Follow Before You Lead

Camp Meeting/Summer Camp Schedules
Joy in Infirmitry?

“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice!”

It was a seasonably mild Thanksgiving holiday weekend, approximately 14 years ago, when the bottom seemed to fall out of my life. My young, healthy, and active body showed no sign of yielding to the often-unanticipated culprit of debilitating physical illness. Recent physical examinations had revealed a virtually perfect profile of my excellent health. Suddenly, out of the blue, it happened! I was immediately stricken and rendered a cripple because of a stroke, with an unpromising prognosis for walking and use of my limbs. I remember feeling afraid, alone, and betrayed by life. I remember asking such questions as, Why me, Lord? Since I'm in the ministry of pointing hurting people to You, God, wouldn't it be more reasonable to cripple someone who enjoys a career of destroying others? Where did I go wrong? How can I possess joy in the presence of this physical hardship? It was in the dark tunnel of this infirmity that I sought to make sense of Paul's letter that admonished me to “rejoice in the Lord always,” Philippians 4:4. I remain amazed by the fact that Paul's hardship did not steal his joy.

A person who reads this letter of Paul's to Philippian Christians will not fail to observe how often he bids the reader to rejoice. For example, when Paul wrote to the Christians at Philippi, he was a prisoner at Rome, liable to be tried upon accusations made upon him by the Jews, but liable also to punishment for preaching new religion that was not tolerated by the laws of the state, and more importantly, had a direct tendency to break down the religion of the state. He knew all this — he knew his life was in danger; and yet still he rejoiced, for he was confident that whether by his life or his death, Christ would be glorified.

How was he able to stay up when clearly his circumstances would prompt him to feel down? When sickness consumes your body, can you still have joy? I would submit to the Southern Tidings readers wonderful gems of recommendations from Paul's journey. He was able to rejoice in the tough times because of his faith in the Savior, enjoyment of religious privileges, communion with God, and the hope of glory.

I can attest with enthusiasm that my faith in the Savior's loyalty during my time of suffering sustained me. Staying connected to a Christian body of Bible believers afforded me a host of religious privileges such as joint prayer, Bible study, and worship. Communion with God was an awesome provision. Wrestling with God for the blessings I needed was always accompanied by the assurance that I would receive them. He hasn't failed me yet. Also, my joy was sustained in my infirmity because I refused to give up my hope for healing, and for the eternal glories that have been prepared for me. It was in the throes of my rehabilitation that I understood what the apostle Paul meant when he admonished us in our hard times to rejoice. It really worked.

Oh, by the way, I have been restored fully from my physically debilitating illness. Have you, or has someone you love, been frightened by a medical diagnosis or prognosis? Choosing to sustain joy alongside of proper adherence to a prescribed medical regimen may be just what the Savior orders.
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Follow Before You Lead
Business Students and Professors Integrate Christ, Curriculum

BY INGRID HERNANDEZ
There were four components to the Women at the Well project: marketing, sales, education, and entrepreneurship. For the marketing component, Enactus rebranded the organization’s business cards, brochures, and newsletter, including a new logo. For sales, they worked with local boutiques and improved merchandising for Women at the Well’s sale of Christian T-shirts and other items.

Through the education component, Enactus helped Women at the Well add a new section to its 18-month program — one specifically related to professionalism and job skills. As part of this new section, program participants were welcomed to Southern’s campus on March 20, 2013, for a training session on résumé writing, interviewing, professional dress, and more.

“Our goal was to provide education and job skills training that would empower these women to become self-sustaining,” said Stephanie Sheehan, Enactus director.

Through the entrepreneurship component, one current Women at the Well staff member was enrolled at a local community college for a class on how to write business plans. Her hope is to write a plan and eventually open a thrift shop that will employ Women at the Well graduates, and sell their products.

For the Let’s Can Hunger campaign, Southern’s Enactus team partnered with the Samaritan Center to collect 5,000 pounds of food, $5,000, or a combination of both. Students scheduled door-to-

Students from Southern Adventist University’s business group Enactus go out in groups collecting food with a goal of 5,000 pounds or $5,000 dollars. Donation receptacles are also in the lobbies of most Adventist churches in the Collegedale-Ooltewah area.

The School of Business and Management at Southern Adventist University stands by its mission to develop Christ-centered business leaders. This goal is made all the more possible through programs and extracurricular activities that include an emphasis on ethics, community service, ministry, and more — principles that are all found in Scripture. Students who pursue their business studies at Southern, and the professors who teach them, make it a point to stay involved in a variety of opportunities that integrate Christ and the curriculum.

Southern has an award-winning Christian Service program that requires a certain number of community service and service-learning hours from each student regardless of major. But, for many in the School of Business and Management, the desire to help as Christ did — to follow before they lead — has nothing to do with requirements and everything to do with Whom they’re modeling their lives after.

Enactus

Enactus is a global network of students and business leaders who use entrepreneurial action to create a more sustainable world. For two of its projects this year, Southern’s Enactus team worked with the Tennessee-based “Women at the Well” ministry, and Campbell Soup’s national “Let’s Can Hunger” campaign.

Women at the Well is a Christian, long-term residential program that helps women 18 and older break life-controlling addictions and become productive citizens. Using funds from Wal-Mart and Sam’s Club grants, Enactus worked with this ministry to fulfill two objectives: empower these women economically, and strengthen their small arts and crafts business that helps fund the program.

“The community is blessed by this ministry because when women join the program, their lives are completely transformed,” said Chelsea Coston, junior accounting major and Enactus president.

Well’s sale of Christian T-shirts and other items.

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Women at the Well, a Tennessee nonprofit addressing addiction recovery, sent several of its participants to Southern’s campus in March for a training session on résumé writing, interviewing, professional dress, and more.

Marcella Morales, marketing director for the Samaritan Center. “The classes Enactus helped with met this demand perfectly, and were a great addition to our services this spring.”

Southern’s Enactus team competed in a regional competition — showcasing the effectiveness of this year’s projects — and was named one of the regional winners. This allows them to move on to the national competition at the end of it in May in Kansas City. It will be Southern’s fifth time advancing to nationals.

The Business Society
The Business Society is a student organization comprised of the various clubs under the School of Business in Management, such as the Accounting Club, Marketing Club, and Long-Term Care Club. The purpose of the organization is to encourage business students to use their skills and current studies for projects that will prepare them for the future.

One of the Business Society’s several projects is the annual Christmas Without a Home event held at the Chattanooga Community Kitchen. Through this event, students in the Business Society provide around 40 homeless children with warm coats, winter shoes, and toys.

“Christmas Without a Home is a good opportunity for students to focus on others instead of themselves,” said Julie Hyde, associate business professor and Business Society advisor. “In following Christ’s example, we are here to serve, and this event allows us to show the community that we care.”

In preparation for the Christmas Without a Home event, some students in the Business Society decorate the community kitchen beforehand, while others buy food and prepare the children’s dinner at the kitchen.

The gifts for the party are wrapped beforehand by volunteers at the Christmas Wrapping Party, an on-campus event hosted by the Business Society, and then the toys are presented to the kids by Santa. The Chattanooga Fire Department drives Santa to the Chattanooga Community Kitchen in a fire truck to add to the excitement.

“Christmas Without a Home gets a lot of us involved,” said Brittany Schultz, junior business administration major and Business Society president. “It encourages good teamwork, provides a community service opportunity, and makes us mindful of what we have and don’t have.”

Nonprofit Management Major
The nonprofit management program has been a part of the School of Business and Management for four years, providing students with academic and real-life experiences that prepare them for successful careers in the nonprofit sector. There are three emphases students can choose from under this program: communication, leadership, and international/community relations.

Savannah Maxwell, a junior nonprofit management major, chose the
international/community relations track for her studies.

“I chose this major because it supports what I want to do in my life, which is to help people while using sensible business practices,” Maxwell said.

Subjects in the nonprofit management program include introduction to the nonprofit sector, Christian missionary entrepreneurship, fund development, and leadership in organizations.

In “Christian Missionary Entrepreneurship,” students are encouraged to seek divine counsel as to which area they should work in, and then choose a mission emphasis for themselves. It is only after they make this decision that they learn to develop business plans, fundraise, and budget for nonprofits.

Beyond the classroom, nonprofit students can also choose to complete a 300-hour internship component with organizations that address issues like poverty, abuse, and human-trafficking.

“The nonprofit management program provides an opportunity for students who want to use their business skills to make a difference in the Lord’s Work around the world,” said Robert Montague, professor of business and management, and nonprofit management program director. “Students learn how to make the dream of evangelizing and changing the world a reality.”

Management Textbook

Since winter 2012, students in the “Principles of Management” class have been studying from a textbook written and published by Michael Cafferky, professor in the School of Business and Management.

Management: A Faith-Based Perspective, published in September 2011, is the only full-length college textbook ever written on management from a Christian perspective. It references more than 30,000 Bible verses, and covers subjects such as decision-making, leadership, motivation theory, and more.

“If we want students to enter the marketplace thinking biblically, we need to expose them to these management principles while they’re in school,” Cafferky said.

Inspiration for the book came in 2003 after Cafferky realized there was no textbook like this for him to use with his students. He got into contact with Pearson Education publishers, and worked with them for three years to complete the book. Cafferky’s content was also critically evaluated by 30 peer reviewers, and edited by three professional editors before being published.

“Because the textbook was written by our teacher, it’s always in agreement with Christian values,” said Stephanie Brown, sophomore financial management major. “It’s refreshing.”

Several scholars from other Christian colleges contributed for the chapter sidebars, and six out of the 10 case studies in the back come from previously published journals. Currently, nine other Christian colleges affiliated with various denominations are using the textbook.

Cafferky also recently co-authored a collection of monographs, about 20 pages each, with W. Bruce Wrenn, professor of marketing at Andrews University. Together, the scholarly pieces will be published by the Andrews University Press as a book for Christian schools of business.

Knowledge for the Future

By integrating Christ in its curriculum, the School of Business and Management prepares students to enter the business world with faith in the forefront of their minds.

“I pursued my business degree at Southern so I wouldn’t have to separate my work from my beliefs,” Brown said.

Even before graduation, students are already applying their business knowledge with Christian compassion, positively impacting co-workers, their companies, and the customers they serve — all because they chose to follow before they lead.

Ingrid Hernandez is a senior public relations and business administration student at Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tennessee.

Students in Southern’s Business Society organize the annual “Christmas Without a Home” program held at the Chattanooga Community Kitchen. The event provides clothes and toys to 40 homeless children each year.
Motivated by the mission to extend the healing ministry of Christ, Adventist Health System touches the hearts and lives of more than 4 million patients each year through the care and commitment of more than 55,000 employees and nearly 8,700 physicians. Adventist Health System serves communities large and small through 44 hospitals and numerous skilled-nursing facilities.

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Elder Walter Maurice Abbott Jr., 85, former church ministries director for the Southern Union, was born January 19, 1928, to the late Walter and Verna Abbott in Flomaton, Alabama. He fell asleep in Christ on March 7, 2013, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Abbott was a lifelong worker for the Church. Flipping through the pages of the Southern Tidings, his name first appears in the July 5, 1944, issue, when he was a 16-year-old colporteur in the Alabama-Mississippi Conference. Four years later, he was a busy student at Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University), Collegedale, Tennessee, leading song service in various evangelistic meetings, and helping to develop the Missionary Volunteer program at Southern.

Abbott graduated from SMC in 1952. He began his ministry immediately after college as a singing evangelist with J. R. Spangler, pastor, in Meridian, Mississippi. At the end of the summer he married Dorothy Dortch on September 7, 1952, and returned to Meridian to complete the meeting.

During his ministry, Abbott served as a pastor and as departmental director in the Alabama-Mississippi (now Gulf States) and Kentucky-Tennessee conferences. He joined the Southern Union team in 1979 as director of personal ministries, Adventist-Laymen's Services & Industries (ASI), and later the Sabbath School Department. After the Church Ministries Department was formed at the 1985 General Conference, he became church ministries director the following year. He also provided leadership to the medical/dental program for eight years. Abbott retired September 16, 2001, after 49 years of service.

His ministry will long be remembered by his colleagues at the Southern Union. Allan Williamson, retired youth ministries director for the Southern Union, remembered the man who hired him. “I had the privilege of working with Elder Abbott from 1986 until his retirement in 2001. He developed the Southern Union Church Ministries Department, and it was recognized as the best Union Church Ministries Department in the North American Division and General Conference. The reason it was so successful is that he supported and nurtured each ministry within the Church Ministries Department.

“Elder Maurice Abbott was a dynamic, creative, and inspiring leader,” says retired Southern Union president, Gordon Retzer. “He always exuded enthusiasm for the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and his positive attitude was infectious. During his leadership in the Southern Union, he and those working with him created a Sabbath School program feature that brought back excitement to Sabbath Schools in the Southern Union and around the world. Elder Abbott’s love for the Lord and for the people he served was inspiring. He was a motivator. I praise God for the legacy of service Elder Abbott has left us.”

