the longest serving president in South Central history — 31 years. More of his accomplishments may be gleaned in the Southern Union Southern Tidings archives online, article entitled, “A Great General



Current South Central Conference office

of the Lord’s Army,” October 2010, pages 8-9. In 1976, as the nation celebrated 200 years of existence, the following are a few accomplishments during Dudley’s tenure: In Huntsville, the members celebrated the building of a grand church edifice on Oakwood’s campus under the leadership of Eric C. Ward. In 1984, Dudley initiated the Supplemental Retirement Plan for workers. In 1988, women’s ministries began as the Women’s Commission. Laura Smith was selected to serve as the first commissioner. It became the Women’s Ministries Department in 1990. The current Conference office was erected for \$2.5M in 1990, and was paid for in full in five years. The Archives Department was established the same year, with R. Steven Norman III as the first director. It preserved the history of South Central and sponsored Seventh-day Adventist history tours.

Joseph W. McCoy was elected the fifth president of South Central in 1993. In 1999, South Central voted to establish its own retirement plan. Other regional conferences followed suit, and formed the Regional Conference Retirement Plan.

In 2003, South Central established the Latino Ministries Department, with Edgardo Herrera as coordinator. The first annual Latino Convention was held on Thanksgiving Day in 2003. Companies of Latino believers were organized at Russellville and Kilpatrick, Alabama.

Benjamin P. Browne was elected the sixth president in 2005. At that time South Central had 147 congregations, a membership of 31,784, and tithe of more than 14 million dollars. A significant prayer emphasis was launched, and the Prayer and Men’s Ministries departments were established, with Roy Rugless as director.

Dana Edmond, the seventh and current president of South Central, was elected in 2009. South Central experiences continued growth and development through diversity and trending ministries. In 2010 the administration approved the Youth Congress Mission Cruise held in Bahamas, and Lola Moore became the first woman pastor hired by South Central, and installed to the pastoral staff at the Oakwood University Church. The first female administrator, Merkita Mosley, treasurer, was added in 2011. Shawn Moss was hired in 2012, as the second female pastor, first of a congregation in Memphis, Tennessee. Breath of Life Television Ministry moves to the South Central territory in 2012, with Carlton Byrd, D.Min., Oakwood University’s newly installed pastor, as the director. Latino ministries became the Multi-cultural Ministries Department in 2012, and the Conference added a Haitian, African, and Korean focus. Tina Carriger, hired in 2013, was the third woman pastor and the first sponsored female seminarian. Oakwood Academy Gymnasium in Huntsville was erected in 2013. The first Women’s Pastoral Commissioning Service was held in 2015 for pastors Lola Moore and Shawn Moss. As 2015 closed, South Central reported a membership of 33,704, 159 congregations, a tithe increase of 4.6 percent, and total tithe of \$20,115,299. In January 2016 the first Virtual Church Officer’s Meeting was launched and broadcast online. South Central’s legacy continues as God chooses His legends to fulfill the Gospel commission.

During this year’s Camp Meeting, June 10-18, the Conference will celebrate 70 years of God’s blessings in service, evangelism, and education. Several ministry events will kick-off the celebration: 1,000 Praying Women, Mini Youth Congress, Prayer Summit, a Community Health Thrust, and a Breath of Life Crusade. You may register for the celebrations at www.scc-adventist.org/70th. 📍

MICHAEL A. HARPE is director of the Stewardship, Trust Services, and ASI departments at the South Central Conference.

THE FORGOTTEN GENERATION

When mothers are in prison, what happens to their children?

BY GLADYS NEIGEL

The young mother, tears running down her cheeks, watches her baby being taken from her. She had endured the harshness of prison while pregnant, then underwent a painful delivery without family support. Now, the finality of separation bears down heavily on her heart as the caregiver leaves with her baby.

Another young child dissolves into tears while watching his mother being handcuffed. The reality of the situation only begins to hit home as the mother is driven away in a police car and the child is taken from his home by a caregiver.

Incarcerated mothers and children face many challenges. Both struggle with separation anxiety, the severity of which correlates with the length of a mother's sentence. The frustrated child of an imprisoned mom often acts out, and rapidly becomes part of the forgotten generation. These children face interminable odds when it comes to developing into individuals who lead successful lives. Often, a large majority of them disappear into the system.

"Parental incarceration is now recognized as an adverse childhood experience (ACE); it is distinguished from other adverse childhood experiences by the unique combination of trauma, shame, and stigma."¹

CHANGING SOCIETY

Throughout the years, the value of the human family as a complete unit has de-

teriorated, for reasons including parental incarceration. "More than 2.7 million children in the U.S. have an incarcerated parent. Approximately 10 million children have experienced parental incarceration at some point in their lives."²

There are more incarcerated fathers than mothers. When the father is incarcerated, the mother is usually the custodial parent, so there are fewer changes to the child's schedule. With the incarceration of



Donna Walsh, Florida Conference LAMB coordinator, speaks with a prospective LAMB sponsor.

a mother, though, the child often has lost both parents. In most cases, the upheaval in the child's life accelerates, because there is...

- no father figure, or caregivers do not allow father to visit,
- no bonding with mother,
- trouble fitting into the caregiver's home,

- a lack of finances,
- the stigma of being a prisoner's kid,
- rebellion or a "Why me?" syndrome,
- no supervision for education,
- no taught social morals, and/or
- the trauma of seeing the mother's arrest.

ONE MAN'S VISION

In his search for a medium to combat the heartache of incarcerated mothers, the breakdown of the family, and the delinquency of the children, Frank Barton, prison ministries director for Florida Conference, initiated a program called Love A Mother's Baby (LAMB).

After learning of incarcerated mothers bartering necessities for a tube of toothpaste to send to their child, Barton developed the LAMB program. Through prison ministries programs organized on site in Florida prisons, mothers can request sponsorship for their children. The LAMB program sponsors provide support for the children through their caregivers, as well as supply gifts that the mothers put their names on, and caregivers give to the children for occasions such as Christmas and birthdays. Mother and child also receive a subscription to a magazine commensurate with the age of the child, such as *Our Little Friend*, *Primary Treasure*, or *Guide*. Florida Conference, local churches, and free-will offerings fund the program.

Grandparents face many problems when they become caregivers, writes Kate Santich in "When Grandkids Move In,"



LAMB sponsor Christina Goosey spends time with her sponsored child, Nicole, on Nicole's sixth birthday.

from the October 12, 2014, Sunday issue of *Orlando Sentinel*. While finances can be a problem, one other major challenge is the debilitating feeling of isolation.³ So, sponsors keep abreast of the caregiver's mental, physical, and spiritual health. Through frequent home visits and phone conversations, sponsors learn the needs of the family. They assist with birthday parties and bring children to Sabbath School and other church programs such as Adventurers and Pathfinders. Barton designed the *LAMB Training Manual* as a guide to instruct sponsors. This manual encompasses the entire spectrum of the LAMB program, including concerns of the inmate, caregiver, and sponsor.

CALLED TO SERVE

LAMB program coordinator Donna Walsh has been heading the initiative since July 2010, and puts in many hours in her efforts to help these mothers and their children.

"No one [can fully understand] what I feel about the LAMB program," Walsh says.

Walsh searches for people who are willing to give of their time and resources to support the program. On weekends, she conducts training seminars and seeks church support and financial help to cover cost of literature, gifts, and miscellaneous needs of the families.

POSITIVE RESULTS

The LAMB program sponsors more

than 80 children of mothers incarcerated in Florida. These children live with caregivers in Florida, Utah, Indiana, Georgia, Alabama, and Ohio.



LAMB sponsor Jan Coston brings cupcakes and gifts for Nicole's sixth birthday.

In 2014, there were approximately 250 LAMB program applicants. Walsh spends her lunch hours and evenings finding sponsors for all the requests she receives — and she's seeing results.

The grandmother of three children invited by their two sponsors to Vacation Bible School (VBS) said that the children

loved VBS even after the first day. "They already have clothes laid out to wear for the next morning," she told the two sponsors during the program. On the Friday of VBS, she asked the sponsors, "What time do the children need to be ready for church tomorrow?" The caregiver grandmother and the three children now regularly attend church.

Walsh, however, wants to do more. "There is a need for more committed people," she says. "We need the involvement of more churches in this evangelistic ministry."

Her daily prayer, she says, is that "through the LAMB program, more children can come to know Christ and recognize the plan He has for their lives. My longing is for the cycle to break and to hear a child say, 'I don't have to live the life my mom lived!'"

To learn more about the LAMB program, call Florida Conference prison ministries director, Frank Barton, at 352-408-1844. 📞

¹ C.F. Hairston, *Focus on Children With Incarcerated Parents: An Overview of the Research Literature*, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2007.

² The Pew Charitable Trusts: Pew Center on the States *Collateral Costs: Incarceration's Effect on Economic Mobility* (Washington, D.C., 2010).

³ Kate Santich, "When Grandkids Move In," *Orlando Sentinel*, 2014.

A VISION FOR A NEW CHURCH PLANT BECOMES A REALITY

BY REBECCA GRICE

The College Drive Church in Pearl, Mississippi, launched a new church in Clinton, Mississippi, on February 28, 2015, called The Ridge. A vision that began years before had finally become a reality.

The process began when Mike Whately, head elder, sat down with Richard Halversen, pastor, and shared the vision of the church to plant another church in the middle Mississippi area. Teri Spracklen, a church leader, explains, “Pastor Richie was excited, and his enthusiasm was contagious.”

The church unanimously embraced the plant, although there were concerns. “How would it affect the College Drive Church, their recent growth, and evangelistic emphasis?” “How would it affect their pastor and where was the money coming from?” However, the overarching commitment from the church for mission and evangelism was the driving force.

A core group of members who wanted to see this happen was formed. The original group consisted of Richie Halversen, Teri Spracklen, Jonathan Littleton, Jacintha Green, Tiffany Fuller, and Eric Michaelson. Halversen says, “Through this journey, we have discovered church planting is a miraculous, necessary, and incarnational work.”

Clinton was the area God put in their hearts to place this first church plant. The Holy Spirit affirmed this decision when the church, during a business session, officially voted to go ahead with the plan. The core group’s goal was to launch in one year. Once the launch date of the new church was selected, many obstacles occurred, but the core group members stayed committed to the date. “We firm-



An average of 50 members and five to 10 visitors attend the new church plant each week.

ly believe the reason we often don’t see God do the impossible in our lives and our church is because we only attempt things we can do on our own,” explains Halversen.

The biggest obstacle was the location. Many options were explored, but nothing materialized. The church prayed and fasted. A major evangelistic series to launch the new church plant began, though they had no place to meet once the meetings were over. Then, one week before the series ended, a previous contact agreed to lease their building and agreed to apply one-fourth of all the rent to the eventual purchase of the building.

At the launching event, 10 people were baptized; all but one are still attending. About 50 people attend regularly, as well as an average of eight to 10 non-member visitors. Sue Purderer is one of those



Grandparents Sammy and Sue Puderer, son Trent, and extended family members pose with the Puderers’ newly baptized grandchildren, Caden (front row), Brianna, and Leon.

who were baptized. Her enthusiasm for her newly found church and faith is catching. Purderer, her husband, Sammy, mother, and three grandchildren have become baptized members. “My friends see something new in me,” says Purderer. She adds, “The congregation is very friendly. We are family and we care about each other. I have learned so much about the Bible.”

Halversen concludes, “We’re excited about what the future holds because we know who holds the future.”

TECHNOLOGY PROFESSOR MODELS SKILLS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

BY ANGELA BAERG

Since 1978, students at Southern Adventist University have had the opportunity to learn from a technology professor so accomplished his name is inscribed in the national Automotive Hall of Fame's honor book. But, the six master certifications in 46 "Automotive Service Excellence" specialties are just a small part of the story behind Dale Walters and how he prepares students for success in career, community, and church.

"Adventist young people deserve to have an opportunity to get technical training in a Christian environment," Walters said. "Our graduates will be able to find jobs and take care of the two most expensive things in their lives — their homes and cars."

Benjamin Kyle graduated from Southern in 2015 with his automotive service associate degree, and is now the mechanics instructor at Heritage Academy in Tennessee. Two things Kyle remembers most about his former professor are how he taught students to succeed with both cutting-edge technology and the bare minimum of supplies — the latter scenario being one they are likely to encounter in the mission field — and Walter's endless supply of patience and enthusiasm.

"When I would struggle on projects, he always gave me new ideas and encouraged me until I figured things out," Kyle said. "With his qualifications he could be doing anything he wanted in his field, so I just want to tell him thank you for using his talents to teach young people."

NEW DEGREES

Southern recently folded the Technology Department into its School of Business as part of a transition that includes the addition of two new bachelor's degrees:



Dale Walters (right), associate professor for the School of Business, earns consistently high evaluation ratings from students.

a bachelor of technology in auto service management, and a bachelor of technology in construction management. Both were previously offered at an associate degree level. Mark Hyder, dean for the School of Business, believes offering bachelor's degrees allows students to enter their fields at a much higher level, get better pay, and rise faster professionally. He's grateful to have Walters leading this effort.

