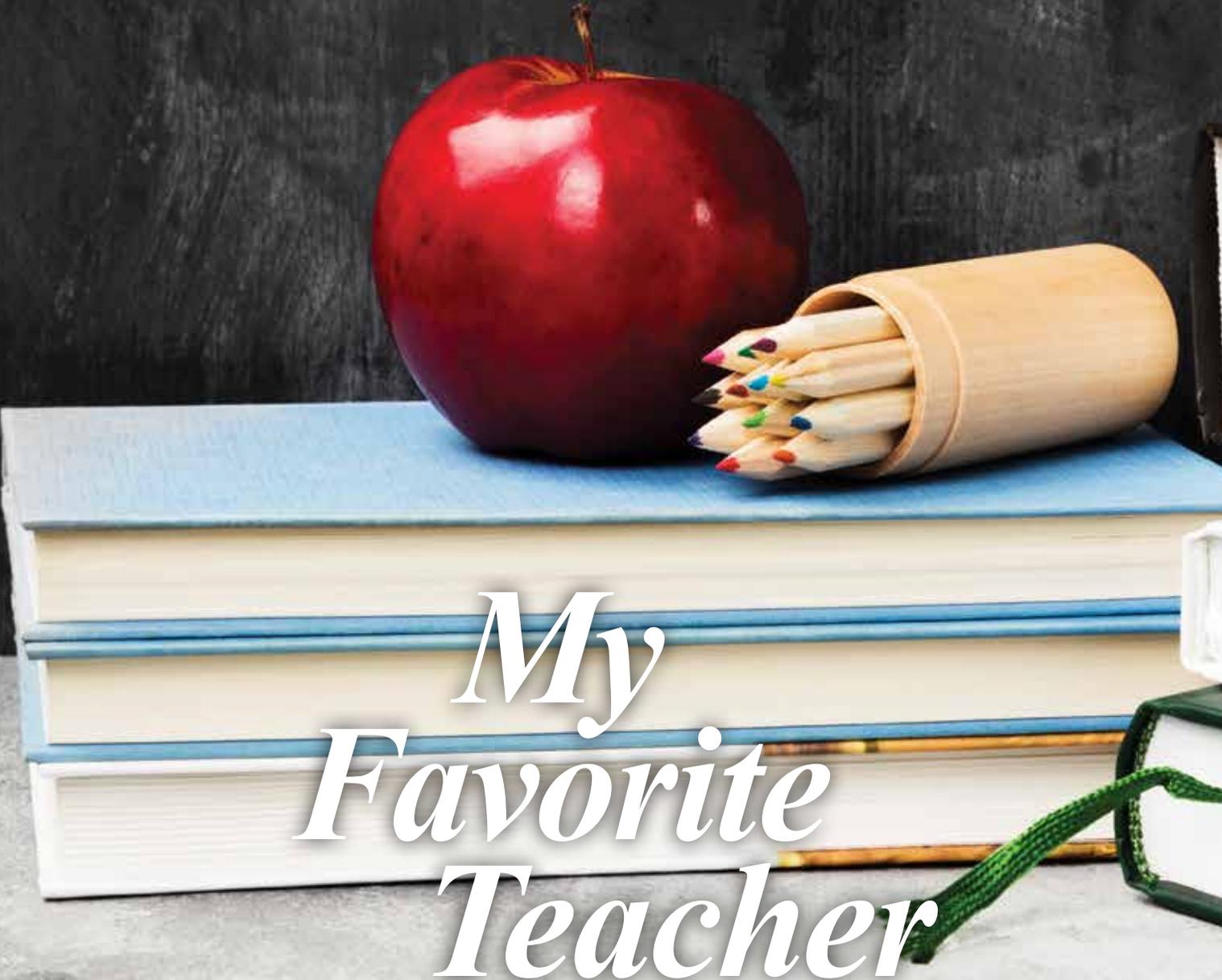


TIDINGS

Southern 

JULY 2018



My Favorite Teacher

THE MENTORING
GAP: INVESTING IN
TODAY'S YOUTH

WHAT PARENTS ARE
LOOKING FOR IN A
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

EXCEPTIONAL
CHILDREN WITH
SPECIAL NEEDS:
KNOWING THE
WARNING SIGNS

DON'T WAIT:
START PREPARING
FOR COLLEGE NOW

Education and Evangelism — Blessings in Disguise



Leslie N. Pollard,
Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.
*President of
Oakwood University*

Guest Editorial

The story is told of a young man about to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom, and knowing his wealthy father could well afford it, he told him that the sports car was ALL he wanted. As graduation day approached, the young man awaited signs that his father had purchased the car. Finally, on the morning of his graduation, his father called him into his private study.

His father told him how proud he was to have such a fine son, and told him how much he loved him. He handed his son a beautifully wrapped gift box. Curious, but somewhat disappointed, the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible with the young man's name embossed in gold. Angrily, he raised his voice to his father and said, "With all your money, you give me a Bible?" He stormed out of the house, leaving the Bible.

Many years passed and the young man was very successful in business. He had a beautiful home and wonderful family, but realized his father was very old and very ill. The son thought perhaps he should go to him. He had not seen him since that graduation day. Before he could make arrangements, he received a telegram telling him his father had passed away, and willed all of his possessions to his son. He needed to come home immediately and take care of estate matters.

When he arrived at his father's house, sudden sadness and regret filled his heart. All the years of relationship lost, all the missed birthdays, and all the unresolved pain swirled within his heart. He began the slow search through his father's important papers and saw the still-new Bible, just as he had left it years ago. With tears, he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages.

His father had carefully underlined a verse, Matthew 6:33, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." As he read those words, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired. On the tag was the date of his graduation and the words, "PAID IN FULL."

Similar to the correct priorities modeled by the wise father in the story I just shared, one of the greatest blessings of our educational ministry is that when we believe that we are giving students the keys to a life of service, we also are giving students the Bible and its teachings, because education and evangelism are two sides of the same coin. In fact, I would offer that Christian education is the greatest form of evangelism of our youth. In training students for service in this life, we also are preparing them for service in the life to come. We are giving them all that they need to make a success of life. Yes, Christian education is the amazing sibling of evangelism — and both are essential!

Christian writer Diane Hymans, in reflecting on education and evangelism, wrote, "So what is the relationship between education and evangelizing? They are not identical. Evangelizing is making the gospel known in church and world. It is similar to proclamation understood in the broadest sense — proclamation in the form of both spoken word and lived experience. Education focuses on understanding the gospel and how it shapes who we are and the way we live our lives. Clearly, we cannot draw too fine a distinction between these two essential ministries of the church. As people hear the gospel proclaimed, they often come to understand, in profound ways, who God is and who they are. And, the gospel is made known in countless ways, both intentionally and unintentionally, in educational settings in the faith community. Clearly both are needed in the church and the world. The difference is one of focus and purpose, not importance." (See Diane J. Hymans' "Education and Evangelism: Is the connection essential?" at <https://bit.ly/2JTQRZM>)

The ministry of saving youth is essential to the work of educational evangelists and evangelistic educators. May the two always work for the ministry of God's Church! 📌

Volume 112, No. 7, July 2018

The *Southern Tidings* is the official publication of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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SOUTHERN TIDINGS | Volume 112
Number 7 | July 2018
Published monthly by the Southern Union.
Free to all members.
POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to
Southern Tidings
P.O. Box 923868
Norcross, GA 30010-3868
EMAIL: ldouce@southernunion.com



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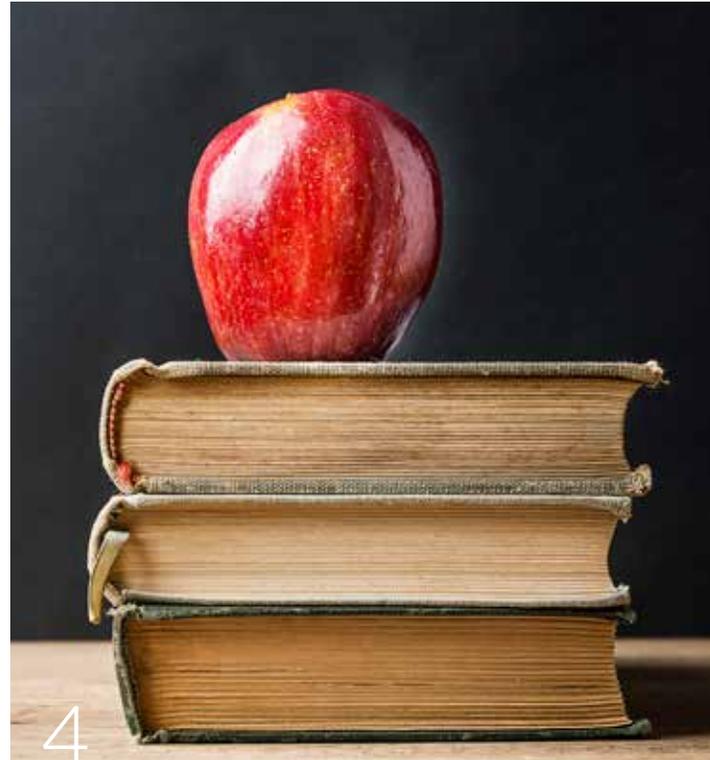
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William Seth

NOMINATED BY LESLIE LOUIS

Leslie Louis arrived in the United States in 1964 as an 11-year-old immigrant from Ceylon, India (now Sri Lanka).

“It was a year filled with major transitions in my life,” Louis wrote in his nomination for favorite teacher. “Although I seemed to adapt readily to the academic change from Asia to America, I was truly a social misfit in a class of over 25 students in their early teens. I had left all my friends behind, and felt so alone in a place that I had once imagined as the next best place to Heaven.”

As a newly enrolled student at Sligo Church School in Takoma Park Maryland, Louis found solace in the heartfelt gestures of his eighth-grade teacher, William Seth.

“His words of encouragement and kindness sustained me through that difficult year,” Louis continued. “He affirmed my efforts publicly for raising all the money that I needed to go on our eighth-grade class trip in New York City and the World’s Fair. He forgave me with gentleness when I broke down in tears and confessed to him that I had not been honest with him about a matter. The memory that stands out most in my mind is when he visited our little apartment to pray specifically for me and my family.”

As a result of Seth’s Christian witness, Louis gave his life to Christ that year, making a public declaration through baptism at Sligo Church.

My Favorite Teacher

BY ALVA JAMES-JOHNSON

The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.

Such was the wisdom imparted by William Arthur Ward, one of the most quoted 20th century American writers of inspirational maxims.

As an educator, college administrator, author, and public speaker, Ward understood the power of teaching. His words

ring true today as a potent reminder of what remains a noble profession.

Nowhere is the pedagogical impact more pronounced than on the hearts and minds of students taught by Adventist educators over the decades. So, in preparing this year’s special Education issue of the Southern Tidings, we solicited nominations for “Favorite Teacher.”

Not surprisingly, we received an overwhelming response from individuals who

benefited from an Adventist education. Some of the teachers they nominated continue to work in the field. Others are retired; some, sadly, are now deceased. But they’ve all left an indelible mark on the lives of students inspired by their Christian influence.

Here are 10 nominees and their amazing stories:



Forty years later Louis ran into Seth at a concert held at the Collegedale, Tennessee, Church. It had been more than 40 years since he had stepped into Seth's classroom. By then Louis was serving as superintendent of education for the Gulf States Conference. The two men reconnected and reminisced.

Seth passed away. But, Louis — now president of the Carolina Conference — says he will always cherish the impact he had on his life.

"Mr. Seth had an unrelenting belief that I would make it; that the road ahead of me had a purpose; that what I may have desired then may not have taken place there and then, but he believed that it would happen with persistence and perseverance," he wrote. "A few years ago, he passed to His rest and awaits the wake-up call of His Savior. Life is change. My life today bears a genuine heartfelt gratitude of Mr. Seth's positive impact on me. I can truly smile as I appreciate what God has done for me while reflecting on the memory of his guidance and direction."

Joan Burnsed Vickers

NOMINATED BY RUTH WILSON BAKER

Joan Burnsed Vickers launched her teaching career in the late 1950s, educating first- to eighth-grade students in a one-room school in Savannah, Georgia.

Located in the basement of the Savannah First Adventist Church, the humble little school was the same one Vickers had attended in seventh and eighth grades. So, she taught the children using the same techniques her teachers had to educate her.

"I'm quite certain I was her very first first-grader," said Ruth Wilson Baker, who recently nominated Vickers as her favorite teacher. "She was loving and must have made reading fun, because reading has been my favorite thing all of my life. I remember her being very patient and kind."

Now 83 years old, Vickers looks back on those days with fond memories. She says Baker, whom she taught in first and second grades, was an excellent student who helped make her first teaching assignment a pleasant experience.

"She learned quickly, she learned well," Vickers said of the girl who was the youngest in the classroom. "She listened to what I was teaching the older children, and absorbed what I was telling them. She was a very smart little girl, never any trouble."

When asked what it was like teaching

eight grades in one classroom, Vickers said, "I had lots of energy back then. I was too young to know better."

In 1959, Vickers — known at the time by her maiden name, Burnsed — married and moved to southern California with her new husband, also an educator. She obtained a bachelor's degree in elementary education while enrolled at La Sierra University. From there she went on to teach at Adventist elementary schools in California and Oregon. She retired in 2005, and is now living in Matthews, North Carolina.

Baker followed in Vickers' footsteps, eventually becoming an elementary school teacher. She spent 25 years teaching kindergarten to second-grade students at the same Adventist school where Vickers taught her, but at a different location.

Over the years, Baker has thanked Vickers for the impact she had on her life. Still, Vickers was shocked by the nomination.

"I often think, 'Those were my first two years of teaching. I had a lot to learn,'" Vickers said. "And now she says I was her favorite teacher? Oh, my goodness. That's so sweet of her!"



Theodore Jefferson

NOMINATED BY ROBERT PATTERSON JR.

Robert Patterson Jr. remembers meeting his favorite teacher, Theodore Jefferson, as a fifth-grader at Berean Christian Junior Academy in Atlanta, Georgia, in the late 1970s.

"Mr. Jefferson was the first male teacher I had in elementary school," Patterson wrote in his nomination. "He was my P.E. teacher and basketball coach. He was a great athlete, and taught me the fundamentals of the game of basketball in a Christ-like manner."

Patterson said Jefferson, an African-American male, became a role model for African-American boys enrolled at the

school, showing them how to conduct themselves with integrity in all aspects of life.

"He knew where we were coming from and the things that we would have to deal with in order to achieve success; [it was] just the way he related to us, the way he went about doing his job," he said. "He had a wife and four children, and just looking at the way he took care of them, even as a fifth-grader, it was just admirable."

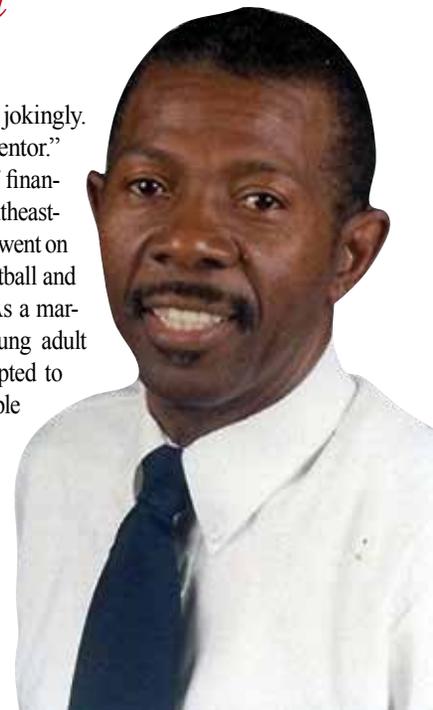
Patterson said Jefferson went above and beyond the call of duty, taking him on painting jobs some afternoons after school.

"My father was the same way, so I got

it on two sides," he said jokingly. "He was just a great mentor."

Patterson, now chief financial officer for the Southeastern Conference, said he went on to coach youth in basketball and tennis over the years. As a married man with two young adult children, he also attempted to follow Jefferson's example in the family arena.

"I tried to love on them like I saw him love on his family," he said.



Francis Bliss

NOMINATED BY NIKKIA HAMPTON

Nikkia Hampton credits her favorite teacher, the late Francis Bliss, with fueling her love for education while a student at Oakwood University in the 1990s.

Hampton was a student pursuing an elementary education degree. Bliss taught education, eventually becoming chair of the Education Department.

"I definitely think her passion was just infectious," she said. Hampton, now principal of Ephesus Junior Academy in Birmingham, Alabama, said she carries that same level of enthusiasm into the classroom.

She thinks about the impact Bliss had on her life with gratitude.

Bliss, a native of Chicago, Illinois, graduated from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in 1948 with a bachelor's degree in education. In 1974 she earned

a master's degree in education with a specialization in reading education from North Carolina A & T State University. She joined Oakwood that same year, later obtaining a Ph.D. in education.

Hampton said Bliss trained many young teachers, making a tremendous contribution to Adventist education.

"Dr. Bliss passed, but I remember seeing her after I left Oakwood, and she was just always so positive and encouraging," Hampton said. "She always had a smile on her face."



Wanda K. Beck

NOMINATED BY REBECCA O'DELL

Rebecca O'Dell is a rising eighth-grader at Floral Crest SDA School in Bryant, Alabama. She credits her teacher, Wanda Beck, with helping her excel academically.

"Mrs. Beck was my favorite teacher because she helped me to learn all the math — algebra, ratios, linear equations, and cubic roots," she wrote in her nomination. "Mrs. Beck always believed in me, even when I did not believe in myself. She stuck with me and did not let me fail. She is my inspiration because she led students to Jesus."

Beck, a teacher for 39 years, serves as the school's head teacher. She said it has been a pleasure teaching O'Dell the past three years as she continued to blossom as a young woman.

"She's an A student and a Type A personality with high goals," she said. "She has said she wants to be a doctor, so I pushed her academically. She's a spiritual girl, and she tries



to look for the good in others — a real leader."

Beck, is not from an Adventist home, and says she received her calling to be a teacher while a student at Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University), where she obtained a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Through it all, she let God lead, and she has had no regrets.

"I praise the Lord for the way he's led in my life," she said. "My favorite text is, 'Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.'"