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Dorothy Dortch Abbott; one daughter, Sheree Denise (Kenneth) Hutchinson of Jackson, Tennessee; one son, Jeffery Scott (Jane) Abbott of Ringgold, Georgia; three grandsons, William Frederick Hutchinson, Jeffery Scott (Karen) Abbott II, and Drake Elliott Abbott; three step-grandchildren, Anna (Graysen) Ballard, Amy Phillips, Phil Phillips; and three great-grandsons, Parker and Bennett Ballard, and Mason Davis Abbott.
If it’s possible that poor dental hygiene can be divinely appointed, I firmly believe such was the case with my father. Were it not for his woeful brushing habits — and forget about flossing — who knows where one young couple and their children (and now grandchildren) might have ended up. No, Harry and Brenda Patterson’s crossing paths with dentist Kenneth Wynn and his wife, Ruth, was anything but accidental, and my family’s life has been eternally changed as a result of their workplace witnessing.

In the early 1970s, my parents were a young married couple with three small children and no particular religious bent. Though both were raised Baptist, their courtship, marriage, and early parenting years lacked any meaningful, spiritual direction. They were college-educated, kind people living the American dream on a generous portion of country acreage and in a new house built to their design. But, like so many others trapped in middle-class prosperity, they didn’t recognize the abundance of blessings being left on the table.

And when people don’t know they need something, it’s hard to convince them otherwise, isn’t it? At least, that often seems the case when using traditional witnessing techniques loaded with questions designed to trap the non-believer into an uncomfortable situation where answers laced with lukewarm acceptance are the quickest way out.

Thankfully, the Wynns opted for more of a show-and-tell approach to sharing their faith.

“While I was sitting in his dental chair, Dr. Wynn would talk to me about upcoming evangelistic meetings and hand me a brochure regarding them or a missionary book,” Mom said. “But I don’t recall him ever asking questions about my beliefs or doctrines. It seems he was always, from the very beginning, witnessing about his church and his God, primarily through his kindness and lifestyle.”

After six years of the world’s most pleasant dental care, the Holy Spirit’s still, quiet voice — sounding a lot like Kenneth Wynn — finally found its way from the patients’ ears to their hearts.

“Harry and I were pretty much on the same page when it came to our feelings about the Wynns, so it was easy to agree to go [when invited to the meetings],” Mom said. “We thought so much of them and their perseverance to see us at their church that we wanted to go to support their efforts, if for no other reason.”

The first meetings my parents at-
tended were led by Harold Metcalf in the Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium in South Carolina. While they weren’t turned off, the emotional light switch didn’t turn on either. Two years later, they again accepted the Wynns’ invitation and listened intently as Dick Pollard talked plainly about prophecy in the National Guard Armory. It was then that my parents decided to commit to a new way of thinking, and changed almost everything about their lifestyle as they followed the call to Christ and the mentoring path laid out before them by the Wynns. Wedding jewelry? Gone. Sold to raise money for the church’s building fund. Diet? Changed forever. Saturday afternoon antiquing? A thing of the past as they, instead, began investing in their family’s future.

My brother, Travis, the middle child, was only two at the time, but he remembers very specifically when one Friday things began to change at home. “They had special music playing, and we sang Bible songs for kids,” Travis said. “We had our baths done, clothes ready, and I recall watching the sun go down that night for what very well might have been the beginning of my first Sabbath.”

These are the kinds of experiences that led Travis to grow up active in the church, attend Southern Adventist University, become a missionary in the South Pacific, and then a pastor in Texas. These are the kinds of experiences that can be traced directly back to the Wynns’ workplace witnessing efforts.

My sister, Ashley, the oldest child, traces some of her earliest spiritual roots back to the soft Christian music and Uncle Arthur books in the lobby of the Wynns’ office. If not that, then perhaps it was the visits Kenneth and Ruth made to our childhood home, bearing Christmas goodies (gifts and sinfully good sweets) that taught her so very early on about the Divine value of such uncommon kindness. Today, Ashley is a physical therapist married to an Adventist pastor in North Carolina.

In her shepherdess roll as a pastor’s wife for the past 20 years, Ashley has met countless saintly people. And yet, none have inspired her as much as her parents’ spiritual mentors.

“The Wynns’ example of church leadership helped direct me as a child, and their constant love through the years continues to point me toward Jesus,” Ashley said. “They have taken every opportunity to care for each member of our family through job losses, weddings, baby dedications, my father’s death, and, of course, Christmas!”

As a pastor, Travis has a similar point of reference. “In every church I lead, I come across someone who clearly enjoys spreading the Good Word. But it’s how he most enjoys going about this that bears the distinct signature of a friendly dentist who was great at small talk.

The Wynns are a living testimony to Colossians 3:23: “And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not to men” (KJV). This is the kind of excellence that draws others in. It attracted a young family and, 40 years later, still keeps Mom connected to the Church and the God she loves. “Their friendship is beyond inspirational; it keeps me from being discouraged and links me to the truths of our Church.”

The godly wisdom Kenneth and Ruth shared with my parents has been manifest in how they learned to better love each other, neighbors, and coworkers in a manner more befitting of how Christ loves us. Their three children give witness to lessons learned and passed along. Their seven grandchildren hold promise of the same.

Perhaps if more Christians followed the Wynns’ friendship evangelism example, workplace witnessing wouldn’t seem such a scary proposition, successful examples would be more commonplace, and God’s work on Earth could be completed sooner rather than later. ⚪️

Lucas Patterson is the youngest child of Harry and Brenda Patterson. He works as editorial manager at Southern Adventist University and credits most of his favorite, church-related memories — practicing special music with his whole family around the piano on Friday night, seeing his dad asp on Saturday evenings with a big, red book on his chest, and watching his Mom teach Sabbath School to his twin boys — in large portion to the Wynns.
Ivy Stranahan: Fort Lauderdale Pioneer and Adventist Trailblazer

BY ALVA JAMES-JOHNSON

The historic Stranahan House — once home to Fort Lauderdale’s founding couple — sits on the banks of the New River as a memorial of the city’s pioneer days. Yet, what’s unknown to most people is that the house is also a testament to the city’s deep Seventh-day Adventist roots.

Ivy Stranahan, the wife of Frank Stranahan and “Lauderdale’s First Lady,” was a devout Seventh-day Adventist in her adult years. As an active member of the Fort Lauderdale Seventh-day Adventist Church, she was the first principal of the church school, now Sawgrass Adventist School in Plantation.1

Upon Stranahan’s death in 1971, the New River home, her most prized possession, was willed to the Fort Lauderdale Seventh-day Adventist Church to the surprise of many. In 1974, the congregation sold the property to the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society. Today, it is owned by Stranahan House, Inc., where it is preserved as one of the community’s most cherished landmarks.2

Stranahan entered the Church through an evangelistic crusade conducted by Allen Walker, the church’s first pastor, according to a history published by members of the congregation:

She listened attentively as the preacher told the fantastic truth about Saturday being God’s Sabbath, the dead sleeping in their graves, and the judgment now going on in heaven. Mrs. Stranahan decided to go to Washington, D.C., to visit the Library of Congress where she checked out everything about the beliefs of Seventh-day Adventists, and then compared them with the Bible. She returned home a convinced Adventist and got baptized!3

Ivy Julia Cromartie, circa 1900 before her wedding to Frank Stranahan.

Ivy Stranahan (left), and U.S. Representative Dwight Rogers (center), are welcomed by Seminole Indian school children at the Dania reservation.
According to a souvenir booklet available at the Stranahan House, Stranahan’s faith played a significant role in her life:

Always a devout believer, and a Methodist in her younger years, Ivy became a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1915 and followed its tenets of vegetarianism, served no red meat, and was discreet and never imposed her beliefs or attempted to convert others. Her Sabbath, which extended from sunset on Friday until sunset on Saturday, was spent going to church, visiting the sick and elderly, and resting. She was a staunch believer in strength of both mind and body and walked regularly to the beach for a swim to keep physically fit.

Stranahan, who was born on the Suwannee River, resided in Lemon City until she moved to the New River in 1899 to work as the area’s first school teacher. Frank Stranahan, a native of Youngstown, Ohio, and son of a Presbyterian minister, was already a settler in the area. He ran a trading post, purchasing pelts, plumes, and hides from the Seminole Indians, and his business prospered. Frank also established a U.S. Post Office, and became the New River’s first postmaster.

At the time, Ivy was still unmarried and known by her maiden name, Ivy Julia Cromartie. “Often dressed in a white, ruffled blouse, she was clearly the belle of the little riverfront town. A petite, blue-eyed girl, Ivy wore her well-brushed fair hair pulled back from her high forehead. It didn’t take long for the postmaster to notice her.”

The couple married August 16, 1900, and began a life that would pave the way for Fort Lauderdale to become a thriving urban center. Despite the hardships of frontier life, they prospered, and their home on the New River soon became a center for the growing community. Civic meetings were held there, and Ivy taught Seminole children, which became a life-long passion. She also founded Friends of the Seminoles and served as their spokesperson for many decades. “The Indians came to trust and love her, calling her ‘Watchie Esta/Hutrie,’ or ‘The Little White Mother.’”

Stranahan served as president of the Women’s Suffrage Association and as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board, and was a founding member of the Fort Lauderdale Women’s Club. As a member of the local Women’s Christian Temperance Union, she was a strong advocate for prohibition.

She was a volunteer in the Broward County Public Welfare Department and was very influential in coordinating the church’s humanitarian work. Her private records include an article published in the Miami Herald, June 6, 1954, which stated, “The church maintains its own welfare center from which it dispenses food and clothing to the needy regardless of religious affiliation.”

In 1929, Frank Stranahan took his life, jumping into the New River at the onset of the Great Depression. But Ivy Stranahan remained steadfast in her faith until August 30, 1971, when she died in her riverfront home at age 90. She lived a life of sacrifice and service, paving the way for others to follow. Her witness in the Fort Lauderdale community should be an example for Seventh-day Adventists around the world.

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i. Thompson, Jeffrey, “The History of Fort Lauderdale Church,” 90th Anniversary Celebration, Fort Lauderdale Seventh-day Adventist Church, 2010.


Following every game, North Gwinnett hands out four individual awards to players based on the previous game and week. Two of them recognize the effort on the field in the most recent game; the other two harken back to the week of practice, a scout team defensive and offensive award. It’s how head coach Bob Sphire acknowledges the efforts of those players who may not get a chance on Friday night, but helped the team improve and prepare.

“As a coach you give those awards because it takes a special young man to work hard, knowing he’s probably just helping the varsity team get ready,” Sphire said. “Typi-
cally, that’s a sophomore or a junior.”

Sometimes it’s a senior who relishes the atmosphere on Friday and the time with his teammates.

Then there is Ehvann Holland.

Holland is a scout team cornerback. A senior who has never seen a football Friday at North Gwinnett.

Holland spent this past summer working out and running. He watches film and hits the practice field during the week. He loves the contact of football. He loves making plays — a tackle here, an interception there. He’s energetic with a bright smile and a twinkle of mischief in his eye.

And for North Gwinnett, Holland shows up every day.

That is, except game day.

Holland and his family are Seventh-day Adventists, a Christian religion which honors its Sabbath from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday. It’s a full day of rest, worship, and meditation; a strict reading of the fourth commandment to honor the Sabbath.

“It helps me stay focused,” Holland said. “By the end of the weekend it helps me stay focused on my work.” And part of that work is practicing football. Holland played the past three years on Thursday on the Bulldogs’ freshmen and junior varsity teams, but as a senior the carrot of the game no longer dangles before him. Practice for Holland isn’t a means to an end, rather it is the end. He loves football every way he gets it.

“I just love the game, honestly,” Holland said. “I get to spend time with the guys and people I grew up with. Getting a chance to play football, it’s pretty nice. I love football, love football. Of course — if I am doing all this, right?”

It’s a whirlwind love for Holland who first strapped on a helmet as a freshman. The Gwinnett Football League plays Saturdays, a day for rest, not games, for Holland. From the start, he embraced the idea of team. He loves the locker room atmosphere. He also is a part of the team’s Bible studies when he can.

“I am presentable, but around my friends here, I act how I wouldn’t act around you,” Holland said, that glint shining behind his grin. “I can act cool or let loose, as people would say.”

When Holland first joined the football team, Sphire wasn’t convinced he’d stick out four years, especially without the lure of Friday nights. But with a team full of playmakers, Sphire lights up talking about Holland. “He contributes to this team like no one would really understand unless they are on the inside,” Sphire said. “People that have played high school football understand what a young man like this does for the bonding of this team. That’s the ultimate give-for-the-team, it’s-not-about-me kind of attitude that you want to come across in their experience, and he exemplifies it.”

And with Holland comes a shared team experience and memory beyond wins and losses, touchdowns and sacks. North Gwinnett played a Saturday night game this season against South Carolina’s A.C. Flora, kicking off at 6 p.m. With the move away from Friday, Sphire approached Holland about the possibility of him joining his teammates later in the game. The two lined everything up. Holland kept his shoulder pads, pants, helmet and, of course, his game jersey with him at home. He went to church and closed the Sabbath at home with his family, and at sundown suited up. “When the sun set, I said, ‘It’s time to go.’ I put my stuff on and just headed out to the field,” Holland said.