"Dale has the highest student evaluation numbers in the entire school," Hyder said. "He works from sunup to sundown, pouring himself into this program. The way he lives his life teaches students not just how to be a great mechanic, but how to be a great mechanic for God."

MISSION WORK

Walters' influence extends beyond the classroom. He first became involved with



Dale Walters teaches students creative problem solving skills in preparation for moments such as these where automotive supplies in the mission field are limited.

the Nicaragua Mission Project as a student in 1974 during the summer before his junior year in academy. He went again during two more summers, and then for seven months in the middle of his sophomore year of college.

The mission station fell dormant until Walters worked with a group of former student missionaries to restart it in 1997. He helped the project acquire its nonprofit status, has been on the board of trustees since it was formed, and visits once or twice per year to work alongside student volunteers from Southern. The project has facilitated the creation of an elementary school that currently enrolls 109 students! His dedication to the project, and modeling of true Christian service to students, is one reason why in 2015 Walters won the University's Presidential Award for Community Service.

"I enjoy taking students to Nicaragua and watching them develop a larger world view," Walters said. "These hands-on opportunities have helped show the Great Commission in a new light." ●

ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITALS

Share CREATION Health in Five Ways

More than 200 employees from across Adventist Health System gathered to learn more about CREATION Health, and share ideas on how to practically apply it in their hospitals and communities during the CREATION Health Integration Conference in Orlando on January 19, 2016.

CREATION Health is a biblically-based wellness program that explains how Choice, Rest, Environment, Activity, Trust in God, Interpersonal relationships, Outlook, and Nutrition all play a role in supporting optimal health for mind, body, and soul. It is also, as AHS's president/CEO, Don Jernigan, pointed out in his opening remarks, a tangible expression of the organization's mission to extend the healing ministry of Christ.

"Although Adventist Health System has grown considerably since we were first established in 1973, our vision of health care as ministry remains the same," Jernigan said. "By living and teaching CREATION Health in our communities, we have the opportunity to introduce people to Christ and the abundant life He has in mind for them."

During the conference, presenters shared many of the ways that they are integrating CREATION Health at their hospitals to benefit patients and employees. Some of them include the following.

- Hosting CREATION Health Camps for children referred by pediatricians due to obesity or high-risk factors for chronic diseases: Fun, hands-on activities introduce children to the principles of healthy living.
- Starting a CREATION Health Community Clinic that provides affordable medical services for the uninsured: Educational posters, brochures, and special events focus on disease prevention and management.
- Training CREATION Health Coaches in every hospital department to



support colleagues on their wellness journeys: This can include bringing in healthy snacks, organizing walking or weight-loss challenges, or sending out inspirational emails.

- Providing rural patients with free transportation to medical appointments through a CREATION Health Bus: Riders learn about the principles of healthful living from DVDs that are played during the trips.

- Incorporating the principles of CREATION Health into the construction and design of patient lobbies, employee break rooms, chapels, and other hospital areas.

"The list could go on and on because CREATION Health touches every aspect of our lives," said Mandy Persaud, who organized the conference and serves as director of corporate relations and mission enculturation at AHS. "It is inspiring to see the many ways that it is making a difference in our communities, and I am looking forward to seeing what new ideas arise in 2016 to help us extend the healing ministry of Christ." ❀

BY RAINEY TURLINGTON

Murray Medical Center Dedicates New Chapel

Murray Medical Center held a dedication ceremony on Sunday, January 31, 2016, to celebrate the opening of their new chapel.

“Being a faith-based facility, many of our patients choose us for spiritual care, as well as physical and emotional care,” said Karen Steely, Murray Medical Center administrator. “This chapel provides a sacred place in our facility that can be used for reflection and meditation. Our patients, visitors, and staff, as well as local pastors, will now have a chapel available for their needs and convenience.”

John Bagley, pastor of Cohutta First Baptist Church, opened with an invocation, followed by a welcome by Steely.

Past interim president Hal Coble led a dedication litany. The program also featured Wendell Stover, Gary Rustad, Janet Hawthorne, and Edwin Puckett.

The chapel, a former waiting area, is one of the many renovations and improvements Murray Medical Center has made since becoming a member of Adventist Health System. ●

BY KAYLEE LANDRESS



Therapy Dog Donates 15th Birthday TO FLORIDA HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN

For more than 10 years, Aluzja has been making rounds at Florida Hospital, bringing healing to everyone from young epilepsy patients to those suffering from cancer. He’s figured out how to make even the youngest and sickest laugh, calm the fears of anxious patients, and bring much-needed distraction to a high-stress environment. Aluzja’s remedy: a wag of his tail and an attentive ear.

Aluzja, an Italian Greyhound, is a volunteer with Florida Hospital’s pet therapy program. And, on February 23, 2016, as patients helped Aluzja celebrate his 15th birthday, the pup kicked off an important initiative: raise \$1,500 for the pet therapy program at Florida Hospital for Children, so other patients can continue to benefit from the important service.



“Therapy dogs like Aluzja provide motivation, encouragement, recreation, and rehabilitation to patients and their families,” said Meagan Krizek, volunteer manager at Florida Hospital for Children. “I have watched Aluzja bring smiles and healing into the hospital through the years, and the entire Florida Hospital for Children team is grateful to

Jim and Aluzja for continuing to serve here, and for the generosity they are demonstrating.”

More than 30 pet therapy teams volunteer at Florida Hospital. Each team consists of a handler and dog, and all are registered with a therapy dog agency. Their responsibilities range from simple room visits to assisting with physical therapy.

Aluzja’s owner and handler, Jim Wagner, said visits to Florida Hospital are just as rewarding for him as they are for patients and staff.

“Our only payment is the smiles we give to kids,” Wagner said. “We go in [a patient’s room], and by the time we leave, they’re smiling and laughing.” ●

BY SAMANTHA KEARNS O’LENICK

Conference Holds Generous Living Summit 2016



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Generous Living Summit 2016 at Nosoca Pines Ranch

Kevin Wilfley, director for prayer ministries and health ministries at the Washington Conference, preaches at the Charlotte Sharon Church.

The annual Generous Living Summit took place on January 31, 2016, at Nosoca Pines Ranch in Liberty Hill, S.C. Leading up to the summit, guest speaker Kevin Wilfley, director for prayer ministries and health ministries for the Washington Conference, spoke the day before at the Charlotte, N.C., Sharon Church. He encouraged the congregation to not rely on works to get into Heaven, but focus on their relationship with Christ, the only true salvation issue.

This led to Wilfley's first of three messages on Sunday morning where he addressed the importance of tithe, and that tithes and offerings are the foundations of generosity. He referenced text after text given in the Bible for guidance in living a generous life, and what is promised to all by God for their faithfulness and giving spirit.

Interspersed throughout the summit were inspiring stories demonstrating the far-reaching outcome from what one person might consider to be a small gesture.

Wilfley gave one particularly memorable example of a conversation between himself and a friend. In their talk, Wilfley mentioned an instance when he and his sisters were impressed to leave a large tip for a waitress going through a bad time, and what a difference it seemed to make for her. Because of that conversation, Wilfley's friend began helping people in a similar way, which in turn has inspired countless others. Generosity is contagious when done with a loving, Christ-like heart. Wilfley emphasized that generosity is not just monetary, but also encompasses day-to-day activities and lifestyle.

Later during the Summit, the Conference's Generous Living team took part in a panel discussion on "frequently asked questions" regarding tithing and the giving of offerings. Prior to the Summit, the team met and compiled a list of 22 common questions. These questions and their answers were then made available to each church to be used in helping members have a better understanding of the sys-

tem of tithing and the pleasure of goodwill offerings.

The Generous Living Department also distributed resources for each local church's Generous Living team, to assist them in getting started promoting stewardship in their churches. One of those resources was a USB drive that was filled with documents and videos to make their jobs easier. These resources will also be available on the Carolina Conference website under Generous Living, as well as recordings of the presentations by Kevin Wilfley.

The goal of the Generous Living Summit was to take a moment to reflect on what it truly means to be a "good steward." The desire was that attendees see that a spirit of generosity begins with a close connection with Jesus, and then radiates out to others, blessing them with the true nature of Christ. ☛

BY COURTNEY HEROD

Charlotte Spanish Church Operates Community Outreach Program



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Bob Self (far left), community services director for the Carolina Conference, and Julio Flores, pastor of the Charlotte Spanish Church, with their community services volunteers

Twice a week, between 100 and 250 people line up outside the door of the Charlotte, N.C., Spanish Adventist Church. These are not members, but people from the community of all races and ages, eagerly awaiting their turn to enter through the doors.

What sort of event would bring this kind of attendance to one of the churches? One that meets people’s needs — a community service outreach that feeds hundreds of people each week, and teaches them that the Seventh-day Adventist Church cares about them.

Julio Flores, pastor, gives all the credit for this outreach to his members, who have developed an efficient and fair system to distribute thousands of dollars worth of food each week. Several years ago, the church outreach team approached the local food bank to apply to be a distribution center. After fulfilling the require-

ments, the church then began receiving regular shipments of both perishable and non-perishable food and household supplies, which they sort and prepare to give out. As people come in, carrying boxes,



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

bins, and carts to hold their store of goods, they are given a number. When their number is called, they check in with the outreach team, and then are allowed to go through the makeshift aisles to choose the items they can use.

Because of requirements by the food

bank, the church members are not allowed to distribute literature or speak to anyone about their beliefs. But, they have had indications that the people are curious about Adventists. One man said, “You know, pastor ... because of what you are doing here, many, many people know where your church is and about the Seventh-day Adventist Church because of this program.”

The church members also contribute money, food, and supplies. Flores says that although this kind of outreach takes a lot of time, dedication, and hard work, it has been very rewarding and helpful for his members. “It is my dream that someday we have a building just for this program, that has refrigerators and other items that can help us reach more.”

BY REBECCA CARPENTER

Inmates' Lives Touched Behind Bars

For the second year, men and women at Orange County Correctional Facility in Orlando, Fla., received gifts from Pathfinders and church members of Florida Conference in the Christmas Behind Bars initiative. This warm expression of Christian love and kindness included 3,000 care packages and 1,000 Bibles.

Lurlet Gordon, Pathfinder director of Solid Rock Church in Orlando, and Daniel Melendez, Pathfinder director of Orlando Central Church, accepted a challenge to make Christmas Behind Bars an annual event. At the core of the project are the words spoken by Jesus in Matthew 25:36 (KJV): "...I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

The success of the project could not have been possible without the help and generous donations from Pathfinder clubs and church members around central Florida. Each person contributed by donating and preparing care packages for men and women whom they had never met, and who might not experience the joy of Christmas.

Florida Hospital Church took on the challenge of providing and packaging the majority of the care packages as part of their Meet • Worship • Serve event. A collaboration between Orlando Central and Forest Lake churches provided a large number of Bibles. Pathfinder clubs and members from different churches assisted in packaging the gift items — cookies, pens, envelopes, stamps, and a personalized Christmas card — for each inmate.

Providing 1,000 men and women with the full Bible has resulted in a significant increase of Bible study among inmates. One spouse, whose husband is incarcerated, thanked the team for extending such kindness even though they did not know her husband.



PHOTO BY: HUBERT SWEARINE

Several Pathfinder clubs gathered for an afternoon packing event at the Florida Conference office.



PHOTO BY: WILFREDO PADILLO

Christmas cards with messages for inmates were personalized during a special Meet • Worship • Serve Sabbath at Florida Hospital Church.

In a time when fear seeks to drive love out of people's hearts, it is good to know that selfless ambassadors still exist to spread the love of God. "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another," 1 John 4:11 (ESV). Christmas Behind Bars continues to touch the lives

of souls locked away from the outside world, but never separated from the love of Christ. 🕊

BY HUBERT SWEARINE
AND ALETHEA GORDON

African Mission Trip Heralds an Amazing God

Mulungu Wathu Wodawibsa.” These are the African Chichewa language words for “Our Amazing God,” the Vacation Bible School (VBS) theme for Florida Conference’s mission trip to Matandani Mission in Malawi, Africa, this past August.

The fact of having 18 villages nearby and the possibility of a big VBS turnout of children was worrisome since only one person was scheduled to work with the program. The prayers were many, and the faith strong, though, as preparation was made for an attendance of 300 children.

After a change of plans occurred, two additional helpers from the group assisted with the VBS at the last minute. Opening night, the Lord provided, and they completed the program for 90 children — almost twice the number of children attending the local church. The children were a joy to watch, singing their harmonious, rhythmic, and happy native songs. All were impressed, as it seemed children there were born singing in harmony.

