SO, YOU STILL HAVEN’T VOLUNTEERED?

So, you still haven’t volunteered for SonRise? There are areas that still need your help.

The student Cast Meal will be serving haystacks once again this year. We invite you to donate bags of corn chips, bags of shredded cheese, bottles of water, and cookies to the meal. All, but the cookies, should be dropped off at the Church office by April 2 so we know how much we need to order. Cookies should be dropped off in the morning either April 5 or 6 during office hours or Sabbath morning, April 7. For more information, contact Roland Recchia at 505-8481.

Volunteers are needed to be parking lot attendants to help direct people to available parking spaces the day of SonRise.

Contact Victor Berumen at 693-5203 or vebe56@yahoo.com.

We never turn volunteers away in helping to setup the Marketplace on Thursday afternoon, April 5, and Friday, April 6, or taking it down on Sunday, April 8. The more hands available, the faster it goes. Contact Chuck Robertson at 313-3655.

The Resurrection scene needs volunteers to help take down the set SonRise night. Volunteers should come at sundown and stay as long as they can. Contact Tom Goddard at goddard@southern.edu or 505-5146.

Volunteers are needed Friday night, April 6, to help check out costumes and attach continued on page 2, SonRise

THE DIGGING HOUR

by Ray Minner

At 11:30 on Sabbath morning, when most Collegedale Sabbath Schools are over and Renewal service is about to begin, a steadfast group upstairs in the Seminar Room is just getting started in their Bible study.

“We do dig in Scripture,” says Dr. Izak Wessels, teacher of the Roundtable Class. “We follow the topics in the Lesson Quarterly, but most of our time is spent in reading the Bible,” says Wessels. They do allow themselves to digress somewhat as the discussion takes its own direction, but Wessels and his PowerPoint presentation stay very closely rooted in the Word itself.

Attendance at Roundtable fluctuates between 30 and 60, says Wessels, with a cross-section of age groups. On any given Sabbath most of those present have already been to the Adoration II worship service.

While Wessels is the primary teacher, the overall superintendent and organizer is Scott Douglas.

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I wish you could have seen what I saw a few days ago. I stopped by the old eastern North Carolina tobacco town where my grandparents raised my mother and her sisters, and visited the not-so-gracefully aging house on Tarboro Street where I spent so many happy days as a little boy in the fragrant, welcoming embrace of their home. I showed my wife the landmarks of the town that made my childhood come flooding back—a special place, with special people from a special time, mostly gone now. You really would have had to be there in those days—and she hadn’t been. So she had to see the places and listen to my stories to begin to capture the essence of my memories.

Every morning when you and I drive down our driveways we enter a world full of people who depend upon us, our experience, our witness, to show them and tell them about the Kingdom. If it hasn’t left a vivid impression on us . . . how can we ever share it with them?

Then there is this: most of us know someone who grew up in our homes, ate at our tables, studied in our schools, who has been either seduced by the popular culture or alienated by our attitudes or lack of authenticity, and who has drifted away from our fellowship. Literally hundreds of these are within sight, within reach of our own congregation. What are you and I doing for them? Do they even remember that we love them? How would they know?

Joe A. Webb, a pastor in Australia’s South Queensland Conference, has prepared this series of lessons on witnessing and evangelism, and wouldn’t you know? He didn’t write them for study by our professional pastors and evangelists, he wrote them for you. And me. As if we had an obligation to witness and evangelize! I tease, of course. You have always understood this obligation. But maybe you haven’t felt prepared, or felt drawn to making it happen. It hasn’t been near the top of your agenda. Maybe this quarter’s lessons are timely in that regard, because . . . there isn’t much time left.

You are thousands of years and completely culturally removed from Naaman’s little servant girl. But you can still do what she did! Most likely, you’ve never been strolling through the desert and encountered an Ethiopian riding by in his chariot as Philip did. But you have had and will in the future have similar encounters. How will you seize those opportunities?

That which motivates us to witness is exactly the same response of love that pulls us to the foot of the cross, to the communion service, and to the surety of our own salvation. And it is that assurance of salvation that so many around us have never fully experienced. Why would we knowingly withhold that?

You may not envision yourself as Paul before King Agrippa, but you can step into the shoes of Jesus and encounter the woman at the well. The power of the Holy Spirit can provide to you the same living water He offered to her. Imagine the reward from seeing her reach out and drink!

