## IN THIS ISSUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Blessing of Camp Meeting</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewardship: The Carpenter—A Short Story</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Report</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duluth Ranks High at TEAMS Engineering Competition</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaping Everlasting Rewards</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the World May Believe</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colburns Celebrate 43 Years of Ministry</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saving the Church Through Families</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kossick Receives “Bright Star” Poetry Award</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptized Prisoners Spread the Gospel</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,700 Pathfinders and Staff Gather for Largest Camporee Yet</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathfinders Help Samaritan Center Serve Community</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Child Shall Lead Them</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAU Offers New Global Community Development Degree</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAC Camp Brings Jesus to Kids Through Summertime Fun</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECAP: Collegedale Camp Meeting</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohutta Springs: A Summer of Ministry</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Events</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offering Schedule</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COVER ART** » Attendees of the 2013 Hispanic Camp Meeting at Georgia-Cumberland Academy gather into the shape of the number one to illustrate unity, a fundamental aspect of sharing the gospel with the world. | Photo by Shana Michalek
THE GREATEST LOVE
NORTHEAST TENNESSEE CAMP MEETING

OCTOBER 4-5, 2013
THE OAKS RETREAT > GREENEVILLE, TN

ABOUT RON HALVORSEN JR.
Ron Halvorsen, Jr. currently serves as senior pastor of College View Seventh-day Adventist Church in Lincoln, Neb. He has previously pastored in Florida, Washington, Texas, and Montana. Ron is a sought-after speaker for youth and adults at retreats, camp meetings, and weeks of prayer across the nation and in other countries. His hobbies include skiing, camping, hiking, and team sports, all of which he loves to do with his family, which includes his wife, Buffy, and their two children, Ron III and Stephanie.
There is a text I often reflect on that talks about avoiding worldly wisdom—or in my mind, busyness: “Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise” (1 Cor. 3:18, NKJV).

The conference plans special events each year to help you escape busyness or worldly wisdom; they’re called camp meetings. Each year, my office plans seven of these events: South Georgia Camp Meeting, Collegedale Camp Meeting, Olde Time Camp Meeting, Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting, Korean Camp Meeting, Hispanic Camp Meeting, and Northeast Tennessee Camp Meeting.

The goal of each one is spiritual fellowship and renewal. Camp meeting is a great time and a great tradition.

The goal of each camp meeting is spiritual fellowship and renewal. Camp meeting is a great time and a great tradition. Connect with one another, yes, but also connect with our Creator and God. Camp meetings offer uplifting sermons, a wide variety of praise music, and even workshops at some to help us in life and on our spiritual journeys. And there are fun highlights like days spent at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, the Adventist Book Center sales, or camping in tents. Each camp meeting offers something different and unique to that event.

Camp meeting is a great time and a great tradition. It offers the opportunity to slow down, gather your family close, and just be. What a gift camp meeting is! I hope you take the time to attend a camp meeting near you.

Verse 19 of 1 Corinthians 3 goes on to say that “the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God” (NKJV). In this busy life, I pray our wisdom is found in Christ, not in the foolishness of this world.

Jerry Fore is general vice president of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference.
Once upon a time, two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It began with a small misunderstanding and escalated to weeks of silence.

One morning, there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days' work," he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs."

"Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my younger brother's! Last week, there was a meadow between us. Now, with his bulldozer, he's made a creek between us. I want you to build a fence. An eight-foot fence—so I won't have to see his place or his face anymore."

The older brother went to town for the day. The carpenter worked hard, measuring, sawing, and nailing. About sunset, when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished. The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge—a bridge that stretched from one side of the creek to the other!

The neighbor, his younger brother, was coming toward them, his hand outstretched. "You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done."

The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in the middle, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder.

"No, wait! Stay. I've got a lot of other projects for you," said the older brother.

"I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but I have many more bridges to build. Just remember this: 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God'" (Matt. 5:9, NIV).