He reached the field and as his teammates pulled away from A.C. Flora for a lopsided win, he scaled a locked fence and joined his teammates on the sideline. A few moments later, he took the field. “One thing I will not forget was the crowd actually screaming my name,” Holland said. “Actually my full name. It was respect to them, it was a good feeling. It put a smile on my face.”

“Everybody was so excited for him,” Sphire said. “It was one of those ‘Rudy’ kind of moments within our own little world that we have here. High school football still has those sacred moments that can be those special times where it’s not about winning; it’s about kids in your community experiencing something together that they can talk about the rest of their life.”

The next week, Holland returned to the scout team and spent his Friday night honoring his religion. He loves football, but football does not define him.

“It is a choice, everybody has a choice,” he said. “My choice is, ‘God goes first.’

Ben Beitzel is a sports reporter at Gwinnett Daily Post.
Adventist Television Producer Receives Award

BY MARVIN LOWMAN

Joan Warner’s vision to take the Three Angels’ Messages to the greater Nashville area and the world through public access television and the Internet is coming to fruition.

On February 26, 2013, Nashville Education, Community, and Arts Television (NECAT), a public access television network in Nashville, presented awards for accomplishments made by the producers of various local programs. HealthHope received one of those awards.

In March 2012, Warner stepped out in faith and, with the help of a few friends who were willing to invest in learning how to produce television programs for public access television, launched a program called HealthHope. Her goal was to portray the health message and the spiritual dimension in the context of the doctrinal message of the Adventist Church.

NECAT holds a community meeting two times each year, and all producers are invited to attend. At the meetings, board members give reports and talk about future plans and goals for the network. This was the first of such meetings where awards were given to producers.

HealthHope received the award for “Most Shows Produced by a New Producer in 2012.” When Joan received the award on behalf of the show, she made the point that “it takes a group of people to be a dedicated and talented production company...otherwise I can’t be a producer.”

Twenty-one shows were produced in the last nine months of 2012. This was no small accomplishment considering that everyone who works on the show is a volunteer. Taping sessions generally last about five hours, and many drive long distances after work to get to the recording studio. Programs are recorded at PEG (Public, Educational, and Government) Television Studio on the campus of Nashville State Community College.

There are 170 producers who are a part of the NECAT network. Producers share crew members, and while most of the HealthHope crew members are Adventists, some are not.

Also, HealthHope and its spin-off, Truth & Wellness, have recently been given more air time. Currently, HealthHope and Truth & Wellness are aired 12 times each week. Future plans are for another show, Eternity Now, to be launched around mid-2013, and eventually a children’s show.

Programs air on Channel 19 on the Comcast cable network in Nashville-Davidson County, Tennessee. Although air time is free, there are costs involved in building the set, camera rental for off-site recording, and other incidental expenses. Programs can also be viewed online at www.necat.tv/ and at www.health-hope.org. Look for HealthHope in the online program schedule. Several programs can also be viewed on YouTube.
South Central Conference is committed to providing quality education for the young people. Education is one of Dana Edmond’s, South Central president, 7-E vision for the Conference: Evangelizing Our Conference, Equipping Our Workers, Educating Our Children, Engaging Our Young Adults, Enunciating Our Expectations, Evaluating Our Results, Entreating Our God.

Here is an outstanding example of commitment and quality to education found in the Conference.

The Alabama News Network visited Bethany Christian Academy (BCA), Montgomery, Alabama, on March 11, 2013, to recognize a special teacher for an outstanding job in the classroom. Montgomery’s WAKA Channel 8 was represented by feature reporter Jamie Langley, who enthusiastically presented the Golden Apple Award to Reggenia W. Baskin, BCA third and fourth grade teacher.

Baskin was nominated for this prestigious recognition by a multitude of students, parents, and community leaders. Several proud and supportive parents were joined by Jeffrey L. Watson, Bethany Church pastor; Sandra Hawkins, BCA school board member; John Mosley, principal; and Baskin’s colleagues and well-wishers as they observed the presentation.

Nominating parents and selected students were interviewed on camera, and expressed their gratitude for Baskin’s love for the Lord and children, her creativity and energy, and her obvious passion for the ministry of teaching. Baskin’s classroom was filled with rainbow-hued smiles and crowns which reflected dual themes: S.M.I.L.E. (Spiritual Maturity Ignites Learning for Eternity!) and “Learning Is A ‘Royal’ Experience!”

Baskin responded to the question, “Why do you enjoy teaching so much?”: “I was saved to teach and I must teach to save.” She attributes the freshness in her 33-year teaching journey to her God-driven desire to disciple children, the clear vision of the Adventist EDGE (Educators Delivering GREAT Education) initiative, and the exciting implications of current Brain research, learning style exploration, and the 4MAT cyclical framework introduced to her by Eugene Brewer, Ed.D., Southern Union education specialist, and Bernice McCarthy, Ph.D., creator of the 4MAT Learning System.

Baskin was never at a loss for words as she answered interview questions with enthusiasm and animation, but the reporter’s final question moved her to tears: “What do you want your students to leave you having learned?” Baskin’s response was heartfelt and emotional, “I want them to know the joy of serving others. I want them to truly emulate Jesus. I want them to know that they have not truly lived until they have added to the being or wellbeing of others.”

How appropriate it was that the teacher who promotes service of and for the community would be applauded for her G.R.E.A.T. service to the community.

Reggenia W. Baskin, third and fourth grade teacher at Bethany Christian Academy in Montgomery, Alabama

Marvin L. Allison Sr., is the communication director at South Central Conference.
Leaders at Takoma Regional Hospital, a member of Adventist Health System, are urging Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam and the state Legislature to expand TennCare, the state’s Medicaid program, to help counter a potential $69 million reduction in Medicare reimbursements in the next 10 years. Federal laws already in place, including the Affordable Care Act, will result in Medicare reductions of nearly $47 million in the next decade for Takoma Regional Hospital and Laughlin Memorial Hospital, which is also located in Greeneville, Tenn. In addition, the federal government is considering a $22 million reduction in payment for services performed at the two hospitals.

Chuck Whitfield and Daniel Wolcott, presidents of Laughlin Memorial and Takoma Regional, respectively, said such large-scale reductions from Washington would have a major impact on the operations of their hospitals. The Tennessee Hospital Association estimates these federal cuts could lead to the loss of hundreds of jobs at the two locations, with a financial impact of $88.4 million.

This change in the financial landscape has prompted Whitfield and Wolcott to join their colleagues throughout the state and hospital association to work with leaders in Nashville to expand TennCare. They said this move by Haslam and the Legislature would be prudent to ensure Greene County’s hospitals are able to address patients’ needs well into the future.

“The best thing for Greene County and for the state of Tennessee is for our governor and legislators to expand TennCare,” Wolcott said. “Without expansion, access to high-quality health care could negatively affect Tennesseans’ ability to compete for good jobs in the future.

Providing good access to health care is an important factor for businesses.” The Affordable Care Act empowered 437,600 Tennesseans who are uninsured and have incomes less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level to receive health care coverage through Medicaid starting in 2014. But, in upholding this federal law’s constitutionality, the U.S. Supreme Court said it would be up to each state to determine whether it wanted to expand Medicaid.

Whitfield and Wolcott said hospitals across the country agreed to accept Medicare cuts as part of the Affordable Care Act in exchange for expanded health insurance coverage that would reduce the amount of charity care and unpaid bills that impact the bottom line of hospitals. Takoma Regional and Laughlin Memorial provide significant levels of uncompensated care to their patients.

Takoma Regional and Laughlin Memorial are also major economic engines that provide many jobs to help drive Greene County’s economy. In addition, the hospitals play an important role in establishing a high quality of life that attracts businesses and industries to locate or stay in Greene County.

Whitfield and Wolcott are encouraging Greene County residents to contact their legislators and Haslam about the importance of expanding the TennCare program, and continuing a high level of health care for the community. If Tennessee does not proceed with the expansion, federal Medicaid dollars will simply be shifted to other states. Whitfield and Wolcott said it makes sense to allocate these funds in Tennessee to ensure the state continues to make strides in improving the health status of everyone who lives here.

—BY TINA CHUDINA
LOOK AND FEEL YOUNGER

In a well-known study of women who strength trained twice weekly for a year, at the end of the study their bodies were 15 to 20 years more youthful! (Research with men yielded similar results.) Without changing what they ate, they were leaner, regained bone, and were stronger. No other program — whether diet, aerobic exercise, or medication, has achieved comparable results. You can read more about this study in the book Strong Women Stay Young.

MENTAL ACTIVITY = HEALTHY BRAINS

Studies demonstrate that mental and physical activity may delay the onset of dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. Some examples of mental activity include memorizing Scripture, doing puzzles, learning a new language, and brain teasers.

DON’T BE A STATISTIC

Bottom line, physically active people are healthier, stronger, happier, and have improved brain functioning. However, it is estimated that 250,000 people die each year in the United States because of a lack of sufficient activity. Too many people are dying too soon. The good news is that we can be in the first group!

FEEL BETTER, LIVE LONGER

The CREATION Health lifestyle, particularly mental and physical activity, slows the effects of aging and adds an average of 10 quality years to one’s life. It has been said that people do not stop exercising because they grow old, but that they grow old because they stop exercising. Choose to stay young in mind and body through activity. That’s CREATION Health!

—BY LynELL LAMOUNTAIN

CREATIONHealth.com

Due to the overwhelming interest in CREATION Health among pastors and lay leaders throughout the North American Division, Florida Hospital Mission Development is conducting a two-day CREATION Health leadership training seminar in Orlando on May 13 and 14. Experience empowerment and vitality from the transformational principles of CREATION Health. This seminar is for anyone who wants to add more life to their years and more years to their life… and wants to help others do the same as a certified CREATION Health trainer.

This is the only CREATION Health Leadership Training Seminar that Florida Hospital Mission Development is conducting on the east coast in 2013. So if you or someone you know wants to become a certified CREATION Health instructor, and then please do all that you can to attend this upcoming event on May 13 and 14. Details: http://www.adventsource.org/as30/event.registration.details.aspx?event=126

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Lexington Church Members Pay Off Mortgage Debt

There were many smiling faces when the Lexington mortgage went up in smoke on Sabbath March 16, 2013. Rick Russell, Carolina Conference Treasurer, was on hand to present the message and to light the fire.

Danny Pope, bi-vocational lay pastor, reports that it all began with a question on January 6, 1997: “Can we do it?”

When the ballots had been turned in, it was nearly unanimous. They would begin to build a new church.

This highly visible beautiful church building, located on one of the main highways, held their first worship service in June of 1998. Church members didn’t waste any time to begin filling the 5,000-square-foot church with new members. Two months later they followed up with a Dale Pollett evangelistic meeting. From that day to present, Lexington Church has continued to grow in membership and dedication. During the last four years, church attendance for Sabbath School and the worship service have doubled.

In October 2012, Pope encouraged the members to pay the remaining mortgage by the following October. The members rallied, and by the end of October they had just about reached their goal.

—BY RON QUICK

Piedmont Hold Community Services Federation Weekend

The Piedmont Community Services Federation weekend met in High Point, N.C., on Sabbath, March 9, 2013. Adventist community services leaders from as far away as New Bern, N.C., and Spartanburg, S.C., participated in this event. Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the Southern Union, was the presenter for the Sabbath service.

Smith encouraged and inspired listeners to be faithful to God’s call for loving service to hurting and needy people.

Smith kept the congregation spell-bound while he opened hearts to the call for service, and at the same time, tickled funny bones with stories from his childhood.

At the conclusion of the service, Jo Williams, federation president, presented Smith with a portrait painted by a woman whom Williams has ministered to since she was a teenager. Then, to Williams’ surprise, Laurentiu Serban, High Point pastor, presented her with a plaque of appreciation for her many years of service to the community, and for her generous and selfless example.

In the afternoon the group gathered at the Triad Community Center, where David Peay, Southeastern Conference community services director, shared the secrets to a successful ministry for people in need. His message was clear: “We must truly love people.” He shared how the Lord had blessed his ministry when he empowered his members to exercise their God-given passions to meet the needs of others. The day concluded after supper with a charge from Peay to go forth in service.

It was surely providential that in the 100th year of the High Point Church, the president of the Southern Union was there to encourage and inspire — not just federation leaders — but the entire High Point congregation.

—BY BOB SELF
Mt. Pisgah Students “ShareHim” in Nicaragua

Earlier this year some students and staff of Mount Pisgah Academy in Candler, N.C., went on a ShareHim trip to Nicaragua. Jo Ottinger, Mt. Pisgah Church pastor, sent regular email updates to parents, friends, and family back home. His progress reports reflect the challenges and blessings the group experienced on their mission trip:

February 24, 10:01 a.m.
We got in safely around 10 p.m. (11 p.m. EST), then smoothly got through immigration and customs (with no lost baggage) — Praise the Lord! Our bus ride to Santo Tomas was about 30 minutes shorter than planned.