Meetings were scheduled to start at 3:30 p.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. The sun would set at 6:00 p.m., and the children, many of them six or seven years old, had to walk home carrying their siblings strapped to their backs. Every night, these children faced rough, mountainous roads and distances of up to eight miles. Yet, they were so eager to come that they would start arriving shortly after noon and wait several hours without complaint.

The second night 180 children came, and the VBS crew was excited to treat them with trinkets after a blessed night of learning and playing. The third night, with 220 children, things were getting difficult to manage, but they were delighted to see the children enjoying the new outside games for the first time in their lives.

The fourth night 340 children came, but the Lord kept on sending young men to



PHOTO BY: ROGER PARKER

Ladysbell Ayala directed a Vacation Bible School program with the help of local leaders in the school cafeteria at Matandani Mission.



PHOTO BY: ROGER PARKER

Nancy Pleasants takes a blood pressure reading while helping with health screenings at the clinic in Matandani.



PHOTO BY: ROGER PARKER

Team evangelist Luis Reyes watches José LeGrand present a Bible in the Chichewa language to a baptismal candidate during their last Sabbath in Malawai.

help the VBS effort, including some of the mission school teachers. On the last night there were nearly 385 children. So many activities were planned for that last night that VBS ran overtime. Along with several adults, the VBS leaders ended up walking home with a huge group of children through the first three miles. A flatbed truck took another group to a far-away area, and the missionary’s Trooper truck took 25 kids to their homes eight miles away.

Never having ridden in a truck, the children were singing at the top of their lungs all along the way. Hearing the singing, parents were waiting for the children by the road. The experience that all these

children had by attending the Matandani Mission School VBS will long be remembered.

Matandani Mission is in need of help to accommodate and serve so many children who are prospective students. In addition to the VBS program, the ten-member mission group team, led by José LeGrand, helped with a medical clinic, evangelism in the evenings, and construction of a classroom for young children in a nearby village. 📍

BY LADYSBELL AYALA

97-Year-Old Musician Gives Heart to Jesus

Pastor Dave, would you give my 93-year-old atheist husband Bible studies?"

"Certainly," Dave Ketelsen, pastor of the Hamilton Community Church in Chattanooga, Tenn., replied. Arriving at their home one Monday, Ketelsen began a conversation that took a long, wonderful journey to become better acquainted with Oscar Kosarin.

Kosarin shared that he was born in Germany and came to America after his father died when he was four years old. His mother was unable to raise him, so his aunt and uncle brought him to New York where he studied and learned to love the piano. Self-taught, he became an exceptional student and mastered the gift so well that he went on to become a conductor and composer.

Ketelsen says the Bible studies with Kosarin didn't go well at first. Kosarin was a professor at well known universities, and although he majored in music, he was well read in Darwinism and quite brilliant in his arguments.

This didn't deter Ketelsen; he decided to get to know Kosarin and create a lasting friendship. For four years they developed a close relationship. Kosarin loves classical music, so Ketelsen would bring in his phone and Google all the great composers. This included the medieval, renaissance, baroque, classical, and romantic eras. Ketelsen memorized important events and compositions, and because Kosarin's vision was poor, he'd read some of the more unfamiliar things they accomplished. This impressed Kosarin. He was amazed how informed Ketelsen was in the arena of music.

Over the course of time, Kosarin began coming to church each week where Ketelsen led out. One Sabbath, Kosarin shook his hand and said, "I'm so glad God has brought us together." This thrilled Ketelsen, and he earnestly prayed for Kosarin's conversion to Jesus.



PHOTO BY: DEBRA KETELSEN

Oscar Kosarin (left) took Bible studies from Dave Ketelsen, pastor of the Hamilton Community Church in Chattanooga, Tenn. After a few years of study, Kosarin gave his heart to Jesus.

One Friday night, Ketelsen awoke and was impressed to pray for Kosarin. When he got up it was 3 a.m. Trying to be quiet and not wake up anyone in his house, Ketelsen not only discovered his shinbone was a device for finding furniture in the dark, but as he went into the hallway he stepped on one of his son's LEGO blocks, right on his heel. "Ouch!" he said. Wounded and limping to his office, Ketelsen knelt down fervently to ask God to reach Kosarin. That next morning, Kosarin's wife, Diane, came to his office and said, "Pastor, I must talk to you. Oscar woke up in the middle of the night."

"What time?" asked Ketelsen. "It was 3 a.m.," she replied.

She shared how Kosarin sat straight up and in tears told his wife how an angel of the Lord came to him saying, "Oscar, it's not going to hurt; it's so much easier than you think to believe in Me. Also, you will again see your father, your mother, and live with your wife and loved ones forever."

This dream came twice to Kosarin. He wanted to believe, but for 97 years he had

relied on atheism as a way of life, so it was difficult. Kosarin was honest and transparent in his response, saying he wanted to believe, but had a difficult time because he knew no other way.

After some time, in October of 2015, John Bradshaw held an evangelistic series, and Kosarin was invited. Diane Kosarin faithfully brought him each evening. Ketelsen and many Hamilton Community Church members were praying that Kosarin would accept the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior.

One night, after a meeting, Diane Kosarin texted Ketelsen, "You must come right away. Meet us in the lobby."

They met in the lobby and Kosarin said, "Great news! Tonight I gave my heart to Jesus. I believe and want to follow Him."

Kosarin joined the Hamilton Community Church family, and comes faithfully to church with his wife and family each week. Ketelsen and Kosarin still continue their Bible studies every Monday. 📖

BY DEBRA KETELSEN

Harris Named to Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame

Bobby Harris is a member of the Wimbish Road Church in Macon, Ga. Many might know Harris from musical performances at South Georgia Camp Meetings. In spite of his lack of sight, he tunes and repairs pianos, and he and his wife, Janet, own and operate a concession stand at the Government Building in Macon.

On November 28, 2015, “Bobby Blue,” as his musician friends call him, was inducted into the Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame at the 34th Annual Awards Ceremony. “The Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame was founded in 1982 by Phyllis Cole and John L. (Johnny) Carson for the purpose of preserving Georgia’s rich music heritage and history, to promote Georgia’s exciting music talent, and to honor persons and organizations for their outstanding contributions and achievements in the music industry on the national, state, and local



Bobby Blue Harris was inducted into the Atlanta Country Music Hall of Fame in November 2015. Pictured with him are his wife, Janet; son, Robby; daughter, Beckie; and granddaughter, Ashlynn.

PHOTO BY: NANCY WITT

levels,” according to <http://atlantacountry-musichalloffame.com/index%20members.html>.

Harris said two friends nominated him for the Atlanta Hall of Fame, a guitarist, Alan George, and drummer, Kenny Ledford, both musicians he had played with in the past. Sadly, George and Ledford both passed away before the event. Harris said George shared that he was the reason he

became a Christian.

Harris became a Seventh-day Adventist years ago. One day while driving down a country road, he and his wife ran out of gas. A gentleman stopped to help, and gave them a *Bible Readings for the Home*. In reading the book, given in love, they learned of the beautiful Sabbath message and became Seventh-day Adventists. Harris even wrote a song about the event entitled, “God Answers Prayer.”

Years ago Harris played with secular bands in the Atlanta area. Today he still writes music (15 songs overall) and performs. He says, “Now I only write music for the Lord, and play and sing in churches.” Harris is so thankful to all who have helped him, and says his biggest gratitude is for his wife, Janet. 🕊

BY NANCY WITT

Collegedale Community Holds Mini-Retreat for Women

Around 80 women gathered at Howe Farms in Georgetown, Tenn., on Sabbath, January 16, 2016, for a one-day mini-retreat.

“When we started planning the retreat, we expected 30 or 40 women would attend. The turnout far exceeded our hopes and expectations,” said Bonny Musgrave, Collegedale Community Church (CCC) women’s ministries leader.

The theme, “Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World,” is always relevant in today’s overscheduled and overextended society. The women’s ministries team wanted to offer women the opportunity to leave their Martha cares behind for a few hours and focus on their Mary hearts.

Joey Tolbert led two sessions, and in-

troduced the themes of distraction, discouragement, and doubt. Then the women broke into small groups to discuss the topics and get to know each other.

Paulena McConnaughey gave her testimony and talked about the positive and negative aspects of both Mary and Martha, highlighting the reality that everyone is a combination of Mary and Martha.

McConnaughey and her three daughters led a beautiful song service before each session. Honoring a special request, four members of the singing group Message of Mercy gave a short acapella concert after the final session.

The women also enjoyed lunch and dinner prepared by Wycliffe, CCC’s resident chef. The evening ended with a viewing of



PHOTO BY: SHIRLEY ENGEL

Collegedale Community Church’s women’s ministries team planned a mini-retreat for women. Their theme was “Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World.”

the movie, “The War Room.”

One attendee said, “Every aspect of the day was an inspiration. It was a beautiful Sabbath, and I want to thank everyone on the team.” 🕊

BY TRACY HANEY

Hispanic Pastors, Leaders Begin Small Groups, Missionary Couples Initiative

The Hispanic Ministries Department of Gulf States Conference celebrated its first Small Groups Convention, starting the process “Small Groups + Hope 2016” on Sabbath, January 16, 2016, at the Garrett Coliseum in Montgomery, Ala. The event was attended by more than 1,250 members and pastors, as well as Conference and Southern Union administrators.

Dave Livermore, Conference president, preached the sermon of consecration and performed the first baptisms of the 600 that form part of the annual goal of the Conference Hispanic ministries.

James Mangum, executive secretary of the Conference, and Nilton García, coordinator of Hispanic Ministries, with Jorge Mayer, director of the Southern Union Hispanic Ministries Department, presided over the small groups ceremony of initiation where participants were given their



“certificates of birth.”

This began when Livermore attended the Hispanic pastors’ meeting on December 3, 2015. He challenged García and the Hispanic pastors to attract 600 new believers to God’s Kingdom in 2016. The challenge motivated the Hispanic team to develop and structure the small groups and missionary couples. The day after the

meeting, they met with the Hispanic elders and deacons from all Hispanic churches, at the Elders’ and Deacons’ Retreat at Camp Alamisco. Together, they agreed to organize 104 small groups and 312 missionary couples. The plan was that each missionary couple would attract a minimum of two new believers to Lord’s Kingdom through baptism, under the theme “Two by Two United to Save a Sinner.”

García says, “I thank the Hispanic pastoral body of the Conference; Sarita Garcia, their assistant; the Conference administrators; all elders and small group leaders; the missionary couples; and the Hispanic brotherhood for their high level of commitment to accomplishing God’s mission.”

BY JORGE RICHARSON AND NILTON GARCIA

GULF STATES, SOUTH CENTRAL CHURCHES

Distribute Literature at Ball Game

Church members were motivated to share the Good News with the tens of thousands of fans ready to converge in Starkville, Miss., Sabbath, October 24, 2015, for the Mississippi Bulldogs game. The 17 volunteers, with their books in hand, fanned out throughout the Mississippi State University Campus. The people were very gracious and gladly

received the books. Many stopped to tell the volunteers how much they appreciated the work that they were doing. In about two hours, all 4,000 *Let’s Win* books were distributed!

The members were motivated after hearing stirring messages preached by William Smith, Southern Union publishing director, at the Columbus, Miss.,

Church; and Java Mattison, South Central Conference publishing director, at the Lee Memorial Church in West Point, Miss. Among the participants were David Sigamani, Gulf States publishing director, and Java Mattison from South Central. 📖

BY DAVID SIGAMANI

Education Fair Gives Students Opportunity to Display Their Knowledge, Talents, Skills

The annual Gulf States Conference Education Fair was held January 24-25, 2016, on the campus of Bass Memorial Academy. One hundred eighteen students in grades 5-8 participated in choir and gymnastics activities. They also competed for ribbons in art, social studies, poetry, spelling, math, drama, and speech.

The speech competition known as Bible Quest was one of the main events. This year student speeches were first-person monologues featuring a specific Bible character. A four-judge panel of teachers and pastors judged the Bible Quest participants. The top 10 students blessed guests and other students who were attending the Fair by giving their speeches as part of the evening worship on January 24, and morning worship on January 25.

The Education Fair gives students from around the Conference the opportunity to



Ryllie DoNascimento (left) won the spelling bee for grades 5-8, and James Trawick won Math Masters for grades 7-8. Both are students at Bass Christian Elementary.

display what they have learned and created, using the talents God has given them,



Fair participants enjoyed doing gymnastics with the Bass team.

and the knowledge and skills they have acquired during their education. In addition, students have opportunities for recreation and making new friends from other schools. Students, parents, and other guests also learn more about the education opportunities at Bass Memorial Academy. 📍

BY STAN HOBBS

Hip Pain Leads to Baptism

The pain in her hip was not getting any better, so Mary Clyde Worley decided to try a different approach for relief. She had heard that a massage can sometimes ease the pain, so she decided to try it. She chose Silverstone Salon and Spa for the treatment.

It was there she met Maureen Smith. The friendship developed, and Worley shared her love of Jesus and the many things He had done for her with Smith. It was what Smith needed to hear. She wanted to learn about a love like that. Worley and Smith began Bible studies together. Smith discovered what she had been searching for.