Mitch Hazekamp is director of the Stewardship/Trust Services Department

---

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The figures below provide an overview of conference finances as of May 31, 2013. Every member who is cooperating with God in the faithful stewardship of tithes and offerings makes our ministry and outreach possible. Thank you for your faithfulness!

|                      | 2013 (21 weeks) | 2012 (21 weeks) | Gain/Loss | %  
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|----
| Tithe                | $15,142,719     | $14,096,194     | $1,046,525| 7.42
| Conf. Ministries     | $198,530        | $191,697        | $6,833    | 3.56
| Local Church Giving | $10,764,921     | $9,876,391      | $888,530  | 9.00
| World Church Giving  | $360,355        | $388,746        | -$28,392  | -7.3

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE | COMMUNIQUÉ
Eighth-grade students from Duluth Adventist Christian School in Duluth, Ga., have been recognized for their achievement in the Technology Student Association’s 2013 TEAMS (Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science) Engineering Competition. Placing first in the state and third in the nation, this team of students solved complex mathematical problems and provided answers to cyber security questions related to this year’s competition theme: “Engineering a Secure Cyberspace.”

Teams of four to eight high school students prepare in the fall for the one-day TEAMS competition, which takes place nationally during February and March. Preparation includes extensive theme-related research as well as mathematical problem solving.

This year, more than 1,000 teams of middle and high school students from across the nation participated in the TEAMS competition. These students have a strong interest in engineering, and most plan to pursue a career in science, technology, engineering, or math. Top teams at the state and division level have shown exceptional aptitude in engineering and problem solving.

Like other TSA competitions and programs, TEAMS is designed to encourage more students to pursue engineering by having them learn and experience how engineering impacts everyday life and how engineers help solve social and community problems.

ABOUT TSA
The Technology Student Association (TSA) is a national organization devoted exclusively to the needs of students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). TEAMS is one of several STEM programs offered by TSA. Membership in TSA includes more than 180,000 middle school and high school students in 2,000 schools spanning 48 states. TSA partners with universities and other organizations to promote diverse STEM competitions and opportunities for students and teachers. TSA is supported by educators, parents, and business leaders who believe in the need for a technologically literate society. For more information, visit tsaweb.org and teams.tsaweb.org.

Duluth students proudly display their trophy and certificates from placing first in Georgia and third in the nation at this year’s TEAMS Engineering Competition.
At the conclusion of Collegedale Academy’s baccalaureate service on May 18, 2013, I sat back in my seat and enjoyed watching the 93 graduating seniors file out. What really made the service special were the three young men from CA who chose to be baptized. Graduation weekend is always exciting, but when you add three additional decisions for Jesus, it becomes extra special.

The joyous celebration was a reminder to thank God for His guidance and direction through another school year. It was a moment to realize that all of the meetings, challenges, good times, and tough decisions during the year were well worth the results. It was a blessing to see spiritual and academic celebrations coming together.

Across conference schools, work is being done to prepare for August and the next school year. Rooms are being renovated, textbooks are being ordered, and technology upgrades are being installed. A lot is happening, but there is one other extremely important issue I’d like to draw attention to: A growing number of children need financial assistance if they are to continue in Adventist schools or enroll for the first time this coming year.

If you are a grandparent, can you help make sure your grandkids are in an Adventist school this fall?

If your children are grown and gone, can you give some money to your church or school for student aid?

If your church is not attached to a specific school, can you encourage your church to “adopt” and begin financially supporting a school in another conference community?

Regardless of your local school’s size, there will be students who need your financial help. Please give generously.

Chris Massengill (in blue), Collegedale Academy chaplain, baptizes Matthew Smith (left) and Corey Rich (right), two of three graduating seniors who dedicated their lives to Christ during graduation weekend.
The gym at Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA) in Calhoun, Ga., was bursting at the seams June 7-9 as more than 1,500 people gathered for the 2013 Hispanic Camp Meeting. The featured speaker was José Rojas, president of MOVEmentum, LLC and former NAD director of volunteer ministries. Rojas’ presentations throughout the weekend coincided with the weekend’s theme, “Para Que El Mundo Crea” or “So That the World May Believe.”

Rojas began Friday night building on the topic of what it means to believe, basing his talk on 1 Thessalonians 4. He spoke to the audience on how belief comes from having hope. He continued throughout the weekend, presenting on what faith is based on Hebrews 11 and that with it, you act on what you believe. Rojas likened faith to a muscle, saying that resistance is what makes a muscle grow bigger and stronger, just as trials make our faith stronger. He reminded the audience of the necessity of love and that without it, you are doing the right things for the wrong reasons. Walking off the stage and into the crowd, Rojas challenged the audience, asking if they forgive and love the unlovely. Presenting 1 Corinthians 13:13, he showed how imperative it is to love others, so that in turn, the world may believe.