After we got here, we slept, then had to be up five hours later, showered, and dressed in church clothes for breakfast; then our meeting, lunch at 2 (ish) p.m., back to the hotel to get laptops/projectors, and off to the various sites for preaching.

We came back Friday night, and we were able to get to bed by 11:30 (ish) p.m., and then up again by around 6:45 a.m. to start a long, wonderful Sabbath. You have every reason to be proud of these students as they are diligent toward the task they have been called! I will update again soon... Pastor Jo.

February 25, 10:04 a.m.
Last night, the students had an appeal for people to give their hearts to Jesus, and the response was Heaven-shaking! At Mazin’s site, there are 14 visitors ... all 14 came forward! At Kali’s site, nearly all of the 50 in attendance came forward! We were all on a “spiritual high” last night — very difficult to get them to bed, but it was wonderful.

At lunch, one of the students preaches the sermon for the rest of us (yesterday it was Shayna ... she did an amazing job).

February 26, 12:58 p.m.
Overall, every site has an average of 15 visitors and eight church members. Dean Cassie is speaking to the largest group of nearly 80 people. Darian has one of the smallest groups of 10 (it is a new church plant, and of those 10, eight are visitors).

Debbie is translating for Shayna. They have about 15 visitors each evening.

Kali, Braxton, Abby, Cassie, and Josue have over 20 kids at their sites (we can’t wait until the construction people get here to help with some kids’ programming nightly).

Rachell’s site is off the beaten path, but 15 visitors find their way there each night. Josue rides a horse for the last part of his trip to preach to over 10 visitors and 10 church members.

Mazin has had to ride on the back of a dirt bike for the first couple of evenings, and now is riding with Charlie in a pick-up truck with others to get through the streams and woods to his 10 visitors (many of which are illiterate). Andrea is preaching in Spanish to about 15 visitors and three church members.

Allie and Tegan speak in town, and have about 15 visitors each at their respective sites. Hannah’s is one of the only sites where the church members number more than the visitors, at 13 to eight.

Abby is speaking at the soon-to-be-constructed church, so her site is about to become a work zone during the day.

You would be proud of them ... they are up studying their sermons before we leave for breakfast at 9 a.m., then we come back to the hotel and walk to Santo Tomas together for an hour or so, then sermon preparation, and then lunch at 3 p.m. dressed for the meetings, since we have to start heading to our sites by 4:30 p.m.

Some of them have come so far out of the box with their preaching, you would hardly recognize them ... (and this is only the third day).

March 7, 12:17 a.m.
For the student evangelists, it is getting exciting as the plans are being laid for the final Sabbath and baptisms. Our students spend the majority of the morning, their meals times, and the time before their meetings preparing their sermons and searching their Bibles for texts as they look to understand the messages more clearly. They have taken the responsibility very seriously. They are so connected with their churches, it almost brings tears to their eyes thinking of leaving them ... Very special! This truly has been a heart-warming experience for all of us.

—By Jo Ottinger
Naples Members Celebrate New Debt-free Church

“Enter reverently, meditate quietly, worship sincerely, serve Christ faithfully,” reads the preamble each week in the Naples, Fla., Church bulletin. The 349 members demonstrated this faithfulness on March 16, 2013, when their church was dedicated debt free.

It was just two years from opening day of the new church building in April 2011 until the actual dedication and mortgage burning. The members’ formidable goal of quickly paying off the church debt was reached through the members’ sacrificial giving.

The journey began with the sale of the previous church and purchase of land under the direction of Daniel Smith, building committee chairman. When Dan became ill, he handed the reigns to Kendall Chaffee, who then made the new church a reality. “All Dan knew [before he passed away] was that we had the land free and clear due to the sale of our old church,” says his widow, Marlene Smith.

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The 7.9-acre church site is located on Davis Boulevard, which is a main thoroughfare from Interstate 75. The square footage of the facility, including the porte cochere, is 12,747.

—by GLADYS NEIGEL

A rainbow over the new Naples Church was witnessed as a testimony of God’s faithfulness.

Bob and Mary Lee Celebrate 70 Years Together

Bob and Mary Lee celebrated 70 years of marriage on April 14, 2013. They actively keep up their home, beautiful lawn, and flower gardens. Blessed with health and energy, they are shining examples of graceful aging, optimism, and always being grateful to God for His many blessings.

Bob is retired from the U.S. Army with 21 years of service, having served in World War II and the Korean War where he was a P.O.W. for almost three years. A second career brought him to Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, Fla., where he managed several industries until retirement.

Mary worked as a nurse at Florida Hospital for 25 years. She loved nursing and caring for her patients who were blessed with her kind witness and gentle treatment.

As members of the Altamonte Springs, Fla., Church for the past 49 years, the Lees have served in many capacities and leadership positions. They have four children, 10 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and many friends. Their children say, “We are truly blessed to have parents who set such a wonderful example of marriage and strong faith in a loving God.”

—BY LYNETTE HYATT
South Orlando Church Members Welcome Bikers

South Orlando, Fla., Church members stepping outside their comfort zone of community outreach on Sabbath, February 23, 2013, by welcoming Adventist Motorcycle Ministry, Ezekiel’s Wheels, Christian Motorcycle Association members, and other riders to a day dubbed as, “A Little Bit of Hog Heaven.” *(The word “hog” is a term of endearment bikers use in reference to Harley Davidson motorcycles.)*

Partnering with Harbor House of central Florida, a domestic violence shelter, church members and Dan Forbes, pastor, referred to the event as “a real game changer” in their service to the community.

The day was filled with activities designed for bikers who rode from as far away as Tampa for the event. The church sanctuary and fellowship hall were decorated for the occasion in a biker motif, which included two motorcycles. The church was filled to capacity, and special provisions were made to accommodate the many motorcycles that showed up in the parking lot.

Bikers and dignitaries from the community shared their testimonies and comments during the worship experience. The gift bags, awards, literature, and gift certificates given to bikers were donated by the church, individuals, Florida Hospital, a local restaurant, the Florida Conference Literature Evangelism Department, and the local Harley Davidson dealer.

After the worship service, bikers, visitors, and members enjoyed a fellowship luncheon followed by a charity ride that raised $425 to benefit Harbor House in its efforts to end domestic violence.

Recognizing the enthusiasm and excitement the event created, the church board gave support to planning an even bigger and better program next year.

—BY DAN FORBES

After the fellowship luncheon, bikers departed for a charity ride which raised $425 for Harbor House of central Florida.

### Pastors in Transition

- **Bernie Anderson** – Forest Lake associate
- **Raulford Baptiste** – Palm Springs/Hollywood Company district
- **Scott Cronin** – Covenant
- **Garry Gordon** – Tallahassee/Crawfordville district
- **Frank Gonzalez** – Avon Park
- **Claude Hardcastle** – Lauderhill Associate
- **Sun Il Kim** – Miami Korean Company
- **Jim King** – Florida Living
- **Roger Lucas** – Cape Coral/Punta Gorda district
- **Carlos Madrigal** – Tallahassee Spanish
- **Ron Park** – Tampa Korean Company associate
- **Freddy Sanchez** – Hollywood Spanish associate
- **Oscar Tavera** – Orlando Spanish
Pathfinders from all over the Georgia-Cumberland Conference sent their drill teams to the campus of Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn., on March 17, 2013. More than 240 Pathfinders on 21 teams competed to be top scorer of the 2013 Precision Drill Day. There were more than 450 attendees. The three top teams were Atlanta North Hispanic 2 with 472 points, Atlanta North Hispanic 1 with 471 points, and Atlanta First Hispanic with 460 points. They all received first place with 435 to 500 points.

Katie Lassiter of the Bowman Hills, Tenn., club said, “To me it’s like the Olympics, but for Pathfinders. It’s very important — because I love Pathfinders — how you can interact with God, do all these amazing activities, compete in a friendly environment, and even if you don’t win, you always have next year to try and try again.”

The drill program is broken up into three sections: the inspection — teams are scored based on the class A uniform dress requirement (that could increase score with additions, including gloves, berets); the compulsory drill — the drill instructor is handed the sequence of 15 required commands just before the drill, and the team must follow the commands with accuracy, precision, and appearance to score well; and finally, the freestyle section — teams create and showcase their own unique marching routine. Freestyle scoring is based on originality, complexity, precision, appearance, and a time constraint of two to four minutes.

The lunch break is a busy time when club members hastily eat so they can practice their freestyle routine one last time.

Ron Derrick, Conference drill instructor and master of ceremonies, explains, “During lunch, they’re going to be practicing freestyle because to them, that’s the most exciting piece, and for me it is too because I never know what’s coming. These kids are terribly nervous; when they’re finished they are so excited.”

Catherine Parris, from the Apison, Tenn., club, a first-time drill instructor, said, “The kids helped me with quite a few ideas, and we put it together. We’ve been practicing this routine for two or three months. The kids have been here before, but I’ve never been. It’s actually pretty fun, and I’m learning a lot.”

At the competition’s end, medals of participation were awarded to every Pathfinder; and first, second, and third place trophies were presented to teams, depending on scores.

—BY BRIAN YOUNG
North Knoxville Church Burns Mortgage

A joy-filled day was Sabbath, February 2, 2013, for members and friends at the North Knoxville, Tenn., Church.

The day commemorated North Knoxville’s 20th Anniversary, the paying off of a 10-year mortgage, and a special mission offering to raise funds on Homecoming Sabbath to build their sixth day church — they raised $1,740.

For months prior to this high Sabbath the members worked tirelessly to prepare the church building and grounds, making everything ready for this special Sabbath. There was also guidance from the Homecoming Committee and church board.

Many former pastors attended, taking part in this special day’s activities.

Russ Jensen taught an in-depth, thought-provoking Sabbath School lesson. Ted and Jo Dubbs shared their gifts with, Jo leading music and singing a solo. Ted provided an inspirational message for the worship service. Paul and Louise Eirich shared with the children (and adults) about their recent mission trip.

—BY BRUCE TRIGG

Morristown Students Simulate Underground Railroad

Students at the Morristown Adventist School, Morristown, Tenn., present an interactive celebration on February 23, 2013, of the Underground Railroad. This culminated their study of the United States Civil War, and paid tribute to those who brought about change.

Fifteen students in grades K-7 served as “conductors,” and guided approximately 50 “passengers” (the audience) as they assembled their supplies and began traveling through a series of five safe houses on their way to Canada.

Along the way they sang songs of encouragement, and maintained a lookout for bounty hunters using dogs. They found rest at the safe houses which were identifiable by a lighted lantern out front and a quilt in the window. For the final leg of their journey, they boarded a rowboat to take them across the river to Canada.

Upon arriving in Canada, they rejoiced by singing songs of deliverance; and they feasted on gumbo, beans, and cornbread.

Students proudly showed guests their writings and poetry, and explained the code of the paper quilt they pieced together. Modern legend claims that certain quilt patterns were believed to hold a secret code to aid slaves in their escape.

“Students have developed a deeper compassion for the people of that era,” says Evelyn Heath, Morristown Adventist School principal.

—BY KATHY TOMPKINS
Conference, Church Leaders Attend “Keeping Children Safe” Workshop

Conference employees and local church leaders attended a “Keeping Children Safe” workshop on February 17, 2013. Cory Jewell Jensen, M.S., a longtime friend, trainer, and consultant to the Seventh-day Adventist Church, was the presenter. Jewell is the co-director of one of the largest and oldest sex offender evaluation and treatment programs in Oregon, and has worked with adult sex offenders and their families for 28 years. She has provided training and consultation to a number of national law enforcement, child advocacy, and faith-based organizations throughout North America; including 12 conferences in the North American Division, the United States Navy, the National Center for the Prosecution of Child Abuse, the National Children’s Advocacy Center, the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, and the Department of Justice.

When asked, “why have this type of workshop,” Mel Eisele, president of the Conference explains, “Through the past several years, we have seen a growing problem with adults being inappropriately involved with children. It is our desire to eliminate this problem, to make those ministering to children more aware of the issues, and to help local churches set up appropriate safeguards to shield our young people and still permit offenders to have fellowship with us.”

—BY REBECCA GRICE

Local Restaurant Serves Plant-based Meal for Church’s Health Ministries Event

Charlotte B. Frazier, owner of Weidmann’s Restaurant

Weidmann’s has been Meridian, Mississippi’s premier restaurant since 1871, serving classic southern cuisine. The restaurant’s owner, Charles Frazier, and Community Church member John Dow became friends when Dow asked about ordering carrots in bulk for juicing purposes. Discovering that Frazier also juiced carrots, the two began to talk about the health benefits of a vegetarian diet.

Dow and his wife, Cheryl, had recently seen the popular documentary *Forks Over Knives*, and Cheryl Dow decided as the church health ministries leader to have a public showing of the documentary as a health ministries outreach at the church. John Dow suggested that the event should take place at Weidmann’s, and approached Frazier about his idea. Dow was amazed to find out that Frazier and his wife had already seen the documentary, and he was excited about the idea of hosting the event.