Stan Hobbs

NOMINATED BY AUSTIN GREEN

Austin Green's parents divorced his sophomore year in high school. That led to a Taco Bell conversation with his Atlanta Adventist Academy history teacher — Stan Hobbs.

"It was one of those short conversations where he said, 'I can't imagine what you're going through, but I'm always here if you ever need someone to talk to,'" Green said, reflecting on the incident many years later. "I always look at that conversation as the defining point in his and my relationship, going from teacher-student to very, very close friends."

The two kept in touch while Green was a student at Kennesaw State University; Hobbs even taught his former student's baptismal class.

Green, now a public school teacher at Milton High School in Alpharetta, Georgia, followed Hobbs' example, teaching history, despite disliking the subject as a high school student — an irony Hobbs teases him about.

"This year was my fifth year teaching, and looking back, I would not be the teacher

that I am today if it wasn't for teachers like Mr. Hobbs," Green said. "If we had more teachers like him, just imagine what we could do with education."

Hobbs, now vice president of education for the Gulf States Conference, has been an Adventist educator for 33 years. Twelve years ago, Green and his schoolmates helped nominate Hobbs for a North American Division Excellence in Teaching Award, and he was recognized for his achievements.

Hobbs said he enjoys mentoring Green, and he is honored to be nominated his favorite teacher.

"I was really blessed during my time teaching in Atlanta," he said. "Although out of the classroom, I reflect on those days with fondness."



Linda Jones Campbell

NOMINATED BY MATLYN REDD

Matlyn Redd never forgot the impact that her favorite teacher, Linda Jones Campbell, had on her life while she was a third-grader at Berean Christian Junior Academy in Atlanta, Georgia.

“To me, she just personified what it meant to be a Seventh-day Adventist Christian lady,” said Redd, reflecting on the 1973-74 school year. “She was so regal — the walk, the look. She was tall, and she could sing beautifully — the ultimate of what you would want to strive to be as you grew up.”

Campbell disciplined her students, but always in love, Redd said. She cared about their overall development, not just academics.

“One of the coolest things that I remember is that she took a couple of us to her house one Sabbath for lunch, and taught us how to set the table and serve the food,” she said. “She showed us that we could still be Christians and have fun.”

Redd, who now works in human resources at an Atlanta, Georgia, company, still has third-grade report cards from Campbell’s class.

“She handwrote them all,” she said with fondness. “In the first note, she said I need-

ed to spend more time at home practicing my multiplication tables.”

Campbell says Redd was one of her first students, and she enjoyed having her in the class.

“In those days, we had JMV at the school on Fridays, and sometimes on Wednesdays,” she said. “Matlyn was one of the leaders. She was an excellent student and very conscientious.”

A 1973 graduate of Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina, Campbell said it was difficult starting out as a new teacher. But, administrators, staff, and parents at Berean Junior Academy provided the support she needed to succeed. In total, she spent 40 years teaching in the South Central and South Atlantic conferences.

Some of Campbell’s former students know her by her maiden name; others know her by her married one. When she sees them, she tells them: “Miss Jones and Miss Campbell was not perfect, and if I said or did anything in the years that you were in my care that maybe offended you or seemed too harsh, please forgive me.”

“I hope they know I loved them no matter what, and I’m so proud of them, because ma-

ny have gone on and done well,” she said. “I’m so proud of my children when I see them.”

Campbell said she was speechless when she learned she had been nominated for favorite teacher, but gives God the glory for her successes.

“‘Nominated? Me?’ That’s all I could say,” she said. “I’m honored that she felt that I made that much of an impression on her.”



Anne Galley

NOMINATED BY CALEB HILL



Caleb Hill, 62, still has pleasant memories of his second-grade teacher, the late Anne Galley, who taught him at Anna Knight Elementary School in Huntsville, Alabama.

“She was very positive as far as glorifying the Lord and keeping our hearts very cheerful,” said the electrician who now lives in Franklinton, North Carolina. “She played the piano and we would sing. We had sharing time about all that the Lord had done for us.”

Galley’s daughter, Cheryl, said her mother started out teaching in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she first met the principal, Charles E. Galley. The two married and then moved to Oakwood, where Charles Galley taught and later

chaired the business department.

Anne Galley homeschooled her children, as well as the children of other faculty members before accepting a position at Anna Knight Elementary School. In 1984, she retired from the school after 40 years of service. She taught piano lessons to children in the community up until a year before she passed in 2014.

“I am just happy to know that her students still have that connection with her, even though she’s gone,” Cheryl Galley said in response to the favorite teacher nomination. “Over the years, they would stop by and visit with her, and she would always love that. I just pray that they will be able to enjoy eternity with her just reflecting on some of those things.”

Autumn Washington

NOMINATED BY ANYA HARDEN

As the daughter of a Seventh-day Adventist pastor, Anya Harden has attended many schools. At times she felt misunderstood, but she found a friend in Autumn Washington, her math and science teacher at F.H. Jenkins Preparatory School in Nashville, Tennessee. That's why Harden nominated Washington, who taught her from fifth through eighth grades, as her favorite teacher.

"She really cared about us and she was like an auntie," said Harden, now a 10th-grader at Bass Memorial Academy in Lumberton, Mississippi. "She was really relatable. She took the time to understand me."

Harden especially appreciated Washington's patience while teaching math. "I struggled, but she understood that for me the concept has to click in my head before I can get it," she said. "It's not that I'm dumb, it's just that it takes a lot more time for me to get a concept, and once I get it, I'm okay."



Washington also encouraged Harden's love for writing poetry, which led to her work being published.

"I did great under her; I flourished and she always pushed me to do my best," she said. "I felt that she loved me, as well as all

the other students. She was just an overall great teacher."

Washington said Harden is a talented, wonderful student, whom she enjoyed teaching over the years.

"I try to make every student feel individually special," she said. "It's important to cater to their individual needs."

Washington graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Oakwood College in 2002. In 2006, she obtained a master's degree. She is pursuing a doctoral degree in curriculum and instruction, with an emphasis in math learning disabilities.

"I am shocked and surprised," she said of her favorite teacher nomination. "It means some of the things I've been doing are effective, and that it's important to continue pouring into our youth. Our actions are being observed, whether we realize it or not, on a daily basis."

Ray Hefferlin

NOMINATED BY CLIFTON KELLER

In 1955, shortly after graduating from the California Institute of Technology, Ray Hefferlin accepted a fulltime teaching position at Southern Missionary College. He and his wife, Inelda, lived in campus housing.

"Ray rode his bike with lesson plans, books, and graded papers lashed with belts to the buddy seat or handle bar," recalled Clifton Keller, one of his students, in his favorite teacher nomination. "Since Talge Hall was in line between his office in Hickman Hall and home, he frequently stopped to chat, go into the dorm, and remind a student to be faithful in schoolwork, or to loan publications."

Hefferlin's hard-to-find specialized books and reprints were a necessity as students began to study subatomic particles and interactions among them, according to Keller. From creative use of laboratory equipment made from Army Surplus, their studies morphed

into publishable research.

"Near sundown Friday, Ray might stop to ask, 'Are you ready for Sabbath School?' or give something designed to give depth to his Sabbath School class," he wrote of his late professor. "He was known to give cookies or play a prank such as, 'Be ready to talk about Hezekiah, Chapter 4.' To know exactly what was expected made me go beyond just reading the lessons.

"To use creativity and to dig deep into my studies are the most important lessons I learned from Ray Hefferlin," Keller concluded. "Earning his Ph.D. from CalTech, inspired by Linus Pauling and other great atomic scientists, Ray translated the knowledge he gained from their work to his students. He loved God, and chose to be a teacher rather than obtain worldly riches and acclaim."



Alva James-Johnson is a former newspaper reporter, and is currently an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Communication at Southern Adventist University.

The Mentoring Gap: INVESTING IN TODAY'S YOUTH

BY JOHNNY HOLLIDAY AND ALVA JAMES-JOHNSON

There are many real-life stories, somewhat familiar to us all, that prove mentoring can be extremely positive in the life of a child. Church and community programs have always played an intricate role in the lives of young people. Many youth attending church activities not only find themselves in an atmosphere of social acceptance by their peers, but they also experience some form of mentoring from adult church members. These adults often offer the youth sound, ethical advice, as well as moral support.

In 2014, MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership organization published the first-ever nationally representative survey of young people on the topic of formal and informal mentoring relationships. Funded by AT&T, the report revealed that 1.8 million at-risk young adults had received mentoring through formal mentoring programs as adolescents. Another 4.1 million at-risk young adults had benefited from informal mentoring relationships with teachers, coaches, relatives, or neighbors.

“Despite this positive trend, one in three young people surveyed did not have a mentor while they were growing up,” according to the report. “Applying their experiences to the U.S. Census demographics for 8- to 18-year-olds, it is projected that 16 million young people, including 9 million at-risk young people, will reach adulthood without connecting with a mentor of any kind.”

Yet, the impact of a mentor in a young person’s life is immeasurable, the study concluded, emphasizing a need for more mentors across the nation.

“The consistent, enduring presence of a



caring adult in a young person’s life can be the difference between staying in school or dropping out, making healthy decisions or engaging in risky behaviors, and realizing one’s potential or failing to achieve one’s dreams,” according to the report. “Mentors can make a profound difference in the lives of their mentees — and in turn strengthen our communities, economy, and country.”

Today, more than ever, young people are in need of some form of guidance due to warped cultural messages spread through entertainment and mass media, as well as the amplified influence of peers in the virtual world. Churches and religious organizations can play a critical role in closing the mentoring gap by providing a nurturing environment.

Whether a teacher, plumber, engineer, or someone with or without a degree, mentors in the church all have one thing in common: They are disciples. Disciples approach mentoring from a spiritual perspective, recognizing that quality time matters. The Bible instructs us in Proverbs 22:6 to, “Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Adventist Youth Society (AYS), Sabbath School classes, Pathfinders, local Christian schools, and other youth ministries can play a critical role in ensuring that youths are valued. When children know they are cared for, they tend to have healthier relationships among their peers and adults alike. Research has shown that young people who had a mentor were 55 percent more likely to enroll in college. Ninety percent of those mentored were interested in becoming mentors themselves. And, even more importantly, 46 percent were less likely to use drugs.

Many adults are a testimony to the positive influence and commitment of a mentor or multiple mentors in their lives. “To whom much is given much is required,” Luke 12:48. Now is the time to reciprocate the kindness of others by pouring into the life of a youth under your influence.

Jesus took 12 men and mentored them spiritually. He taught them temperance and empathy in addition to other moral and ethical practices. If you are ready to adjust your life and come into a partnership with God for the sake of His children, become a mentor to a young person in your community. ●

WHAT PARENTS ARE LOOKING FOR *in a Christian School*

BY ALVA JAMES-JOHNSON, KEVIN KOSSICK, AND STEPHEN BRALLEY

When Jennifer Stewart and her husband, David, first moved to Snellville, Georgia, they searched for a good school to educate their four sons. At first they enrolled the two older boys at an elementary school run by an independent Christian organization. They were satisfied, for the most part, and believed they had found the right environment.

That all changed after the couple lost a baby and the school tried to convince their oldest son that his brother could hear his prayers. Shortly thereafter, the Stewarts transferred the two boys to Decatur Adventist Junior Academy in Decatur, Georgia, where they graduated before attending Atlanta Adventist Academy in Duluth, Georgia.

Now, 15 years later, their oldest son, Joseph, is a graduating senior at Oakwood University, Huntsville, Alabama. Their second son, Joshua, is a rising sophomore at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan. Their third son, Jared, is a rising sophomore at Atlanta Adventist Academy. Their fourth son, Javon, is a rising sixth-grader at Duluth Adventist Christian Academy.

“In general, we were looking for a Bible-based program, something that would not conflict with our core beliefs,” Stewart said of the couple’s decision to place the boys in an Adventist academic environment. “We also looked at the staff themselves, their character, because that’s who would be speaking, teaching, and pouring into our children all day.”



The Stewart brothers: Joseph (left), 23; Joshua (right), 19; Jared, 15; and Javon, 11 — all attend Adventist schools. Their parents, David and Jennifer Stewart, believe it has been worth the investment.

The Stewart's search to find the right scholastic environment for their children is not uncommon. Many Adventist parents struggle when deciding where to send their children to school. Some fear they will have to sacrifice academics for a Christian education. Others are drawn to extracurricular activities, as well as the upgraded facilities and technology offered by institutions in the secular arena.

Yet, many parents, like the Stewarts,

also yearn for an environment where Christian values can be reinforced, providing a seamless circle between home, church, and school in a safe environment. In a recent study conducted by the Barna Group, nearly 1,500 parents of current and prospective Christian school students were asked to prioritize what they value the most when choosing a school.



Priority #1 – Safety

Safety can be anything from toxin-free buildings, padded playgrounds to bullying prevention programs, but clearly this is important to all parents.

Priority #2 – Quality teachers

Parents want warm teachers who can be reached easily, and who really care about their students' wellbeing.

Priority #3 – Academic excellence

Nearly all parents say this is essential, and highly likely if the school has quality teachers.

Priority #4 – Character development and spirituality

Many parents believe it is a game-changer when weighing a choice between different schools.

So what does such information say about Seventh-day Adventist Christian education?

Adventist schools have the advantage when it comes to the Christian academic environment many families are seeking.

“By and large Adventist schools are in small communities closely connected to a church and families. Larger campuses have higher levels of sophisticated security. Both have protocols for safety evaluation.”

When it comes to quality educa-

tion, Adventist schools also deliver. All teachers at Adventist institutions hold a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree in education. Additionally, they are required to participate in robust professional certification and development plans to ensure enhanced skill sets.

Academic excellence is validated by the recent Cognitivegenesis study, which illustrates Adventist student scores at or above grade level in all subject areas, with extremely high secondary graduation rates and equally successful higher education degree confirmations. The Valuegenesis study also touted the emphasis Adventist education places on spiritual development, and emphasized the poignant roll it plays in helping a child discover God's character.

When reviewing these priorities, it is obvious that relationships are at the root of fulfilling these values. Adventist Education was created alongside the medical work to develop skills that would make our students invaluable to any community.

Through their intelligence, diligence, kindness, and skillful service, students from Adventist schools become beacons of blessing no matter where they find themselves. Their abilities are hallmarks of excellence, and naturally lead them to positions of leadership and respect in their communities.

Every individual is called to minister

where God places them. That holistic and practical approach is deeply imbedded in Adventist curriculum and teacher training. While other systems may be similar, none have the integration of this process or pedigree of the Adventist system.

“They (students) need the very best of instruction and religious training. They need that virtue that comes from God, added to knowledge, which will qualify them for trying and responsible positions. The intellectual and spiritual growth should be as marked as the development of the physical powers,” *Sabbath-School Workers*, January 1, 1889.

Stewart, a native of Seattle, Washington, said she became an Adventist in 1990, after meeting her husband-to-be in Augusta, Georgia. At the time, she was a nursing student and he was in medical school. David Stewart, a generational Adventist, invited her to church, and she signed up for Bible study. After adopting the faith, marrying, and starting a family, she recognized the importance of rooting her sons in the Church at a young age.

As a professional couple with financial means, the Stewarts had other options. Jennifer Stewart works as a maternal infant nurse at Gwinnett Medical Center. David Stewart is an anesthesiologist and director of a pain clinic with locations in Snellville and Johns Creek. They live just two blocks away from two prestigious private schools in the community.

But, while other parents scrambled to enroll their children in the schools with more status, the Stewarts yearned for something different. Once they chose Adventist education, they remained committed, even when it meant driving 40 minutes away.

“I do like, of course, the academic way that our children are being taught,” Stewart said recently, reflecting on her boys' Adventist education. “That's the bonus on top of having people that morally uphold everything they're being taught at home and at church. I've been thrilled by the results.” ●

Exceptional Children with Special Needs:

KNOWING THE WARNING SIGNS

BY ALVA JAMES-JOHNSON

Charline Etienne's daughter was a kindergartner at a Miami learning center when she began having problems in school. She started by hitting other children and disrupting the classroom, prompting administrators to threaten expulsion.

Fearing her child would be marginalized, Etienne turned to a pediatrician who tested the girl and diagnosed her with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). From there, Etienne embarked on a long, tiresome journey to find the resources her daughter needed to thrive academically.

After several years in the public school system, Etienne finally enrolled her daughter at Miami Union Academy, a Seventh-day Adventist institution where the girl recently completed fifth grade as an Honor Roll student and a member of the National Honor Society.

"When she first started at Miami Union Academy, she was on the Individualized Education Program (IEP), which required special accommodations," said Etienne, a non-Adventist parent. "The teacher had to put her in front of the class next to her so she could grasp the information. But starting with the second semester, she was on her own – being very independent, getting good grades, passing all her tests. It was just giving her the push that she needed that made her excel, even without medication."

Barbara Davis is superintendent of education for the Southeastern Conference, which includes Miami Union Academy and 14 other schools. She said Adventist schools are seeing more and more chil-

dren with special needs due to school choice programs in states such as Florida, which provide students with scholarships to attend private institutions in pursuit of a quality education.

"What's happening is you're getting children from all walks of life, all different socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds," Davis said. "A lot of parents are going away from public education and they want their children in a safe learning environment."

In addition to serving children with various physical, mental, and learning disabilities, the trend also requires schools to accommodate gifted students on the other end of the academic spectrum, Davis said. All are considered "exceptional students" because of their differentiation from the norm.

"Exceptional children are those who have difficulties in learning, as well as those whose performance is so superior that the curriculum and instruction must be modified to help them in fulfilling their potential," she said, paraphrasing a report. "The terminology 'exceptional students' refers to children with challenges ranging from very smart and overachieving to very low cognitive skills, which is sometimes detrimental to their learning.

"Their challenges are inclusive but not limited to learning and/or behavior problems, children with physical disabilities or sensory impairments, and children who are intellectually gifted or have a special talent," Davis continued. "Some exceptional children share certain physical characteristics and/or patterns of learning and behavior."