“If we are mobilized because we love...we will use our faith mightily. We will have a people ready to use their gifts because love is driving them.”

This year, the older youth divisions (age 13+) were joined with the adults, having Rojas as the speaker. Both young and old enjoyed Rojas’ friendly and easy-to-understand yet impactful speaking style, with many saying they felt the presence of the Holy Spirit.

“This was my second time coming to camp meeting, and I returned because...”
Pastor Rojas was coming,” said Jaya Stuger, attendee and member of UJAM, the Hispanic Adventist Youth Federation based in the metro Atlanta area. “His preaching was awesome.”

Janeth Cuadros, who has attended camp meeting since 2005, agreed that Rojas was very engaging and delivered the message in an effective way.

“I enjoy the way Pastor Rojas delivers the message,” Cuadros said. “He has a special way of doing it. He’s not an ordinary speaker.”

In the younger children’s divisions, beginner through junior, there was also a good turnout with impactful themes. The primary division’s program was especially fascinating with a mine theme. Kids were given plastic hard hats with flashlights attached, placed into fake mine carts, and pushed through a lifelike dark mine tunnel and into the John L. Coble Elementary gym, which was transformed into the likeness of a giant mine, with different caverns that held activity stations for the children.

As the Hispanic Camp Meeting is continuing to grow each year, Miguel Tirado, ministerial director for Latin-American Ministries, is looking into alternative locations since it has outgrown the GCA gym. This year, in addition to the gym seating and balcony bleachers, a large tent filled with 300 chairs was set up on the lawn outside to accommodate overflow.

“When I first came in 2007, we fit into the gym easily, but we’ve seen every year more and more people coming. More churches are becoming aware of camp meeting and its importance,” Tirado said. “I see camp meeting as a modern feast of tabernacles. It’s a time for worship, offerings, being together, and celebrating blessings. It’s a glimpse of heaven.”
that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

—John 17:21, NIV

2013 GCC HISPANIC CAMP MEETING

photos by Shana Michalek

...that all of them may
May they also be in us
be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

[John 17:21, NIV]
Retiro de Parejas
PROTÉGEOLO
el amor se enferma

6 al 8 de septiembre 2013

LOS ESPACIOS SON LIMITADOS
Para registrarse visite la página web:
www.registration.gccsda.com
fecha límite 5 de agosto de 2013

Precios: $350 por pareja
Descuento early bird: $300 por pareja
si se registra en o antes del 30 de junio, 2013

Dirección: Winshape Retreat Center
2277 Martha Berry Hwy, Rome, GA 30161

Para más información llamar
a la Oficina de Ministerio Hispano de
la Georgia Cumberland Conference
al teléfonos: 706-629-7951 xt. 391
ó (800) 567-1844 Ext. 391
By Rick Greve, northern region ministerial director | Photos by Doug Colburn

On March 30, 2013, a large gathering of friends, family, and church members filled the Meister Memorial Church near Deer Lodge, Tenn., to honor Phil Colburn, pastor, and his wife, Beverly, for their 43 years of faithful, dedicated ministry to the Adventist church.

Forty-three years seems like a long time, but the Colburns expressed how quickly the time has slipped by. When they started their life together in 1968, neither could have imagined how the Lord would lead them. Beverly had recently graduated from nursing school at Hinsdale Hospital, and Phil was making his way through college when they got married on Sept. 1, 1968.

The Illinois Conference saw Phil’s potential during his second year of seminary, and their sponsorship led Phil to his first pastoral position in the Aurora and Sheridan district, west of Chicago. While in Illinois, the Colburns served eight churches.

In 1978, the Michigan Conference came calling, specifically asking them to serve at the Pontiac Riverside Church. For 29 years in four different districts, the Colburns provided leadership, nurture, and care to the churches of Michigan. These churches, in turn, became the backdrop for a growing family of three boys.