On Tuesday night, March 6, 2013, more than 30 individuals (mostly non-church members) filled the special event room at Weidmann’s to view the *Forks Over Knives* documentary. Included was a complimentary all plant-based meal prepared by the chefs at Weidmann’s who used the *Forks Over Knives* cookbook, courtesy of Community Church health ministries. The meal consisted of tomato-pepper pasta, Portobello Florentine, homemade Hummus with Pita Bread, Raspberry Vegan Fudge Brownie, and Carrot Juice.

The Fraizers composed a survey to rate the dinners dishes, and based on the responses, Charles Frazier said Weidmann’s may add plant-based options to their menu. Several guests expressed an interest in other church health ministries events such as a monthly plant-based dinner club meeting at Weidmann’s.

—BY WILL LABRENZ

Mostly non-church members filled the special events room at Weidmann’s, a premier restaurant in Meridian, Miss.
Montgomery Adventist School Holds Education Fair

When the fifth through eighth grade students at Montgomery Adventist School (MAS), Montgomery, Ala., brought home a variety of awards for their outstanding geography projects at the Conference Education Fair, the MAS staff decided to organize an education fair for the school. The fair was held on Thursday evening, February 21, 2013. Eating flatbread, earning tickets for students, and sampling Mango Lasse, an Indian smoothie, were some of the activities in which everyone participated. All students displayed on presentation boards the best of what they had learned in Tara Bailey’s grades 1-4 classroom. Guests viewed the students’ projects, and were given an opportunity to earn tickets for their children by answering questions. “My dad looked up a Bible verse and answered questions, and I earned 10 tickets,” exclaimed Hunter. The children used the tickets they earned for prizes. Aisha, said, “My favorite part was talking to people. I told them what I learned about money and the Bible.”

Next, the families enjoyed presenting their projects that had taken top prizes. “Wearing the sari and eating good food were my favorite things. I wore a sari because that is what they wear in India,” said Qristara, who won third place at the Conference Fair for her India project.

“Everybody liked my flatbread. It is what they make in Africa, instead of the raised bread we eat here in the United States,” said Kayla, whose project was on Benin, Africa. Her project won a third place ribbon from the Conference Education Fair.

Raabe displayed her Italy project which was complete with a leaning tower of Pisa. At the Conference Fair she received “Most Innovative and Best Overall” ribbons for this project.

—BY JEANIE VALDENEGRO

Cullman Members Reach Out, Reconnect, Recharge

The Cullman, Ala., Church started 2013 with a renewed commitment to reach out to the community and members who no longer attend church. They began by joining the World Church in the “10 days of Prayer.” During that time, they brainstormed ways they could reach out to the community, reconnect with missing members, and in the process, recharge their own lives.

Their first major project was a Valentine’s banquet. In 2012 they invited friends and neighbors to a Valentine’s banquet sponsored by Cullman members, and almost half of the individuals who attended were guests. So this year they decided to do it again, and this time they concentrated on reconnecting with missing members. Their goal was to contact everyone on their membership list and invite them to the banquet. They also told them they were going to be taking pictures for the new church directory.

Seventy people signed up to attend (the average attendance at Cullman Church is 30 to 35). In spite of heavy thunderstorms on the night of the banquet, more than 50 individuals attended, and again, almost half of those were guests and missing members. The members plan to continue their outreach by having a Homecoming Program, creating a better church website, and conducting numerous social activities.

—BY HEATHER PHILPOTT
Kentucky-Tennessee News

Ninety-Eight-Year-Old Retired Pastor Performs Baptism

Roy Thurmon, technically retired for 33 years, recently baptized Joseph Castellaw at the Holiday Inn in Dyersburg, Tenn. A special chair was used to assist Thurmon into the water, where he clearly announced his intention of fulfilling the Great Commission — even at 98 years old. Attired in a worn and faded robe that was 45 years old, Thurmon baptized Castellaw with grace and gravitas. God has blessed his ministry through his 30-plus years as a pastor, allowing him to serve at pulpits in Collegedale, New York City, and Miami. Thurmon has shown all that God can still use anyone at any age! No one truly retires from the Lord’s service.

—BY MATTHEW LUCIO

Ridgetop Adventist Elementary Hold Educational Fair

This year’s Educational Fair at Ridgetop Adventist Elementary School, Ridgetop, Tenn., challenged students to do research on their family’s history. The students were graded on research, writing, and art as they developed and displayed the results of their efforts. On the day of the fair, they were also examined by judges to determine what they had learned, and how well they presented their project.

The Family Tree assignment was a great opportunity for the students’ families to share family history that may not have been related or recorded before, and to link the present generation to their ancestors was truly a meaningful experience worthy of recording. Special recognition went to Gabriel Brown, Cyra Cassidy, Breanna Hawk, and Tommy Thompson.

—BY HELEN KELLY

Cyra Cassidy, Grade 1

Tommy Thompson, Grade 7

Joseph Castellaw and Roy Thurmon, retired pastor

Roy Thurmon, retired pastor, is helped into the pool.

Gabriel Brown, Grade 4

Breanna Hawk, Grade 4
Conference Hosts First Louisville Area “Festival of Faith”

Lonnie Melashenko, former speaker-director of the Voice of Prophecy, was the guest speaker at Kentucky-Tennessee Conference’s first ever Louisville area “Festival of Faith” on March 8 and 9, 2013, at Pewee Valley, Ky., Church. More than 400 church members and guests came together for fellowship, soul-stirring music, delicious food, and messages inspiring everyone to “Go Light Your World!” During the afternoon service, Brent Chrishon, former pharmaceutical representative for Eli Lilly Co., was presented with his literature evangelist license after one year of prescribing spiritual healing as an L.E. The following weekend Lonnie Melashenko joined once again for the annual Eastern Kentucky Camp Meeting in Prestonsburg, Ky. Bruce House shared that as an ongoing personal ministries project, he and Earl Gill have given more than 3,500 Bibles to spiritually starving young people and adults of Appalachia.

Sarah Hilt, sophomore medical student at LMU-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine, told of her journey to Jesus through an on-campus Bible study group, and of her baptism into the Seventh-day Adventist Church on December 22, 2012. Each were challenged again to “Go Light Your World!”

—BY STEVE A. ROSE SR.

Mavis Glay Savage Sutherland - 1926-2013

Mavis Glay Savage Sutherland, 86, was born in Walworth County, Wisc., on November 21, 1926; she died on March 18, 2013.

Sutherland was educated in the public school system until the family moved to Madison, Tenn., where she attended church school, Madison Academy, and Madison College School of Nursing, graduating in 1950. In 1948, she married Shaen Sutherland and accompanied him to Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, Calif., where he received a medical degree in 1957. They returned home to Tennessee and were soon associated with the Lawrenceburg Sanitarium and Hospital.

Sutherland was an avid Church worker, and served in various offices of the Church. She also served on several boards, including the Conference executive committee for seven years, Highland Academy board for 16 years, and Harbert Hills board from 1960 until her death. She served as church clerk for at least 15 years, Pathfinder leader for nearly 20 years, and Sabbath School superintendant for nearly 40 years. She was president of the Madison College Alumni for three years, and served on the Layman Foundation board for a number of years.

She is survived by her husband, Shaen Sutherland, M.D.; their four children, Yolanda Elkins, Christopher Sutherland, Heather Butterfield, and Edward Sutherland; and a host of grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.
The family life ministries department at Gethsemane Church in Raleigh, N.C., hosted a “Celebration of Family Life” weekend recently. The weekend was a marvelous opportunity for the community and church members to be reminded of God’s design for family relationships. The weekend idea originated under the leadership of Lloyd Johnson, former pastor of Gethsemane, and was further supported and encouraged by Larry Johnson, current pastor.

Joseph Lewis, retired pastor, and his wife, Julia, of Gainesville, Fla., came to conduct the services for the weekend. The commencement of the weekend was a family consecration service. This ceremony highlighted the sacredness of the family unit, and it ended with individual family prayer. The unique part of the weekend was that many families were able to conduct a segment of the program. Certificates and family trees were given to those who participated.

Sabbath School was replaced by a parenting workshop hosted by the Lewis’s. The divine worship service included a moving sermon which highlighted how God’s principles are still relevant as it concerns rearing families today. Following the divine worship service, a family fellowship meal, hosted by Gethsemane community services ministries and the Sabbath School department, was served. On Sabbath afternoon, part two of the parenting workshop was presented. In each segment, Bible verses were reviewed which reminded parents that they must seek God for insight, self-discipline, and consistency in order to parent His way. There was also a brief question and answer session.

That evening, the members returned to church to behold beautiful fuchsia, silver, and black decorations; and glimpses of women in wedding gowns, and men in tuxedos and suits as they waited for the anticipated vow-renewal program. The renewal ceremony was officiated by pastors Lewis and Johnson, and their wives. Twenty-one couples renewed their vows amidst poetry and songs highlighting the virtues of love. There was also a photo slide presentation of the original weddings of the participating couples. Additionally, Johnson reminded the husbands of their charge to honor and protect their wives. Carol Johnson encouraged the wives to do whatever possible to please their husbands when things in their relationship get stressful, and to remember the reasons love bloomed originally.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held for family and friends. To close the wonderful weekend and to make sure everyone felt included, Diana Singleton hosted a late night singles’ dating
The members decorated the fellowship ball with beautiful shades of fuchsia, silver, and black.

It was amazing to see so many families do service for the Lord to help the program be successful. It is hoped that more churches will foster programs that center on families, and that give them the tools to raise competent Christian children and foster strong marriages.

—BY TAJUANA D. LORDEUS
South Central Hires Second Female Pastor

Shawn Jackson Moss is the second female pastor to be hired by South Central Conference. She serves the Bethany Church in Memphis, Tenn. She joins the rank of new women pastors added to the Conference by Dana Edmond, president. Lola Moore was the first female to join the South Central pastoral team. Her first assignment was assistant pastor at Oakwood University Church, and then she was assigned to serve her own congregation in Florida.

Moss was born and raised in northwest Washington, D.C. The only child of Laurence and Regina Jackson, Moss discovered a desire for the truth of God's Word early in her life. As a young adult, she began to study the Bible intensely, and came to know Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Savior. In 1990 she became a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and began seeking God's will. With a growing passion to serve the Lord, she stepped out in faith in the fall of 2002 and left her job at IBM. She enrolled full time at Columbia Union College, now Washington Adventist University (WAU), to pursue a bachelor of arts degree in theology and pastoral ministry. While there she was introduced to James Moss, and they were married on August 8, 2004.

Upon graduation from WAU in May 2005, while awaiting instructions from the Lord, Moss returned to IBM only to be laid off the day after her return. Recognizing God's hand in this, she signed up for and completed her first unit of clinical pastoral education at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital. As the Lord led, in the fall of 2006, Moss and her husband moved to Berrien Springs, Mich., where she enrolled in the Seminary at Andrews University. In August 2009, she completed the master of divinity degree with an emphasis in family life education.

Her love for the Lord and passion for service has afforded her the opportunity to serve in various ministries (church elder, family life leader, class pastor, church treasurer, and marriage counselor) while a member of the Bladensburg Church in Bladensburg, Md.; a theology student at Columbia Union College; a Seminary student at Andrews University; and a member of the Edwardsburg Church in Edwardsburg, Mich.

In December 2009 the Mosses returned to Washington, D.C., to help take care of her ailing mother. Sadly, she died June 2010, but before her passing, and with great pride, urged her daughter to continue to excel in her endeavors for the Lord. With joy, Shawn and James Moss earnestly worked for the Lord while at Capitol Hill Church in Washington, D.C., under the tutelage of the senior pastor, Gene M. Donaldson. She accepted a call to pastor in the South Central Conference, where she was installed at Bethany Church in Memphis, Tenn. The Mosses pray to stay ready for whatever assignment God calls them to as they embark on new paths of service and embrace them with eagerness.

Her personal motto comes from Psalm 34:8: “Oh taste and see that the Lord is good, blessed is the man who trusts in Him!”

—BY MICHAEL HARPE

South Central Hires Ricky Wade

Along with multicultural ministries and female pastors, Dana Edmond, Conference president, hired the first Caucasian minister, Ricky Wade.

Wade has been married for 22 years to his lovely wife, Kristi. They celebrated their anniversary on August 12, 2012. They have two children, Jacquelyne, 19, who attends Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tenn., is pursuing a degree in elementary education, and hopes to teach first and second grade. She loves gymnastics and is part of the Gym Masters team at the University. Their son, Jake, 15, attends Highland Academy. He plans to become a park ranger and work at Yellowstone National Park.