Pictured are Jay Rosario, pastor of Decatur, Ala., Church; Maureen Smith and her daughter, Tara; and Mary Clyde Worley.

She accepted Jesus and surrendered her life to Him. She was baptized at the Deca-

tur, Ala., Church on December 5, 2015, by Jay Rosario, pastor. He welcomed her into the church family.

Smith was blessed to have her daughter, Tara, witness her baptism. She describes her experience this way: "I feel like I have landed on a feather-filled pillow, and all the Decatur Church is that pillow." The members are thankful that the Holy Spirit led Worley to Smith. They are blessed to have her join their family. 📍

BY PEGGY SMITH

Highland Student Finds Fellowship, Ministry in Gymnastics

Jessica Mattox participated in public school athletics for most of her life, but it wasn't until she got the opportunity to attend Highland Academy that she learned the life-changing benefits of being on a team with Christ as its focus. The deep friendships she made, and the nurturing leadership of the adults around her, quickly made Highland and the Gymnix Gymnastics Team her second family.

While at Highland, Mattox continued to develop socially and spiritually, becoming deeply involved in school government and working as a colporteur in 2013 and 2014. Her future was wide open, and Adventist education continued to play a role in her growth. The Southern Adventist University Gym-Masters frequently visited Highland, performing and giving workshops. Their encouraging, friendly interactions were one of many factors that led Mattox to enroll there in 2014.

She was nervous and shy initially, but Gym-Masters teammates at Southern lifted her up — both literally and spiritually. Their pre-practice worship and culture of kindness helped her

stay focused on what was really important. One highlight of her freshman year of college was going back to Highland with the Gym-Masters to mentor the younger students.

Mattox is now a sophomore psychology major, dreaming of a day not too far away when she will have the education and opportunity to become a dean at Highland or a similar school.

“My time at Highland was transformational because of the faculty’s prayerful guidance,” she remembers. “I hope one day to bless others in the same way.”

BY ANGELA BAERG



Conference Partners with New “Table Top Inventing” Program

The Kentucky-Tennessee Conference is partnering with a unique science and engineering program called Table Top Inventing. During the summers, Steve Kurti and his family travel to various cities across North America to hold week-long Table Top Inventing boot camps. With their array of

3D printers and Arduino circuit parts, they teach middle and high school children the essence of what it means to be creative and inventive. Each boot camp offers a unique problem for the students to solve, using skills they already know to understand computer programming, engineering, CAD, 3D printing, math, and science.


Kurti explains, “Table Top Inventing’s purpose is to inspire a generation of kids to be tinkerers, explorers, innovators, and deep thinkers by helping them develop the knowledge, skills, and mindsets they need to become world changers!” “These endeavors are the fields and industries of the future!”

says Stephen Bralley, education superintendent for the Conference. “Adventist Education started out revolutionary in its thoughts about education. The principles that are our bedrock match perfectly with these types of programs, matching practical skills with academic learning. It’s time we reclaim our spot at the cutting edge of educational practice. We offer not only top-notch

education, but purpose for this world and Heaven.”

The Conference is interested in this program for their students, but is also interested in another benefit of the program. “At the same time that students are participating in the workshop, teachers are trained. Teachers take part as coaches during the boot camp, but before and after each daily workshop,

teachers are briefed and debriefed about the pedagogies used each day,” says Deborah Kurti, who trains the teachers.

If you would like to learn more about Table Top Inventing or about the Maker Movement, visit www.ttinvent.com. 

BY STEPHEN BRALLEY

Tom Bentley Named Taylor Mill Church’s New Pastor

Recently, Tom Bentley assumed the duties as pastor of the Taylor Mill, Ky., Church. He and his wife, Julie, and their 14-year-old son, Eli, originally from Ohio, are excited to be in the midwest/southern region of the country.

Julie Bentley is a fourth generation Adventist; however, Tom Bentley, who was a research engineer for the Air Force, did not join the Church until after they were married. He received extensive Bible studies from the then pastor of the Beavercreek, Ohio, Church, accepted Christ as his personal Savior, and was baptized in 1997.

Shortly after his baptism, the Bentleys decided to leave their careers and serve as missionaries. They served at a Navajo mission south of Phoenix, Ariz., for a year and a half. But, in 2001, the Bentleys decided God was calling them to the seminary at Andrews University.


After seminary, Tom Bentley served in the Minnesota Conference and then the Oregon Conference. Bentley believes that the Lord has shown him that, “we are living in a time appointed for Him to return for His Church. We are living in the last days, and I pray that as we labor for Him, that our goal will be to prepare people to meet Jesus.” 



PHOTO BY: CHERI PHIPPS

BY RANDY PHIPPS

A prayer of dedication for the Bentleys on their first Sabbath at Taylor Mill

Taylor Mill Adventurer Club Helps Troubled Youth

The Taylor Mill Sparks Adventurer Club sponsored a Christmas gift bag event to benefit troubled youth at the Brighton Center in Covington, Ky. The Sparks prepared 20 Christmas gift bags that were distributed at the shelter. A few Pathfinders helped make and distribute the bags. This was a youth-helping-youth event that blessed everyone involved. 📍

BY RANDY PHIPPS



PHOTO BY: RANDY PHIPPS

Monthly Dinner Lectures at Memphis-Raleigh Church a Success

In an effort to build friendships in the Memphis, Tenn., area, the Memphis-Raleigh Church decided to make health

ministries a regular part of their church calendar. The first couple of months had poor attendance, and the team began to wonder if

decided to give it another month, and attendance was up 600 percent! The next session maintained the enthusiastic crowd.

this was something that was a felt need. It was mentioned to the few attendees that perhaps the program should be canceled. The next day, one of the participants emailed a team member with a request that they not cancel: She would do some recruiting! They

A solid team works together to advertise, compile recipes, provide cooking demonstrations, connect with attendees, and set up and clean up. Meshach Samuel, M.D., presents practical health information with a touch of humor, and also includes a spiritual element. He makes himself available to visit with participants before and after the sessions.

Immediately after the cooking demonstrations, a buffet-style dinner is served. Participants enjoy a full dinner while they listen to Samuel's presentation. There is no rush to leave the classroom after the session. Healthy friendships are in the making! 📍

BY LESLIE CAZA



Fifty Registered for “Healthy Choices 2016”

Individuals of Columbus County, N.C., came out to register for Healthy Choices 2016 despite chilling temperatures on January 23, 2016. Praise Tabernacle Church held the kick-off rally in honor of the late Charlotte Verrett, M.D., an Adventist physician dedicated to the health of people in rural North Carolina. The event marked the one-year anniversary of her death. Healthy Choices is a six-month program aimed at helping Columbus County establish simple habits for better health. According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Rankings, the county ranks least healthy out of 100 counties.

It was a full day of events ranging from



Leon S. Verrett (left), host of Morning Praise at WENC 1220AM, and husband of the late Charlotte Verrett, M.D.; Stephen A. Mills, M.D., Healthy Choices 2016 presenter; Richard Berry, M.D., Healthy Choices 2016 presenter; David Moore, M.D., keynote speaker; Darren Currie, Whiteville city manager; and Darryl Howard, pastor of Praise Tabernacle Church in Whiteville, N.C., and Philadelphia Church in Council, N.C.

games to presentations by Carolina Adventist Academy students. Guests included Darren Currie, Whiteville City manager, and David Moore, M.D., medical director of the Coffee Correctional Facility in Nicholls, Ga., and health ministries director of the South Atlantic Conference.

Moore addressed the group of 50 in a keynote message establishing the link between faith and good health. He thinks Adventists are especially suited to tackle the county’s health concerns. “We have been given a message through inspiration that the world is dying for. Science is just beginning to catch up with what we’ve known for over 100 years.” Currie, representing the mayor’s office, praised Praise Tabernacle’s lifestyle program. Currie stressed the importance of activity. “It’s unbelievable the way exercise helps.” Currie also alluded to the county’s title



Richard Berry, M.D., teaches Carolina Adventist Academy students Andrew McLeary (left), Josef Taylor, Alexis McLeary, and Tanya Freeman how to understand food labels.

of unhealthiest county in North Carolina. “Columbus County has a problem, and that is health and eating. We have some dubious honors, and unfortunately that is one of them.” It was a fact confirmed at the group weigh-in later that day. Clocking in at almost two tons, the group’s goal is to lose at least 450 pounds by June.

The program will offer free education, exercise, and cooking classes conducted by a team of health professionals. “We have two physicians, two physical therapists, two occupational therapists, and a radio personality,” said Richard Berry, M.D., president of Signet Healthcare in Whiteville, N.C., and one of the team’s education presenters.

Classes are held Sunday through Thursday at 7 p.m. Incentives, including a \$250 prize for the most weight lost, providing motivation for participants to make lasting changes. The Praise Tabernacle Church has also signed up with “Fit and Faith,” sponsored by the Columbus County Health Department. It is one of nine area churches participating in that initiative.

The day concluded with a hearty plant-based lunch, and a sneak peek of what participants could expect at the cooking classes, the first of which was held January 31.

For a complete list of Healthy Choices 2016 activities, call 910-640-0855. 📞

BY SYRITA MILLS



David Moore, M.D., looks on as program participants place food items in order of sugar content.



CAA student Jessica Davidson holds up a list of carcinogens found in cigarettes, while presentation partner Tristan St. Juste holds props.



CAA students Josef Taylor, Diyana Mills, and Sheria Graham are pictured at their booth presenting heart disease information.

South Central, Gulf States Conferences Present “Extravagant Generosity”

The Jackson, Mississippi, churches — Berean, James Owens, pastor; New Heights, John Parker, pastor; South Jackson, Philip Johny, pastor; and College Drive, Richie Halverson, pastor — were recently favored to participate and host the “Generosity Symposium 2015,” which included an ASI (Adventist-laymen’s Services & Industries) recruiting luncheon, during which several attendees applied for membership.

Representatives of South Central, Gulf States, South Atlantic, Southern Union, and the North American Division shared their God-given gifts and talents throughout the ministry event. Rather than the focus being on exacting funds from members, presenters bestowed rich gifts on attendees, demonstrating the spirit of generosity. Among the gifts awarded were three \$500 educational scholarships, two Galaxy Tabs, and numerous other spiritual books and materials.

Most attendees of this five-day symposium, themed “Extravagant Generosity,” October 17-21, 2015, left with a tangible gift. One recipient of the educational

scholarship wept as she shared how God answered her prayer through this award. Presentation styles ranged from sermons, panel discussions, Q&A, one-on-one counseling, and will preparations.

Unlike the traditional stewardship focus, presenters addressed pertinent topics, including investments, preparing for retirement strategies, money allocation to adult children, getting out of debt, and the principles of equal sacrifice versus equal giving. A special activity for the youth was planned, “Access 2 Success.” In essence, they learned that God delights to do exceedingly, abundantly above what all can ever ask or think if they are faithful stewards.

The attendees were reminded that stewardship encompasses time, temple, talents, and treasure. James Lewis, South Central associate stewardship director, shared that the basis of stewardship has to be undergirded by trust in God. What came through loud and clear in the meeting was the strong conviction of the presenters for the principles of stewardship. They freely shared personal testimonies of how God gave them

new tires, secured homes at remarkable prices, and blessed their health and personal finances, as well as sharing numerous other miracles of God’s reward for faithful stewards. A couple who attended the seminars testified how God resolved their conflict over tithing on the gross versus the net. As soon as they were determined to make the transition, the Lord revealed to them how to receive substantially more.

Finally, the South Jackson Church members (one of the host churches) had attempted to purchase a van for several years. One week after the seminar, the van fund increased substantially, and they were led to purchase a 12-passenger, handicap-accessible, shuttle bus which they paid for with cash. Words are inadequate to express gratitude to Michael Harpe, South Central stewardship ministries director, and the team of presenters, who were led by God to bless the attendees with the Extravagant Generosity Symposium. All received much more than they gave. 🙏

BY SHEILA P. DAVIS, PH.D.



The van blessing

The Power of 1,000 Praying Women Conference Held



PHOTO BY: CEDRIC THOMISON

The power of the Holy Spirit was evident in this place.

They came on buses, vans, and cars, determined to be part of the one-day prayer conference sponsored by the South Central Conference Women's Ministries Department.

God did an amazing, new thing for approximately 1,000 praying women who united in prayer, praise, and worship in one place. It was a culturally-diverse group of women that included all ages and denominations. Women came from as far away as Redlands, Calif., and Dallas, Tex.

Shirley Scott, Conference women's ministries director, caught the vision of women's hands raised in praise to God — the same vision, many years ago, when Benjamin Browne, former South Central president, expressed the desire to see 1,000 praying men — a vision she held until its appointed time on Sabbath, January 9, 2016, at the World Baptist Center headquarters in Nashville, Tenn.