Continued on page 27 [see COLBURN]
Ellen White described family as the tie that is “the closest, the most tender and sacred, of any on earth” (Adventist Home, p. 18). Unfortunately, many families are crumbling. It is no surprise then that the Family Ministries Department seeks to equip and encourage leaders in local churches to support one of the most complex but crucial relationships we know as humans—that of the family. As part of that effort, the department held the first of two Charting Our Course Leadership Training sessions for this year on April 13 and 14. Nearly 30 people attended and listened as presenters Elizabeth Castle, Sid Crandall, Jo Dubs, Sylvia Knoch, Donna Crandall, and Kathy Schleier discussed an aspect of family ministries, including communication, strengthening marriages, and spiritual parenting.

“Family ministries is my passion,” she said. “In my perception, everything rests on that. It takes all of us pulling together—the church is a family, and it’s a family that’s made up of families. If we’re going to minister outward, we have to be working on healing our families within so they can then take that healing and touch others.”

Kulik also explained why the health of families is key to the church’s vitality.

“We’ve got to keep families together for the sake of the next generations and keeping people in church,” said Schleier, who spoke on the effects of divorce on children. “The biggest thing is to realize that in our churches, families are hurting, and we are forgetting the children in divorced families.”

Schleier serves as the executive director of Family Frameworks, an organization she started in 2004 to minister to and strengthen families. She said her vision for the Adventist Church is that individual churches would take advantage of the tremendous resources that exist and adopt a program that would reach out specifically to families.

Linda Kulik, a school social worker and family ministries director for the Ooltewah Church, attended the training to augment her professional background with what others in the church had to share.

“I look at how the parts affect the whole. None of us is in isolation. So whatever’s going on in this little part, it affects everything, even though we may not realize it at the time. I see how Satan is so incredibly determined to take down the family because if he takes down the family, he takes down the church, and that’s his goal.”

Kulik said the training reminded her of how she is called to partner with Christ in
reaching others and that “His burden is for every one of His children. We are his family. And He promises to give us what we need, so I need to remember: Don’t look at myself, don’t look at my training—just look up to the Father, and He will lead.”

The second training session will be held Oct. 19-20. To learn more, contact Donna Crandall at 800-567-1844, ext. 342.
Betty Kossick, resident of Calhoun, Ga., (and member of the Calhoun Church) was recently selected as the spring/summer 2013 “Bright Star” by A Galaxy of Verse (GOV). This nonprofit literary organization, established in 1974, and located in Garland, Tex., publishes a twice-yearly poetry anthology by the same name.

Not only is Kossick the first member to provide a cover photo for the current issue, but coincidentally, she won second place in the “Birds” contest for a poem titled “The Strutter,” based on the photo.

“Reading other poets and writing my own poetry provide me with my happiest heartbeats,” Kossick said.

Kossick has written nearly 700 poems, with many of them published and/or winning a variety of contests. In addition to being affiliated with GOV, Kossick is also a long-distance member of Dayton Christian Scribes (Dayton, OH), a spin-off poets group she co-founded 35 years ago from Andrews University’s summer workshops in Berrien Springs, Mich. Kossick is still an active freelance writer and journalist, with 42 years of writing experience.

The Bright Star’s biography and selected poems provide the opening feature for the anthology, which also publishes poetry by members and contest winners. President and editor, Barbara Blanks, chooses a “star” based on the poet’s body of work and a continuing passion for keeping the art of poetry alive, accessible, and comprehensible.

The purpose of A Galaxy of Verse is to make available, to good poets throughout the country, opportunities to have their work read by a national public. It encourages the creative process by publishing the work of its members. It is open to poets across the United States. For details or more information, please visit barbara-blanks.com or email galaxyofverse@gmail.com.
As the song says, it only takes a spark to get a fire going.

Several years ago in a Virginia prison, an inmate named Hector began studying the Bible and felt convicted to keep the Sabbath. After completing Bible studies on his own, he requested to study with a Seventh-day Adventist. Darrell Hite from the Kingsport Church, located in Tennessee about 50 miles from the prison, heard of Hector’s request, and along with three other members, he began studying the Bible with Hector, Rick, William, Victor, and Mark.