During the past two years, Wade’s team was responsible for bringing 60 inmates from Sumner County Jail, Gallatin, Tenn., to a decision for Christ and baptism. Six addition-
Recently, 19 South Central Conference eighth grade students and their 10 teachers and chaperones traveled to Holbrook Indian School, Holbrook, Ariz., for a mission/service trip. Holbrook Indian School is a special boarding school for Native American students in grades 1 through 12. The 73 students currently enrolled live in the two dormitories, eat all meals in the cafeteria, and attend classes and worship on campus. Holbrook receives a modest subsidy from the Adventist Church and does not accept government funding. Hence, the school relies heavily on volunteers like the eighth grade students to assist in meeting the needs of the school. Although approximately three-fourths of its annual budget is raised through donor support, no Native American child is turned away for lack of funding. The eighth grade mission outreach was planned and coordinated by Rosalind McFarland, a teacher at F. H. Jenkins School in Nashville, Tenn. The students and staff from six of the 10 elementary schools in the Conference raised their own funds for the trip, and gave up their eighth grade class trips to participate. Schools participating in the project were Alcy Junior Academy in Memphis, Tenn., Avondale Seventh-day Adventist School in Chattanooga, Tenn., Bethany Academy in Montgomery, Ala., Emmanuel Seventh-day Adventist Elementary in Mobile, Ala., Ephesus Academy in Birmingham, Ala., and F. H. Jenkins. While there the group helped with repairs, painting, landscaping, and a variety of small projects around the campus. They also provided meaningful worship experiences for the Native American students enrolled at the school. Students ended the trip with a visit to the Petrified Forest, the Grand Canyon, and Montezuma’s Castle.

Witnessing and service are vital to every Adventist school. It is a major goal of Adventist education to instill into students the concept of witnessing and service as a way of life for Seventh-day Adventists. The students and teachers who participated in this ministry indicated their appreciation for the privilege of sharing in outreach ministry. Students enthusiastically worked and witnessed to their Native American friends, and represented the South Central Conference with dignity and finesse.

—BY EUNICE WARFIELD, PH.D.
Pulitzer Prize Winner Isabel Wilkerson Speaks at Oakwood University

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Isabel Wilkerson was glad to be on “sacred soil” when she visited Oakwood University Church, Huntsville, Ala., to complete the institution’s Black History Month series.

A full sanctuary of students leaned in fascination toward Wilkerson as she talked about her award-winning novel The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration.

The 622-page narrative history follows the lives of three people in three different decades to tell the all-embracing experience of six million African-Americans who Wilkerson said “freed themselves” from the Jim Crow south during the 20th century to create new lives in the north, west, and midwest.

“This was the only time in our country’s history that American citizens had to leave the land of their birth, leave their mother, their father, their ancestors, and others that they loved, and go to some other part of our own country just to be recognized as citizens. No other group of Americans had to make that heartbreaking choice,” Wilkerson said.

In the book, Wilkerson said she details the journey of African-Americans who made the decision to uproot themselves from an inflexible caste system. “These people were seeking political asylum within the borders of their own country,” she said. “It was against the law for a black person and a white person to merely play checkers together in Birmingham.”

Wilkerson said efforts to keep blacks in the south, including making arrests on railroad platforms and at train stations, strengthened the desire to move, citing that men and women were cross-dressing to disguise themselves. Some would even leave in caskets.

“When these people were leaving, they were fleeing in many cases for their lives,” she said.

During her visit, Wilkerson told the story of a north Alabama family who wanted to leave the south so badly that the middle name of their youngest son, James Cleveland Owens, reveals the name of the city they later migrated to. His school teacher would later call him “Jesse,” a boy that went on to set world records and win four gold medals in the 1936 Olympics.

“He wasn’t fit for the cotton field. He was fit for track and field,” Wilkerson said.

Wilkerson said Owens’ story, along with the literary works of Toni Morrison and Lorraine Hansberry, the instrumental influence of John Coltrane, and the story of Berry Gordy and Motown Records, wouldn’t have existed if African-American families didn’t move out of the south during the early 20th century.

“Music as we know it would simply not be what we listen to had there been no Great Migration. So much of what we listen to grew out of the music that has been transplanted to the north from the hearts, the minds, and the memories of people who left,” she said.

Jason McCracken, director of literature evangelism, was visibly inspired by Wilkerson’s speech and vowed to document his family lineage by creating a Facebook account to reconnect with generations of siblings across the country.

“We’re going to write our family tree down,” McCracken said.

—BY AMETHYST HOLMES, AL.COM STAFF WRITER
Southern Adventist University

Biology Students Present Research at Professional Conference

Five students from the Biology Department at Southern Adventist University presented their undergraduate research projects on April 10-13, 2013, at the Association of Southeastern Biologists (ASB) meeting in Charleston, W.Va. These independent research projects were completed with the academic support of Southern professors.

“The biggest benefit of this opportunity is that it allows students to see science in the real world,” said Ben Thornton, Ph.D., professor in the Biology Department. “They’ll also be able to network and meet professors they may want to work under in graduate school.” Jennifer Pauldurai, senior biology major, presented her biopsychology research on sleep deprivation in mice, and the effects of caffeine, Excedrin, and alcohol on their performance. During this semester, Pauldurai has been running her tests in the Hickman Science Center Zoology Lab with the help of her professors. “Not every college student has the chance to do independent undergraduate research, but here at Southern we get so much support from our professors,” Pauldurai said. “It’s all about getting that research experience.”

ASB meetings are held every year, and include workshops, symposiums, and expos involving the various areas in the field of biology. This is the second year Southern students have been selected to present at the meetings.

—BY INGRID HERNANDEZ

“Daniel Fast” Increases Spiritual, Physical Health

For 28 days, approximately 100 Southern Adventist University students participated in a “Daniel Fast” designed to deepen their spiritual walks by creating a clearer mind for worship, and teaching a reliance on the Holy Spirit to resist cravings and temptations. The project, initiated by student leaders in Campus Ministries and the School of P.E., Health and Wellness, also included components of journaling and daily devotions.

Katie Schuen, a student worker in Campus Ministries and community wellness management major, said the fast was a reflection of the diet eaten by the prophet Daniel in the Bible (Daniel 10:2-3), and promoted whole foods like vegetables, fruits, legumes, nuts, and seeds while eliminating sweeteners, animal products, dairy, and bread. To assist students participating in the diet, Southern’s Dining Hall labeled items that were appropriate for the Daniel Fast.

While developing the idea for the Daniel Fast last semester, Schuen prayed for someone willing to do a research portion for the project. Just across campus, Caitlin Hobbs, senior health science and accounting major, was praying for a research idea that combined ministry and health for her Southern Scholars senior project through the School of P.E., Health and Wellness, but had no idea where to start. When a professor suggested she meet with Schuen, they both knew their prayers had been answered.

Apart from the spiritual aspect of the fast, Hobbs tested the resting metabolism of students doing the Daniel Fast with assistance from Harold Mayer, professor in the School of P.E., Health and Wellness. The research results showed that the body becomes more efficient in how it burns calories after eating the right diet. He also witnessed a change in students’ spiritual lives and emotional intelligence.

—BY RAQUEL LEVY
ADAMS, Ruth Marie, 87, born May 8, 1925, died Feb. 21, 2013 in Memphis, TN. She was an active, long-time member of Memphis First Church. She was committed to helping others, and worked as a nurse for 30 years at Shelby County Hospital. After retirement, she worked as a volunteer in numerous church and community activities until 2012. She never met a stranger and will be remembered as unselfish, thoughtful, and inspiring. She loved her family, church, and Memphis Junior Academy. She was preceded in death by her husband, Earl H. Adams. She is survived by three daughters: Eva (Ken) Campbell, Anna (Dee) Bennett, and Becky Jones (one son, Buddy (Debra) Adams; one sister, Virginia Johnson; five grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren). Services were conducted by Eternal Life Church in Memphis, Tennessee.

ALLISON, Jack, 83, born March 29, 1929 in Spencer, OH, died Nov. 19, 2012 in Springfield, FL. He was a member of the New Port Richey FL Church for 17 years. He is survived by his spouse, Jerry. The memorial service was conducted by Pastor Webb in New Port Richey, FL. and by Pastor Cheater in Ridgeland, MS.

ANDERSON, Eliahu, 84, born July 26, 1928 in Woburn, MA, died Jan. 4, 2013 in Lutz, FL. She was a member of New Port Richey FL Church for two years. She is survived by her husband, Jack; two sons: Edward Hosmer and Michall Hosmer; 10 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. One son, Stephen Hosmer, predeceased her. The service was conducted by Eternal Life Church in Memphis, Tennessee.

ASHLEY, Noel J., 79, born Oct. 21, 1932 in Blue Hole District, Jamaica, W.I., died Sept. 12, 2012 in Orlando, FL. He was a member of Silver Springs Church in Ocala, FL, for 22 years. He served as an elder at Silver Springs Church. He frequently held evangelistic meetings in Jamaica and planted numerous churches. He was known as “Mr. Pathfinder,” and had served as president of the Central Jamaica Conference Federation. He is survived by his son, Anthony; daughter, Lurel; step-daughter, Joycelyn Lawrence; daughter-in-law, Robyn Ashley; and grandchildren: Cherry-in-law, douglas; two sisters: Icelyn Thomas and Myrle Douglas; sister-in-law, Dorothy Ashley; aunt, Iris Lynn; and four grandchildren. The service was conducted by pastors Newton King, Matthew Cristo, Keith Harding, Kenneth Henry, Renold Maxwell, Harold Cameron, and Robert Hines at Silver Springs Church. Interment was at Highland Memorial Gardens in Ocala.

ATKINS, Glynn Floyd, 80, born March 27, 1932 in Texas, died March 16, 2013 in Gleason, TN. He was a member of South Fulton, TN, Church. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; and two daughters: Louise Thansiel and Laurie Sapp.

BEANE, Vema “Grace”, 103, born April 10, 1909 in Crested Butte, CO, died May 9, 2013 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of Forest Lake Church, Apopka, FL, for 56 years. She was active in community service and the Prayers and Squares ministry. For 40 years she volunteered at Florida Living Center where she provided personal items for the residents. She and her husband participated in many mission trips to build schools and churches. She is survived by her son, Kenneth (Doris); daughter, Eileen (Jim); three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Her husband David predeceased her. The service was conducted by Pastor Barb McCoy at Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. Interment was at Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

BERGSTROM, Dr. Leslie (Les) Arthur, 67, born March 30, 1945 in British Columbia, died July 10, 2012 at his home in Old Hickory, TN. He was a member of Madison Campus Church, Madison, TN. He attended and conducted his dental medicine degree from Loma Linda School of Dentistry in 1972. He practiced dentistry in Wyoming, Ontario, before answering a call to Malawi, Africa, as a missionary dentist from 1983-1987. After leaving Africa, he began his practice in Lebanon, TN. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Judy; one daughter, Heather; and two sons: Ryan (Heidi); and eight grandchildren.

BRANCHEDOR, Jokschan, 17, born June 22, 1995 in Florida, died Sept. 21, 2012 in Bethune, FL. He was a member of Avon Park, FL, Church for two years. He is survived by his mother, Lauriene Branchedor of Avon Park, FL; father, Jonathan Branchedor of Avon Park, FL; grandfather, Joaquim of Avon Park; and one sister, Makila of Avon Park. The service was conducted by Orlando Hernandez in Avon Park.

Brito, Eddie C., 92, born Feb. 15, 1921, died Jan. 31, 2013 in Portland, TN. He was a member of Highland Church in Portland. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie.

Campbell, Janie, Clyde W., “Fred”, 52, born June 9, 1960 in Brewerville, Liberia, West Africa, died March 1, 2013 in Lithuania, GA. He attended Lott Cary Mission School in Brewerville, Liberia, the Seventh-day Adventist School in Monaco, and high school at A.M.E. Zion in Monrovia. In 1982, he relocated to the United States and settled in North Carolina where he attended the APEX School in Harlem to learn how to be a mechanic. He met his wife Patricia on July 31, 1994 at an automotive shop in Manhattan. They dated for four years and married on August 6, 1998; three children were born to this union. The family relocated to Maryland in 2004 where he worked with Volvo and Baranco Automotive. Later, he opened Clyde Auto Service in Jonesboro, GA, which he operated until the time of his death. He was a member of Maranatha Church in Atlanta, GA. He was very kindhearted and always willing to help others when needed. Above all, he loved his family; his wife and children were a priority in his life. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Campbell; one daughter, Elizabeth Campbell; two sons: Victor and Valor Campbell; three stepsons: Rogelio, Jesiah, and Jeshua Pringle; one stepdaughter, Kadijah Pringle; his parents: Clyde and Elizabeth Campbell; four brothers: Winton, Richard, Harry, and Steve Campbell; two sisters: Pearl Campbell and Kim Campbell (Earnest) Barnes; four aunts; five uncles; a host of nieces; nephews; other relatives; and friends in the United States and Liberia.

Campbell, John Wayne, 73, born April 18, 1939 in Rutherfordton, NC, died Oct. 13, 2012. He was the son of Ralston and Mary (Cristo, Keith Harding, kenneth Henry, reynold Maxwell, Harold Cameron, and Robert Hines at Silver Springs Church. Interment was at Highland Memorial Gardens in Ocala.

