PASTORAL STAFF GOALS
by Dave Smith

Recently the Collegedale Church pastors and school system chaplains attended a retreat in the Smokies. We enjoyed great fellowship, inspiring devotional times, and productive planning sessions. Because we spent considerable time thinking about you, our church members, we would like you to know our main goal as a pastoral staff: to do all that we can to see that “all members are cared for and connected.”

By the end of the year the pastors want to make as much progress towards accomplishing this goal as we can. Here are some of the strategies which will guide our efforts:

1. Publish our goal in Churchbeat and invite members to assist us.
2. Be visible and helpful at church functions, including funerals, socials, and weddings.
3. Under the guidance of Pastor Cherie Smith we will follow through on requests for visits and support in a timely way.
4. Keep all pastors updated about visits and needs, sharing any information that might lead to even better support for members.
5. Implement a new program for pastors and elders that will feature connecting to and caring for all church members.

We think it is very important, especially for a large church family, to do everything we can to let each member know how important he/she is and to seek ways to support the spiritual needs of our members. So we invite you to help us accomplish our goal by:

1. Letting us know anytime a church member is hospitalized, experiences a crisis, or needs a visit or assistance.
2. Taking the initiative to help others and to encourage and support fellow members whenever you can. Always build up others through encouragement and friendship. Never criticize or condemn. Pray to be accepting and loving toward others just as God is with each of us.
3. Sharing suggestions for how we can better serve our church members.
4. Praying that God’s Spirit will help us connect more closely with our Father and with each other.

In a few months we will ask you how well we are accomplishing our goal. Thank you for helping make the Collegedale Seventh-day Adventist Church a loving, caring church community.

IN MEMORY

Jim Burrus, husband of Yolande and father of Tammy Loukota, Jamie Burrus, Monelle Fore, and Annie Burrus, passed away August 23. Services were held September 3. Memorial contributions may be made to American Cancer Society, 6221 Shallowford Rd # 102, Chattanooga, TN 37421.

Michelle Hocking’s mother passed away August 21 in Michigan.
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

On Sabbath afternoon, Aug. 27, the Fellowship Hall was filled with children’s ministry volunteers and their families. The families enjoyed a delicious luncheon catered by our own talented chef, Molly Chetty. Flowers and candles adorned every table with a beautiful purple color scheme and prayer theme focus thanks to the decorating expertise of Renee Moore. Fellowship and laughter was shared as families visited together. A beautiful slide show incorporating pictures of all of our volunteers, created by Kerry Allen, was shown during the meal. After a wonderful ice cream treat, the children were dismissed into the care of Tom Verrill, Brenda Ruth, and many willing University students as our meeting and sharing time began.

The emphasis of our meeting time was presented by Carole Verrill on the importance of helping our children to become excited about their prayer lives and their devotional times. The Children’s Ministries Development Team, led by Ronna Barker and Carole Verrill, proposed a renewed focus on prayer in the Sabbath School curriculums for all of our children. An interactive prayer resource handout was shared and the leadership teams even participated in a hands-on prayer activity that could be shared with the children in their classrooms. The divisions separated into their respective areas to discuss specific ways to incorporate this prayer emphasis into their own classroom curriculums as well as other team issues pertinent to their rooms. Discussion times were lively and focused while much love, support and encouragement was shared by all members of each team.

The meeting time concluded with dedication prayers for every division led by Victor.

CELEBRATING 100+ YEARS!

We would like to give a card shower to our four church members who are celebrating centennial-plus birthdays.

Mrs. Mercedes Bernal (August 29, 1910)
PO Box 190
Collegedale, TN 37315-0190

Mrs. Gretchen Teter (September 16, 1911)
8249 Standifer Gap Rd
Chattanooga, TN 37421-5046

Mrs. Mildred Walters (August 28, 1909)
PO Box 125
Collegedale, TN 37315-0125

FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars now for the Family Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 16, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Farrow Family Home, 5767 Tallant Road.

There will be cooler weather, music, food, hayrides, games, pumpkins, face painting, fun, and fellowship! Watch for information posters at Sabbath School and in upcoming issues of Churchbeat. We are looking forward to seeing you and your family there!

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HOUSING THE HOMELESS IN COLLEGEDALE CHURCH
by Lynne Macias

Our Church houses homeless families for four separate weeks a year through Interfaith Homeless Network (IHN) of Chattanooga. I think what we do is best described in the unedited letter below, written by Jason, one of the current IHN fathers who agreed to write an article for Parents Magazine on being a father without a home:

“When I was asked to write this article about being a father and being homeless it brought up hardened and hidden feelings. Feelings of anger, embarrassment, and sadness because I was supposed to be the head of the family, ‘The provider’

Fourteen months ago I was diagnosed with two spinal diseases and became disabled. Since I was head of the family our income dropped to nothing. Like most of America we were one paycheck away from homelessness, we lost our house and our car. We were miserable! We had to go to a homeless shelter which was very hard because we had to be separated. My wife and son had to go to one shelter and I had to go to another. The only thing we had going for us was the fact that we know Jesus.