Eventually, the prisoners made decisions to surrender their lives to Christ, and on July 17, 2010, Mike Lombardo, Kingsport Church pastor, baptized the five men. Although they’ve been separated since, they’re spreading the gospel wherever they go.

While Rick and William are still in prison in Virginia, they are diligently giving Bible studies to fellow inmates.

Victor was released from prison early on probation due to kindness, service, and lifting morale. He’s now doing missionary work with ADRA in Mexico.

Mark was transferred to a West Virginia prison, where he was reunited with his brother. He’s been giving Bible studies there, and as a result, his brother accepted Christ and was recently baptized.

As for Hector, he is transitioning from prison to living at a halfway house in New York City and has become an active member in the Manhattan Seventh-day Adventist Church. Hector is teaching Sabbath School, forming a youth drama team, and becoming involved in city ministry.

The men continue to receive love and support from the Kingsport Church through letters and cards, a blessing to them as they faithfully stoke the fire, spreading the love of Jesus everywhere.
The 2013 Pathfinder Camporee, held April 19-21, was the largest yet with 71 clubs represented by 1,700 Pathfinders and staff. “Making a Difference God’s Way” was the theme presented by keynote speaker Tim Cross, associate pastor at Collegedale Church (Collegedale, Tenn.).

Fernando Verduzco, Children’s/Junior Youth Ministries director, attributes much of the success of the camporee to the Pathfinder Executive Council, which is responsible for planning, setting up, and implementing Pathfinder events.

“Executive Council makes the camporee happen,” Verduzco said.

New this year was the addition of street signs—such as Doss Avenue—which served to honor past and present Pathfinder leaders and helped everyone navigate the Cohutta Springs Youth Camp grounds.

A highlight of this year’s event was the baptism of Kaya Cranfield (Ooltewah club), Bethany Treadway (Ooltewah club), Larysa Merchant (Ooltewah club), Joelle Pester (Ooltewah club), and Esmeralda Arredondo (Marietta Hispanic club).
Keynote speaker Tim Cross speaks to Pathfinders about using God’s methods to make a difference in their community and world.

Fernando Verduzco (right) embraces John Swafford (left) and is officially recognized as a Master Guide.

Fernando Verduzco baptizes Kaya Cranfield (left photo) and a joyful Bethany Treadway celebrates her baptism with Ted Struntz, Carl Ashlock, and Joelle Pester (right photo).
2013 Women's Leadership Weekend
August 2-4 // Georgia-Cumberland Conference Office // Calhoun, GA
Event is free! // Register online at registration.gccsda.com
Registration ends August 1 // For brochures or more information, call Women's Ministries at 706.629.7951 ext.342

Inspiration // Motivation // Instruction // Networking
If you suddenly found yourself without a place to live, what items would you need for day-to-day living?

As part of its social service outreach, The Samaritan Center (Ooltewah, Tenn.) gives out personal care kits. For the past five years, Pathfinders have put together these kits at the annual Georgia-Cumberland Conference Pathfinder Camporee. This year, they assembled 900 kits!

For the past five years, Pathfinders have put together personal care kits for The Samaritan Center. This year, they assembled 900 kits!

The kits contain a pair of new socks, washcloth, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, lotion, razor, and shaving cream. These items help provide cleanliness and dignity to those in need and are also given out to transients and domestic violence victims. Local organizations and church groups use them for inner city outreach, and they are given to other area social service agencies such as the Chattanooga Community Kitchen and the local Red Cross. In times of natural disaster, kits are provided to families in affected areas.

The Samaritan Center is the only social services agency in Ooltewah. In 2012, the center provided essential emergency aid services to approximately 3,500 people. Last year, the Center gave out more than $90,000 in food to those in need, and volunteers donated 18,610 hours in service to the community. Its vision is to provide help for today and hope for tomorrow.

The next time you meet a Pathfinder, say thank you for his/her service to your community!
This July marks the twelfth year that Southern Singles’ Ministry (SSM) has sponsored a mission trip to Ecuador. Throughout the years, mission teams from the Collegedale area have served in various locations, reaching out and meeting the medical, physical, and spiritual needs of the people there. Each trip has had the same objective: share the gospel and make a difference in the lives of everyone with whom they come in contact.