CONNOLLY, Leota Irene, 81, born Oct. 24, 1931, died Nov. 17, 2012 in Madison, TN. She was a member of Madison Campus Church in Madison. She is survived by her sister, Mary (Ilene) Evins.

DAILY, Mary Jo Young, 90, born Sept. 15, 1922 in Davie County, NC, died Oct. 6, 2012 in Rockwell, NC. She worked as a registered nurse in Colliedale, TN. She was a member of the Salisbury, NC, Church for most of her adult life. She was the daughter of the late Philip Samuel Young and Sarah Alma Brinegar Young. She was preceded in death by her husband, John Lucy Young, her brother, Philip Samuel Young Jr., and her granddaughter, Donavan Daily. She is survived by her daughter, Lisa Midgett of Maple, NC; and one granddaughter, Stephanie Campbell.

CAMPBELL, Mary Frances, 62, born Aug. 26, 1950 in Mecklenburg County, NC, died Dec. 2, 2012 at her residence. She was a member of the Morganton, NC, Church. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, John Wayne Campbell. She is survived by one daughter, Tammy Lovelace of Pickens, SC; four brothers: Wayne Barber, Jimmy Lambeth, and William Anthony, all of Lincolnton, NC, and Ray Craig Anthony of Tamarac, FL; one sister, Vivian Taylor of York, SC; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

CARLSON, Carl O., 106, born March 14, 1906 in Sunny, Sweden, died Nov. 22, 2012 in Madison, TN. He was a member of Madison Campus Church in Madison. At the age of 13, he was baptized into Superior, WI, Church, and influenced his mother, brothers, and sisters to attend and be baptized. During most of his life he lived near Duluth, MN, and Superior, WI. He moved to Madison in 1993 to be close to family. He is survived by three sons: Arthur and Richard of Colegedale, TN, and Vernon of Oconowoc, WI; two daughters: Edith Valdez of Mt. Juliet, TN, and Florence Montreal of Chingle Springs, CA; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

CONNOLLY, Leota Irene, 81, born Oct. 24, 1931, died Nov. 17, 2012 in Madison, TN. She was a member of Madison Campus Church in Madison. She is survived by two sons: Donnie (Lisa), and Dwayne (Vicki); six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one step-great-grandchild.

CRAIG, Malcolm Alan, 63, born March 13, 1948, died Feb. 18, 2012. He was a member of Madison Campus Church in Madison. In 1997, he began working at Madison Academy as the maintenance supervisor. He did not realize when he took the job how many lives he would change and influence. He was chosen by the students as “Uncle Alan.” If you needed something, ask Uncle Alan and he was there to lend a hand. He helped begin the Appalachian Outreach mission trips that have benefited many of the people in the Appalachian Mountains of Kentucky. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Janie; one son, Chris Craig; one daughter, Leslie (Matt) Roddy; and two grandchildren, Jackson and Samantha Roddy.

DAILY, Mary Jo Young, 90, born Sept. 15, 1922 in Davie County, NC, died Oct. 6, 2012 in Rockwell, NC. She worked as a registered nurse in Colliedale, TN. She was a member of the Salisbury, NC, Church for most of her adult life. She was the daughter of the late Philip Samuel Young and Sarah Alma Brinegar Young. She was preceded in death by her sister, Mary Lucy Young, her brother, Philip Samuel Young Jr., and her granddaughter, Donavan Daily. She is survived by her husband, James William Daily Jr.; one brother, Harold Coke Young; one half-sister, Mary Phyllis McGill; two sons: James William (Rudy) Daily III of Kannapolis, NC, and Richard A. (Sherry) Daily of Cary, NC; two daughters:...
Catherine Daily (William) of San Jose, CA, and Elizabeth Shain Daily of Rockwell, NC; eight grandchildren: Lorena Daily, Anne Daily, Jackie Edwards, Jim Daily IV, Lisa Allen, Amanda Demskey, Michael Daily, and Josh Stewart; and one great-granddaughter, Emily Daily.

DALTON, Elizabeth V., 76, born Sept. 16, 1935 in Stoneham, MA, died May 29, 2012 in Altamonte Springs, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church, Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Gordon; one son, Scott (Sandra) of Oak Hill, FL; two sisters: Dorayne Likely of Cottonwood, CA, and Joyce Gaenz of Tenino, WA. She was preceded in death by her husband, John Clarke and Jerry Wasmer.

DEGRAFF, Lillian, 75, born July 19, 1937, died Jan. 2, 2013 in New Port Richey, FL. She was a member of the New Port Richey Church, FL, for seven years. She is survived by her husband, John; six children; 12 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by pastors Barbara McCoy and Floyd Powell at Forest Lake Church.

EMERSON, David E., 80, born Nov. 6, 1932, in Black Mountain, NC, died Jan. 20, 2013 in Flagler Beach, FL. He had worked at St. Augustine College, Flagler Technical College, Stetson University, and Stetson University College of Law. He was survived by his wife, Marilyn Emerson; a son, Bill Emerson; two daughters: Catherine daily (William) of San Jose, CA, and Elizabeth Shain Daily of Rockwell, NC; eight grandchildren: Lorena Daily, Anne Daily, Jackie Edwards, Jim Daily IV, Lisa Allen, Amanda Demskey, Michael Daily, and Josh Stewart; and one great-granddaughter, Emily Daily.

FLETCHER, William C., 93, born Jan. 18, 1920 in Whitesboro, NY, died Jan. 5, 2013 in Flagler Beach, FL. He was a member of St. Augustine Church, FL, for more than 30 years at Perth Amboy General Hospital, New Jersey where she worked as a registered nurse for more than 30 years at Perth Amboy General Hospital in New Jersey where she moved to after marrying John G. Duska in 1950. She was a member of New Jersey’s Plainfield and Lake Nelson churches, and then of the Florida Conference. Her husband John predeceased her in 1981, as did their daughter Deborah in 1958. She is survived by her daughter, Robin Duska Huff, and her husband, Richard, New Delhi, India; her daughter, Ruth Duska Matula, and her husband, Tom, Renton, WA; her brother, Robert Szana, and his wife, Helen, Toledo, Ohio; her sister, Amy Stockman of New Smyrna Beach, FL; four step-children; and five nieces/nephews and their spouses. She was a great friend of Florida’s wild and domesticated animals.

ELCOCK, Gwendolyn L., 93, born Jan. 18, 1920 in Youngstown, OH, died Jan. 27, 2013 in Port Charlotte, FL. She was a member of the Port Charlotte Church. Because of her husband's early death in their marriage, she had to raise their son Winston as a single mom. She is survived by her son, Winston; one brother, Charles Miller Sr.; one grandchild; four great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by six sisters, and one brother. The service was conducted by Pastor Art Grayman at Port Charlotte Church.

EVANS, Alvena S., 78, born Nov. 1, 1934 in Devin, KS, died Nov. 2, 2012 in Ormond Beach, FL. She was a member of the Daytona Beach, FL, Church. She was the seventh of 11 children. She attended Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek, MI, finishing with a Summa Cum Laude associate degree in applied science. As a professional secretary, she worked at the Lake Union Conference, secretary to the principal at Cedar Lake Academy, Battle Creek Academy, and at the Genessee Intermediate School district. In addition, she and Gordon taught in the Sabbath School children’s division for 35 years. For 13 years, they assisted Clyde and Vera Gromer in conducting Sabbath School seminars, primarily in Michigan. She was married to her husband of 58 years, Gordon; one son, Scott (Sandra) of Oak Hill, FL; two sisters: Dorayne Likely of Cottonwood, CA, and Joyce Gaenz of Tenino, WA. She was preceded in death by her husband, David E. Emerson.

GEACH, Letha Mabel Howard, 98, born in Pulaski County, KY, died Jan. 5, 2013 at the McArthur Manor in Manchester, TN. She was a member of the Woodbury, TN, Church. She received a master degree in education, and was a teacher in Michigan, Kentucky, and Tennessee. She was married to Theodore (Wilma) Howard Jr.; numerous nieces; and nephews. The service was conducted by pastors Barbara McCoy and Floyd Powell at Forest Lake Church.

GRANT, Walter C., 89, born June 23, 1924 in Cleveland, OH, died Jan. 27, 2013 in New Port Richey, FL. He was a member of the New Port Richey Church for 26 years. He is survived by two sons: Kenneth and Donald; two daughters: Angela Tresscott and Sandra Williams; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastors John and Barbara Geach.

HAMILTON, Idala, 73, born Nov. 27, 1939 in Union, SC, died Jan. 3, 2013 in Union. He was the son of the late Williams Milan and Veran Lee Jett. He graduated from Union High School, and was a member of Union Church. He was the longtime manager of Bi-Lo in Union. He retired as manager of Homestead Farms in Fletcher, NC. He is survived by one daughter, Donna (Michael) Smith; one son, Robbie (Susan) Jett; four grandchildren: Heather Wilson, Philip Smith, and Hillary and Madacyn Jett; one great-granddaughter, Claire Wilson; and one brother, Bill (Judy) Jett.

JOHNSON, Herman J., 86, born Aug. 4, 1926 in Battle Creek, MI, died Dec. 26, 2012 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was an Adventist for 71 years, and was a member of Florida Living Retirement Church in Apopka, FL, at the time of his death. His denominational employment included: 1953-1955 - CRNA, Florida Sanitarium & Hospital, Orlando, FL, 1956-1958 - associate dean of men, Pacific Union College, Angwin, CA; 1959-1960 - dean of men, Pacific Union College, Angwin, CA; 1965-1968 - teacher, Andrews Academy, Berrien Springs, MI; and 1969-1971 - director, counseling and testing, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI. He is survived by his wife, Wilma; one son, Richard of Longwood, FL; two daughters: Cheryl and Christy of Longwood, FL, and Teri Cortely of Napa, CA; one brother, Robert Johnson of Hendersonville, NC; one sister, Ingrid Johnson of Hendersonville; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Eric Doran at Florida Living Retirement Church. Interment was at Veterans Cemetery, Black Mountain, NC.

KARR, Constance L., 78, born Nov. 1, 1932, died Dec. 31, 2012 at New Port Richey, FL. He was a member of New Port Richey Church for four years.

KOPPEL, Sara Elizabeth, 87, born April 7, 1925 in Malvern, PA, died Oct. 1, 2012 in Zephyrhills, FL. She was a member of East Pasco Church in Zephyrhills, FL, for 25 years. She is survived by one son, Leon James Karr Jr. of Runaway, NH; one daughter, Nancy Renee Latrop of Frederick, MD; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Arthur Stagg at East Pasco Church. Interment was at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

KNOX, Shirley, A., 74, born Nov. 3, 1939 in Newton, MA, died Feb. 10, 2013 in Ocilla, GA. She was a member of the Ocala Church for eight years. The service was conducted by Pastor Dave Sinyar at Ocala Church.

KOPPEL, Sara Elizabeth, 87, born April 7, 1925 in Malvern, PA, died Oct. 1, 2012 in Zephyrhills, FL. She was a member of East Pasco Church in Zephyrhills, FL, for 25 years. She is survived by one son, Leon James Karr Jr. of Runney, NH; one daughter, Nancy Renee Latrop of Frederick, MD; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Arthur Stagg at East Pasco Church. Interment was at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

KOPPEL, Sara Elizabeth, 87, born April 7, 1925 in Malvern, PA, died Oct. 1, 2012 in Zephyrhills, FL. She was a member of East Pasco Church in Zephyrhills, FL, for 25 years. She is survived by one son, Leon James Karr Jr. of Runney, NH; one daughter, Nancy Renee Latrop of Frederick, MD; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Arthur Stagg at East Pasco Church. Interment was at the National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL.

KOPS, Richard O., 80, born Nov. 3, 1932, died Dec. 31, 2012 at New Port Richey, FL. He was a member of New Port Richey Church for four years.

Korte, Constance L., 78, born Nov. 1, 1932, died Dec. 31, 2012 at New Port Richey, FL. He was a member of New Port Richey Church for four years.

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KOPS, Richard O., 80, born Nov. 3, 1932, died Dec. 31, 2012 at New Port Richey, FL. He was a member of New Port Richey Church for four years.
MARSHA Fay-Koppl-p-Nagael from Lorna Linda, CA; one granddaughter, Kathy Burgess; and one grandson, Andre Lewis Nagel.

LIVENGOOD, Anne White. 89, born June 3, 1923 in Surry County, NC, died Jan. 22, 2013 in Mocksville, NC. She was the daughter of the late Colie A. and Mozelle Dockery White. She was a member of the Mocksville Church where she taught Sabbath School. She was head of the Red Cross in Mocksville, and also conducted cooking classes throughout the county. She is survived by her husband of 73 years, Pastor Archer D. Livengood Sr.; two sons: Archer (Shirley) Livengood Jr. of Roanoke, VA, and Dr. Melvin S. (Judith) Livengood of Mocksville; one sister, Estelle White (Gray) Hutchins; and four grandchildren.