Characteristics of exceptionality fall into the following categories:

- Mental retardation (developmental disabilities)
- Learning disabilities
- Emotional and behavioral disorder
- Autism
- Communication (speech and language) disorders
- Hearing impairments
- Visual impairments
- Physical and health impairments
- Traumatic brain injury
- Multiple disabilities
- Giftedness and special talents

"Early detection and intervention is the key to success for exceptional children," Davis explained. "Generally they are more like their peers; however, they share some unique qualities and must be serviced accordingly. Educators should endeavor to go above and beyond to facilitate learning for every student, regardless of their circumstance. When an exceptional student enters the classroom, he/she must be given an optimum learning experience in an environment that is safe, nurturing, and conducive to learning."

To address those needs, Davis said she is intentional about requiring that principals and teachers in the Southeastern Conference receive the necessary training for exceptional student education (ESE) and English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) instruction.

"Some children we can help, and some I caution our principals," she said. "If they can't help them then don't admit them, because it's a disservice to the



students. And so, in order to accommodate them and service them correctly, we have to be better trained.”

So, what can parents do if they suspect their child is an exceptional student?

First of all, the child should be tested to see if he or she has a special need, Davis said. Testing can be done within the public school system or by a private physician. Once the student’s needs are determined, parents should meet with the school principal, as well as the child’s teacher, to assess the learning environment.

“A lot of times children have so much that they’re dealing with,” Davis said. “Sometimes they’re in a hostile environment where all their mommy and daddy do is fight. Sometimes they’re home by themselves, sometimes their only influence is television.”

For children with autism, their actions might be misunderstood.

“A child with their hands to their ears, when you’re talking to them, doesn’t necessarily mean, ‘I don’t want to hear you,’” Davis said. “It might mean, ‘Any sound that I’m hearing is bothering me so much.’”

“A bright light in a classroom could

make or break a child with autism. So, we have to know the student. We have to know the warning signs,” she continued. “Some children, depending on what happens at home, sometimes they can’t sit still in their seats. Sometimes diet has something to do with it. Sometimes we make a lot of assumptions based on a child’s behavior, but we just need to find out what’s really going on with the child.”

Davis said she had one student who was very disruptive. When an optometrist visited the school, he discovered that the boy had a sight problem. The school sent a letter home, and the boy’s mother had his eyes checked. He returned to school a different child.

Etienne said it is important for parents to be vigilant and advocates for their children. When she saw her daughter struggling in school, she did everything in her power to help her excel.

“She was on medication for about a year or two, and I didn’t really see an improvement in math and reading,” she said. “So, I decided to take her off the medication and really had them focus on the IEP, where they were giving her

extra time to complete her tests and assignments in class, and not giving her so many problems at the same time, so she wouldn’t feel overwhelmed.”

When public school teachers stopped accommodating those needs, Etienne searched for a better environment. She also switched her daughter to a healthier diet and insisted on proper rest. She rewarded her when she reached a milestone and encouraged her love for volunteer work at local animal shelters.

“A lot of times parents want to be in denial,” she said. “But, if you see signs of issues with your kids — not sitting still, or they’re zoning out — you need to take initiative and begin to work on the issue.”

“With my daughter, I did what was needed to ensure that she progressed academically,” she said. “The more I told her she could do it, the more she took it to the next level and challenged herself.”

Alva James-Johnson is a former newspaper reporter, and is currently an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Communication at Southern Adventist University.

DON'T WAIT:

Start Preparing for College Now

BY ALVA JAMES-JOHNSON

As the principal for the past three years of Bass Memorial Academy in Lumberton, Mississippi, Scott Bowes wants the best for all of his students. So, he launched a learning strategies class for high school freshmen to help them succeed.

Bowes said the class teaches study skills, time management, note-taking strategies, and how to be organized. It is one of four non-traditional classes that the school launched to better prepare students for the future.

The school also offers a career class that helps students figure out what they want to do in life; a personal finance class that introduces them to money management; and an ACT prep course for better test scores.

“We’re finding that a lot of freshmen coming to us, some of them are ready for high school, others are not,” said Bowes. “Some kids are great at school and knew since five years old that they wanted to be a doctor, but many students aren’t. They don’t know what they want to do, and if we don’t help them figure it out, who will?”

Stan Hobbs, vice president of education for the Gulf States Conference, stressed the importance of students starting to prepare for college their freshman year in high school. He says many lose their way because they are focused on short-term gain with little regard for the future.

“After all, adjusting to high school, with its academic rigor and the extensive variety of social and spiritual activities, is a challenge,” he wrote recently. “As a result, college might seem like an event way off in the distant future, something to think about later on.”

“In reality, however, the four years of high school pass quickly, making it all the more important to use the time wisely in preparing for college,” he warned. “Don’t



delay! If you haven’t started preparing yet, start now!”

To help students stay on track, Hobbs recommends the following essential steps for preparing for college during their high school years:

1. Take challenging classes in core academic courses, and keep tabs on progress toward meeting the academic requirements for graduation.
2. Get involved with community-based, church-based, school-based, and leadership-oriented activities.
3. Keep a running list of accomplishments, awards, and recognitions to use in preparing a resume and college applications.
4. Start preparing for the ACT or SAT, and the PSAT, from the beginning of your freshman year. Take the ACT Aspire Test both freshman and sophomore years. Enroll in prep classes during the summer. Most importantly, work diligently in challenging classes

— do not cut corners.

5. Attend college and career information events such as college fairs.
6. Research funding for college, including scholarships, grants, and loans. Identify scholarship opportunities to pursue, and contact colleges to request information and applications.

“You might be tempted to goof off or coast during high school,” Hobbs wrote. “That’s not a good idea if you want to be ready for college. Admissions officers are looking for students who have worked hard to keep up grades, and involved themselves in school, church, and community activities. Taking what you see as the easy road is shortsighted; you can still enjoy academy life and time with friends while staying focused on larger goals and your long-term success.”

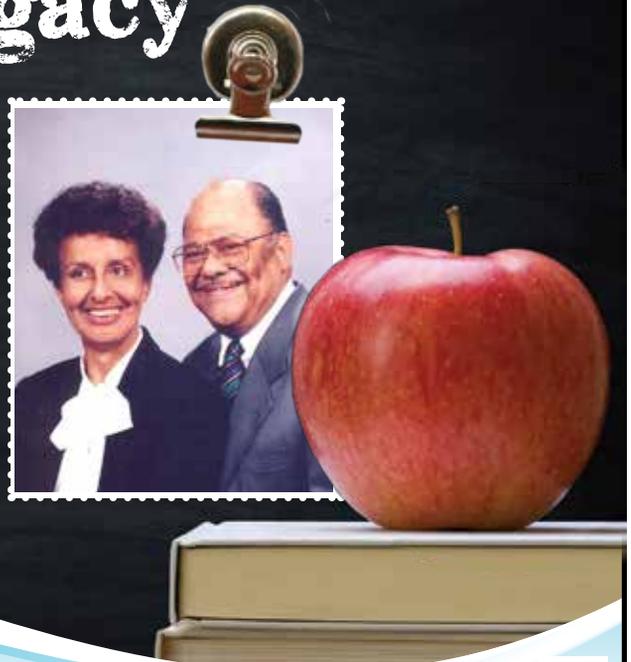
Alva James-Johnson is a former newspaper reporter, and is currently an assistant professor in the School of Journalism and Communication at Southern Adventist University.

Fostering a Legacy

With a love for young people and a desire to foster their academic and spiritual development, Pastor Milton Young, and his wife, Ramona, presented a substantial annuity and bequest to Oakwood University. These resources were used to establish nursing and ministerial student scholarships.

While Pastor Young and his wife have both passed, their love for young people will live on through the philanthropic legacy they have established.

▶ To learn how you can have your values live on, contact your local conference or university Planned Giving and Trust Services professional.



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AHS Focuses on Patients' Spiritual Needs with Training to Support Outpatient Spiritual Care



More than three dozen clinical mission integration specialists took part in the training.

In health care, the spiritual needs of patients are an often-under-addressed part of their health that can drastically influence their overall well-being. In fact, research shows that people who are more religious or spiritual experience better overall health compared to those who are less so. Knowing this, Adventist Health System (AHS) embarked on a journey to enhance the way spiritual care is delivered through a purposeful focus on spiritual health in the outpatient setting.

To this end, the organization recently hired and trained a team of clinical mission integration (CMI) specialists to equip them with the tools, knowledge, and infrastructure they need to support providers and front-line staff in the delivery of spiritual care in the outpatient setting. More than three dozen CMI specialists from across the organization took part in the training, which included presentations from AHS leaders, overviews on the foundational principles of spiritual care, and sessions on physician engagement and well-being.

In addition, Adventist Health System will integrate three questions to assess the “spiritual wholeness” or “well-being” of a patient into the patient’s electronic medical record (EMR) to assure that providers can account for how the spiritual condition impacts their health. The questions specifically ask about the patient’s condition related to love, joy, and peace in their lives. Each is-

sue is mapped to other specific health issues that may be affected by the answer a patient gives, and the CMI team is alerted when there is a concern regarding their answers.

“We aspire to make every patient interaction a spiritual encounter, and in doing so, it is very important that we provide the infrastructure that will enable our CMI team to support the providers and front-line staff members who will be engaging patients in their spiritual health,” said Terry Shaw, president/CEO for Adventist Health System. “This new program will allow us to bring spiritual care to where we serve the majority of our patients each year.”

While spiritual care has traditionally been provided by chaplains in the hospital setting, today many more patients are receiving care in the outpatient setting. In fact, more than 90 percent of patient interactions across Adventist Health System take place in outpatient sites such as physician practices, urgent care facilities, and rehabilitation centers.

Upon completion of the training, CMI specialists began serving in markets across Adventist Health System’s 10-state footprint. Much of their work is training and supporting care providers and staff in the delivery of spiritual care to patients who wish to receive it; fostering care environments that reflect the organization’s mission of “Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ”; and focusing on

wholeness, building strong relationships, and serving as liaisons between providers and the clinical mission integration team.

Adventist Health System’s enhanced focus on spiritual care in the outpatient setting is inspired, in part, by the results of its year-long study that examined the attitudes and practices of care providers as they relate to the integration of spirituality in patient care. The study, published in multiple medical journals, showed that a majority of providers are willing to assess the spiritual needs of patients, and that providers who receive training on how to appropriately engage patients on spirituality are twice as likely to regularly conduct spiritual assessments.

“We have known for some time that the vast majority of patients welcome discussions with their doctors about their faith and spiritual health,” said Ted Hamilton, M.D., senior vice president of mission and ministry and chief mission integration officer for Adventist Health System. “With the study revealing that providers are willing to address this very important aspect of a patient’s health, we are encouraged and excited to provide the groundwork and resources to help fully meet the needs of our patients through a care experience that is wholistic and comprehensive.”

BY MARIO ROBERTS

Florida Hospital, GE Healthcare Partners to Build ‘Command Center’ to Guide Clinical Operations

Adventist Health System’s Florida Hospital and GE Healthcare Partners are working together to design and build a command center that will transform clinical operations at Florida Hospital locations across central Florida. The high-tech center, the first of its kind in the region, will use predictive analytics to help hospital staff working to deliver quality, safe, and optimized clinical operations.

The command center will function like NASA’s mission control, but focused on constantly orchestrating patient care at nine Florida Hospital campuses in Orange, Seminole, and Osceola counties. Together, these hospitals handle more than 2,000,000 patient visits per year, making Florida Hospital one of the nation’s largest nonprofit health systems.

The command center’s Wall of Analytics leverages existing IT systems. The platform takes data from multiple systems and applies artificial intelligence algorithms to spot the “needle in the haystack,” so staff can act to prioritize patient-care activities and discharges, make short-term staffing decisions, and mitigate potential bottlenecks before they occur.

Command-center technology has also been shown to reduce wait times, expediting needed patient care. And, by using near real-time data, providers can streamline their processes in time-sensitive clinical situations.

Florida Hospital joins a growing ecosystem of such centers, which includes The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore and Humber River Hospital in Toronto. Florida Hospital’s Command Center (FHCC) will achieve the distinction of being the largest health-care command center (square footage) supporting



The center, the first of its kind in the region, will use predictive analytics to guide decisions on patient care, staffing, and more.

the largest number of beds and hospital campuses. Analytic “tiles” in the FHCC will leverage learning from the other centers, and break new ground in using artificial intelligence to constantly help caregivers.

“Florida Hospital prides itself on utilizing innovative technology to provide the best possible care for our patients. Our goal is to improve the patient experience, enabling caregivers to spend more time with their patients while making care decisions more easily and quickly,” said Daryl Tol, president and CEO of Florida Hospital and Adventist Health System’s Central Florida Division. “We are excited to partner with GE Healthcare Partners to bring this innovative

concept to our care network.”

“Command center staff using advanced analytics in a purpose-built space will help caregivers help patients, all the time. The combination of human and artificial intelligence is what’s so powerful,” added Jeff Terry, CEO of command centers for GE Healthcare. “Florida Hospital is so advanced in many ways. We’re honored for them to join GE’s command center community.”

The command center will be built in a centralized location to serve Florida Hospital operations across the region. It is expected to open in 2019. 📍

BY FLORIDA HOSPITAL MEDIA RELATIONS

Two Adventurer Fun Days Hosted



PHOTO BY: ISAAC VALLEJO

Every year all the Adventurer clubs from North and South Carolina come together for Fun Day at Nosoca Pines Ranch. This year, because of the steadily increasing number of attendees each year, the Carolina Conference hosted not one, but two Fun Days — one for North Carolina and one for South Carolina.

This year's theme was "Explorers for Jesus!" Teacher and avid outdoorsman Rodney Ramey served as guest speaker. "Ranger Rodney" came swinging in Tarzan-style for his presentation as he encouraged the Adventurers to explore God's world, and to take a look at things they'd never seen before.

The Adventurers had the opportunity to take part in activities such as caving, climbing, hunting for treasure, zip lining, and horseback riding, as well as an American Ninja Warrior-type obstacle course.

However, there was much more to these activities than just having fun. They also gave the Adventurers a glimpse of how God's people through the centuries have had to explore caves, climb mountains, and live outdoors in order to preserve their freedom to worship God.

Stanley Knight, Conference youth director, said, "At the end we all got back together to challenge them with the fact that you've been tested and approved, and have done a little bit of exploring, but that's just the surface of what you can explore in a life with God."

Approximately 90 volunteers from churches all over the Carolinas came together to make the event a success. The event also broke attendance records with more than 1,300 participants during both days. 📍

BY RACHEL BEAVER



PHOTO BY: ISAAC VALLEJO

Education Fair Held at BRACS

On the evening of April 18, 2018, Blue Ridge Adventist Christian School (BRACS) held an education fair. The building was full of students, parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors, all of whom were eager to see the students' projects: student-authored books, science projects, social studies ventures, Bible projects, and arts and crafts.

The evening began with an interactive devotional presented by Designer Science, using visible vortex rings and climbing high voltage arcs to illustrate spiritual applications. Afterward, the exhibits, including the school's FM radio station, were open to visit. The students do the programming, write copy, and make announcements. On each student's desk were two self-authored books, which were hard-covered and nicely illustrated. A variety of microscopes, including a university model, were also on display. All the microscopes are available to the students for inquiry.



PHOTO BY: CONTRIBUTOR

Beside the back door of the classroom was a wireless digital weather station, which students use in science class and for daily weather reports on the radio station. In the back corner of the classroom was an incubator filled with chicken and turkey eggs. They didn't hatch in time for the fair, but

the fuzzy little miracles made their appearances during the following week.

The curriculum at BRACS includes Bible, math, English (phonics, spelling, reading, writing, and grammar), social studies, science, and keyboarding. These core subjects are supplemented with music, art, crafts, the radio station and weather station, technology, public performances, the Science Fair, gardening, physical education, cooking, mission outreach, and field trips. Age-appropriate STEM components are thoroughly covered.

BRACS exists to provide an exceptional educational atmosphere in which students are motivated to learn and grow physically, socially, spiritually, emotionally, and mentally in a secure environment. All work together to encourage and support growth for future service in this life and higher service to God in the life to come. ●

BY SUE DASHER

Hispanic Camp Meeting Draws 500

The Carolina Conference's spring Hispanic Camp Meeting was held April 20-22, 2018, at Nosoca Pines Ranch. The theme was "Rise Up and Shine," and about 500 attendees gathered at the camp for a time of fellowship and spiritual refreshment. The Lord blessed the event with beautiful weather for the baptisms of two people. Attendees also had the opportunity to take part in the first 5K held at Hispanic Camp Meeting, which was a hit among those who participated.

Guest speaker Walkyr Montilla from the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference encouraged members to "Rise Up and Shine" for Jesus, share the Gospel, and grow spiritually. Japhet Ruiz was the guest musical artist. He performed a miniconcert on Sabbath afternoon.

Because of the large number of people who attend every year, two Hispanic Camp



PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD

Meetings are held annually — one in the spring and one in the fall. This year's fall Camp Meeting will be held in September. ●

BY RACHEL BEAVER

Florida Conference Launches Innovation and Robotics Initiative



The Forest Lake Education Center Robotics Team developed an app to communicate via Bluetooth to an Arduino microcontroller to manage flow of water through the Smart Faucet. Team Hydro was named tournament champion: Bradley Figueroa (left), Leyla Martinez, Brenden Henley, and Sam Alves. Not pictured: Taylor Shellhammer, Emma Goddard, and Amelia Alvarez.



Christina Nickless, member of the Forest Lake Academy Applied Robotics Group, is making adjustments to her team's robot. Team Terminator finished in second place at the Adventist Robotics League FIRST Tech Challenge Championship on April 29, 2018, at Sacramento Adventist Academy in Sacramento, Calif.

Twenty innovation and robotics teams participated in the Annual FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Innovation and Robotics Competition held on March 26, 2018, at Forest Lake Education Center, Longwood, Fla.

This competition, a cross between CNBC's Shark Tank and the DARPA Challenge (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency), is composed of two distinct tracks:

1. Innovation track requires students to research a real-world problem, design an innovative solution to that problem, and prototype the solution.
2. Robotics engineering track requires students to design, build, and program an autonomous robot capable of completing a series of tasks in two minutes and 30 seconds.

The program is a component of Florida Conference Office of Education (FLOE) Innovation and Robotics initiative, with a goal of bringing project-based learning, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education, innovation, and design thinking to each of its schools,

thereby producing a workforce that is well versed in STEM and possesses 21st century skills (collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, and communication).