In 2010, SSM decided to undertake a construction project to build a church in Vilcabamba, Ecuador, a city the team had focused its attention on the previous four years. The project stirred a lot of interest in the town and was completed the next year over a three-week period, but as time passed, interest waned and very few attended the church.

When the SSM team traveled to Vilcabamba and its surrounding towns in 2012, they saw a need for renewed interest in Bible studies and an increased means of sharing the gospel. The previous year, just prior to the Vilcabamba Seventh-day Adventist Church being built, SSM had sponsored a Spanish-speaking missionary family that was moving from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Vilcabamba, to be a Bible worker family. Seeking wisdom from God about how to reach the Ecuadorian people, Nubia Gallegos, the wife, was reminded of the account of Jesus’ interaction with children in Matthew 19.

“Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence” (Matthew 19:13-15, KJV).

The team from a previous Southern Singles’ Ministry mission trip gather outside the medical clinic where they saw patients in Quinara, Loja, Ecuador.
Gallegos and her son, Daniel, organized a weekly children’s Bible study and a Sabbath morning children’s church. Three children attended the first week. Since then, the ministry has expanded and the Gallegos family is using a portion of their SSM stipend to rent a bus and drive through town, picking up children who want to attend—30 or 40 kids each week!

Such growth has generated a new “problem”—the church classrooms have become too small to accommodate everyone. Ari Gallegos is working with his wife and son to organize a second classroom, as currently about three children sit at each desk.

To help the Gallegos family and their friends, SSM’s project this year is to construct an additional wing onto the church using a one-day church frame from Maranatha Volunteers, Intl. The structure will be enlarged to double the original size and enclosed to provide a new classroom for younger children. This past April, several mothers dedicated their children, and later that month, many received training so they can serve as assistants in the soon-to-be created Sabbath school class.

Word of mouth, the ongoing witness of the Gallegos family and the church members, and the work of the Holy Spirit have been key to giving so many children an opportunity to learn about Jesus. The church continues to grow as others in the community take Bible studies and learn of God’s love and His plan for each of His children.

If you hear God’s call to participate in a future trip, to donate (Bibles, literature, VBS supplies, reading glasses, or clothes), or to contribute funds to this endeavor, your gift will be greatly appreciated by the people of Ecuador. For further information, contact one of the Ecuador missions directors: Wes Tucker (wat227@gmail.com or 828-361-6155) or Donna Shelman (dmshelman@yahoo.com or 423-236-5598). You can also write to SSM Missions, PO Box 1361, Collegedale, TN, 37315.
Beginning in August, Southern Adventist University will offer its first interdisciplinary studies graduate program, a Master of Science in global community development. The degree’s curriculum emphasizes research, entrepreneurship, empowerment, and Christian witnessing as key components in creating sustainable change.

The new degree will combine online courses with mission projects in the field. The program was designed with several types of students in mind: recent graduates, international development professionals, and local indigenous students seeking a U.S degree to better serve their own communities.

The director of the new master’s degree, Sharon Pittman, professor of social work, has experience working with each of these groups and has seen firsthand the need for increased education among mission workers.

“We need to do a better job of engaging and mobilizing communities so they can take ownership of our development assistance,” Pittman said. “It is our hope that this program will help create new and more successful mission opportunities for the next generation of Adventists.”

On June 14, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools approved the degree to move forward.

“It is our hope that this program will help create new mission opportunities for the next generation of Adventists.” —Sharon Pittman

For more info, contact Carl Swafford, dean of graduate studies, at 423-236-2864/swafford@southern.edu or Sharon Pittman, director of the global community development degree, at 423-236-2695/spittman@southern.edu
MISS CAMP MEETING?
NO NEED TO FUSS

Watch past Camp Meeting messages at vimeo.com/channels/gcccampmeeting
Jordan had never been in a boat before, nor had he ever experienced floating in a lake with a life jacket on, and he had certainly never ridden in a tube pulled by a ski boat. With more than a little trepidation, Jordan slid off the side of the boat and into the waters of Lake Allatoona. As he was finally convinced to let go of the boat and learn to trust the life jacket, his face erupted into an enormous grin, and he shouted “I’m free!”