The speaker was Stormie Omartian, best selling author of the *Power of Praying* series, which has sold more than 28 million copies. It took three emails, months of waiting, fasting, and praying. Finally,

an affirmative response came from an author who never accepts engagements in January and February due to publishing deadlines. Never!

Gale Jones Murphy and the praise team launched the one-day conference with praise. The special featured movie, "War Room," was shown on the life-sized monitors. The theme of war room prayer strategy set an excellent tone for waging spiritual warfare in the last days. Recording artists Lola Moore and Shellie "Tiki" Harris reminded all that the battle is not theirs but the Lord's.

Alicia Jones, assistant pastor at Riverside Chapel, Nashville, ministered with the Word of God on the subject of fear for divine worship. Using the story of Gideon, she charged women to break this spirit of fear by changing their "boast." When you boast in the Lord rather than your problem, it transforms all into fearless, mighty warriors. A solemn altar call was made to those who wanted God to awaken the warrior within them by releasing and breaking chains.

After much prayer, the women were

more than eager to hear guest speaker Stormie Omartian. They were captivated as she spoke of personal experiences that God used to call her to prayer, which transformed her life. Omartian told how she had found the secret to living a transformed life. She declared with certainty that the prayer that changes everything is PRAISE. She encouraged women to have an intimate relationship with God, and to praise and trust Him no matter the circumstances.

Circumstances of life, from of all dimensions, brought women together. And, they left knowing how to do battle and rise above their challenges. They left renewed and determined to succeed in life's combat by utilizing the ageless war strategy — PRAYER!

What a glorious day it was for all, a day that had been bathed in prayer and fasting, a day that the vision God planted in the heart of His women servants became a reality. ●

BY SHIRLEY SCOTT

ADU, Pearson Renew Online Education Partnership



ADU ONLINE and Pearson Online Learning Services will work together to give students the best online education and experience available.

Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) recently announced a renewal of its online education partnership with Pearson, the world’s leading learning company, to bring students quality and convenient learning options. Pearson is the exclusive partner for ADU ONLINE, providing student support, retention, and recruitment.

“We are pleased to collaborate with Pearson to offer competitive online degree programs to those interested in pursuing a career in healthcare,” said David Greenlaw, D.Min., president of ADU. “It is our goal to give our students the very best, and, with this continued partnership, we strive to produce healthcare professionals that will provide exceptional care.”

ADU ONLINE currently offers four degree programs: bachelor of science in nursing, bachelor of science in diagnostic medical sonography, bachelor of

science in radiologic sciences, and an executive master of healthcare administration. ADU plans on developing additional online programs in the near future to meet the needs of the ever-evolving healthcare industry.

“Through a rich, established partnership, both entities focus on what they do best. ADU exists to educate and deliver high quality, mission-aligned healthcare education, and Pearson provides the student support needed to retain and recruit individuals from across the nation,” explained Deena Slockett, M.B.A., Ed.D., chief operations officer for ADU ONLINE.

With this continued partnership, ADU ONLINE and Pearson will customize a learning experience that enables healthcare students to not only succeed, but also mirror the caring aspects of their work that will sustain them throughout their careers.

“We are honored to have gained a re-



David Greenlaw (left), D.Min., president of ADU, and Todd Hitchcock, C.O.O. of Pearson Online Learning Services, shake hands as they renew their partnership.

newed trust with ADU, and to have the ability to serve them and their students,” stated Todd Hitchcock, chief operating officer at Pearson Online Learning Services. “Our team will help guide, mentor, and retain students as they work toward earning their degree.”

BY MEGHAN BRESCHER

Oakwood University Hosts, Wins Honda Qualifying Tournament

Oakwood University was one of seven campuses to host teams from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) competing in the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC) national qualifying tournament on February 5, 2016.

Competing in the 27th season of HCASC, Oakwood's All-Star team rose to the challenge, beating Alabama A&M University, Concordia College, Harris Stowe State University, Miles College, Morehouse College, Philander Smith College, Stillman College, Talladega College, and Tougaloo College to win first place in the qualifying tournament.

During the non-stop day of competition at the McKee Business and Technology Complex, Kenesha Bennett shared that she was "excited to be part of the tournament again. We're ready to play and have fun and represent Christ."

Each team put their best foot forward and was happy to participate in the national qualifying tournament. Khalil Wadell, a Morehouse All-Star team member explained, "It's been exciting! This is the second year I've done it, and so I'm looking forward to hopefully qualify for



PHOTO BY: GEORGE JOHNSON JR.

The victorious Honda Campus All-Star Challenge team representing Oakwood University includes Olivia Campbell (left), Greg Edouard, Kenesha Bennett, captain, Sesly Huerfano, and Rennae Elliott, Ph.D., coach. The team alternates (not pictured) were Caleb Briggs, Joshua Nwaoka, and Jevéz Robinson.

the national tournament."

As a result of the exciting win, Oakwood's All-Star team will be one of the 48 competing HBUCs in the National Championship scheduled for April 2-6, 2016, in Torrance, Calif. The National Championship Team will win a \$50,000 grant for the school

represented.

For more information about the Honda Campus All Star Challenge, visit www.hcasc.com. 📍

BY NAOMI COGGS, STUDENT WRITER

UNCF 38th Annual Gala Scheduled

The 38th Annual UNCF (United Negro College Fund) Gala will be held on Thursday, March 24, at 6:30 p.m., at the North Hall of the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Ala. This elegant occasion is an annual event that hundreds of Oakwood University alumni look forward to each year.

Proceeds from the Gala support the five UNCF member institutions in Alabama — Miles College, Oakwood University, Stillman College, Talladega College, and Tuskegee University — and the thousands of

students they serve. The outcome of the corporate, academic, and community partnerships enhances resources to prepare young people with the education and professional skills required to compete in today's global marketplace. This is especially critical as Huntsville continues to grow and prosper.

The UNCF is the nation's largest and most effective minority education organization. The 37-member organization provides operating funds for historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), scholarships and internships for students at

approximately 900 institutions, and faculty and administrative professional training. For more than 70 years, UNCF has raised more than \$3.6 billion to help more than 400,000 students attend and graduate from college.

For more information about the Gala, sponsorship, or to purchase tickets, visit www.ougiving.com, call 256-726-7201, or email unconf@oakwood.edu. 📍

STAFF REPORT

Students Partner with Chattanooga Police as Chaplain Interns



Southern students prepare to enter orientation with Tuwan Ussery (fourth from right), lead chaplain for the Chattanooga Police Department, and Greg King, dean for the School of Religion (fifth from right).

Southern is honored to be the first school participating in a new internship program with the Chattanooga Police Department. Selected religion students will receive training for specific, tense situations, and also real time advice regarding social nuances involved in the more subtle human interactions essential to effective chaplaincy.

Interns will perform a variety of duties, including reaching out to victims of domestic violence at Chattanooga’s Family Justice Center, a newly-established organization which recently reached out to Southern, and began a similar partnership involving School of Social Work graduate students. Interns will also conduct chapel services at the police department and participate in a ride-a-long program as officers respond to a call, an opportunity which gives them a chance to minister both to officers and to victims of crime.

“At first it surprised me is that one of our primary tasks would be ministering

to police officers, but it makes sense,” said John Felts, junior theology major. “They see a lot of darkness out there in order to keep us safe, and consequently they carry a heavy burden.”

As Greg King, dean for Southern’s School of Religion, spread the word about this new opportunity among religion students, 11 excitedly signed up to be part of this inaugural group. They have the option of pursuing it as a practicum to get academic credit, or volunteering as part of a service-learning activity, something required of all students before graduation.

During February’s intern orientation, King and the students met volunteer police chaplains and took a short tour of the facility from which they would be headquartered. The police chief underscored the importance of having officers on his team who are emotionally, spiritually, and physically healthy. In an intense career where it is easy to become cynical

and emotionally depleted, the uplifting presence of chaplains is critical.

While many of the potential responsibilities may appear daunting for students, their primary task is simple: friendship evangelism. This “ministry of presence” allows them to get to know the policemen, gain an understanding of their responsibilities and challenges, and provide encouragement. If the officer is open to talking about spiritual needs, it could lead to a conversation about Jesus.

“We’re excited about this opportunity not only for our students to receive training, but also for our campus to have a chance to minister to the surrounding area,” King said. “We want to be a point of light going beyond Collegedale, finding meaningful ways to engage with the broader Chattanooga community, and communicate the presence of Christ!”

BY ANGELA BAERG

Four-Year Scholarships

Freshman Academic Scholarship
\$8,000 to full tuition
awarded over four years based on GPA and ACT score

Freshman Leadership Scholarship
\$10,000
awarded over four years for students who held a leadership role during their senior year of high school

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\$12,000
awarded over four years for students from most Southern Union states

Freshman Lightbearer Scholarship
\$8,000
awarded over four years for students who graduated from a non-Adventist high school or homeschool after attending for at least two years



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For complete details about Southern's scholarships and other financial aid, call 1.800.SOUTHERN or visit **southern.edu/scholarships**.



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ALLISON, ROSALIE A., 77, born Oct. 14, 1938 in Lancaster, OH, died Dec. 28, 2015 in Charleston, SC. She was a graduate of Mount Vernon Academy in Mount Vernon, OH, where she played saxophone in the band, and was known for her beautiful long red hair. She received a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in education from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI.

Her 29 years of denominational employment began with teaching in Wisconsin; Glendale, CA; and J. N. Andrews Elementary School in Takoma Park, MD. She then married Harvey Allison and moved to Mount Vernon, OH, where she taught at the church school in Mount Vernon, OH, until she retired. After retirement, she and Harvey moved to Orange Tree Village in Orange City, FL. She joyfully took several trips to Alaska and Europe and especially loved traveling to her beloved Gatlinburg, TN.

She was a member of the Debary-Orange City Church in Orange City, FL, where she was a faithful supporter, and participated in all church events from evangelistic programs and women's ministries efforts to children's programming and church socials. She served as a deaconess and prayer team

coordinator for many years. "Rosalie had a beautiful sense of humor and a willing heart to help wherever needed," says one of the members. She had no natural children but found joy in her two step-daughters: Sandra Montieth (deceased), and Marlene Higgs of Chattanooga, TN. In addition, she is survived by one brother, Charles Bensonhaver of Seabrook Island, SC; one sister, Carol Upton of Lexington, SC; three step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren. Harvey Allison, her husband of 32 years, predeceased her.

The graveside service was conducted by Pastor Fred Shoemaker at Mount Vernon Memorial Gardens in Mount Vernon, OH.

JANZEN, WAYNE, 74, born in Miami, Manitoba, to Agatha and John Janzen on April 26, 1941 (the middle child of three boys), died Dec. 24, 2015.

In order to give their children an Adventist education, Janzen's family moved to Lacombe, Alberta, Canada. After high school, he took an industrial education major at Canadian Union College (CUC) in Alberta. In 1963, he finished his undergraduate at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI.

He then went back to CUC to teach machine shop, architectural drawing, welding, auto mechanics, and foundry fabrication. In 1967, he graduated from Western Michigan University with his master's degree, and moved to Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN, where he taught industrial arts for nearly 20 years.

In 1969, he completed his doctorate of education from Texas A&M. After five years at Collegedale Case-work, he returned to Southern. From 1992 to 2004, he designed, built, and managed Southern Carton Industry (box factory) along with other projects.

He enjoyed construction and went on numerous Maranatha projects. He had a deep faith in God and prayed fervently for family and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Elaine Moore Janzen; three children: Barry (Cheryl) Janzen, Warren (Dawn) Janzen, and Charlene Janzen (Kevin) Rodman; and six grandchildren.



JOHNSON, DONALD D., 72, born Feb. 22, 1943 in Paynesville, MN, died Dec. 21, 2015 in Cleveland, TN, he was the only son of the late Lee A. and Lillian M. Johnson.

The family moved to southern California where he met his wife while attending San Diego Academy. During his high school years, he worked as a messenger service for Paradise Valley Hospital (PVH). After graduating in 1965 with a B.A. in business from Pacific Union College, he returned to PVH to work as a patient's business manager.

He moved his family to Arizona where he was an accountant, and then CFO for Tempe Adventist Hospital. From there they moved to Killeen, TX, where he worked as CFO for Metroplex Hospital. For 22 years he served the Adventist Health System. Later, they moved to Virginia and then Tennessee for more hospital and doctors' office service. At the many churches he attended, he often gave sermons when needed. He spoke on subjects not often heard, but thought provoking. He was committed to doing a good job and people responded well. He also served as treasurer for many of the churches and church schools wherever he was living.

He loved to laugh and had a wonderful sense of humor. Fond memories for his children and later grandchildren, are of him singing silly songs or telling funny stories about his childhood on the farm in Minnesota.

His family looks forward to the day when Jesus returns to be reunited with him, and other loved ones who have gone on before. He is survived by his wife, Carol; three children: Maelyn (Matt) McMillan of Knoxville, TN, Shari Bromell of Roswell, GA, and Scott (Traci) Johnson of Ringgold, GA; eight grandchildren; and two sisters: Marilee Simmons of Eugene, OR, and Marvella Johnson of San Diego, CA.