"We need workers that are critical thinkers and that can solve problems in innovative ways," states Doug Hilliard, CFO of Florida Hospital.

The initiative will seek to enhance the learner experience by engaging him/her through their learning profile (learning style, multiple intelligences preference, and passion/interests), the use of compelling and relevant STEM curricula, the use of the latest educational technologies, and the creation of dynamic learning environments that support and encourage student-led innovation.

"The ultimate goal is for each school to become an innovation hub that will impact its local community through dynamic social entrepreneurial integration and implementation," states Frank Runnels, Florida Conference vice president for education.

FLCOE has partnered with STEM organizations and professionals to assist in developing learning experiences such as internships, coops, and educational events.

One such event was the Adventist Education in the 21st Century STEMposium, which was held on May 4, 2018 at the Florida Hospital Creation Conference Center. The mission of this annual event, which was a joint endeavor between Florida Hospital Innovation Lab and FLCOE, was to bring together students, educators, and leaders from across multiple STEM industries to examine issues impacting STEM education in the Adventist educational system.

An outcome of the STEMposium is the Florida Conference STEM Professionals Summit to be held in the fall of 2018. The purpose of the summit is to engage every STEM professional in the Florida Conference and invite them to join in this journey.

Other components of the initiative include the Innovation and Robotics Academy Program, Innovation and Robotics Lab, Virtual STEM School, and the Social Innovator Program. It has been successfully piloted in several Conference schools with tremendous success. Over the next three years, it will be deployed throughout the Conference. 📍

BY ROBERT HENLEY

FLA Student Receives Award for Volunteering

Alex Harlan, a freshman at Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, Fla., was recently honored for his community service during Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer's Annual Volunteer and National Service Appreciation Reception at City Hall. Afterwards, he was able to shake hands and meet with Mayor Dyer personally.

Harlan began volunteering by getting involved with Volunteers for Community Impact. He worked specifically at the Winter Park Public Library for Cyber Seniors, a program educating senior citizens how to use new technology. Harlan helped teach a class of 10 to 15 people how to set up passwords for their phones and computers, set up emails, look things up on YouTube, and text and call their family members.

Volunteering taught Harlan to share the



Alex Harlan, a freshman at Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, Fla., was recently honored by Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer for his community service.

knowledge he knows with other people. He was surprised by how much he learned from the senior citizens he was teaching. "Even though you don't get paid," said Harlan, "it's still a really great experience. You gain a sense of fulfillment by helping others."

Harlan was asked to return to the Cyber Seniors program, but he declined because he wanted to explore other volunteer opportunities. In addition to working at the library, he also volunteers with Track Shack for their various races.

Harlan's story is a great reminder to willingly share one's time and gifts with others. "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms," 1 Peter 4:10 NIV. 📌

BY ADONNA ANDINO

Inner City Youth Impact Forest Lake Academy Students

National Honor Society students from Forest Lake Academy in Apopka, Fla., volunteered at the Orlando Children's Church in Maitland, Fla., on a recent Sabbath. This nonprofit outreach ministry provides at-risk children with a day to enjoy a meal, escape the harshness of life at home, and learn about God.

The students at FLA have gone to many other places and served, but this place was quite different. Listening to some of the children's touching stories and hearing what the kids go through daily impacted the students.

FLA students pitched in to entertain and play with the kids, helped around the building with a variety of jobs, and also cleaned the buses used to transport the



National Honor Society students at Forest Lake Academy volunteer at Orlando Children's Church.

children from their homes to the church.

The happiness expressed by these at-risk children radiated to FLA students and teachers. Even though their lives at home are hard, they enjoyed the chance to gather for fun in a Christ-like and calm

environment.

Forest Lake Academy's National Honor Society students are very proud to have helped. 📌

BY THOMAS BROOME

Chattanooga First Debt Free, Burns Mortgage

Amere six months after its grand 100th anniversary celebration, Chattanooga First Church marked another major milestone in the history of the congregation. In a mortgage burning ceremony on April 21, 2018, the church was declared debt-free.

The simple, yet impressive ceremony was folded into the regular divine worship service, with Kurt Allen, treasurer of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, officiating. With joyful “amens,” the congregation learned, many for the first time, that the size of the debt retired after 12 years was \$1.8 million.

Allen assembled a group at the front of the church for the ceremony: Dale Tunnell, senior pastor; David Melton, associate pastor; Jeff Hocking, former church treasurer during their 12-year mortgage-payment struggle; Peggy Schmidt, present treasurer; Charles Wilson, who was instrumental in securing the loan for the building project; and the elders of Chattanooga First Church.

In his prayer of thanksgiving and dedication, Allen asked God’s blessing on the congregation, and dedicated the members to service to those who “may yet step inside the doors of the church.” Charles Wilson lit the fire, and the members watched it glow and leave their mortgage in ashes.

“It’s not every day that you get to play with matches in church, said guest speaker Ed Wright, president of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. His sermon drew upon Nehemiah’s experience of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. The mortgage burning, Wright said, was “a pivotal point for the church — a time for celebration, a time for renewed commitment, and a time to ask God, ‘What next?’” Wright told the congregation, “Today you are emancipated. Now is the time to ask, ‘God, what do you want us to do next?’ He reminded the congrega-



PHOTO BY: JUDITH NEMBARD

The church leaders for the Chattanooga First Church were allowed to play with matches as they celebrated the burning of their mortgage, a \$1.8 million debt paid in full.

tion there is still work to be done.

The service ended with the committed voices of devoted benefactors raised in

the singing of “To God Be the Glory.”

BY JUDITH NEMBARD

Collegedale Academy Choir Ministers Through Music in Europe



SUBMITTED BY: ANGI HOWELL

Before flying home from Munich, Germany, Opus XVIII choir got one last opportunity to sing in Marienplatz. “Tourists stopped to video us as we sang in half-circle in the open plaza. The square was bustling, but it felt like we made a small, joyous impact on those who heard us,” recalled Ben Mocnik, Collegedale Academy senior.

After a year and a half of planning and fundraising, the select Opus XVIII choir from Collegedale Academy (CA) in Collegedale, Tenn., ministered throughout three European countries during Spring Break 2018.

Nearly 40 students, accompanied by a dozen chaperones and the group’s choir director, Roberta Bishop, began the adventure in Munich, Germany. There Opus gave impromptu concerts at the Dachau concentration camp, where they offered a song of memory and honor; at Hofbräuhaus, where many early 20th-century political meetings were held; and at Nymphenburg Palace, the summer palace of Bavarian rulers.

“At the palace we were able to sing three different times,” said Cesia Hernandez, CA junior, “and the other visitors would stop and listen to our songs. The acoustics were amazing, as were the architecture and grandness of the castle.”

The choir’s next stop was in Austria

at Bogenhofen, an Adventist language school and seminary. Opus performed for the community and the Adventist high school/college during Vespers and Sabbath services. By their applause, the local congregation and students showed that they thoroughly enjoyed what they heard.

On Saturday night, the Bogenhofen Student Association planned a mixer for their students and the CA students, which was followed by an indoor soccer game.

“We have forged a sisterhood with Bogenhofen and their students,” explains Brent Baldwin, CA principal. “Last year and this year [about one month after Opus returned], several Bogenhofen high school students visited the CA campus for two weeks in the spring. In return, their host families are invited to send their high school students to Bogenhofen during the summer. This short-term exchange program has created friendships despite the distance. From the moment we stepped off the bus to the time we had to leave for our next part of the tour,

our students and theirs found commonalities and learned about each other’s cultures.”

Upon leaving the Austrian school, the group headed one hour south to the city of Salzburg. Julie Wiegel, Language School director at Bogenhofen, served as a tour guide while Opus made several Sound of Music movie stops, and sang some of their sacred songs in the Sound of Music cathedral.

“In addition to the wedding cathedral, we got to see the home of the von Trapp family, the ‘Sixteen Going on Seventeen’ gazebo, and the cemetery where the children hid,” said Jamie Henderson, CA senior. “On the bus ride to these sites, the entire group sang the Sound of Music songs together — with Mr. Baldwin belting out the songs the loudest ... Who knew?!”

In Salzburg, the students also visited several of Austria’s historic sites, such as the birthplace of Mozart, and performed for visitors in another cathedral. By divine appointment, the students were able to be a part of its 15-minute midday, multi-denominational service.

“Mr. Beasley, CA biology teacher and parent of an Opus member, was instrumental in talking with the leaders in many of the cathedrals to give us permission to sing in them,” said Hope Hunnicut, CA junior. “Singing in the cathedrals was an amazing experience — both in getting to minister to the guests and in marveling over the sounds we could make in those grandiose and ornate places.”

“Watching God use Opus to permeate cultural boundaries with the language of music leaves me forever changed,” exclaimed choir director Bishop. “What an epic experience!” ●

BY ANGI HOWELL

CORRECTION: On page 27 of the June 2018 *Southern Tidings*, the article on Wally and Mary Ellen Fox retiring was written by Jodi Herod Steele rather than Tammy Wolcott Fisher.

“Elevate” Launches in Hattiesburg



PHOTO BY: SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Jim Stewart, pastor of Laurel Church in Hattiesburg, Miss., preaches about what a church should be at the Elevate launch event.

More than 60 friends, visitors, and family poured into Elevate, a worship center on Old Highway 11 in Hattiesburg, Miss., on Sabbath, May 5, 2018. They went to celebrate the launch of a new endeavor to reach their city with the truth of the loving character of God. Several months in the making, Jim Stewart, pastor of Laurel Church, worked with many talented volunteers to remodel the storefront space into a capable worship center. Leading up to the launch event, Stewart presented an evangelistic series focused on vindicating the character of God. Many believe God to be something or someone that He is not, basing their understanding of who He

is on the example of nominal Christian teachings and representation. Elevate seeks to change that understanding for the better.

Following the opening music of the worship service, a live group of musicians led by Michelle Alonso, Stewart preached the opening sermon. “Why does the church exist?” he asked during his presentation, “The profoundly simple answer is that the church exists to be an atmosphere in which grace and mercy and love is applied to human hearts.” Concluding the sermon, which focused on telling the story of Abraham, Isaac, and then Jacob, Stewart stated, “This is the church. The church is ekklesia. The

church is the assembly of those who are called to reconstitute an environment for God’s love to prevail, and for people to be healed of their brokenness, to be accepted contrary to what their incriminating hearts, and what the condemnatory world around them tells them — an environment in which people find restoration and healing.”

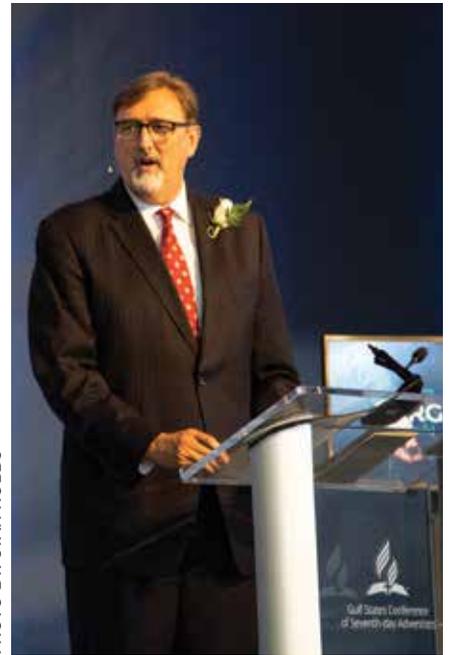
Watch a short video about the opening service at gscsda.org/elevatelaunch. 📺

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Two Ordained at Camp Meeting



Samuel Riemersma (left) is accompanied by his wife, Amber, and sons, Isaac, Noah, and Elijah. Shane Hochstetler (right) is accompanied by his wife, Amy, and sons, Jack and Henry.



Robert Folkenberg Jr., speaks on the importance of maintaining the family as the pastor's first parish.

PHOTO BY: STAN HOBBS

PHOTO BY: STAN HOBBS

Shane Hochstetler, communication director for Gulf States, and Samuel Riemersma, pastor of Community Church in Meridian, Miss. were ordained to the Gospel ministry on Sabbath, May 27, 2018, during Camp Meeting at Bass Memorial Academy.

Hochstetler was raised in a Mennonite home on the countryside of Ohio. He and his four siblings were homeschooled, and learned the value of hard work at a very early age.

At 10 years old, his family left the Mennonites, and became active members of a local non-denominational church. Having made such a significant spiritual change, Hochstetler felt sure he was now where he was supposed to be. This mindset remained until he began speaking to a young Adventist girl from his former Christian homeschool group. After several months of Bible study, Hochstetler was baptized in August 2008 at the age of 21, and married his Bible instructor, Amy, the following year.

They have two sons, ages two and five. As a family, they have served pastorally

for a multi-church district, and currently in the Gulf States communication department. Their goal is to improve the representation of Christ through positive media and marketing throughout the Conference.

Riemersma was born to Dutch parents in the Netherlands. He grew up in the Dutch Reformed Church, and when he was a late teen, he and his family became Seventh-day Adventists through reading *The Great Controversy*, which a coworker had given to his dad. After graduating with a bachelor's in engineering in 2007 and working for a year in that field, Riemersma decided to take a year off to attend a Bible school in the U.S. called ARISE. This school was a pivotal part of Riemersma's life as he was called into fulltime Bible work ministry following graduation. He also met his wife, Amber, at ARISE, and they worked together as part of a Bible work team the following two years. After they married, he continued Bible work in New Zealand for another year.

God has blessed the Riemersmas with

three wonderful and energetic boys, ages five months, three years, and four years old. As a family, they love spending time in the great outdoors, working on home projects, and serving God's Church in pastoral ministry. Riemersma recently graduated with a master's in pastoral ministry through the In Ministry program at Andrews University in Berrien Spring, Mich.

Robert Folkenberg Jr., president of the Chinese Union Mission, was the keynote speaker for the service. Folkenberg has previously served as president for the Upper Columbia Conference, and was instrumental in making way for churches to hire Bible workers there. Both Hochstetler and Riemersma served as Bible workers for Upper Columbia while Folkenberg was president. Dave Livermore, president of Gulf States Conference; Brian Danese, Conference treasurer; and Martin Fancher, Conference executive secretary, also participated in the afternoon service. ●

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER

Student Says “God Saw My Tears”



Students, faculty, and staff from the 2017-18 school year at Highland Academy

The following is a devotion written by a Highland Academy student.

It was a hot day in July where I sat outside of Chipotle with tears running down my cheeks. I silently raised prayers of sorrow and guilt. Hopeless is truly the best definition to describe how I felt at that moment.

I had taken a really stressful summer job away from home. It paid well and my coworkers were nice, but the work itself was aggravating. During this time my parents were struggling both emotionally and financially. I needed a good summer experience and money, so I took the work opportunity. Unfortunately, my mother had just used her entire saving's account for her schooling. Money became a huge

need for us since she spent that money on summer classes so she could graduate earlier and start working sooner.

While I was away at my job, there was a time we only had \$30 in our bank account. She didn't have enough money to send me so I could buy food. I broke down in tears. I didn't feel despair because of lack of food, but because of how sorry I felt for my mother. Hearing her say, "I am sorry," devastated me. We still had to pay our bill from the previous year at Highland Academy, pay the phone bill, and find an apartment — and I needed to eat. I finally realized we wouldn't be able to pay for me to go to Highland next year.

Everything was so stressful. I truly hated my job, and I wanted to quit so badly.

If I did, how would we pay for the things we needed? Tears of absolute doubt rolled down my cheeks. God had done amazing things for me in the past, but why was it now so hard to trust Him?

A simple prayer and a little faith changed things drastically. One of my bosses offered to buy me food. The next day my mother had enough money for us. Unfortunately, I had some medical problems which forced me to quit my job. During my recovery time at home, I received a letter from Highland saying how much financial aid I was approved for, and I was so happy! I would be able to go back to Highland! I felt like God wanted me at Highland, but why?

In August when I went back to school, I met a lot of new students who needed comfort in the dorm. I was able to help them, encourage them, and be their friend. I got to share Christ's love with them. This showed me God needed me at Highland. I'm so grateful for those who helped me, for donors, and for the staff who also helped me. "...before they call, I will answer and while they are still speaking, I will hear," Isaiah 65:24. 🙏

God Works Miracles in Louisville

It was a high day of celebration for the Louisville Central Hispanic Church on Sabbath afternoon, April 28, 2018, as the members dedicated their newly remodeled church.

The congregation purchased a former Catholic church in September 2017, which had been empty for more than seven years. It is located on seven acres, and includes two additional residential homes on one of the main highways in Louisville, Ky. The sanctuary and gymnasium with eight classrooms needed a lot of work. During the last seven months, the congregation, along with many other helpers, put in untold hours of labor to get the building ready for the grand opening. The transformation of this former shell of a building that was built in 1965 into a new church

home for this congregation was phenomenal. Many of the members, along with Walkyr Montilla, their pastor, worked their regular day jobs and then went to the property to spend another day's worth of work in the evening to get the building in shape and ready for use.

God worked untold miracles, from the way the original listing price of the property was lowered to a very acceptable, workable purchase price, to the way help always arrived at the right time to update the electrical wiring and the plumbing in the building. Somehow, there was always enough money to get the extra items that were needed but not originally budgeted for, like light fixtures, windows, pews, and furniture.

The members see God's hand in all of

this, and pray He will continue to bless them as they reach out to their neighbors and make a difference in their lives by introducing them to Jesus. 🙏



PHOTO BY:

The newly remodeled Louisville Central Hispanic Church

BY SILKE HUBBARD

Public Campus Students Reached

At Southern Adventist University a recruiter shared that out of 20,000 high school graduates in the North American Division (NAD), only 10 percent were pursuing enrollment in an Adventist postsecondary institution. That fact was clear at the Lexington Church when Ron Pickell, NAD volunteer coordinator for Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF), asked the congregation to stand if they attended a public university; very few remained seated.

Young adults are encouraged to attend Adventist institutions, but the reality is that the vast majority of Adventist students in North America attend public campuses. This is an opportunity for the Church to minister to this group of young adults. The Campus Catalyst Conference is designed to help the local church realize that public campus ministry is very simple: it is about relationships. Pickell made a comparison of Jesus' evangelism strategy with the Samaritan woman and today's public campuses. Going where stu-



Attendees of the Campus Catalyst Conference

dents are, public campuses, is the strategy.