One of Ellen G. White’s most memorable quotes remains, “The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian.” Our lives are our witness, our natural habitat can be our mission field, the people God sends across our paths can be the jewels in our crowns. Are we willing?

SonRise

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padding to size helmets. Contact Sherrie Williams at 396-2134 or sonrise@southern.edu.

Volunteers are also needed Sabbath, April 7, at 7:00 a.m. to help the soldiers get their armor on. Contact Sherry Magers at 236-2452 or sgmagers@hotmail.com.

Lynne Macias could also use some more banner bearers to lead groups through the Pageant. Contact her at maciasly@gmail.com or 314-2953.

We still need to cast specific roles: disciple, believer, mobster, or Roman soldier. Contact Randall Van Dolson at sonrise-casting@southern.edu or call the Church at 396-2134.

The Marketplace can always use more shoppers and travelers. What better way to spend a Sabbath than with family and friends and volunteering for a good cause? Contact Sharon Moses at 834-1493 or wmsmoises@comcast.net.

For those of you who have volunteered, you should be contacted in the next week or so. If you are not contacted by March 26, let Sherrie know at sonrise@southern.edu or 396-2134.
COLLEGE DALE CONFRONTS KONY
by Shelly Litchfield

I believe an incident when I was a child fueled my desire for digging deeper for the truth, speaking out about that truth, and seeking justice. As a 12-year-old, I remember eavesdropping on a group of grownups. One educated man was expounding on a “fact” that he had just read - that certain races are less intelligent than others (later in college I would learn how this book was eventually debunked as “racism with footnotes”). All the adults listened silently, with eye-widening astonishment. Not my father. While he had never finished college (he took over his father’s business instead), he was educated in matters of God’s heart. My dad shot back at the erudite expounder with a phrase that I will never forget - “Where did you get a load of c---* like that?!” (or dung as the King James would say).

As a teacher, I have studied history. As an Adventist, I have been involved in local and international missions. As a human being, I have organized and participated in outreach. But the movie I saw in 2007 moved me to dig more deeply and act for justice. That movie was Rough Cut, made by three college guys from San Diego who were studying film-making and went to Africa in 2003 on an adventure. There they saw a situation which disgusted and inspired them into making this film for Jacob, a Ugandan boy they befriended who told them firsthand about the atrocities of Joseph Kony. Jacob and his brother were abducted by Kony, a rebel turned thug, who mutilated and massacred civilians and abducted children and brainwashed them to “fight” in his roving band. Jacob managed to escape after seeing his brother killed by machete in front of him. When the young film-makers (Bobby Bailey, Laren Poole, and Jason Russell) promised Jacob they would not forget him, they had no idea what would happen over the next nine years through the non-profit they began, Invisible Children (see www.invisiblechildren.com)

When SAU and CA students saw Rough Cut in 2007, Collegedale’s own local movement erupted into action-- an African village built on the SAU campus, a die-in at Collegedale Church, a 24-hour walkathon, and a yearly (since 2008) city-wide event in Coolidge Park called Move for Uganda (complete with an educational African village and 5K). These students learned to go beyond charity and call for justice - they wrote letters, they lobbied their Congressional representatives locally and in Washington DC (which resulted in the LRA Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Bill of 2010), they studied the resultant State Department strategy, they participated in awareness-raising events as well as fund-raising events (for rebuilding schools devastated by this conflict)-- all inspired by the challenge Invisible Children has made to young people.

Then on March 5, 2012, Invisible Children (IC) released on Youtube.com their newest video, KONY 2012, with a goal of 500,000 viewers. The video went viral (76 million as of last week), was featured on all major news networks, and has created a sensation. Kony is one situation of injustice among thousands in the world, but IC and our youth have learned to act. Come see KONY 2012 and learn more from Agnes Aromorach and IC roadies about what has been done and what can be done.

Thursday, March 22, 7:00 p.m. - Thatcher worship room, KONY 2012 screening
Sabbath, March 24, 3:30 p.m. - Collegedale Community Church, KONY 2012 screening
Sunday, April 15, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Coolidge Park, MOVE FOR UGANDA

Roundtable
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Roundtable enjoys actively supporting overseas mission projects, including a church and clinic in Ecuador and a project in Papua New Guinea in cooperation with “It Is Written” which furnished 80 solar powered iPods (“The GodPod Project”) which contain, among other things, the entire Bible in Pidgin English.