A memorial service was held at Ladd Springs Church in Cleveland, TN, on Feb. 21, 2016.



MCGLAWN, VAN S., 91, born Feb. 13, 1924 in Hanceville, AL, died June 9, 2015 in Zephyrhills, FL. He was a member of the East Pasco Church in Zephyrhills.

He was a graduate of Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University), Collegedale, TN, with a bachelor of science degree in healthcare administration. In 1950, he married June Loach, the love of his life.

He dedicated himself to promoting the delivery of quality health and wellness services while working as a Health Care Administrator of several facilities including: Fletcher Sanitarium and Hospital in North Carolina, Ellijay Walker Memorial in Georgia, Valdosta Regional in Georgia, and building the Florida Living Nursing Center in Florida.

He served as a member of the United States Navy during World War II as a communications specialist, and was honorably discharged from service in 1946.

He was a passionate mentor to many and enjoyed sharing the love of Jesus Christ at every opportunity.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, June; two daughters: Lynda Vanette (Daniel) McGrane, and April Marie Doherty; one brother, Jack; one sister, Elinor; and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, Alan, and son-in-law, George Doherty.

The service was conducted by his nephew, Donald Watson, at the East Pasco church in Zephyrhills. Interment was at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL, with a full military honor burial service.

PHILLIPS, HAROLD R., 86, born Nov. 6, 1928 in Savannah, GA, died July 9, 2015 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of the North Lake Church.

His denominational employment included professor and then dean at retirement of the School of Business at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI, from 1965 to 1977 and from 1990 to 1995. He was a professor for the School of Public Health at Loma Linda in Loma Linda, CA from 1977 to 1990.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Betty; one son, Dennis of Port Charlotte, FL; one daughter, Karen Elis of Groveland, FL; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor B. Galambos at North Lake Church.



TRAVIS, PASTOR GORDON S., 89, born Sept. 2, 1926 in Boise, ID, died Nov. 23, 2015 in Orlando, FL. Two days before his death, he was in his Sabbath School class at Kress Memorial Church in Winter Park, FL. Sabbath School attendance was very important to him. During World War II, he attended church as a medic stationed in Nanking, China. He sang the hymns in English while the congregation sang in Chinese. While in the Army, he received a World War II Victory Medal.

He graduated from Laurelwood Academy, Gaston, OR, and Walla Walla College, College Place WA, with a bachelor of theology degree. He later graduated from the Seminary with a master's degree in Bible and systematic theology.

He married Verna Sackett on June 18, 1950. For 65 years they celebrated their wedding day on the 18th of each month with a dish of ice cream. Since he said he would never remember anything once a year, they have celebrated 785 anniversaries.

His denominational work included assistant pastor, and pastor evangelist for the Northern California Conference; special pastoral assistant and minister of visitation at the Texas Conference; and 17 years at St. Helena Hospital and Health Center, Deer Park, CA.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Verna; one son, Jonathan (Patricia) of Fargo, ND; one daughter, Ruth (Daniel) Hanson; three step-sisters: Esther Dunton of Grants Pass, OR, Helen Kissee of Rogue River, OR, and Aletha Hudleston of Veneta, OR; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his oldest son, David LeRoy Travis and his step-brother, Lowell Bender.

The memorial service was conducted by his seminary classmate, Pastor Leo Ranzolin at Kress Memorial Church. Interment is at the Florida National Cemetery in Busnell, FL.



YAKUSH, ELAINE J., 77, born Oct. 22, 1938 in Bridgeport, CT, died Dec. 5, 2015 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for 45 years. She began her denominational work at Washington Sanitarium and Hospital in Takoma Park, MD, as a nurse, 1959 and 1960. She then worked from 1969 to 2002 as a nurse at Florida Hospital in Apopka, Orlando, and Altamonte. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Donald; three daughters: Jan Yakush of Hagerstown, MD, Carolyn Yakush of Kennesaw, GA; and Cheryl (Gerald) Escobar of Richmond, VA; two brothers: Dwight (Bernice) Sommers of Bowdoin, ME, and Bruce Sommers of Bridgeport, CT; and two grandchildren. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Barbara McCoy at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka.

BIRD, RODGER N., 86, born April 14, 1929 in Sufferin, NY, died Oct. 29, 2015 in St. Augustine, FL. He was a member of the St. Augustine Church for seven years. He is survived by his wife, Eva; two sons: Rodger Bird II of Canton, MI, and Charles Bird of Pope Valley, CA; one daughter, Karen Hill of Cocoa, FL; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

BRYANT, LANE JULIAN, 82, born Feb. 8, 1933 in Montgomery, AL, died Dec. 13, 2015 in Landis, NC. He was a member of the Salisbury Church, a mechanical engineer, and was instrumental in the building of the Sharon Church and School. He is survived by his wife, Daisy Gullett Bryant; one son, Steve Bryant (Dawn) of Davison, NC; one brother, James (Peggy) Bryant of Hobbs, NM; two grandchildren: Sherry Klaver and Chris Bryant; and many great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by L.J. Bryant Sr. and Margaret Culver and his son, James Michael Bryant.

CANTARUTTI, MARY JO CARNEY, 81, born June 22, 1934 in Whites Creek, TN, died Nov. 10, 2015 in Springfield, TN. She attended Madison College where she took the LPN course. She married Warren Cantarutti in 1956, and moved to Ridgetop, TN. During her nursing career she worked for many years in Dr. Elmer Bottsford's clinic in Ridgetop, and then at Nashville Bridge Co. as an industrial nurse. She returned to nursing following a short retirement and worked at Maybelle Carter Retirement Center. She was a long-time faithful member of the Ridgetop Church, and served in many capacities through the years. Her flower arranging skills were admired at her church and many events. She is survived by two sons, Alton (Ann) Cantarut-ti and Ralph (Sheila) Cantarutti; one daughter, Monecca Cantarutti; three grandchildren: Keith Cantarutti, Emily (Mitchell) Bowers,

and Brandy Cantarut-ti; one brother, James Carney Sr.; and one sister, Nancy (Ted) Estey. She was preceded in death by her husband, Warren; two sisters: Imogene Carney Smith and Sue Carney Perry; four brothers: Fred Carney, Teno Carney, Gene Carney, and Phillip Carney.

KELLY, LARRY F., 85, born Nov. 6, 1930 in Cedar Grove, TN, died Dec. 15, 2015 in Madison, TN. He attended Madison College in the early 1950s, then Howard College (now Stamford University) in Birmingham, AL, graduating with a bachelor's degree in pharmacy. He served as a medic in the U.S. Army from 1956 to 1958. Most of his career was spent in retail pharmacy. He enjoyed gardening and had many hobbies that he pursued after retiring. He was a faithful member of the Ridgetop, TN, Church for 48 years, and served as deacon for many of those years. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Helen Kelly; two daughters: Donna Kelly and Beverly Kelly; one son, Benjamin (Amanda) Kelly; one brother, Martin Ray; and one sister-in-law, Johnnie Kelly. He was preceded in death by his parents: James and Mae Kelly; one brother, James Raymond; and one sister-in-law, Claudine Kelly.

MCCLANAHAN, LORRAINE GAL-LANT, 95, died Oct. 13, 2015. She worked for many years as a literature evangelist, and then a Bible instructor for the Michigan Conference. She is survived by two daughters: Ardythe Gallant and Gail Bremner.

PILLSBURY, WILMA L., 86, born April 2, 1929 in Pottsville, PA, died Aug. 16, 2015 in Bradenton, FL. She was a member of the Palmetto Church for 20 years. She served as treasurer of the Bradenton Church for seven years. She enjoyed helping others and volunteered wherever needed throughout her life. She is survived by her husband of 20 years,

Albert; one son, Charles Yetter of Molino, FL; one daughter, Rosemary Severino of Otter Creek, FL; five step-sons: Jim Lee, Joe Lee, Johnny Lee, Ray Lee, and Joe Pillsbury; three step-daughters: Sandy Mullen, Barbara Lee, and Nancy Spaleta; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

SMALL, HARRIET L., 92, born Nov. 2, 1923 in Hide Park, MA, died Dec. 6, 2015 in Apopka, FL. She was member of the Florida Living Church. She was employed by the Florida Conference from 1980 to 1985 as an administrative assistant for trust services, stewardship, and family life. She is survived by two sons: C. William Pettengill III of New Sharon, ME, and Peter Pettengill of Moreno Valley, CA; two daughters: Carolyn Jenson of Strong, ME, and Pamela Brassard of Brunswick, ME; one step-son; four step-daughters; five grandchildren; several step-grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. A graveside service will be held at the Morningside Cemetery in Phippsburg, ME, this summer.

WILSON, DONNA M., 87, died Nov. 2, 2015 in Battle Creek, MI. The daughter of the late Mortimer J. and Ernestine S. Sloan, born in Shaftsbury, MI. She was a faithful wife, loving mother, and an active member of the Wimbish Road Church in Macon, GA, since 1955. Having served as church treasurer, VBS leader, and faithful Ingathering solicitor, she also led in the sale of citrus fruit, significantly benefiting the Wimbish Road School. She is survived by her children: Donald Wilson, Linda Fogg, Jerry Wilson, and Marvin Wilson; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one brother, Gordon Sloan. The family held a private graveside service at Rose Hill Cemetery in Berrien Springs, MI, where she was buried along with the remains of her husband, Norman L. Wilson, who preceded her in death on Aug. 8, 2015. They had been married for nearly 67 years. ●

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FIRE



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MARCH 2016

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April 7-10, 2016 Cohutta Springs Conference Center

IN SEASON ^{AND} _{OUT} OF SEASON

2 Timothy 4:2



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Ty Gibson
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COTTAGE RENTAL INCOME PROPERTY - Beautiful 2200' elevation Smoky Mountain foothills near Hendersonville, NC. 15 cottages, 20 acres, 2 small lakes, 2400 sq. ft. residence. Turn key operation, open year round. www.lakemontcottages.com. For more information regarding income and selling price, please call 828-280-2088. [3-5]

BEAUTIFUL COLUMBUS, NORTH CAROLINA - Vintage duplex home with attached apartment, built in 2009. Brick and vinyl sided. 2720 sq. ft., 5 bed, 4 bath, 2 granite-top kitchens, new cabinets. Attached 2-car garage. Heat/cool, 2 heat pumps, well water. Lot approximately 1.5 acres with trees all around. 24 miles to Fletcher Academy and Park Ridge Adventist Hospital. Phone 828-894-0430. [3, 4]

SALE: Large 193-acre campus. Offices, classrooms, cafeteria, chapel, gym, boys' dorm, girls' dorm heated with free gas, 4-bay shop, some staff housing and garden grounds. Well-water system, sewage plant. Private, 20 acres flat land, surrounded by beautiful wooded hills. Nearby great shopping. \$650,000. 304-782-3628. Salem, WV. [3-5]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **professor in Counseling Education:** to teach graduate/undergraduate courses, provide advisement/clinical supervision. Requirements: doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision from a CACRE P accredited program or doctorate in clinical/counseling psychology from an APA-accredited program and have work as full-time faculty in a counselor education program for one year before July 1, 2013. Licensed/eligible for licensure in Tennessee and two years' practicing clinical mental health or PK-12 school counseling. Must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, the teachings and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and an SDA church member in regular standing. *Send cover letter and CV (include teaching philosophy, research interest, unofficial university transcripts, and three reference letters) to Dr. Ileana Freeman: ileanaf@southern.edu; 423-236-2960.* [3]

PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT PROGRAM: Southern Adventist University is starting a new program to educate aspiring Physical Therapy Assistants, with the first class to begin in August 2017. The initial task for the Program Director will be to set up a program and facilities in harmony with the standards set out by Commissions on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) and seeking accreditation from CAPTE. The Program Director will function both as a leader of the program and professor. Additional responsibilities include: develop curriculum framework and instructional materials, advising of students, evaluation of students and administration of selection process, and compile materials for CAPTE accreditation program. Qualifications: Graduate degree in physical therapy with current TN license or eligibility as a PT or PTA. Minimum 5 years of clinical and teaching experience in a CAPTE accredited program, with experience in administration in a variety of teaching areas (academic, clinical, in-service, continuing ed, community ed). Must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, the teachings and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and an SDA church member in regular standing. *Submit cover letter including statement of teaching philosophy and research interest, curriculum vita, and unofficial transcripts (showing the physical therapy education) to Dr. Volker Henning, Associate VP for Academic Administration. Southern Adventist*