Students attending public campuses are oftentimes challenged by secular environments. Many feel isolated due to beliefs, while others are under stress trying to keep up with the expectations of teachers, family, and society. The goal is to graduate with an above average GPA so they can be attractive to good colleges, universities, and employers. Is there time for God while focusing on reaching academic goals?

This past April 7, 2018, several student leaders from four different campuses, as well as professors and church members, attended the second Campus Catalyst Con-

ference hosted by the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference in Lexington, Ky. These students represent today's Daniels and Esthers in houses of higher education. They are busy; however, they realize that God and His mission comes first.

There are five different ACF chapters in the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference. They ask for prayer for more student leaders to step up, and compassionate congregations and visionary leaders to welcome youth and young adults into their church family. 🙏

BY NELSON SILVA, D.MIN.

Murfreesboro Church "Spring into NEW LIFE"



Pictured are the gentlemen hired to operate the paper shredder.

PHOTO BY: "We should do a fall festival!" was the idea of Erika Holsey during a brainstorming session for the pre-work event to be done in preparation for the 2018 Impact Nashville field school meetings. Because of time limitations, the decision was made to make it a spring festival, giving ample time for preparations. Church ministry leaders began meeting with the pastor, Nelson Mercado, in January with the goal of having an event that would serve the community while showcasing the ministries of Murfreesboro Church. The festival was named, "Spring into NEW LIFE."

It was decided to serve the community by having a free community shredder

event while each church ministry had a booth promoting their activities. This included WHRW-LP 93.5 FM which broadcasts 3ABN radio from the Murfreesboro Church.

Many members of the community stopped by and took books that were given out by Gold Leaf Ministries. The gentlemen who were hired to operate the paper shredder were so interested in the book, "Hero of Hacksaw Ridge." They couldn't put it down. At the end of the activity, they said that they were impressed by the love and kindness of the church members. Plans for next year's spring festival will begin soon. 🙏

BY NELSON MERCADO

Ephesus Early Learning Center Growing the Village



At Ephesus Early Learning Center “It takes a village” is more than just a nice, catchy saying. It is the hinge point of their daily operations. They are a city set upon the hill, cooperating with parents, the church, the elementary school, and their broader community in preparing little lambs to

take their next steps in being good learners and citizens on Earth and in Heaven. The children are encouraged to grow and learn in a Christ-centered environment which is safe, nurturing, and filled with opportunities for exploration and discovery. The program is well rounded, and provides opportunities for structured

classroom activities, while the children also have the freedom to learn through creative, independent activities.

In order to fuel both body and spirit, a healthy serving of “soul food” is served, developing character and pointing the children to Jesus. In addition to feeding the soul, the center takes pride in serving a variety of healthful, wholesome meals to the children to complete the trans-disciplinary, integrated learning experience offered by Ephesus Early Learning Center.

At Ephesus, art is one of their favorite activities. Students enjoy drawing, cutting, pasting, and of course, painting. Another favorite activity is when Gloria Cain from the Winston-Salem Library reads to them. They are also learning the value of service through helping others by asking parents and friends to collect donations for those less fortunate. 📖

BY JOYCE HAIRSTON, DIRECTOR OF
EPHESUS EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Message Magazine Editor “Hits the Bricks” with Dublin First Church



First Church in Dublin, Ga., young and old do outreach together.



Lloyd Johnson, pastor at First Church in Dublin, Ga., with some of the members during the *Message* magazine rally day



Camela Monk Crawford, *Message* magazine editor

First Church in Dublin, Ga., hosted a *Message* magazine rally day on April 14, 2018. Excited members from Milledgeville Ebenezer, Macon Bethany, and other area churches collaborated to reach 360 homes within one mile of First Church. Carmela Monk Crawford, *Message* magazine editor, preached and gave an inspirational appeal that was well received.

Crawford put feet to her faith, working with the members as they “hit the bricks” to bring *Message* to hundreds of homes. Doing outreach in Dublin was especially meaningful for Crawford because her late father, J. Paul Monk, used to pastor the district when she was a little girl.

The host pastor, Lloyd Johnson, orga-

nized the teams and territory, and made sure everyone was hydrated. William Smith, Southern Union publishing director, accompanied the members as they spread the joy of salvation to others. However, there wouldn’t be much to celebrate if visiting members had not sacrificed the convenience of worshiping at their home churches to help another congregation.

The outreach plan that day was so simple, brief, and rewarding that members of all ages enjoyed the experience. It started with all of the members filling a plastic “Sharewaves”* door-hanging bag with a *Message* magazine. More than 350 bags were packed in no time. Instructions were given to members to simply mingle, visit each home with a smile, and leave a gift

bag on the door. There were no canvasses, surveys, or discussions about denomination or doctrines on this first visit. It was simply a “free-gift day.”

Some members were not interested in going at first, but allowed God’s Spirit to prevail anyway. When it was finished, they testified of how refreshing it was to be a blessing to others.

*Sharewaves refers to the online store www.sharewaves.org, a resource of the South Atlantic Conference Publishing Department which provides caring resources at inexpensive sharing prices. 📞

BY LLOYD JOHNSON AND WILLIAM SMITH

Tampa Robotics Team Wins Big



PHOTO BY: EDSON JARVIS

Mt. Calvary Jr. Academy robotics team members conduct onsite research at a local water purification plant in preparation for their robotics challenge. Mt. Calvary took home first place in project design process at the 2018 Adventist Robotics League National Championships.

FIRST® LEGO® League gives teams of up to 10 students the chance to research a real-world challenge, then innovate and develop their own solution through designing, building, and programming LEGO MINDSTORMS®-based robots to perform autonomous “missions” on a playing field. Mt. Calvary Jr. Academy in Tampa, Fla., accepted the challenge.

The 2017-2018 challenge season theme was Hydrodynamics. The team learned about the amazing engineering used to protect our most precious liquid asset — water! Mt. Calvary represent-

ed Southeastern in the Florida Regional challenge on March 25, 2018, and was awarded second place in project, honorable mention for robot design, and third place in robot performance. For the first time, the school was invited to the North American Division invitational, open only to the top teams from the regional challenges. Teams must receive an invitation from the Adventist Robotics League director to participate. The school was proud to be the first team from Southeastern to compete in the National Championships.

The championship tournament was

held at Forest Lake Education Center in Altamonte Springs, Fla. There they competed with top teams from the five regions, and earned first place in project design process. They also met other Adventist teams from Washington State, Ohio, California, and North Carolina. The team that traveled the furthest was from Saipan, located in the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. This was an exciting experience for both the students and adults. ①

BY FRANCINE BROWN

Ephesus Ministers with Compassion



A member of Ephesus Church in West Palm Beach, Fla., shares bottles of water with participants of the recent “March for Our Lives” demonstration. Ephesus youth opted to postpone their Global Youth Day activities, and participate with the national protest.

It was clear to those serving that this act of kindness and goodwill was welcomed, as participants and spectators repeatedly extended commendations, and shared expressions of gratitude for the group’s collective effort. On at least two occasions, when the water supply depleted, supporters of the group’s cause donated additional cases.

When asked about her experience in service, one volunteer remarked, “I feel as if I preached a sermon today.” Another volunteer shared, “I am glad I came out to help.”

Assisting with this initiative was Keith Albury, pastor of Ephesus. When asked about his impressions regarding its impact, he shared, “I am encouraged to know that among the thousands who marched today, they are sure that the Ephesus Church empathizes with their fears and pain in the wake of the most recent mass shootings. Furthermore, what happened today affirms that compassion and kindness in their truest sense will always move us beyond our comfort zones...”

It is estimated that nearly 2,000 bottles of water were shared during this exercise. 📍

PHOTO BY: ELIZABETH BULLARD

BY ELIZABETH BULLARD

A group of volunteers from the Ephesus Church in West Palm Beach, Fla., met on March 24, 2018, and found a unique way to resonate with the mounting concern about school safety held by some residents. Inspired by the scriptural

admonition for neighborly care, the group handed out free bottles of water to participants of a local “March for Our Lives” event, as they were strategically stationed at one point along the designated route in the city of West Palm Beach.

Haitian Youth Build Emotional Health

Federation de la Jeunesse Adventiste Haitienne) annual celebration took place March 30-April 1, 2018. This year there was a special emphasis on addressing the holistic needs of the young people. Addressing the spiritual and cultural components remained a priority with worship, music led by featured gospel artist Herve Alce, and guest speaker Pierre Francois. Each worship service was filled with prayer and song while designed to reach Haitian youth. Nevertheless, it was also crucial that social and emotional issues were purposefully addressed throughout the weekend, and that extra support was offered to the young people in attendance.

The conference featured certified counselors and chaplains onsite, Matthew Jean, Georges Bossous Jr., Judith Gabriel, and Fanya Jabouin, who offered presentations on health and its relationship to overall well-being, and advancement within the church and community. The presenters, all private practitioners, were there to pray, talk, and connect with attendees to encourage them to live balanced, healthy, and wholesome lives. The goal was made to ensure that each young person was encouraged, inspired, and equipped to face the challenges of life, and pursue a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. 📍

BY NADEIGE THERESIAS



Pierre Francois reminds Sabbath worshippers that God has a plan for their lives at the 2018 Haitian Youth Federation. Youth were taught about the importance of physical and emotional health.

PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

Sandra Dunbar Named New Provost of Adventist University of Health Sciences

Sandra Dunbar, D.P.A., OTR/L, FAOTA, began her position as Adventist University of Health Sciences' (ADU) new provost on July 2, 2018. She succeeds Edwin I. Hernández, Ph.D., who was elected ADU's new president last August. Dunbar previously served as the assistant dean of the professional development and education, Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Science at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), a position she held for six years. Until last year, she also served as the University's Occupational Therapy Department chair, as well as a professor for several years.

Provosts ensure the excellence of academic programming in a university. As ADU's provost, Dunbar emphasizes the importance of providing the necessary support that students will need for their academic experience. She also describes a "keen ability to recognize the gaps and provide strategies for overall improvements" as a skill that is "an integral part" of a provost's role.

Dunbar holds a doctor of public administration (D.P.A.) degree from Nova Southeastern University, an M.A. in occupational therapy from New York University, and a B.S. in occupational therapy from Loma Linda University. One of her major career accomplishments has been the development of the Center for Academic and Professional Development at NSU, which offers a compilation of courses and other support systems for faculty and staff to further develop their skills. In addition, she has authored three textbooks, and has several journal publications.

The selection of Dunbar was a University-wide effort that started with a list of candidates provided by a consulting firm. Hernández conducted interviews with five of the most qualified individuals, and se-



Sandra Dunbar, D.P.A., OTR/L, FAOTA, ADU's new provost, started July 2, 2018.

lected three to bring to campus. All levels of the organization engaged in evaluating, interviewing, and providing feedback to Hernández, which contributed to his final decision to name Dunbar as his new provost on February 23, 2018.

"Deeply rooted in the Adventist faith, Dr. Dunbar brings deep passion and commitment to the mission of Christian higher education. She is a recognized leader in her field, whose scholarly and educational track record, as well as leadership in a clinical professional program, will contribute significantly to the development of our campus and the overall academic vision of AHS/FH," Hernández said. "We had three outstanding candidates. All of them could have served us well. Yet, Dr. Dunbar had all the experience, competencies, and personal qualities that received the greatest support from our campus, and most impor-

tantly, my confidence to be our chief academic leader."

Dunbar is enthusiastic about ADU's future and its capability for growth. "I feel that ADU can easily capitalize on the interprofessional education and practice movement, since there are a variety of professional programs within the University. Growing in areas of scholarship will enable ADU to be well recognized not only for stellar education, but also research contributions," she says.

With ADU's focus on Christ-centered education, its provost must be sure to also maintain a strong spiritual connection in the academic processes. Sharing about her own experiences attending several Adventist institutions from elementary school to college, Dunbar says, "I understand the value of this type of education and training, and fully embrace the opportunities that are provided in these contexts."

ADU's faith-based mission was a major incentive in drawing Dunbar's interest to joining the campus. She says, "I appreciate that I can be part of an environment that understands how critical it is for young people to have a relationship with Christ. I look forward to joining a campus where faith may be easily expressed in any encounter. This provost opportunity also provides an avenue to not only apply current leadership, management, and academic skills, but to build and expand on them."

ADU is blessed to have a leader with Dunbar's combination of faith, academic leadership experience, and passion join its campus. The students who are training to become skilled professionals who *live* healing values of Christ, will benefit from her vision and commitment. ❶

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Southern Scholar Accepts Grand Opportunity

Daniel Capo, junior outdoor leadership and history double major at Southern Adventist University, was offered one of 15 invitations nationwide to study in a less-than-conventional classroom this fall: the Grand Canyon.

This exclusive, semester-long program for honors students, titled “Boundaries and Borders: Limitless Exploration of Environment, People, and Place,” is a collaboration between the National Park Service, Northern Arizona University, and the National Collegiate Honors Council. It explores the landscape, cultures, and politics of the greater Grand Canyon region.

Capo, a member of Southern Scholars, Southern’s honors program, enthusiastically



Southern student Daniel Capo will spend three months studying in the Grand Canyon.

ally accepted the opportunity.

“How can I pass up studying in the Grand Canyon for three months?” he

said. “If I’m going to be an outdoor leader like I want to be, it just seems like a no brainer.”

Mark Peach, Ph.D., history professor and director of the Southern Scholars program, hopes that Capo and other students in the future will use this experience to broaden their academic scope.

“I see my job as locating enrichment opportunities and then helping students to apply,” Peach said. “Daniel is perfect for this. When he returns to Southern and shares his story, he might get other students to think, ‘Yeah, this is kind of out of my comfort zone, but I can still do this.’”

BY TIERRA HAYES

Southern Hosts Grammy-Winning Conductor



Students, faculty, and community members benefited from Herbert Blomstedt’s visit to Southern.

Herbert Blomstedt, conductor laureate of the San Francisco Symphony, spent three days at Southern this spring as a guest of the Eugene A. Anderson Organ Series. Events included a hymn sing

and short organ recital, a lecture on Johannes Brahms’ “A German Requiem” (along with a screening of Blomstedt’s performance of this work with the Danish National Symphony), and a panel discussion.

Judy Glass, professor in Southern’s School of Music and a personal friend of Blomstedt’s, explained that he accepted the invitation to Southern in hopes that his talents would spiritually and musically influence the students.

“It’s important to see someone at the top of his field who is so humble and willing to help students,” she said. “He is very personable; he has no ego and his center of focus is completely on God.”

During Blomstedt’s visit, Robert Young, Ph.D., senior vice president for academic administration, presented him with the Southern Adventist University Award for Outstanding Service and Scholarship. This honor recognizes Blomstedt’s distinguished

contributions to the world of classical music, his extensive service to the public, and his outstanding talent as a conductor.

In constant demand as a guest conductor, Blomstedt has led many of the world’s greatest orchestras, including the Vienna Philharmonic. A devout Seventh-day Adventist, he does not rehearse on Friday nights or Saturdays. Blomstedt does, however, conduct concerts, since he considers actual performances to be an expression of his religious devotion rather than work.

Blomstedt’s numerous distinctions include membership in the Royal Musical Academy of Stockholm, of which Beethoven was a member, and several honorary doctorates. In 1992, he was awarded Columbia University’s Ditson Award for distinguished service to American music.

BY STAFF REPORT

Entrenamiento Laico

El departamento hispano de Southern Union Conference (Unión del Sur) llevó a cabo una caravana de entrenamiento a cargo del pastor Alejandro Bullón, titulada “Jesús, tu Única Solución.” Además de los seminarios de Bullón, se entregó una mochila con diversos materiales, suficientes para trabajar con 5 personas. Entre ellos, dos Biblias, tres El Camino a Cristo en español, dos El Camino a Cristo en Inglés, tres estudios bíblicos Jesús es Todo, dos estudios La Fe de Jesús, un Conflicto de los Siglos, un Todo Miembro Involucrado, un set de 4 DVDs de estudios bíblicos por el Pr. Bullón, y ocho CDs de audio sobre la vida de Rut. Con estos materiales se trabajará por 5 meses con las personas interesadas para luego invitarlas a la Caravana de Cosecha en el mes de agosto.

Se recorrieron las ciudades de Lakeworth, Port St. Lucie, Melbourne, Gainesville y



Pastor Bullón conduciendo un seminario en Fayetteville, Carolina del Norte

Pensacola en Florida. Nashville, Tennessee, Morganton y Fayetteville en Carolina del Norte, y Summerville en Carolina del Sur.

El resultado de este programa fue un grupo de 1487 personas que se comprometieron a orar y trabajar por 5 personas usando el método de Jesús de interesarse por las necesidades cotidianas de la gente, ganar su confianza, y brindarles el amor de Dios. Los

resultados los producirá el Espíritu Santo de acuerdo a la promesa de Jesús:

“Y yo, si fuere levantado de la tierra, a todos atraeré a mí mismo.” Juan 12:32 VRV

SUYAPA VANEGAS, ASISTENTE ADMINISTRATIVA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA UNIÓN

El Amor De Jesús En Una Orquídea

Rosita, miembro de la compañía hispana Sorrento, en Florida, se encontraba sin poder dormir una noche tratando de descubrir la razón por la cual no se atraía más personas hacia Cristo. Hace 10 años que se unió a la iglesia y no veía un crecimiento significativo en su vida de misión. Se sentía estática, y tanta inactividad le estaba resultando incómoda. Hundida en estos pensamientos recordó el consejo que tantas veces había escuchado en la iglesia, de adoptar el método que Jesús utilizaba para atraer almas al Reino de los Cielos. Es muy sencillo: brindando un amor e interés sinceros por quienes lo rodeaban. Rosita Sintió que que el Espíritu de Dios estaba trabajando en su mente esa noche. Entre vueltas y vueltas en su cama, pensó: “¿por qué no acercarme a la gente regalando flores? Si voy con un panfleto no me abrirán la puerta, pero las flores van a tener otra reacción.” Comenzó a hacer una lista de conocidos concentrándose especialmente en mujeres, y el número llegó a 30. Inmediatamente su sueño se chocó con



Rosita (izquierda) entregando una orquídea a una conocida

la realidad al pensar en el costo de las flores. Si bien no era un pensamiento muy feliz, no perdió su entusiasmo. Se dio cuenta de que yendo a comer algo a un restaurante o en cualquier actividad intrascendente, ella gastaba un mínimo de 30 dólares. Por el contrario, este plan que estaba organizando tenía una meta de salvación. Fue así como a las 7:00 de la mañana llamó a una señora de la iglesia que trabaja en un negocio que se especializa en la venta de orquídeas. Inmediatamente consiguió un 50 por ciento de descuento. Compró algunas plantas a 6.00 dólares y comenzó a regalarlas. Para su alegría la mayoría de las personas la invitaban a regresar. Esto la entusiasmó a

continuar. Pronto recibió un descuento aún mayor: ahora pagaría 2 dólares por planta. Con cada orquídea regala una revista Centinela. Luego de hablar de temas de interés de la persona a quien está visitando, antes de retirarse le pregunta si tiene algún motivo de oración. Muchas veces recibe la respuesta: “llegaste en el momento justo.” En muy pocas ocasiones la gente se niega a orar. En la actualidad está orando por más de 60 personas. Si lo ve prudente, lee un pasaje bíblico. Ya lleva regaladas más de 160 orquídeas. Al relatar su experiencia, Rocita dijo: “Esta actividad es tan gratificante que no puedo parar.”