Such moments are what drove the Marietta Adventist Church (Marietta, Ga.) to launch MAC Camp, a Christian day camp that exists to introduce young people to Jesus Christ and to give them life opportunities they otherwise wouldn’t have. Under the direction of Jeff Wood, Marietta Church associate pastor, MAC Camp has been designed to create a residential summer camp experience in an urban environment.

Each morning begins with a rousing song service, the MAC Time morning show, and a worship thought provided by the staff and pastoral team. Campers then participate in classes such as Lego builders, pine wood derby cars, Christian drama, soccer, cooking and baking, and much more. In addition to the on-site classes, the camp takes weekly field trips to the local pool for swimming lessons, to the lake to go boating, and to an indoor rock climbing gym. Campers also spend an hour each day in MAC Class 2.0, a summer school program designed to bridge the educational gap between school years.

While planning, MAC leadership reached out to local community organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters and a homeless shelter that provides temporary housing for displaced families. An offer was extended to provide a summer camp experience for kids who would otherwise never have the chance. Currently, 75 percent of camp attendees come from these community relationships. While this dynamic has brought its own set of challenges, one camper summed up why the staff have dedicated themselves to the program. While being dropped off one morning, she looked out the window and said, “I love camp!”

Emily Leffler, an English teacher at Battle Creek Academy who came to Marietta to serve as summer camp director, believes passionately in the mission of MAC Camp.

“No matter how long or exhausting the days get for the staff,” she said, “what keeps the program going is seeing campers try new things, learn new skills, and most importantly, meet Jesus every day.”

MAC CAMP BRINGS JESUS TO KIDS THROUGH SUMMERTIME FUN
by Jeff Wood, Marietta Church associate pastor, and Emily Leffler | photos by Danielle Butala

MAC CAMP
A Christian Summer Day Camp

NEWS

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE | COMMUNIQUÉ
CHURCH PLANTING

August 23-25, 2013
Cohutta Springs Conference Center

Chris Donavan, missional pastor coordinator, and the Georgia-Cumberland Conference ministerial leadership invite you to...

BECOME A MISSIONAL PASTOR & PLANT A CHURCH

Attend the 2013 Annual Missional Pastors Orientation and learn how the Georgia-Cumberland Conference is empowering and supporting lay pastors to start new churches. Come gain knowledge about a biblical paradigm for reaching people in an effective missional process and discover your destiny for helping others fulfill the great commission!

For more info, contact Chris at cdonavan@gccsda.com or the Evangelism Department at 800-567-1844.

[COLBURN] continued from page 13
During the celebration, sons Doug, Dave, and Mike shared memories of growing up in the Colburn home. As the years passed, piano and life lessons combined to provide a growing legacy of service and commitment for the next generation of Colburns. Now with six grandchildren, Phil and Beverly’s legacy seems destined to continue for years to come.

In March 2008, the Georgia-Cumberland Conference extended an invitation to the Colburns to serve the Meister Memorial and Jamestown churches. Attracted by the opportunity to sell their snow shovel and be closer to family, the Colburns came to the Cumberland Plateau with a desire to serve the Lord with their best efforts.

Isaiah 52:7 (NIV) reads: “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, ‘Your God reigns!’”

Colburn officially retired April 1, 2013, and though it’s impossible to comprehend the impact of 43 years of faithful ministry, through this celebration, the Colburns were given a small foretaste of that heavenly homecoming when their legacy will be complete.
RECAP:

COLLEGEDALE CAMP MEETING

Collegedale Camp Meeting was held May 22-25 on the campus of Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn. Days were packed full with seminars on topics like health, lay evangelism, astronomy, and parenting. Evenings were a special time for everyone to come together to sing praises and listen to a message by this year’s featured speakers, Brad Thorp and Dana Edmond. Special highlights during the week were the Adventist Book Center sales events and book signings, the Village Market sale, health testing, and a 5k fun run. Children and youth divisions kept younger attendees busy with trips to Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, community outreach projects, presentations by Ben Roy from The Science Zone, basketball, outdoor games, singing, and listening to engaging speakers. And the young adults group enjoyed focusing on their theme, “Jesus the One,” through panel discussions and messages by Tim Gillespie.