After lots of prayer we got a phone call from IHN, interfaith homeless network saying that we were accepted into their program. And since then things are getting better day by day.

The IHN program is an organization of different churches that help homeless families stay together. Each week there is a new caring church that we stay at. They provide breakfast and dinner for everyone. But most importantly they provide a compassionate environment to have my family in. IHN offers valuable resources that we would not have if we were not in their program. We have access to the internet so my wife can apply for jobs, our son is now in day camp, and He loves it there because he can enter act with other children whereas before he was out walking around with us. They provide transportation to the places we need to go, they have many helpful classes so when we do get a home again we can better manage our money, be better parents, and eat nutritious meals. During the day we have access to IHN’s day center, it is just like a home. We can do laundry, cook, read books from the IHN library, the children have educational games, a play ground, and they even have a nap room for the young children. But what we like most is when we walk through the doors the staff and volunteers treat us with kindness and are very helpful with everything we need. IHN is a blessing to everyone who walks through the doors. The staff here goes out of their way to help us, they make copies, fax, and they help to apply for affordable housing, and they make sure that if we need hygiene or clothes we are going to get them.

Everyone has many descriptions of what Jesus looks like, but I know because I see him in the faces of everyone around me.”

I have heard many similar comments about Collegedale Church from former guests—that we loved and accepted them and made them feel like family, that we took such good care of their kids...in short, that we were the hands and feet and heart of Jesus.

Our upcoming week is just around the corner: September 11-18. If you are moved to get involved in a small way, here’s how:

- Spend a couple of hours playing with the kids, or helping with homework
- Bring an evening meal (and eat with the families)
- Spend a night (separate room on provided cots)
- Drive a van (vehicle supplied)

Contact Lynne Macias at maciasly@gmail.com or call and leave a message at 396-2124 (x121) for further information.

Luncheon
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Czerkasij, Kathy Goddard, and Carole Verrill. The members of each division were invited to enter the center of a circle while all other leadership teams surrounded them for hands-on prayers of dedication for their families and their ministries. God’s presence was felt and all in attendance were blessed through this special time of fellowship. This event was an opportunity for us to express our deep gratitude and thanks to each and every one of our volunteers who give of themselves in ministry for the children and families of the Collegedale Church.
OUR NEXT OFF (Outdoor Family Fellowship) event will be next Sabbath, Sept. 10, from 4:00 p.m. through supper at Elsie Holmes Nature Park, located on Ooltewah-Ringgold Road, between East Brainerd Road and Ringgold. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own picnic supper meal and stay for fellowship.

PROPHECIES DECODED: We will be hosting the Net 2011 series by Dr Ron Clouzet September 30 to October 30. Volunteers are needed for advertising, setting up, technical support, décor, etc. Contact Pastor Sam at samchetty@southern.edu or 396-2134.

WE SO MUCH APPRECIATE the many expressions of sympathy following the death of my mother, Doris Davis. The food, flowers, cards, and gifts were so meaningful. Thanks for being such a caring community. Barbara James and family.

ELLEN AND I want to express our deepest appreciation for your prayers and concern during my surgery and recovery. I’m doing well and back at work as a Hospice chaplain. Jim Herman

AW SPALDING is now accepting applications for an hourly part time school counselor. This is a 20 hour/week position. All eligible applicants can turn their resume in to the front office of the school.

THE FAMILY OF MERCEDES BERNAL would like to thank everyone for the flowers and cards she received on her 101st birthday.

STEP FOR LIFE is launching a walking program. Contact Pastor Sam at samchetty@southern.edu or 396-2134 for more information.

YOUTH AND PARENTS interested in receiving CAYA text updates and announcements such as upcoming baptisms and event reminders, email or text your first and last name, cell phone number, cell phone carrier, and year you graduate to Ame Fowler at 595-4299 or amefowler@gmail.com.

THE BLUE MOUNTAIN ACADEMY Reunion will be held Sunday, Oct. 2, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Join them for vespers and a potluck meal. You will have a chance to hear about what’s happening at the school. RSVP to Kathleen Sutton at (610) 562-4214 or ksutton@bma.us.

ARE YOU ELDERLY and in need of assistance? I am licensed and available 2 days a week, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Call Victoria at 892-1863.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY is a Christian based recovery program for those suffering from hurts, habits, and hang-ups. We also have a class for praying moms with children who have hurts, habits, or hang-ups. Join us each Monday for dinner at 5:45 p.m., large meeting at 6:30 p.m. and small groups at 7:15. Call Dúane at 396-2134.

HELP THE CHURCH SAVE MONEY. Subscribe to the online version of Churchbeat by going to www.collegedalechurch.com. Once you subscribe, you will be taken off the mailing list.