La iglesia se contagió del entusiasmo de Rosita, y son varios los que participan de la actividad. Es asombroso notar cómo a quien desea compartir con otros el amor de Cristo, él le da los medios para hacerlo y lo bendice con paz y gozo.

NIBIA MAYER, MIEMBRO DE LA COMPAÑÍA HISPANA SORRENTO Y ESPOSA DE JORGE MAYER, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA UNIÓN DEL SUR

Fayetteville, un Distrito Ocupado

Clínica de Salud AMÉN, un Servicio a la Comunidad

El viernes 13 y domingo 15 de abril, en las instalaciones de Crown Coliseum de Fayetteville Carolina del Norte, más de 22 miembros de la iglesia de Fayetteville y Abney Chapel liderados por Marilyn Nater y Elba Fuster, participaron sumando esfuerzos en la tarea médica gratuita de AMÉN (Adventist Medical Evangelistic Network). Esta entidad atiende necesidades de salud de personas carentes de seguro médico, y la membresía se unió en la tarea. Entre profesionales y voluntarios, hubo 330 personas colaborando en este emprendimiento. Se ofrecieron evaluaciones médicas, servicios dentales (rellenos, extracciones y limpiezas) con dentistas, higienistas y asistentes dentales, servicios de oftalmología en los que se otorgaban anteojos sin costo a quienes los necesitaban, mamografías, masajes terapéuticos, exámenes de colesterol y diabetes, y servicios de consejería y oración. Se llevaron a cabo alrededor de 1500 tratamientos, cuya suma asciende a un valor de medio millón de dólares.

Fue grato tener la oportunidad de reflejar a través de este servicio el inmenso amor del Salvador Jesucristo y ver corazones



La clínica de salud AMÉN en pleno funcionamiento



Grupo reunido un sábado de tarde para estudiar la Biblia en la casa de Marilyn

agradecidos por haber podido recibir una atención médica a la que no podrían haber accedido de otra manera. Muchos expresaron su gratitud con lágrimas y los miembros de iglesia que participaron se vieron espiritualmente beneficiados con la experiencia de servicio.

Agencia Ganadora de Almas

Definir el significado de los grupos pequeños es fácil: Son diminutas mechas encendidas cuya finalidad es alumbrar y señalar el Camino, la Verdad y la Vida, y así esparcir el precioso evangelio que tiene poder de cambiar y tonificar vidas vacías. Lo que a veces es complicado, es mantener y sostener al grupo a lo largo del tiempo.

El grupo pequeño conducido por Marilyn Nater

de la iglesia de Fayetteville, nació en octubre del año 2013. Al conocer a Cristo, Marilyn abrazó con ternura el llamado del Espíritu Santo y sintió el deseo ferviente de abrir las puertas de su hogar para transformarlo en una agencia ganadora de almas para compartir con otros la paz y el gozo que ella experimenta gracias a Cristo.

Cada sábado por la tarde entre diez y doce personas se reúnen para estudiar las Sagradas Escrituras sentados alrededor de su mesa. Este trabajo lo ha hecho durante cinco años, abarcando desde el libro de Génesis hasta el Apocalipsis y usando como lecturas de apoyo entre otras, la serie “La fe de Jesús” para los estudios proféticos de Daniel y Apocalipsis. Marilyn ha tenido la bendición de ver a un gran número de estudiantes participar de la ceremonia de graduación y dar testimonio del cambio producido en sus vidas. Hasta la fecha 30 personas han venido a los pies del Salvador Jesucristo gracias a esta amorosa tarea, y el grupo continúa trabajando. Ella tiene la certeza de que Dios no cesará de bendecir a esta agencia ganadora de almas. ①

ELÍAS SANDOVAL, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Trabajando Por Las Madres Solteras De La Comunidad

Con los recuerdos de su niñez como hija de madre soltera, Nohora Bryan de la iglesia Primera de Atlanta, participó activamente en la organización de un programa especial para este sector de la comunidad, concentrándose en aquellas cuyos hijos son pequeños y no tienen a alguien que celebre el día de las madres en su honor.

Se organizó una recepción a la que asistieron varias madres con sus hijitos. Mientras ellas confraternizaban y disfrutaban de un refrigerio y una meditación a cargo de César Tavárez, Consuelo Santibáñez trabajaba con los niños haciendo tarjetas y unas pequeñas macetas con flores para regalar a

sus mamás. Este es el segundo año que se lleva a cabo esta actividad. En el grupo hay una madre cuyo esposo fue deportado a Méjico y está pasando gran necesidad. Para ella se preparó una canasta con alimentos, que fue de bendición en este momento difícil. Pronto se le hará llegar una segunda canasta.

En el mes de junio, para el día del padre, se preparó comida para aquellas personas que se encuentran en la calle buscando trabajo. Muchos de ellos son padres de familia, y también están pasando necesidad. Lo mismo se hizo el 25 de diciembre, al repartir 150 tamales calientes. En la hermandad existe un profundo deseo de compartir algo de las

bendiciones que Dios derrama sobre las familias de la iglesia, con tantas personas sedientas de afecto. ①



Nohora Bryan (5ta desde la derecha) con grupo de madres homenajeadas y colaboradoras

MARIEL LOMBARDI, EDITORA

Banquero Italiano y Familia Bautizados en Tennessee

Giorgio Chiesa es hijo de una familia italiana influyente. Fue bautizado en la catedral de San Pablo en el Vaticano, en una ceremonia ecuménica a cargo del papa Pablo VI y un líder musulmán. Todavía recuerda cuando en su niñez, Karol Wojtyla (Juan Pablo II) visitaba a su madre en su casa. A la edad de 12 años, comenzó a asistir a una escuela católica. En su primera clase de religión le preguntó al sacerdote profesor: ¿Cómo se puede demostrar la existencia de Dios? La respuesta que obtuvo fue: “Este tema no se cuestiona, se cree por fe.” Seguidamente fue invitado a salir de la clase. Cuando el director relató al padre el incidente y le hizo notar la incredulidad de Giorgio y sus cuestionamientos, éste contestó: “Si mi hijo no puede hacer preguntas en su clase de religión, entonces no asistirá más a ella.” Poco a poco Giorgio se convirtió en agnóstico. Creció yendo a las mejores escuelas y universidades de Europa. Allí estudió leyes y comercio internacional, siempre pensando que la religión era una invención humana y Dios algo irreal. En 1999 mientras viajaba por negocios, conoció a su esposa en España. Alejandra proviene de una familia adventista de Colombia, pero había dejado la iglesia luego de una crisis familiar y se había mudado a España para vivir con su hermano. Luego de salir por algún tiempo, Alejandra y Giorgio se casaron y se mudaron a Londres en donde ella comenzó a asistir a la iglesia adventista local. Giorgio la llevaba, pero no participaba de la actividad ya que “la iglesia no era para mí”- dijo. Luego de ocho años de vivir en Londres y de haber tenido dos hijos, se mudaron a Suiza. Allí Alejandra conoció una mujer adventista proveniente de Argentina, y se convirtieron en muy buenas amigas. Cuatro años más tarde el trabajo los llevó a vivir en Buenos Aires, Argentina. Mientras vivían allí, la querida hermana de Giorgio falleció de un cáncer agresivo. Giorgio y Alejandra se sintieron devastados. En esos momentos de luto, la amiga argentina de Alejandra les recomendó que miraran los



De izquierda a derecha, Alejandra, Roger Hernández, Giorgio, Joel Barrios en la ceremonia de bautismo

videos de un pastor adventista de una iglesia hispana en Collegedale, Tennessee, y así hicieron. La religión poco a poco comenzó a tener sentido para Giorgio. Luego de tres años la familia debió trasladarse a las Bahamas. Allí comenzaron a mirar el servicio de culto que la iglesia Hispano Americana que Collegedale ofrece semanalmente. Lo hicieron durante un largo tiempo, hasta que un día decidieron llamar a Joel Barrios, pastor de la iglesia, para invitarlo a venir a las Bahamas y hospedarse en su casa. Allí él les impartió estudios que había compartido en el pasado con personas agnósticas y ateas. Fue una experiencia milagrosa. Cuando Barrios regresó a los Estados Unidos, la familia no solo estaba feliz, sino también espiritualmente unida. A pesar de la distancia continuaron los estudios bíblicos vía Skype. En diciembre fueron a Colombia para las fiestas de fin de año con planes de ir a esquiar a Canadá en febrero. Estando en Colombia, compraron el equipo de esquí y lo enviaron a las Bahamas por courier, pero este fue robado en el trayecto. No obstante, decidieron comprar un equipo nuevo e ir de todos modos a esquiar a Canadá. Al iniciar su viaje de regreso a las Bahamas, Giorgio se cayó en el aeropuerto de Colombia quebrando su brazo, lo cual impidió que fuesen a esquiar. La familia

estaba desilusionada. Pocos días más tarde, Barrios llamó a Giorgio para invitarlos a una campaña de evangelismo que se llevaría a cabo en Tennessee. La Providencia hizo que la fecha del encuentro coincidiera con la del viaje a Canadá que habían tenido que cancelar, así que la familia viajó a Tennessee. Todos fueron impresionados con los temas prácticos que Roger Hernandez, director ministerial de la Unión del Sur, presentó esa semana. El hijo de 12 años, quien siempre se quejaba por tener que ir a la iglesia con su madre, estaba entusiasmado con los nuevos amigos que hizo allí. En el transcurso de esa semana, Giorgio tomó la decisión de ser bautizado y ese viernes, Alejandra decidió rebautizarse. Giorgio y Alejandra son los primeros miembros on-line de la iglesia Hispano Americana de Collegedale. Ellos pidieron que su membresía se registrase en Tennessee. Es asombroso ver la forma en que Dios trabaja plantando semillas mediante amigos e incluso la pérdida material de un equipo de esquí. Giorgio y su familia están felices con la nueva fe en Dios que descubrieron, y su membresía virtual con la familia de Dios en esta tierra 📍

JOEL BARRIOS, PASTOR DE LA IGLESIA HISPANO-AMERICANA DE COLLEDGALE, TENNESSEE

Primera Certificación de Ancianos 2018



Bernardo Rodríguez impartiendo un seminario

Más de 150 ancianos se dieron cita para una reunión de capacitación organizada por el departamento hispano de la asociación. La idea es que se comprenda más las implicancias y responsabilidades de esta función, y la importancia de una relación estrecha con

Dios. El pastor Bernardo Rodríguez hizo un excelente trabajo como instructor, y se percibió un espíritu entusiasta y de servicio. 🕊

CARLOS PINTO, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Magno Campamento de Conquistadores

En Paradise Ranch ubicado en Springfield, Tennessee, más de 178 conquistadores participaron de un hermoso fin de semana desde el 29 de marzo hasta el 1 de abril. Asidos de la mano de Jesús marcharon cada día bajo el lema 4 EVER. El pastor Greg Taylor, director del departamento de jóvenes, fue el orador invitado. Cabe destacar la valiosa dirección del pastor Sergio Monterroso y la eficiente colaboración de los consejeros y pastores locales. 🕊



Vista del grupo de asistentes

ARMANDO DE LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Autoservicio De Oración

El sábado 17 de marzo los jóvenes de la iglesia de Carrolton, Georgia, organizaron lo que llamaron un autoservicio de oración. Mediante el uso de carteles ofrecían orar por los transeúntes que sintieran la necesidad de buscar la ayuda de Dios. Chofers que pasaban por el lugar, agentes de policía y todo tipo de público se acercaban a recibir la bendición y paz de Dios. Se entregó literatura y como resultado se hicieron buenos contactos en la comunidad. Al finalizar esta actividad, el grupo se dirigió a un parque aledaño para ofrecer su ayuda recogiendo la basura que se había juntado ese día. Fue encomiable el apoyo de Guadalupe Hernández, el pastor Uribe, y la junta de iglesia. 🕊

EFRAÍN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



Orando con oficiales de la policía



Ofreciendo oración

Hasta El Regreso De Jesús



Pastor Andrés Caban

Con profundo dolor, el viernes 27 de abril se recibió la noticia de la repentina muerte del pastor Andrew Caban. Caban trabajó en la asociación Georgia-Cumberland durante algunos años y luego fue llamado para hacerlo en la asociación South Atlantic donde se encontraba prestando servicio hasta ser llevado al descanso. Antes de que su salud se agravase, atendía 5 congregaciones en Calhoun, Dalton, Adairsville, Cartersville y Rome. Las tres últimas semanas las dedicó a dar instrucción sobre temas familiares. Entre estos temas, le pareció importante explicar la doctrina de la justificación por la fe y como resultado, dos jóvenes decidieron bautizarse al lograr entender el plan de amor de Cristo por el hombre al regalarle su vida y muerte para ser usadas en beneficio de la salvación

del pecador.

El servicio de memoria del pastor Caban se realizó el miércoles 2 de mayo en la iglesia de Dalton donde el pastor Jorge Quintiana hijo presentó un mensaje inspirador para los asistentes que colmaron por completo las instalaciones.

Su hijo se recibió de Licenciado en Teología el pasado 6 de mayo y tendrá el privilegio de continuar la obra pastoral que su padre no pudo terminar. El martes 8 de mayo el pastor Jorge Mayer y quien escribe, fuimos a visitar a la viuda Mariani y a su hijo Andrew, quienes expresaron la esperanza de re encontrarse con su esposo y padre muy pronto cuando Cristo vuelva por segunda vez a esta tierra a terminar con el dolor y la muerte. 🕊

EFRAÍN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Trabajando Por Los Más Jóvenes

Nuevo Club de Conquistadores en Carrolton:

El 10 de marzo en un evento gozoso e histórico para la iglesia de Carrolton Georgia, se inauguró el nuevo Club de Conquistadores. Los clubes de las iglesias de Chamblee, Douglasville y Marietta estuvieron presentes mostrando su apoyo. La directora Rosario Álvarez tuvo a cargo la organización del programa y vio sus esfuerzos coronados en la sonrisa de cada jovencito que recibía su pañuelo amarillo para lucirlo con orgullo. La presentación del tema estuvo a cargo del pastor Newlove e inspiró a cada conquistador a ser fiel a Dios y ser luz ante otros jovencitos que necesitan conocer a Jesús. El pastor de la iglesia Ismael Uribe está a disposición de los líderes brindando su consejo y apoyo incondicionales.

Exhibición de Marchas:

El 15 de Abril en Smithfield, Carolina del Norte, se realizó una exhibición de marchas en la que participaron 6 clubes de conquistadores: Nissi Adonai, Adoram, Clinton Eagles, Hannel, Salem, Sentinnels. Allí se animó a los asistentes a asistir al camporee del 25 al 27 de mayo en Nosoca Pines, Carolina del Sur.



Club de Conquistadores de Carrolton



Exhibición de marchas en Smithfield



Pastor Newlove (extremo izquierdo) y pastor Uribe (extremo derecho) con Guías Mayores y amigos

Ceremonia de Investidura de Guías Mayores:

En la iglesia de Westend, Atlanta, el 17 de marzo del 2018 se llevó a cabo una ceremonia de investidura de Guías Mayores. La misma estuvo organizada

por la asociación, y 4 jóvenes de iglesias hispanas recibieron la investidura junto a muchos otros jovencitos y líderes del territorio de South Atlantic. 🕊

EFRAÍN POLOCHE DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Bautismos



Pastor Newlove con dos de las personas bautizadas como resultado de la clase de visitas



Personas bautizadas en Raleigh



Candidatos de Newberry



Bautismo en Marietta

Resultado de la Clase de Visitas de la Escuela Sabática

Los departamentos misioneros de varias iglesias de la zona de Georgia, pudieron ver con alegría los resultados del buen trabajo de los maestros de escuela sabática, específicamente en la clase de visitas. De acuerdo a informes de pastor Newlove, el 28 de abril las iglesias de Roswell, Chamblee y Marietta se dieron cita en el río Chattahooche para ser testigos de bautismos de varias personas que asisten los sábados a estas clases.

Iglesia de Raleigh Getsemaní, Carolina del Norte:

El 31 de marzo, Elizabeth, Lesli,

Katherine y Mario se unieron a la iglesia por medio del bautismo deseosos de alistarse para la segunda venida de Jesús. La ceremonia estuvo a cargo del pastor de la iglesia, Luis Espinosa.

Iglesia de Newberry, Carolina del Sur:

El pastor Abraham Acosta tuvo la alegría de bautizar 5 almas el 5 de mayo, luego de una campaña evangélica organizada por los miembros de iglesia, cuyo orador fue el pastor Jonás Vaca de la asociación Potomac.

Iglesia de Marietta, Georgia:

Luego de un minucioso trabajo de visitación y estudios bíblicos ofrecidos por

los ancianos de la iglesia, el pastor Newlove bautizó a dos personas el sábado 5 de mayo

Iglesia de Calhoun:

El pastor José Reyes tuvo el privilegio de bautizar a 4 personas que se unieron a la familia de Dios el día 3 de marzo.