Brad Thorp, Wednesday and Thursday night speaker
Dana Edmond, Friday night and Sabbath morning speaker
Rob Snider and Matthew Shallenberger and the juniors
Ron Malloch, astronomy seminar presenter
Senior youth on their Cohutta Springs trip
Earliteens during their community outreach project
GOOD! NEWS IN A CRUMPLED WORLD

The Science Zone’s Ben Roy and the primary group

The Adventist Book Center’s sidewalk sale

Ken Rogers, senior youth speaker

Health testing

Author Brenda Walsh at the ABC book signing

Pastor Nate Elias and his daughter at the 5k

Crowds at the Village Market’s Saturday night sale event

Tim Gillespie, young adult speaker

Jared Thurmon, health seminar speaker
Kids everywhere! On the youth camp side and on the conference center side, Cohutta is blessed to have so many young people this summer. Did you know Cohutta Springs Conference Center facilitates youth groups? It’s a wonderful ministry and gives us the opportunity to witness to a lot of young people. In May and June, we had about 150 kids from the Lakeview Baptist Church in Alabama, and more than 250 kids from across the United States came with Global Youth Ministry. More are lined up, ready to spend quality time at Cohutta.

Another growing ministry is weddings. More than 65 percent of inquiries are from people who want to get married. Can you blame them? Cohutta is a magical place. This year we’ve already had five weddings at Cohutta. Many times we have to turn couples away because we just don’t have the space (this sounds like a project).

During Cohutta Springs Foundation weekend in April, the first baptism took place in our new lake baptismal. Despite the cold windy day, Jonathan and Cordell Bray committed their lives to God. What a blessing! The entire weekend was packed full of fun with recreation activities, a petting zoo, delicious food, and wonderful meetings. The guest speaker was the sensational Clifford Goldstein.

Cohutta is also exploring the possibility of hosting a Cancer Survivor Retreat next spring. Many in the church are suffering from cancer, and each of their families are affected, as well. We strongly feel the need to provide a deeply spiritual and nurturing environment for those who need it the most. Peggy Hallman, our missions coordinator, is rallying the support of our Adventist hospitals and other health organizations to make this project a reality. If you are interested in learning more about this retreat or in supporting this initiative, please contact Peggy at 706-695-9093 or by email at missions@cohuttasprings.com.
CONFERENCE EVENTS

July 13  Health Rally » Oglethorpe Church, Ga.
July 15  God in Shoes Outreach » Jellico, Tenn.
July 20  Health Rally » Hixson Church, Tenn.
July 31-Aug 4 Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting » Cohutta Springs, Crandall, Ga.

Aug 3  Personal Ministries Rally » Duluth Church, Ga.
Aug 5-6  Teachers’ Convention » Cohutta Springs, Crandall, Ga.
Aug 10  Personal Ministries Rally » Athens Church, Tenn.
Aug 14  First Day of School
Aug 16-18  Pathfinder Leadership Convention
Aug 17  Health Rally » Chestatee Church, Ga.
Aug 17  Prayer Ministries Day » Austell Church, Ga.
Aug 24  Health Rally » North Knoxville Church, Tenn.

Sept 5-8  Southern Union Women’s Conference » Charleston, S.C.
Sept 6-8  Hispanic Marriage Retreat » The WinShape Retreat, Mt. Berry, Ga.
Sept 7  Health Rally » North Knoxville Church, Tenn.
Sept 11-14  Festival of the Laity Virtual Conference
Sept 21  Will Clinic » Macon Church, Ga.
Sept 22  Will Clinic » Columbus Church, Ga.
Sept 22  Let’s Move Day

Find more at gccsda.com » Register at registration.gccsda.com

OFFERING SCHEDULE

JULY
06 Local Church Budget
13 North American Division/Women’s Ministries
20 Local Church Budget
27 Georgia-Cumberland Conference Ministries

AUGUST
03 Local Church Budget
10 World Budget/Oakwood University/
   Andrews University/Loma Linda University
17 Local Church Budget
24 Georgia-Cumberland Conference Ministries
31 Cohutta Springs
LIFE GROUPS
YOUNG ADULTS WITH A MISSION

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
PO BOX 12000
CALHOUN, GA 30703

0823-24 2013
at Cohutta Springs

Register online registration.gccsda.com

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CHATTANOOGA, TN
PERMIT #1114