University, PO Box 370 Collegedale, TN 37315, henning@southern.edu, 423-236-2912. [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Professor for the School of Social Work:** To teach undergraduate and graduate courses with a focus on generalist and social work practice. Will be expected to advise graduate and undergraduate students and participate in service to the university, community and the social work profession. Required qualifications: Classroom experience combined with earned doctorate degree in social work or related field, experience e-learning, and a commitment to the integration of faith and social work practice. Must have a strongly expressed commitment to Jesus Christ, the teachings and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and an SDA church member in regular standing. *Send cover letter, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to: Kristie Wilder, School of Social Work, Southern Adventist University PO BOX 370 Collegedale, TN 37315 or email: kwilder@southern.edu, 423-236-2206.* [3]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **vegetarian culinary arts professor** to teach vegetarian culinary arts classes, advise students and participate in service to the university/community. Master's degree in culinary arts/nutrition or related field required, experience in culinary arts (restaurant, education, culinary business owner), and chef training/certification(s) desired. *Send cover letter, curriculum vitae, and statement of teaching philosophy and three references to: Dr. Robert Bengel, Dean for School of Physical Education, Health and Wellness, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, rbengel@southern.edu, 423-236-2855.* [3]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Development Officer/Grant Writer.** Responsibilities include grant writing, donor relations, event coordination and data entry. Exceptional written and verbal communication skills are essential. Candidates must have a bachelor's degree with strong consideration given to those with experiences in grant writing and donor relations. *Submit cover letter and CV/resume to: sgrady@swau.edu* [3, 4]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks qualified and visionary professional to serve the **Department of Music as Director of Keyboard & Theory Studies.** Responsibilities include teaching keyboard, theory and church music classes. Ideal candidate will possess a doctoral degree, be an accomplished performer, and have professional experience as a church musician. *Send CV and cover letter to Mr. Jonathan Wall at jwall@swau.edu* [3, 4]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks a Seventh-day Adventist **Librarian** for a faculty position. The ideal candidate will have experience with college library/archives instruction and technology. ALA approved MLS or equivalent required, additional sub-

ject master's degree preferred. Position begins July 1, 2016. *Send CV and cover letter to thomsenc@swau.edu* [3]

VICE CHAIR OF ONLINE NURSING - Adventist University of Health Sciences seeks a Vice Chair for the Online Nursing Program, responsible for supervising clinical students in the clinical environment, managing the educational process, and driving the program's initiatives forward to achieve positive outcomes. The ideal candidate must have an active state nursing license, a doctorate degree and at least four years of effective college-level work in the area of academic or professional expertise. *Please send your resume to Fred.Stephens@adu.edu* [3]

DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT - Adventist University of Health Sciences seeks a Director of Enrollment, responsible for all undergraduate General Studies admission and will also oversee all recruiting and international student operations. Candidate must have experience in strategic planning. Qualified candidates are required to have a Bachelor's degree and a minimum of five years of proven higher education leadership concentrated in recruitment, admissions, or enrollment. *Please send your resume to Fred.Stephens@adu.edu* [3]

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN - Adventist University of Health Sciences seeks an Associate Chaplain, responsible for providing spiritual care to students, staff, and faculty. The ideal candidate will foster a sense of mission that will enhance our culture and lead students to build a deeper relationship with God. A Master of Divinity degree is preferred. *Please send your resume to Fred.Stephens@adu.edu* [3]

UNION COLLEGE seeks **Vice President for Student Services** beginning in July 2016. The VPSS leads out in the vision, strategy, and execution of the college's student services goals. Qualified SDA candidate will be student-centered and an experienced leader in higher education. *See <https://www.ucollege.edu/staff-openings>. Send resume to Dr. Vinita Sauder, visauder@ucollege.edu* [3]

OUCHITA HILLS COLLEGE is accepting applications for the following positions: **Construction Manager, Auto Mechanic, Food Service Assistant and College English Instructor.** Our website is www.ohc.org. *Contact Magda Rodriguez at info@ohc.org or call 870-342-6210 ext. 223 for more information.* [3]

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY seeks **Doctor of Nursing Practice Director.** This full-time faculty position will serve as Director of the DNP program. This individual will provide the administrative/management and direction for the DNP program with a focus in FNP and DNP preparation. In addition to administration/management oversight, would also teach in the DNP program and in the undergraduate program if needed. Qualifications include: DNP degree,

FNP certification and experience, formal academic teaching experience preferred, experience with accreditation a plus, evidence of scholarship, experience with online teaching a plus; and Seventh-day Adventist affiliation preferred. *For more information and to apply visit: <https://www.andrews.edu/admres/jobs/661>* [3]

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is seeking a **Controller in the Accounting Department** to begin immediately. Ideal candidate will possess a Bachelor's degree in Accounting and a Master's degree in Business Administration. CPA license preferred. Progressive management and supervisory responsibilities desired, as well as experience in managing financial operations for colleges/universities. *For more information or to apply, call 707-965-6231, or visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>* [3]

PACIFIC UNION COLLEGE is seeking two **Co-Generation Plant positions: Supervisor/Operator and Technician**, to begin immediately. Preference is for candidate with electrical/mechanical systems experience. Civil Engineering License or higher preferred. Supervisor will oversee the operation and maintenance of Co-Gen plant, boilers, and steam distribution. Technician will oversee and train student employees and contract workers. Both participate in campus utility master planning. *For more information or to apply, please call 707-965-6231 or visit <http://www.puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings>* [3]

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS Office Of General Counsel is seeking a law student for an 8-10 week **summer clerkship** in 2016. This position is not a full time hire track position and would best be suited for 1Ls. Ideal candidates would be in the top 25% of their class. Duties will include legal research and other projects with an emphasis on religious liberty and First Amendment work. It is the policy of the GC to hire only SDA church members. *Please send resume, writing sample and transcript to KarnikD@gc.adventist.org* [3]

PERSONAL HOME AID NEEDED for mentally challenged adult female. Couple preferred but will consider single female. Must live in rural area, no small children or large pets. Must have verifiable church affiliation. Possible live-in housing option, located near Uchee Pines Institute. *Call 334-855-0733 or 334-540-4074.* [3]

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY, located in the beautiful foothills of Tennessee, is in need of teachers for the coming year. Positions available are: history, science, chemistry, math, and IT person. *If you are able to fill any of these positions and have a heart for youth, please contact Rich Sutton: 423-664-5343 or 114 Campus Drive, Dayton, TN 37321 or president @laurelbrook.org* [3]

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

LOLO HARRIS Gospel music recording artist, "Sharing the Gospel through song." CD's and Contact Info: www.LoLoHarris.com or call 937-545-8227 or write PO Box 492124, Atlanta, GA 30349. LoLo is currently accepting ministry requests for concerts, evangelism, AYS, retreats, conventions, and more for 2016 and 2017. [3-6]

SCRIPTURALLY ACCURATE CALENDAR runs spring to spring. Years based on observation of Israel's barley crop. Months based on computed projection of first possible observation of Israel's crescent moon after conjunction. Invaluable tool for supporting 7th day Sabbath and other SDA truths: nullifies Sunday sacredness, proves 31AD Friday crucifixion is possible, resolves hypocrisy of a "sola scriptura" church using a calendar of Roman Catholic tradition, explains how our 1844 pioneers came up with the Day of Atonement date (Oct. 22) that was a whole month later than Jewish calendar date (Sept. 23), refutes lunar Sabbath position, helps stem ecumenical draw of Roman Catholic calendar, and more. *Call Scott: 404-509-8338, torahisgoodnews@gmail.com.* [3]

MISCELLANEOUS

RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! *Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at: www.apexmoving.com/adventist* [3-12]

OVERCOMING ADDICTIONS: BUTLER CREEK HEALTH CENTER - A live-in lifestyle change program for those seeking victory over addictions. Our 28-day program Includes hydrotherapy treatments, counseling, cooking classes, exercise plan, health education focusing on developing will power. Cost: \$3800. Phone 931-213-1329. www.butlercreekhealth.org [3]

BUTLER CREEK ANNUAL MEDICAL MISSIONARY CONVENTION - April 29-May 1, 2016. The theme of this year's convention is "The Health Message & The Third Angel's Message." There is no fee to attend the convention. Pre-Convention Workshop April 28-29, 2016. Subject: "Colporteur Ministry" and "Practical Education" as part of the Third Angel's Message. Cost: \$19. Breakfast and lunch provided. Advance registration required: www.butlercreekhealth.org [3]

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression, and many more. Invest

in your health, call 1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.com [3-5]

AUTHORS of cookbooks, health books, children's chapter and picture books, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. Find our new titles at your local ABC or www.TeachServices.com, used SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com [3, 4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. *For more information, call 423.236.2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies* [3-5]

CONVENIENT ON-CAMPUS GUEST LODGING at Southern Adventist University. Comfortable 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartments, some with equipped kitchens. Available year round. *Call 423-236-7000 or email guestlodging@southern.edu* [3-5]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Conference Services And Events. Detailed, thorough, one-stop-planning for meeting space and successful events. Call 423-236-2491 or visit www.southern.edu/conferenceservices [3-5]

NEW ONLINE GRADUATE DEGREE in Media Ministry at Walla Walla University. Concentrations available in media/cinema and web/interactive media. *To apply, visit apply.wallawalla.edu or call 800-541-8900.* [3-7]

NATIONAL FAMILY RETREAT 2016 - March 30 - April 3 Practical messages // Breakouts // Family recreation // Exhibits. Topics: Parenting // Family // Marriage // Youth // Young adult // Media. Speakers: Waters, Rayne, and Nebblett families and Scott Ritsema. Wewoka Adventist Center near Oklahoma City. www.restoration-international.org/nfr, 918-827-7012. [3]

2016 ADVENTIST HERITAGE TOURS with historian Alice Voorheis. *June 17 - 26, Ohio & Michigan Pioneer Sites. *August 9, Tour of 20 Nashville, Tennessee Pioneer sites. *September 30 - October 9, Northeast Heritage Tour. To reserve your spot or for more info, contact Heritage Tours. 423-802-9617, tariegeiger@gmail.com [3]

NEW PRE-K THROUGH 12 GRADE ADVENTIST DAY SCHOOL - Tri-City Christian Academy continues its rich 60-year history with a new \$6 million campus. Located in the vibrant Piedmont Triad of North Carolina, consistently rated as one of the best places to live in the US and surrounded by 12 Adventist Churches. *Visit www.buildingforeternity.com & www.tcasda.org for more information.* [3]

SUNSET

	MAR. 25	APR. 1	APR. 8	APR. 15	APR. 22	APR. 29
ATLANTA, GA	7:53	7:59	8:04	8:09	8:14	8:20
CHARLESTON, SC	7:35	7:40	7:45	7:50	7:55	8:00
CHARLOTTE, NC	7:40	7:45	7:51	7:31	7:37	8:08
COLLEGEDALE, TN	7:57	8:03	8:09	8:14	8:20	8:26
HUNTSVILLE, AL	7:02	7:08	7:13	7:19	7:25	7:30
JACKSON, MS	7:16	7:21	7:26	7:31	7:36	7:41
LOUISVILLE, KY	8:00	8:07	8:13	8:20	8:27	8:33
MEMPHIS, TN	7:16	7:22	7:28	7:33	7:39	7:45
MIAMI, FL	7:35	7:38	7:41	7:44	7:48	7:51
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:01	7:05	7:10	7:15	7:20	7:25
NASHVILLE, TN	7:04	7:10	7:15	7:21	7:27	7:33
ORLANDO, FL	7:40	7:44	7:48	7:52	7:56	8:00
WILMINGTON, NC	7:28	7:33	7:38	7:44	7:49	7:55

Legal Notice Special Meeting of Members

Notice is hereby officially given that the quinquennial meeting of the members of Oakwood University Inc., a Corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of Alabama, will be convened in the McKee Business and Technology Building Auditorium, on the Oakwood University campus, 7000 Adventist Blvd. NW, Huntsville, Alabama, 35896, on Sunday, April 17 at 8:00 a.m. (CDT) for the transaction of business that will come before the Corporation. The purpose of the meeting is to receive reports, approve amendments to the Articles and Bylaws of the Corporation and to transact other matters related thereto.

Dan Jackson, Chairman
Leslie N. Pollard, Secretary

Legal Notices

The Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd regular constituency session of the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday, April 10, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. The Organizing Committee will meet there on Sunday morning at 8:00 A.M. This constituency session is called for the purpose of electing its officers, its departmental directors, and the members of the Executive Committee for the next quinquennial term of five years. This meeting will also transact any other business that is warranted by the constitution of the Executive Committee. Each church is entitled to one (1) delegate for the church and one additional delegate for every 30 members or major fraction thereof. For the Organizing Committee, each church is entitled to one representative.

David O. Livermore, President
James Mangum, Executive Secretary
Brian Danese, Treasurer

The Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 32nd regular constituency session of the Gulf States Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, is called to meet at the Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama, on Sunday, April 10, 2016, at 10:00 A.M. The delegates of the Gulf States Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will serve as the constituents of the corporation.