Compañía de Lawrenceville, Georgia:

Al finalizar una semana de evangelismo laico a cargo de Javier Mendoza, se llevaron a cabo 2 bautismos para honra y gloria de Dios 🙏

EFRAÍN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Emmanuel Crece Vertiginosamente

Un grupo de miembros de la iglesia Aliento de Vida, en el distrito de Memphis Tennessee, decidieron trabajar en el área a los efectos de formar un grupo satélite. Así nació la Iglesia Hispana Emmanuel. Se caracterizan por trabajar armoniosamente y promover un crecimiento vertiginoso. Su visión de la misión es consistente, y se ven los resultados del Espíritu Santo en su amor y trabajo por las almas. Bajo el liderazgo del pastor del distrito Juan Rymer, ya se han ganado 7 personas para el evangelio de salvación. Esto ha promovido un crecimiento espiritual importante en quienes están

trabajando y un notable entusiasmo por la ganancia de almas 🙏

JORGE MAYER, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA UNIÓN DEL SUR



Grupo de miembros de Emmanuel

Dothan-Enterprise, Totalmente Involucrada

El 16 de diciembre pasado, la iglesia de Dothan-Enterprise dio inicio al plan “Dothan-Enterprise totalmente involucrada: grupos pequeños, estudios bíblicos, servicios comunitarios, confraternidad cristiana.” La idea es trabajar en este plan durante el año 2018 en la ciudad de Enterprise, Alabama. Con este fin, se dividieron en cuatro grupos pequeños distribuidos por comunidades en casas de familia. El propósito es mantener a los miembros de la iglesia motivados en el estudio y predicación de la Biblia, tratando de a su vez motivar a los vecinos de la comunidad a formar parte de la familia de Dios en esta tierra.

Tanto la escuela sabática como los cultos divinos, las sociedades de jóvenes, etc., están organizados y dirigidos por estos grupos. Todos se involucraron y colaboran unos con otros. Se hizo una cadena sólida de ayuda. Cada vez que se sabe acerca de la necesidad de una familia, se trabaja rápidamente para suplirla. De esta forma, cada sábado se respira un ambiente de familiaridad y confraternización.

Aprovechando la tecnología mediática, la iglesia activó las redes sociales de Facebook



Grupo de candidatos de bautismo

y YouTube para poner los mensajes divinos al alcance de los que no pueden todavía asistir a la iglesia.

Jesús dijo que si Él fuera levantado, es decir, si hacemos conocer su amor por medio de nuestras obras, Él a todos atraería a Sí, y cumple su promesa. El porcentaje de visitas que llegan a adorar al templo cada sábado aumentó en un 150%.

Entre los felices resultados de este emprendimiento de salvación, se puede relatar lo sucedido con la familia de José y Juanita Reyes. Ellos vieron la página de Facebook de la iglesia y decidieron asistir un sábado por la mañana. Allí se los invitó a formar parte de un grupo pequeño, y lo hicieron con alegría. Después de recibir

estudios bíblicos la pareja decidió casarse, y luego bautizarse junto a su familia

Eladio Pérez, un ex pastor de una iglesia pentecostal en Filadelfia, se mudó hace un tiempo a la ciudad de Enterprise. Su novia, Leída Delgado, había sido invitada a ir a la iglesia. Juntos empezaron a asistir y al cabo de algunos meses de hacerlo y de haberse empapado con el mensaje de salvación, se casaron y entregaron sus vidas a Dios demostrándolo a través del bautismo.

Al finalizar la primera etapa de este emprendimiento que tuvo una duración de 4 meses, se organizó la campaña titulada “Un Nuevo Amanecer de Esperanza para tu Vida.” Como resultado, 9 personas descendieron a las aguas bautismales. El Espíritu Santo continúa actuando en la iglesia de Dothan-Enterprise. Ya se lanzó la segunda etapa de este proyecto, con el anhelo de ser una bendición para la comunidad hispana de Enterprise y que las vidas de las personas puedan ser transformadas a través de su Palabra. 📌

RAMMY ROBLES GUERRERO, PASTOR DE DOTHAN-ENTERPRISE, AUBURN-OPELIKA Y PANAMA CITY

Festivales de Grupos Pequeños en Fort Myers y Los Peregrinos

Los grupos pequeños es un método que ha crecido mucho entre las congregaciones hispanas de la asociación en los últimos años. A los efectos de compartir testimonios, la congregación de Fort Myers llevó a cabo un festival de grupos pequeños. Se pasó un momento espiritual de alegría al ver los resultados de este trabajo en la congregación.

Todos salieron animados a continuar con esta hermosa tarea de salvación. Por otro lado, en el festival de la iglesia Los Peregrinos, 22 hogares decidieron abrir sus puertas para llevar a cabo esta actividad. 📌

ROGER ÁLVAREZ, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



Grupo de personas que desean abrir las puertas de su casa para grupos pequeños

Iglesia Renacer. Trabajando De Acuerdo A Los Talentos Recibidos



Almuerzos organizados en el exterior de la iglesia

La iglesia naciente West Palm Beach Renacer, está experimentando un crecimiento poderoso. La hermandad se organizó en grupos o equipos misioneros

de acuerdo a las diferentes formas en las que los miembros desean trabajar para Dios y los diferentes talentos de cada uno.

El grupo de Avanzada Literatura, está formado por los que van de puerta en puerta distribuyendo publicaciones. Otro grupo de miembros está dispuesto a dar estudios bíblicos. Un equipo se encarga de visitar enfermos, un cuarto equipo de visitar cárceles. Para este último se dictó un curso de capellanía. Otro grupo lleva a cabo cadenas de oración, algunos miembros se encargan de llevar alimentos cuando se necesitan, otros miembros trabajan por aquellos que una vez

pertenecieron al redil y se han apartado, otros enviando cartas, e-mails, manteniendo el sitio web y colaborando con el programa radial. Por último, un grupo organiza almuerzos de confraternización que se llevan a cabo al aire libre bajo un techo en el predio de la iglesia. Con este método, toda la iglesia colabora ya que nadie se siente obligado a hacer algo que está fuera del rango de sus habilidades, y el espíritu que se respira es de confraternidad y trabajo. 📍

ROGER ÁLVAREZ, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Fort Myers, Camino A Ser Organizado Como Compañía

Fort Myers es un grupo en vías de ser organizado como compañía. El líder es Jobnel Tineo, joven pastor laico, quien trabaja bajo la supervisión del pastor de distrito Daniel Olaciregui. Esta congregación está activa en el esparcimiento del mensaje de salvación. Se han organizado grupos de estudio del curso La Fe de Jesús, y al terminar cada uno de ellos se lleva a cabo una importante ceremonia de graduación. Siete

personas se han bautizado en la primera parte del año gracias a este trabajo dedicado. Para la campaña de evangelismo que se llevará a cabo en un futuro cercano, se ha creado un grupo que organiza entretenimientos para niños y aorendizaje de manualidades. Esto atrae a padres y madres de la comunidad. En estas reuniones se trata de entablar vínculos con ellos, saber de sus necesidades, e invitarlos para la campaña una vez que esta tenga lugar. 📍



Actividades organizadas para los niños de la comunidad

ROGER ÁLVAREZ, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Bautismos



Candidatos de bautismo en Lake Buena Vista

Lake Buena Vista:

Con profunda alegría la iglesia de Lake Buena Vista recibió a 5 miembros nuevos que tomaron la decisión de bautismo al finalizar la campaña dirigida por el pastor Walkir.

Tampa Bay:

El sábado 2 de febrero, 8 personas de las 10 que se graduaron del curso La Fe de Jesús, decidieron seguir a Cristo demostrándolo por medio del bautismo. 📍

ROGER ÁLVAREZ, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



Candidatos de bautismo en Tampa Bay

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Seventh-day Adventist Church, in all of its church schools, admits students of any race to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at its schools, and makes no discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnic background, country of origin, or gender in the administration of education policies, applications for admission, scholarship or local programs, and extracurricular programs.

CAROLINA CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Mt. Pisgah Academy, Candler, NC

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Adventist Christian Academy, Charlotte, NC
Adventist Christian Academy, Raleigh, NC
Asheville-Pisgah School, Candler, NC
Blue Ridge Adventist Christian School, Waynesville, NC
Brookhaven SDA School, Winterville, NC
Charleston SDA School, Charleston, SC
Columbia Adventist Academy, Lexington, SC
Cornerstone Adventist Academy, Charlotte, NC
Eddlemon Adventist School, Spartanburg, SC
Five Oaks Adventist Christian School, Durham, NC
Mills River SDA School, Mills River, NC
Myrtle Beach SDA Christian School, Myrtle Beach, SC
Poplar Springs SDA School, Westminster, SC
Salisbury Adventist School, Morganton, NC
Silver Creek Adventist School, Morganton, NC
Tri-City Christian Academy, High Point, NC
Tryon SDA School, Lynn, NC
Upward Adventist School, Flat Rock, NC
William Johnston Elementary, Hickory, NC
Wilmington SDA School, Wilmington, NC

FLORIDA CONFERENCE ACADEMIES

Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL

Greater Miami Adventist Academy, Miami, FL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Beryl Wisdom Adventist School, Orlando, FL
Brevard Adventist Christian Academy, Cocoa, FL
Deltona Adventist School, Deltona, FL
East Pasco Adventist Academy, Dade City, FL
Forest City Adventist School, Orlando, FL
Forest Lake Education Center, Longwood, FL
Gateway Christian School, Mt. Dora, FL
Gulfcoast SDA Elementary, St. Petersburg, FL
Indigo Christian Junior Academy, Daytona Beach, FL
Jacksonville Adventist Academy, Jacksonville, FL
James E. Sampson Memorial School, Ft. Pierce, FL
Living Springs Academy, High Springs, FL
Miami Springs Adventist School, Miami Springs, FL
Naples Adventist Christian School, Naples, FL
New Port Richey Adv. Christian Academy, New Port Richey, FL
Okeechobee Adventist Christian School, Okeechobee, FL
Orlando Junior Academy, Orlando, FL
Osceola Adventist Christian School, Kissimmee, FL
Port Charlotte Adventist School, Port Charlotte, FL
Sawgrass Adventist School, Plantation, FL
Tallahassee Adventist Christian Academy, Tallahassee, FL
Tampa Adventist Academy, Tampa, FL
Walker Memorial Junior Academy, Avon Park, FL
West Coast Christian Academy, Bradenton, FL
West Palm Beach Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, FL
William A. Kirlow Junior Academy, Miami Gardens, FL
Winter Haven Adventist Academy, Winter Haven, FL
Z. L. Sung SDA Church School, Gainesville, FL

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE ACADEMIES

Atlanta Adventist Academy, Atlanta, GA
Collegedale Academy, Collegedale, TN
Georgia-Cumberland Academy, Calhoun, GA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

A.W. Spalding SDA School, Collegedale, TN
Adventist Christian School of Maryville, Maryville, TN
Algood Christian Elementary School, Cookeville, TN
Atlanta North SDA School, Atlanta, GA
Augusta SDA School, Augusta, GA
Bowman Hills SDA School, Cleveland, TN
Carman Adventist School, Marietta, GA
Collegedale Adventist Middle School, Collegedale, TN
Columbus SDA School, Columbus, GA
Douglasville SDA School, Douglasville, GA
Duluth Adventist Christian School, Duluth, GA
Dunlap Adventist School, Dunlap, TN
Faulkner Springs Christian School, McMinnville, TN
Greeneville Adventist Academy, Greeneville, TN
Inez Wrenn SDA School, Crossville, TN
Jasper Adventist Christian School, Jasper, TN
Jellico SDA School, Jellico, TN
John L. Coble Elementary School, Calhoun, GA
Josephine Edwards Christian School, Ellijay, GA
Knoxville Adventist School, Knoxville, TN
Learning Tree Elementary School, Dalton, GA
Lester Coon Adventist School, Apison, TN
Living Springs Christian Academy, Gray, TN
Meister Memorial SDA School, Deer Lodge, TN
Misty Meadows SDA School, Ringgold, GA
Lighthouse Christian Academy, Morristown, TN
Murphy Adventist Christian School, Murphy, NC
Oglethorpe SDA School, Oglethorpe, GA
Ooltewah Adventist School, Ooltewah, TN
Savannah Adventist Christian School, Pooler, GA
Shoal Creek Adventist School, Sharpsburg, GA
Standifer Gap SDA School, Chattanooga, TN
Valdosta Christian Academy, Valdosta, GA
Wimbish Adventist School, Macon, GA

GULF STATES CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Bass Memorial Academy, Lumberton, MS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Adventist Christian Academy, Panama City, FL
Bass Christian Elementary, Lumberton, MS
Big Cove Christian Academy, Owens Cross Roads, AL
College Drive SDA School, Pearl, MS
Community Christian School, Meridian, MS
Corinth SDA School, Corinth, MS
Emerald Coast Christian School, Fort Walton Beach, FL
Faith Christian Adventist Academy, Summit, MS
Floral Crest Junior Academy, Bryant, AL
Hoover Christian School, Hoover, AL
Mobile Junior Academy, Mobile, AL
Montgomery SDA School, Montgomery, AL
Pensacola Junior Academy, Pensacola, FL

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE ACADEMIES

Highland Academy, Portland, TN
Madison Academy, Madison, TN

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Appalachian Christian Academy, Manchester, KY
Bill Egly Elementary School, Lawrenceburg, TN
Dickson Adventist Elementary, Dickson, TN
Highland Elementary School, Portland, TN
Lexington Junior Academy, Lexington, KY
Louisville Adventist Academy, Louisville, KY
Madison Campus Elementary, Madison, TN
Martin Memorial Elementary School, Centerville, TN

Memphis Junior Academy, Memphis, TN
Pewee Valley Junior Academy, Pewee Valley, KY
Ridgetop Adventist Elementary, Ridgetop, TN
Taylor Mill SDA Church School, Latonia, KY
Tullahoma SDA Elementary, Tullahoma, TN
Woodbury SDA Elementary, Woodbury, TN

SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy, Atlanta, GA

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Atlanta Adventist International School, Tucker, GA
Berea Junior Academy, Sumpter, SC
Berean Christian Junior Academy, Atlanta, GA
Berean Junior Academy, Charlotte, NC
Bethany Junior Academy, Macon, GA
Carolina Adventist Academy, Whiteville, NC
Decatur Adventist Junior Academy, Stone Mountain, GA
Ebenezer SDA School, Augusta, GA
Emanuel SDA Junior Academy, Albany, GA
Ephesus Junior Academy, Winston-Salem, NC
Gethsemane SDA School, Raleigh, NC
Greater Fayetteville Adventist Academy, Fayetteville, NC
Lithonia Adventist Academy, Lithonia, GA
New Bethel Christian Academy, Columbus, GA
Norma D. Richards Adventist Christian School, Pageland, SC
Ramah Junior Academy, Savannah, GA

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Oakwood Adventist Academy, Huntsville, AL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Alcy Junior Academy, Memphis, TN
Avondale SDA School, Chattanooga, TN
Bethany SDA Academy, Montgomery, AL
E. E. Rogers SDA School, Jackson, MS
Emma L. Minnis School, Louisville, KY
Emmanuel SDA School, Mobile, AL
Ephesus Junior Academy, Birmingham, AL
F. H. Jenkins Elementary School, Nashville, TN
University Elementary School, Knoxville, TN

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE ACADEMY

Miami Union Academy, N. Miami, FL

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Bethel Elementary SDA School, Florida City, FL
Bethel Junior Academy, Riviera Beach, FL
Broward Junior Academy, Plantation, FL
Daughter of Zion Junior Academy, Delray Beach, FL
Elim Junior Academy, St. Petersburg, FL
Ephesus Junior Academy, Jacksonville, FL
Ephesus Junior Academy, West Palm Beach, FL
Mt. Calvary SDA School, Tampa, FL
Mt. Olivet Jr. Academy, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Mt. Sinai Junior Academy, Orlando, FL
New Hope SDA School, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Palm Bay SDA School, West Melbourne, FL
Perrine SDA School, Miami, FL
Shiloh SDA School, Ocala, FL

UNIVERSITIES

Adventist University of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL
Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL
Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN

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PROPERTY AVAILABLE

SUMMIT RIDGE RETIREMENT VILLAGE

- An Adventist community in a rural setting that offers affordable homes or apartments and caring neighbors, with a fellowship you'll enjoy. On-site church, planned activities, and transportation, as needed. Also, Wolfe Living Center offering independent living and nursing home. *Website: <http://summitridgevillage.org> or Bill Norman 405-208-1289.* ©

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- celebrating 53 years of service. A small, relaxed, sunny and warm environment for SDA retirees. Affordable, lease only condos, efficiencies and homes. Located near SDA hospitals, medical offices, shopping and entertainment. Vegetarian meals and healthy living style promoted. 407-862-2646, www.floridalivingretirement.com [7-3]

ENJOY WORRY-FREE INDEPENDENT RETIREMENT

at Fletcher Park Inn on the Fletcher Academy campus near Hendersonville, NC. Lovely, spacious apartments available now. Enjoy a complimentary lunch at our vegetarian buffet on the day of your no-obligation tour. Call Lisa for details. 828-209-6935 and visit: www.fletcherparkinn.com [7]

COLLEGEDALE HOMES for SALE

- 5 bedroom mostly brick home over basement with 4600+ square feet, only 5 minutes to SAU, \$425,000. Gated golf course community featuring mother-in-law 2 bedroom/garage suite in basement for \$535,000. 1.2 acre lot on Snowhill Rd in North Heron Bay community, only \$85,000. Visit www.DixonTeam.com. Wendy Dixon, ask for a member of the Dixon Team with Keller Williams Realty, Ooltewah: 423-702-2000, direct, 423-664-1800, office. [7]

SOUTHERN TINY LIVING

proudly presented by Southern Adventist University. The Tiny House features 300 square feet of living space, high ceiling with two lofts, fully equipped kitchen, full-size bathtub and shower, fully furnished. Reduced: now only \$49,500. For more information call 423-236-2537, email: tprice@southern.edu or visit www.southerntinyliving.com [7]

2 BEDROOM CHALET

in Gatlinburg, TN for sale. Own one week each October, peak season. Located one mile from entrance to Smokey Mountain National Park. Sleeps 6, furnished kitchen, two baths, washer/dryer, fireplace, large deck overlooking babbling brook. Call 828-329-3937.