Roundtable is not as well known as some other adult classes, perhaps because it used to meet in the Hulsey Wellness Center. But with the spirit of adventure and openness they welcome visitors and new members who will help their Sabbath morning Scripture digs to enhance their understanding of God’s Word. 
Communion will be held on March 24. The ordinance of humility will be observed in the Fellowship Hall on a continuous basis from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Worshipers will be invited to arrive at least twenty minutes before the service of their choice at 9:00, 10:15, or 11:45 a.m., and take part in the foot-washing ceremony.

Cool Camp: Applications for our summer day camp, for ages 6-13, are available at www.coolcamp.org. Cool Camp runs from May 30 to August 8. Registration is Sunday, May 13.

Volunteers are needed to help with administrative duties for Pastor Sam’s InStep program. Duties include data entry and emailing. Contact Pastor Sam at samchetty@southern.edu.

Ana Aviles and Family thank their Church family for the support, love, prayers, cards, calls, flowers, and visits following the death of our beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Mrs. Iris Leon. You are a blessing to us. We look forward to the beautiful morning when everything will be made new.

A Will Clinic will be held in the Fellowship Hall on April 1 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., and April 2 and 3 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. To schedule another time to meet, call the Conference Trust Services Department at 1-800-567-1844.

I CanTorI’s Spring concert featuring arrangements of texts from Song of Solomon, called Song of Songs, is Sunday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. in Ackerman Auditorium.

TUESDAY WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDIES meets in the Youth Room each Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. A new seven-week series begins March 27: “Living Your Life as a Beautiful Offering—A Bible study based on the Sermon on the Mount.” (Contact Jamie Naughton hisbloodforme@yahoo.com) Also the Book of John Inductive study class especially geared for moms meets mornings only. We continue to be inspired and challenged by God’s Word to us and encouraged by each other. (Contact Becky Cross at tnbcross@gmail.com)

Connect Re:Fuel — You are invited to Re:Fuel “Lifted Up”, a free contemporary worship concert Friday, March 23, at 7:30 p.m. at Collegedale Community Church. Join us in lifting up our Creator in song and praise!

The Lake Union Academies Tennessee Reunion is Sabbath, March 24, at the Standifer Gap School. Sabbath School begins at 9:30 followed by Church and a potluck. Worship service will feature Covenant of Praise men’s chorus. Skip Hann from GLAA will give an update on secondary Adventist education. Contact (423) 396-2525 or margaretknecht@gmail.com.

Join Message of Mercy in celebrating the release of their first a cappella CD entitled “Listen” on March 25 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Collegedale Community Church.

Outpost Centers International is holding its leadership retreat April 2-7 at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp. Visit www.outpostcenters.org/retreat.

Wednesday, March 21
10:00 a.m. 55+ Activities
7:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Group

Thursday, March 22
10:00 a.m. 55+ Bible Study

Friday, March 23
8:00 p.m. University Vespers

Sabbath, March 24
8:45 a.m. Adoration 1: Dave Smith, Communion
    Adult Sabbath Schools
10:15 a.m. Adoration 2: Dave Smith, Communion
    Sabbath Schools
11:30 a.m. Connect: LeClare Litchfield
    Renewal: Dave Smith, Communion

Offering: Church Family Budget
7:50 p.m. Sunset

Tuesday, March 27
10:00 a.m. Women’s Group
6:30 p.m. Women’s Group

Wednesday, March 28
10:00 a.m. 55+ Activities
6:30 p.m. Pathfinders
7:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Group

Thursday, March 29
10:00 a.m. 55+ Bible Study

Friday, March 30
8:00 p.m. University Vespers

Sabbath, March 31
8:45 a.m. Adoration 1: Dave Smith, Communion
    Adult Sabbath Schools
10:15 a.m. Adoration 2: Dave Smith, Communion
    Sabbath Schools
11:30 a.m. Connect: Jackie James
11:45 a.m. Renewal Dave Smith

Offering: Local Student Aid
8:01 p.m. Sunset

Tuesday, April 3
10:00 a.m. Women’s Group
6:30 p.m. Women’s Group