David O. Livermore, President
James Mangum, Executive Secretary
Brian Danese, Treasurer

Legal Notice

11th Regular Session of the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 11th regular session of the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will convene at Camp Hawthorne, located at 1771 US Highway 20 E, Hawthorne, Florida 32640, on Sunday, May 29, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. The Organizing Committee will meet on Saturday night, May 28, 2016, at 8:00 p.m. (sunset). This constituency session is called for the purpose of electing officers and for transacting any other business as may properly come before the membership. Each church in the conference is entitled to one (1) delegate for the church and one (1) additional delegate for each 50 members or major fraction thereof. For the Organizing Committee, each church is entitled to one (1) delegate for the church and one (1) additional delegate for each 500 members or major fraction thereof.

Hubert J. Morel Jr., President
Gregory O. Mack, Executive Secretary
Gwendolyn T. Parker, CFO

11th Regular Session of the Southeastern Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given that the 11th regular session of the Southeastern Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, a corporation, is called to meet at Camp Hawthorne, located at 1771 US Highway 20 E, Hawthorne, Florida 32640, on Sunday, May 29, 2016. The delegates to the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are the constituency of the corporation.

Hubert J. Morel Jr., President
Gregory O. Mack, Executive Secretary
Gwendolyn T. Parker, CFO

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- Mailroom Assistant Supervisor

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MISSION: MARANATHA!

Sharing the Gospel Through Service **April 16, 2016**
10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

You're invited to a special missions Sabbath with **Maranatha Volunteers International**

Admission is free
ICCM Theatre & Event Center
6425 Lee Hwy, Chattanooga, TN
www.maranatha.org/chattanooga

MARANATHA
VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY ALUMNI WEEKEND - MARCH 24-27. OU CELEBRATING 120 YEARS - 1896-2016. The OU family extends a warm invitation to all alumni and friends to attend this year's celebration. Details: Visit www.oakwoodalumni.org.

BASS MEMORIAL ACADEMY 2016 CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT - APRIL 1. It's an annual fundraiser for BMA, and organized by the BMA Alumni Association. The tournament will be held at the Canebrake Country Club in Hattiesburg, MS. Details: David Crowson, 713-385-0863 or docrwson@aol.com for information about sponsorships and registration. Or www.facebook.com/BMACharityGolfTournament/

LAURELBROOK ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - APRIL 1-3. Laurelbrook Campus, Dayton, TN. Honor classes: 1956, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, '01, '06, '11. Please update your mailing address and contact information: 423-775-9448, jean081246@gmail.com or alumni@laurelbrook.org.

122ND ANNUAL FLORIDA CAMP MEETING - APRIL 7-10. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Restore the Vision, Restore the Mission. Featured speaker: John Bradshaw. Details and online registra-

tion for meals and accommodations: www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting.

STEVE GREEN CONCERT - APRIL 9. Dalton Church will host Steve Green in concert on Sabbath evening at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to this free event. Please join us as we close the Sabbath with worship to God in musical praise.

MARANATHA VOLUNTEERS INTERNATIONAL EVENT - APRIL 16. Everyone is invited to a special Sabbath program in Chattanooga, TN, featuring stories from the mission field and info on how you can get involved with Maranatha. 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the ICCM Theatre & Event Center. Free admission. 916-774-7700 or www.maranatha.org/missionmaranatha

WALLA WALLA COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY SELECT (TOURING) CHOIR - APRIL 21-24. If you sang in a Walla Walla College/University select (touring) choir, you are invited to attend the 50-Year Choral Reunion, featuring the Lickey years through the present, during WWC/WWU Homecoming. For details/registration, access wallawalla.edu/touring choir, [Facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic](https://www.facebook.com/WallaWallaUniversityMusic), music@wallawalla.edu or 1-509-527-2561.


LA SIERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEEND - APRIL 22, 23. LSA Campus. Please update your mailing address and contact info at JNelson@lsak12.com, 951-

351-1445, x244. Honor classes: 1956, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '06, and pre-50 classes. Details: www.lsak12.com.

BROADVIEW ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION/BVA ALUMNI WEEEND - APRIL 30 AND MAY 1. North Aurora Church, North Aurora, IL. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars. Honor classes: 1946, '56, '66, '76, '86, '91, '96, '06. There will be Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, Church, lunch, and an afternoon music program. For communication purposes, WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES. Send it to Dale Rollins, drollins0233@gmail.com, or call 630-232-9034. Checkout the BVA website for details.

"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION - JUNE 3-5. For alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy in Cedar Lake, MI. Honor classes: 1936, '46, '56, '66. Details are forthcoming by postal service. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5187 or visit <http://www.glaa.net/>.

NORTH CAROLINA SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES FEDERATION - SEPT. 30-OCT. 2. "God on the Mountain is God in the Valley Retreat." Lake Junaluska Resort, Lake Junaluska, N.C. Hands on workshops for home remedies, music, and great fellowship. Contact Joyce Crawford, 828-298-5436 or Barbara Grier, 704-396-6680 for an application.



SHARON'S SECRET.


WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY.

Sharon Shearer, a member at Waynesville, NC, Church, studied to be a physical therapist because she loved to care for people with physical disabilities. But Sharon had a secret.

In her mid-50s, Sharon became sick with Lewy body disease; suffering from symptoms similar to Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Her faithful church friends learned about her secret while cleaning her abandoned mobile home after her death. When placing dusty papers and objects in the trash, one of them saw an interesting envelope and opened it. A tattered and stained insurance policy was about to be thrown out!

Sharon loved Jesus and wanted to show her love by purchasing an insurance policy naming the Carolina Conference as a beneficiary. This policy provided over \$100,000 to spread the love of Jesus in the Carolinas.

▶ Life Insurance is only one of many ways you can care for and love others after you die. Contact your conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services representative today. Tomorrow may be too late.

<p>Carolina Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200</p>	<p>Kentucky-Tennessee Silke Hubbard (615) 859-1391</p>	<p>South Central Michael Harpe (615) 226-6500</p>	<p>Southern Adventist University Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818</p>
<p>Florida Phil Bond (407) 644-5000</p>	<p>Oakwood University Lewis Jones (256) 726-7000</p>	<p>Southeastern (352) 735-3142</p>	<p>SUSDAGift.org</p>
<p>Georgia-Cumberland Mitch Hazekamp (706) 629-7951</p>	<p>South Atlantic Lawrence Hamilton (404) 792-0535</p>		
<p>Gulf States David Sigamani (334) 272-7493</p>			

CAROLINA

- PATHFINDER BIBLE TESTING EXPERIENCE** – March 5. Sharon Church.
- ELDERS' RETREAT** – March 11, 12. NPR.
- ALIVE YOUTH RALLY** – March 18, 19. Spartanburg, SC.
- PATHFINDER WORK BEE** – March 18-20. NPR.
- MPA SA TALENT SHOW** – March 26- MPA.
- MUSIC FESTIVAL IN CAROLINA** – March 31-April 1. MPA.
- COORDINATED EVANGELISM EVENTS** – April 1-30. Area wide churches
- ADVENTURER FUN DAY** – April 10. NPR.
- LE SPRING CAMPOUT** – April 15-17. Morrow Mountain State Park, Albemarle, NC.
- MPA ALUMNI WEEKEND** – April 15-17. MPA.
- PATHFINDER COUNCIL** – April 22, 23. NPR.
- JUNIOR PATHFINDER FIELD DAY** – April 24. NPR.
- MPA ACADEMY DAYS** – April 29-May 1. MPA.

FLORIDA

- COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE** – www.floridaconference.com/calendar/
- YOUTH/PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER EVENTS** – Visit us online or call 407-644-5000 x2421. www.floridaconference.com/iymp/youth/ www.floridaconference.com/iymp/pathfinders/events/ www.floridaconference.com/iymp/adventurers/events/
- SINGLES' MINISTRIES EVENTS AND MAILING LIST INFORMATION.** Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more. www.floridaconference.com/iymp/childrenandfamily/events/, djmiller4000@gmail.com, or 407-703-3050.
- A BETTER CHOICE / FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER** – Altamonte Springs: *national toll-free number, 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222)*. Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: www.floridaconference.com/abc/ or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com
- FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE**
 March 20. Winter Haven. Avon Park, Arcadia, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.
 March 21. Port Charlotte, North Port, Sarasota, Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.
 March 27. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)
- 122ND ANNUAL FLORIDA CAMP MEETING** – April 7-10. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs. Theme: Restore the Vision, Restore the Mission. Featured speaker: John Bradshaw. Details and online registration for meals and accommodations: www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/
- CAMPESTRE HISPANO** – April 15-17. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212 Ave., High Springs.

Featured speaker: Elizabeth Talbot. Online registration for meals and accommodations: www.floridaconference.com/campmeeting/

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

- BOARD OF EDUCATION** – March 17. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
- HISPANIC WOMEN'S RETREAT** – March 18-20. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.
- REGENERATE (YOUTH FESTIVAL)** – March 19. Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville, GA.
- WILL CLINICS WITH LES SPEER**
 March 19, 8-9:30 p.m. Auburn, GA.
 March 20, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Atlanta Belvedere, Decatur, GA.
 March 21, 3:30-6 p.m. Duluth, GA.
 March 22, 3:30-6 p.m. Douglasville, GA.
 April 3, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Marietta, GA.
- PATHFINDER DRILL EVENT - MARCH 20. ACADEMIES DAYS**
 March 24. Atlanta Adventist Academy, Duluth, GA.
 April 8, 9. Georgia-Cumberland, Calhoun, GA.
- ACADEMIES ALUMNI WEEKEND**
 April 1-3. Georgia-Cumberland, Calhoun, GA.
 April 8-10. Collegedale Academy, Collegedale, TN.
- WOMEN/TEEN SPRING RETREAT** – April 1-3. Cohutta Springs Conference Center. Crandall, GA.
- GOD IN SHOES** – April 1, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Chattanooga, TN.
- DAY OF PRAYER AND FASTING** – April 1.
- HEALTH RALLIES**
 April 2, 2-5 p.m. Questview Church in Lawrenceville, GA.
 April 9, 2-5 p.m. Lookout Mountain Church, Rising Fawn, GA.
- PRISON INMATE MENTORING (TENN. ONLY)** – April 3. Ooltewah, TN.
- MASTER GUIDE EDIBLE PLANTS TRAINING** – April 8.
- HOW TO CONDUCT A REVERSING DIABETES SEMINAR TRAINING** – April 10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration deadline, March 21. Chattanooga First Church, TN.
- PATHFINDER CAMPOREE** – April 14-17. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.
- HISPANIC COUPLES' RETREAT** – April 15-17. Winshape Retreat Center, Rome, GA.
- PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE (DIVISION LEVEL)** – April 15.
 Some events require pre-registration; details at registration.gccsda.com.

GULF STATES

- BACKPACKING TEEN INVITATIONAL** – March 4-7.

- BMA SPRING BREAK** – March 7-11.
- YOUNG ADULT CAMP** – March 11-14. Camp Alamisco.
- CROSS EXAMINATION-YOUTH RALLY** – March 19. Huntsville, AL.
- BMA ALUMNI WEEKEND** – April 1-3.
- EDUCATION OUTDOOR SCHOOL** – April 11-15. Camp Alamisco.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

- HISPANIC PASTORS'/ELDERS' RETREAT** – March 4-6. Indian Creek Camp.
- EASTERN KENTUCKY CAMP MEETING** – March 11, 12. Prestonsburg, KY.
- HIGHLAND ACADEMY BOARD** – March 17 & May 12. Highland Academy.
- MUSIC FESTIVAL** – March 17-19. Highland Academy.
- CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** – March 22 & May 10. Conference Office.
- MEMPHIS FESTIVAL OF FAITH** – March 25, 26. Memphis First Church.
- MINISTERIAL SPOUSES' RETREAT** – April 1-3. Indian Creek Camp.
- BOARD OF EDUCATION** – April 7. Conference Office.
- MOTHER/DAUGHTER DAY** – April 10, 9 a.m. Springfield, TN.
- TEACHERS' STUDY GROUP** – April 14, 15. Conference Office.
- SEEDS CONFERENCE** – April 15-17. Indian Creek Camp.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

- PREVIEW SOUTHERN** – March 17, 18. Students are invited to take a campus tour, discuss majors with professors, sit in on financial aid workshops, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. Details: 1-800-SOUTHERN.
- ORCHESTRA CONCERT** – March 20. Southern's Symphony Orchestra offers a free performance in the Collegedale Church at 7:30 p.m. To view live online, visit www.southern.edu/streaming.
- ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE SERIES** – March 28. James Hardin, Ph.D., presents "Khirbet Summeily: Excavations on the Philistine Border" during a free lecture at 7 p.m. in Lynn Wood Chapel. Details: 423-236-2030.

SOUTHERN UNION

- PATHFINDER BIBLE EXPERIENCE UNION LEVEL PLAYOFFS** – March 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA.
- SOUTHERN UNION PATHFINDER CAMPOREE** – Oct. 12-15. Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL.

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