1 BED CONDO IN HONOLULU, HAWAII

- In Nu'uuanu. Relaxing & affordable, minutes to beaches, Chinatown & hiking! Clean, comfortable, like new. Sleeps 6 comfortably. Furnished kitchen, washer/dryer and more. Free parking. Visit www.honcentralsda.org or call 808-524-1352. [7-12]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks **CIRC Lead Programmer/Analyst** in the School of Computing. This position oversees/coordinates work of students/staff engaged in software development/analysis. B.S. in Computer Science or similar and 5 years of programming experience. Graduate education in computer science preferred. To apply and see full description visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [7]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks teaching faculty to be **Dean of the School of Education and Psychology** (SEP) and responsible for planning, organization, staffing, direction and evaluation of the academic disciplines of the SEP. The SEP Dean

is also responsible for continuous development of the SEP's strategic plan. To apply and see full description visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [7]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

seeks **part-time professor for History/Political Studies** teaching American History. Must be able to teach Atlantic history, African history/African-American /Latin American. PhD in History preferred. Contact Dr. Mark Peach, peach@southern.edu & Dr. Robert Young, ryoung@southern.edu. To apply and see full description visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [7]

UNION COLLEGE

seeks full-time **professor of communication** with strong experience in emerging media and public relations beginning July 2019. Doctorate is preferred. Please submit a curriculum vitae to Dr. Mark Robison, Humanities Division chair, at mark.robison@ucollege.edu [7]

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

- Laurelbrook Academy is a self supporting institution training missionaries. We have the following positions open: dietary manager, vegetarian cook, CNA's, farm manager, nursing home administrator. We provide many opportunities to go on mission trips with the students and staff to develop your talents for God. For more information, call 423-664-5343 or email president@laurelbrook.org [7, 8]

OB-GYN, PEDIATRICIAN, NURSE PRACTITIONER AND PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT

needed for Adventist owned/operated Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, California. Competitive pay. Call Dr. Randall Steffens at 615-604-0142 or email: ceo@stallanthealth.com [7-9]

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

is seeking an experienced **Cyber Security Analyst** to assist in installing, configuring and maintaining all aspects of organization's security and network systems as well as conducting security assessments. A bachelor's degree in a related field with a minimum of four years of experience is required. Masters preferred. Must be SDA church member. Interested applicants should send resume to stavenhagenr@gc.adventist.org [7]

CAREGIVER NEEDED to live with and assist retired high functioning missionary nurse/educator in her home in beautiful Cumberland mountains, including some

cooking. You will have two rooms with private bath, utilities, generous compensation. Noon meal available in vegan/vegetarian cafeteria. SDA community. Must have car. 423-775-4715. [7]

LICENSED MESSAGE THERAPIST needed for the ProHealth Wellness Center at the Hulsey Wellness Center. Flexible schedule, good salary, friendly environment. New graduates welcomed, no experience required, willing to train. Part time and full time positions available. Email resume to dkch7@yahoo.com or call us at 706-625-3585. [7-12]

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 [7-12]

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 [7-4]

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 [7-5]

SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? Meet compatible SDA's from USA ages 18-98. Each provides: birthday, marital status, race, occupation, interests, goals, year baptized, lots more! Safe, confidential, effective, fun! For information, application and current catalog, send \$25 to: SDA Pen-Pals, PO Box 734, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. [7, 8]

ISRAEL TOUR with Pastor Jim Gilley, 3ABN'S Pastor C.A.Murray and friends. Two trips this fall, November 11 - 19, 2018 \$3,095.00. November 18-27, 2018 \$3,395.00. Includes all tips, taxes, air, and breakfast and dinner buffets daily. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles, other departure cities available. Call Jennifer at 602-788-8864. [7-10]

SEPTEMBER 27-30
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EARLY BIRD RATE EXPIRES AUGUST 31, 2018
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WEEKEND THEME: Making Patients Whole

WEEKEND SPEAKER
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Senior pastor of the Loma Linda University Church of Seventh-day Adventists in Loma Linda, California

To register or for more information go to
www.SouthernUnion.com/MedicalDentalConvention
or call 770-408-2135.

CORRECTION: The May 2018 *Southern Tidings* Cover Feature incorrectly stated that Samantha Grady (survivor of the Florida school shooting) was at the Pathfinder Bible Experience in support of her Pathfinder Club's Team. In actuality, Samantha was a member of the team and not a supporter of the team.

CAROLINA

MASTER GUIDE TRAINING - July 13. NPR.
CAROLINA PRAYER SUMMIT - July 20-22. Ridgecrest Conference Center, 1 Ridgecrest Drive, Ridgecrest, NC 28770.
LE SUMMER RETREAT - Aug. 9-12. NPR.
PATHFINDER/ADVENTURE LEADERSHIP - Aug. 24-26. NPR.

FLORIDA

COMPLETE CALENDAR ONLINE - floridaconference.com/events

A BETTER CHOICE / FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOK CENTER - Altamonte Springs: 407-644-4255. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: floridaconference.com/abc or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com

FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE - Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a scheduled location. Orders must be made by phone or e-mail before 5:30 p.m. on the Thursday before a scheduled Sunday delivery and before noon on the Monday before a scheduled Tuesday delivery.

July 1. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.
 July 8. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

July 15. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden in Miami, Marantha in Miami Gardens.

July 29. Daytona Beach, New Smyrna, Titusville, Cocoa, Fort Pierce. (Southeastern Conference: Palm Bay.)

Aug. 5. East Pasco in Zephyrhills, Brooksville, Homosassa, Spring Hill, New Port Richey, Clearwater, St. Petersburg.

Aug. 12. Lady Lake, North Lake, Ocala, Cross City, Perry, Tallahassee.

Aug. 19. Midport, West Palm Beach First, Pompano Beach, Margate, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Sunrise. (Southeastern Conference: Port St. Lucie, West Palm Beach Ephesus.)

Aug. 26. Winter Haven, Avon Park, Arcadia, Cape Coral, Fort Myers, Lehigh Acres, Naples.

Sept. 9. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.
 Sept. 16. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. August-

tine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Ephesus.)

Sept. 23. Kendall, Miami Temple, Miami Springs, Eden in Miami, Marantha in Miami Gardens.

VARSITY PATHFINDER ULTIMATE ADVENTURE - July 6-9. Adventure trip to Tennessee including caving, whitewater rafting, ziplining, aerial adventure, hiking, and camping. Cost: \$250 (nonrefundable but can be transferred to another person). Details/registration: floridaconference.com/events/varsity-ultimate-adventure. Registration deadline: June 26.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS' GATHERING - July 20-21. Spring Meadows Church, 5783 N. Ronald Reagan Blvd., Sanford. "What's Your Story" is a gathering for post-college young professionals (ideal age 22-35), whether you have a story to tell, just starting your story, or do not yet have a story to tell. Guest performers including comedian Andrew Stanley and contemporary Christian musician Jonny Diaz. Cost: free. Registration: floridaconference.com/events/young-professionals-gathering

PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER LEADERSHIP CONVENTION - July 27-29. Miami DoubleTree (Hilton Airport Hotel), 711 NW 72nd Ave., Miami. Cost: \$129 if registered by March 29, \$149 afterward or \$169 on site. Includes all meals. Accommodation fee additional (reserved directly with hotel). Details/registration: floridaconference.com/events/leadership-convention-0

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES CHILD EVANGELISM TRAINING - July 28. 8:00 a.m.-6:15 p.m. Miami DoubleTree (Hilton Airport Hotel), 711 NW 72nd Ave., Miami. Partnering with the Pathfinder/Adventurer Leadership Convention for this one-day certification in child evangelism. You must attend all seminars to receive a certificate. The schedule will match the seminar schedule for the Leadership Convention. Discounted rates at DoubleTree Hilton are available through July 13.

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

COHUTTA SPRINGS YOUTH CAMP - July 15-22. Camps this week: Teen II, Wakeboard Camp II, WIT (wrangler in training), and Rock Solid Teen II (16-18) Crandall, GA.

3 POINT PLAY BASKETBALL CAMPS

July 16-19. Conyers, GA.
 July 23-26. Jellico Christian Academy and LaFollette Recreation Center, TN.
 July 30-Aug. 2. Hixson Church, TN.

COHUTTA SPRINGS YOUTH CAMP/FAMILY CAMP - July 24-29. Crandall, GA.
MAKEOVER (HISPANIC YOUTH RETREAT) - Aug. 3-5. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

HEALTH RALLIES WITH EW DEMSPEY
 Aug. 4, 2-5 pm. Rome Church, GA.
 Aug. 11, 2-5 p.m. Pillars of Faith Mission Group, Ellenwood, GA.
 Aug. 18, 2-5 p.m. Hixson Church, TN.

SOUTHERN DEAF CAMP MEETING - Aug. 8-12. Theme: The High Price for Freedom with speaker Douglas Silva. For more information, contact Pastor Jeffrey Jordan, 423-244-0544 or jw-jordan@gccsda.com. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

S'MORE CAMP: SINGLE MOMS OF REAL EXCELLENCE - Aug. 11-12. A family weekend for single moms and their families. Contact Donna Crandall, dcrandall@gccsda.com Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.
 Hispanic Men's Retreat - Aug. 16-19. Laguna Beach Christian Retreat, Panama City Beach, FL.

PATHFINDER LEADERSHIP CONVENTION - Aug. 17-19. Speaker: Ron Whitehead. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

YOUNG ADULT LIAISON TRAINING - Aug. 17-18. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

HOW TO CONDUCT A MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM - Aug. 18, 3-6 p.m. Atlanta Belvedere Church, Decatur, GA.

LETTING IT GO (GRIEF/LOSS WEEKEND) - Aug. 24-26. Presenters David and Beverly Sedlacek, this weekend will look different for each person, it could be the death of a spouse, child, parent, or sibling; the loss of a job, income, home, or health; a broken relationship or divorce. No childcare provided. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

GULF STATES

PRAYER SUMMIT - Aug. 17-19. Shocco Springs, Talladega, AL. www.gccsda.org/prayer-ministries.

Dollars & \$ense Financial Seminar - Sept. 22-23. Ft. Walton Beach Church. www.gccsda.org/dollars.

CAMP ALAMISCO 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT - Oct. 5-7. www.campalamisco.org.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

PATHFINDER & ADVENTURER LEADERSHIP WEEKEND - Aug. 17-19. Indian Creek Camp.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - Sept. 18. Conference Office.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

SUMMER SALT INTENSIVE - July 5-8. Designed for busy people looking for intense evangelism training in a short period, Summer SALT covers the basics of personal and public evangelism, the evangelism cycle, and tools for outreach in your local church and community. Families are welcome for this one-week intensive, coordinated in partnership with It Is Written. For more information, visit southern.edu/salt.

SMARTSTART BEGINS - July 23. New students at Southern can earn three credit hours free during the summer (a savings of more than \$2,000). To learn more, visit southern.edu/smartstart.

FALL CLASSES BEGIN - Aug. 20. Southern offers a variety of associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, some of which can be earned entirely online. For more information, visit www.southern.edu or call 1.800.SOUTHERN.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAURELWOOD ADVENTIST ACADEMY - Aug. 3-5. Members of the Class of 1968 will meet at the Adobe Resort in Yachts, Oregon, for a 50-year class reunion. Call and make your reservations now. Reference Laurelwood Academy's 50th Class Reunion. Questions? Call Jacquie Jenkins Biloff at 605-295-0040 or email at skyjaky@gmail.com.

STANDIFER GAP SDA SCHOOL CELEBRATES 70TH ANNIVERSARY - Sept. 28, 29. All former students and former staff are invited to attend the celebration in Chattanooga, TN. Festivities will begin on Friday through Saturday evening. Contact: 423-892-6013 or for further details, visit: sgsdaschool.org.

PLAINVIEW ADVENTIST ACADEMY, SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY, AND DAKOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI

WEEKEND - Oct. 5, 6. Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND. Come and renew your friendships. Honor Classes: '44, '49, '54, '59, '64, '69, '79, '89, '94, '99, '04, '09, and '14. Details: 701-751-6177, x212, or visit our website at www.dakotaadventistacademy.org.

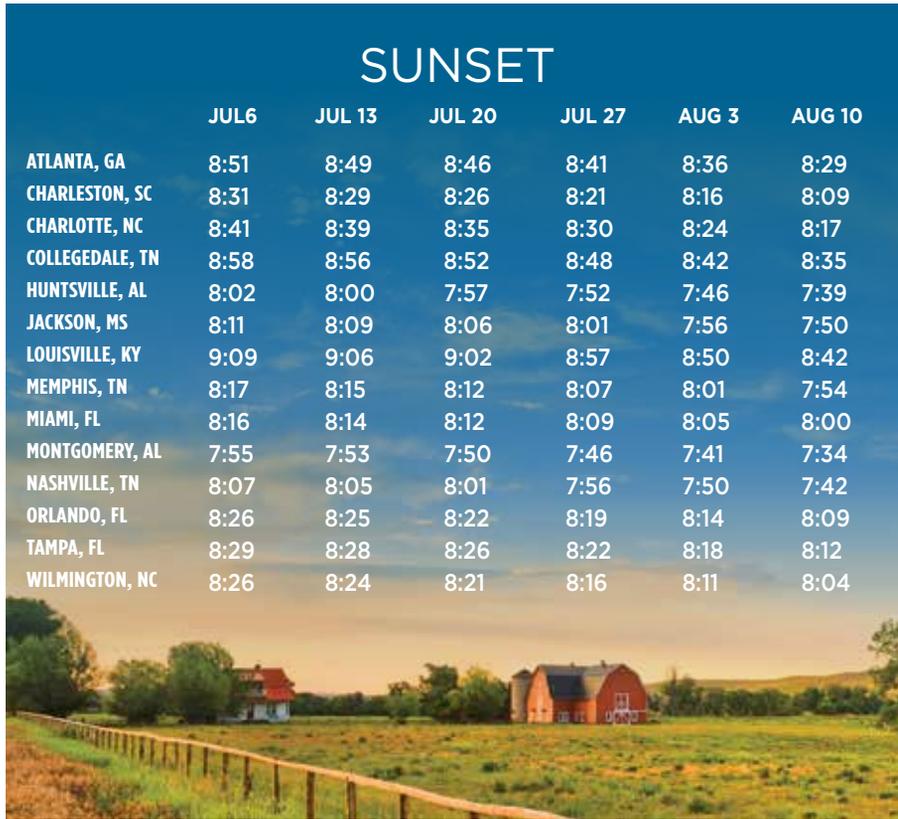
FLETCHER ACADEMY HOMECOMING WEEKEND - Oct. 5-7. FA Campus. Join us as we honor the class years ending in 3's and 8's. The Class of 1968 will be marking its 50th Reunion. Special invitation to former Fletcher Academy choir members. Please update your contact information at agibbs@fletcheracademy.com, 828-209-6704. More details at: www.fletcheracademy.com.

SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST COMMUNICATORS 2018 ANNUAL CONVENTION - Oct. 18-20. SAVE THE DATE - Celebrating 29 Years of Communication Excellence! "Purpose. Passion. Partnership." This year's convention will be held at the North American Division Headquarters, 9705 Patuxent Woods Dr., Columbia, MD. Join Seventh-day Adventist communication professionals and university students from all around

the North American Division for training, networking, and spiritual renewal opportunities. Additional details for hotels and more: www.adventistcommunicator.org.

WEIMAR INSTITUTE 40TH HOMECOMING - Nov. 2-4. We are celebrating 40 years of God's blessings at Weimar Institute this year! If you attended academy or pursued higher education here, please join us. Honor classes: '83, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, '13. For more information: 530-422-7964 or <http://weimar.edu/alumni/>

THE OFFICE OF ADVENTIST MISSION at the General Conference announces the 2018 film contest titled "My Story, My Mission." Students around the world are invited to creatively express, in one minute or less, what mission means in their lives. The contest was officially launched in April at the Sonscreen Film Festival in Columbia, MD. Young filmmakers have four months to create their masterpiece. The winners will be announced in October at the Society of Adventist Communicators Convention. Details: Contact Kayla Ewert at 301-680-6696 or by email EwertK@gc.adventist.org.



SUNSET

	JUL 6	JUL 13	JUL 20	JUL 27	AUG 3	AUG 10
ATLANTA, GA	8:51	8:49	8:46	8:41	8:36	8:29
CHARLESTON, SC	8:31	8:29	8:26	8:21	8:16	8:09
CHARLOTTE, NC	8:41	8:39	8:35	8:30	8:24	8:17
COLLEGE DALE, TN	8:58	8:56	8:52	8:48	8:42	8:35
HUNTSVILLE, AL	8:02	8:00	7:57	7:52	7:46	7:39
JACKSON, MS	8:11	8:09	8:06	8:01	7:56	7:50
LOUISVILLE, KY	9:09	9:06	9:02	8:57	8:50	8:42
MEMPHIS, TN	8:17	8:15	8:12	8:07	8:01	7:54
MIAMI, FL	8:16	8:14	8:12	8:09	8:05	8:00
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:55	7:53	7:50	7:46	7:41	7:34
NASHVILLE, TN	8:07	8:05	8:01	7:56	7:50	7:42
ORLANDO, FL	8:26	8:25	8:22	8:19	8:14	8:09
TAMPA, FL	8:29	8:28	8:26	8:22	8:18	8:12
WILMINGTON, NC	8:26	8:24	8:21	8:16	8:11	8:04

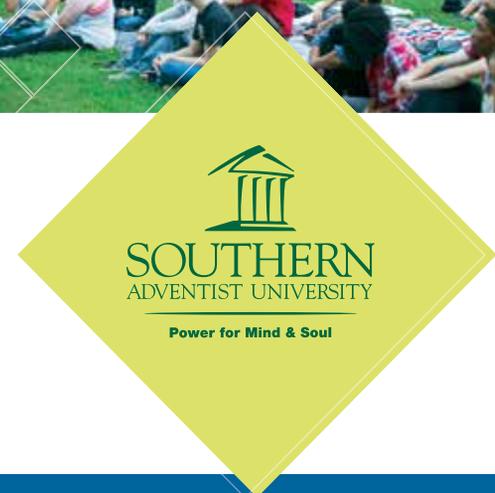
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*For complete list of research results, visit southern.edu/100reasons

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