MAPLES, Don, 90, died Feb. 15, 2012 at his home. He served his country honorably in the Army as an engine lathe operator, mechanic, and driver. He was a member of Morganton, NC, Church. He was a church historian and provided many stories about his father, Charles Maples, and step-grandfather, Daniel Shireman. He spent his retirement painting while continuing with painting classes throughout the county. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Joyce Maples of Calhoun, GA, and Donna Duke Maples, of Tullahoma, TN; one daughter, Sharen (Don) Murray of Mocksville; one son, Melvin S. (Judith) Livengood of Mcs; one sister, Grace Smith; and two granddaughters.

MARTIN, Chester L., 92, born Nov. 15, 1927 in Monmouth, IL, died Nov. 27, 2012 in Flat Rock, NC. He was a computer numerical controlled (CNC) machine operator before his retirement. He was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church. Services were officiated by Pastor Ivan Blake, and assisted by pastors John Lomitz and Brian L. Smith. Linda Mcintyre of Hendersonville, NC; three daughters: Amy, Hilda, and Maimly Maxime of Chicago; and one grandson. The service was conducted by Pastor Eugene Torres at Baldwin Chapel, Fletcher, NC. Interment was in Chicopee Memorial Gardens in Apopka.

MCINTYRE, Gail Edward, 66, born May 2, 1946 in Philadelphia, PA, died Nov. 27, 2012 in Avon Park, FL. She was a member of the Avon Park Church. She is survived by her husband, Brian; one daughter, Sharen (Don) Murray of Mocksville; two daughters: Carl of Keene, TX, and Andi (Terry) Nagel of St. Augustine, FL; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Tim Hefner at Baldwin Chapel in Apopka. Interment was in Lakeland, GA.

MINNICK, Jean, 85, born Sept. 10, 1927, died Feb. 20, 2013. She was a member of the Morganont, NC, Church. She is survived by her husband, Alvin. She was a member of the Hickory, NC, Church. She was a resident of Hickory, NC, at the time of her death.

MUNDY, Charles, 83, born Sept. 3, 1919 in Thrasher, MS, died Dec. 5, 2012 in St. Helena, CA. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII, and following an honorable discharge, he joined his family in Asheville, NC. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred Hodges Mundy, in 1998. In 2009 he moved to Napa Valley to be near his son, Bill. He is survived by his son, Bill (Susie) of Angwin, CA; one daughter, Linda Mundy of Sulpher Springs, TX; one brother, Carl Mundy of Bakersfield, NC; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

PEREZ, Arthur W., 67, born May 23, 1945 in Takoma Park, MD, died Sept. 5, 2012 in Apopka, FL. He was a member of Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL. He is survived by his wife, Anita; two sons: Adam of Mt. Dora, FL, and Andrew of Longwood, FL; and four grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Diane Halverson at Florida Living Church in Apopka. Interment was at Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka.

PETTY, Doris J., 95, born Jan. 22, 1918 in Tyler, AK, died Feb. 13, 2013 in Houston, TX. She was a member of the Cody Road Church in Mobile, AL. She was a Seventh-day Adventist Christian for 61 years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Leon D. Petty. She is survived by four daughters: Joyclyn (Ben) Bradford, Betty (Roland) Dye, Sondra (Gary) Tracy, and Beverly Ray (Davi) Blythe; one son, Danny (Sherry) Petty; one sister, Jean Elmore; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren.

PIERCE, Crawford G., 81, born Oct. 13, 1930 in Willmar, MN, died Sept. 15, 2012 in Lincoln, NE. He was a member of Port Charlotte, FL, Church for 16 years. He served on the Board of Trustees at Union College, Lincoln, NE. He and his wife built Homestead Nursing, the first ultra-modern nursing home in the state, and he was the first person inducted as a fellow into the College of Nursing Home Administrators. He served on an Advisory Committee for Health Care for the Governor of Nebraska. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Gloria; one son, Greig of Williamstown, KY; two daughters: Sylvia Peresx of Comfort, TX, and Sharon (Velco) Vercio of Wichita, KS; three grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by eight siblings. The service was conducted by Pastor Ron Halverson Jr. in Lincoln, NE. Interment was at College View Cemetery, Lincoln, NE.

POOLE, Lila Ruth Edgmon Fletcher. 88 of High Point, NC, died Dec. 10, 2012. Lila was a native of north Georgia, and a resident of High Point, NC, for 41 years. She attended Southern Missionary College, and served as a missionary in South America and Mexico before settling in High Point, where she retired from working as a secretary and bookkeeper. She was preceded in death by her sister, Eunice Jenkins; and her brothers: John Edgmond and Warren Edgemon. She is survived by her husband, Herman Poole; two daughters: Joyce Fleener Carabajal and Nancy Fleener Nelson; one son-in-law, Bloyce Nelson; three stepchildren: Tim Poole, Cynthia Slack, and Vicki Walters; three grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two sisters; and two brothers.

RAY, Austin K., 78, born in Morton, MS, died Oct. 30, 2012. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He loved riding horses and motorcycles, and was a member of the American Quarter Horse Association and Dixie Region Team Penning Association. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers: Leroy Ray and Floyd Ray; and one sister, Doris Glass. He is survived by Anita Stormont Ray of Crystal Springs, MS; one son, Lynn (Janey) Ray of Terry, MS; two daughters: Debbie (Carl) Shaw of Hendersonville, NC, and Sharon (Robert) Hood of Terry; three step-sons: Scott Stormont of Crystal Springs, Keath (Amy) Turnage of Flowood, MS, and Corey (Colleen) Turnage of Pearl, MS; nine grandchildren; numerous nieces; and nephews.

RUBAN, Argentina, 63, born Nov. 14, 1948 in Santa Domingo, Dominican Republic, died May 23, 2012 in Orlando FL. She was a member of Marysville Church. Apopka, FL. She is survived by her husband, Ruben Sr.; two sons: Ruben Jr., Chicago, IL, and Eilise, Vallejo, CA; one daughter, Glorybell of Altamonte Springs, FL; and one grandchild. The services were conducted by...
pastors Terry Pooler, Marion Kidder, and Sabine Vatel at Forest Lake Church. Internment was at Highland Memorial Park in Apopka. 

SALGIVER, Launa Mae, 100, born Nov. 12, 1912 in Johnsontown, PA, died Feb. 3, 2013 in Chattanooga, TN. In 1941 she graduated with a nursing degree from Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University), and then worked at the Washington Sanitarium. Later she moved with her parents to Tennessee, working first at Jesse Holman Jones Hospital in Springfield, and later at Madison Hospital, retiring in 1974. She and her family were members of the Ridgetop, TN, Church, where she was one of the first persons present each Sabbath. Her cheerful demeanor and constant faith, even in her twilight years, was an inspiration to those who knew her. She is survived by her sister, Viola Knight; her nieces: Karen (Bud) Caldwell, and Ellie Knight; her nephew, Edson Knight; several great-nieces; and great-nephews. Pastors Steve Rose and Jeremiah Smart conducted the funeral service which was held at her home church in Ridgetop.

SCOTT, Clara M., 80, born April 9, 1932 in Houston, TX, died Aug. 1, 2012 in Apopka, FL. She was a member of Avon Park, FL, Church. She served as a surgical technician at Florida Hospital, Heartland. She is survived by one son, David of Apopka; one daughter, Elaine Mandzuk of Daytona Beach, FL; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Paul Oling in Avon Park.

SETH, Cynthia Hendryx, 82, died March 1, 2013. She was a member of the Collegegedale, TN, Church. She is survived by her husband, Bill Seth; five children: Marie (Pete) Petrelis, Doug Ga; two grandchildren: Shannon Ivory and Kyle Wheeler; two great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Brian Cassell at Port Charlotte Church.

SMITH, Elwin, 83, born May 14, 1929 in Corning, NY, died Dec. 16, 2012 in Jacksonville, FL. He was a member of New Port Richey, FL, Church for three years. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Hudson); one son, John of Clearwater, FL; and three daughters: Theresa Stewart, Nashville, TN, Freda Hill, Carmel, IN, and Paula McPhee, Hampton, VA; 12 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

THUMWOOD, Mary Ella, 91, born July 26, 1921 in Kilmarnock, VA, died Oct. 2, 2012 in Roehoville, WV, she lived in Apopka, FL, for 51 years, where she was very active in the church and academy before moving to Hendersonville, NC, in 2011. She was a literature evangelist for many years, and a member of Fletcher, NC, Church. She was the wife of the late Pastor Frederick Ernest Thumwood, who died in 1976. She is survived by her sister, Margaret Elliston, and her brother, Arthur Brooks Davis. She is survived by her son, Arthur F. (Cami) Thumwood of Richmond Hill, GA; two grandchildren: Shannon Ivory and Kyle Thumwood; two great-grandchildren: Shaelyn and Keaton; many nieces; and nephews.

WERT, Shem R., 84, born Nov. 12, 1928 in Johnstown, PA, died Feb. 13, 2013 in Lufkin, TX. He joined the Adventist church at a Barron Brothers series in Houston, TX, in 1956. He graduated from Southern Missionary College in 1966. He was an administrator at Southern Adventist University, student finance director, business manager, dean of student affairs, and registrar from 1961 to 1991. He is survived by his wife, Mildred Bates Spears; one son, Steve Spears of Denver, CO; two daughters: Susan Spears of Denver, CO; and two great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Matthew Christo at Silver Spring Shore Church. Internment was in the Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Ocala.

WILCOX, Erwin, 80, born Oct. 28, 1931 in Castine, ME, died Oct. 7, 2012 in Orlando, FL. He was a member of Kress Memorial Church, Winter Park, FL, for 28 years. He is survived by his wife, Betty; one son, Ron of Forest City, FL; one daughter, Diane of Altamonte Springs, FL; and seven grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Eric Doran at Kress Memorial Church.

WILLIAMS, JR., John H., 76, born Oct. 2, 1935 in Hartford, GA, died Sept. 17, 2012 in Port Charlotte, FL. He was a member of the Port Charlotte Church for 10 years. He was employed by General Motors, Fisher Body Division, for 30 years. He is survived by one son, Carlton of Bristol, PA; two daughters: Kim Williams of Bensalem, PA, and Norma Hughes of West Orange, NJ; one sister, Dorothy Blakely of Knoxville, TN; four great-grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Twelve brothers and sisters preceded him in death. The service was conducted by Pastor Ron Castle at Port Charlotte Church. Internment was in Sarasota, FL.

WITTER, Shem R., 84, born Nov. 12, 1928 in Jamaica, West Indies, died Feb. 24, 2013 in Ocala, FL. He was a member of the Ocala Church. He is survived by his wife, Beryl; three sons: Robert of Ocala, Philip of New York, and Stephen of New York; one daughter, Arlene Mackell of Ocala; two brothers: Ralph of Sebring, FL, and Levi of England; 13 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by Pastor Dave Swinyard, and service and interment were at Forest Lawn Funeral Home in Ocala.

YAWN, Charlotte, 85, born March 30, 1927 in Panama City, FL, died Jan. 19, 2013. She was a member of North Bay Church in Southport, FL. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harvey Yawn. She was a faithful supporter of his husband’s work as a literature evangelist, and literature evangelist leader for more than 25 years. They served in several conferences including Gulf States, Florida, Rocky Mountain, and Mountain View. She is survived by her son, Mike (Lilly) Yawn; two daughters: Ann Pepper, and Nancy (David) Eubanks; one sister, Betty (Jack) Strength; one brother, Clay (Rebecca) Grice, and seven grandchildren.

ZIESMEN, Dr. Dale W., 73, died March 29, 2012 at his home in Franklin, TN. He was a member of Madison Campus Church, Madison, TN. He served in the U.S. Army Dental Corp for 25 years, and then worked in a private dental practice for 12 years. He is survived by his wife, Jane; two daughters: Kim (Tim) Fox, and Valerie Ziesmen; one granddaughter, Skyler Fox; one brother, Craig (Virginia) Ziesmen; three nephews; several great nieces; and nieces.

WHITELEY, Doris J., 84, born Sept. 19, 1927 in Munro, S. Carolina, Jamaica, W.I., died Sept. 10, 2012 in Ocala, FL. She was a member of Silver Springs Shores Church in Ocala, for 12 years. She served as a deaconess and prayer warrior in her church, and once a week she cooked and gave food to the needy in the community. She is survived by her brother, Sylvan July of England; one niece, Marjorie Shepherd of New York; many other nieces; and nephews. The service was conducted by Pastor Matthew Christo at Silver Spring Shore Church. Internment was in the Forest Lawn Memory Gardens in Ocala.
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Events Calendar

Carololina
Pathfinders’ Leadership Convention – July 23-25. NFR.
Adult Sabbath School Teachers’ Training – July 26-28. NFR.
Master Guides Campout – July 26-28. NFR.
Carolina Teachers’ Convention – Aug. 5-7. TBD.
Pathfinders’/Adventurers’ Leadership Convention – Aug. 23-25. NFR.
Hispanic Men’s Retreat – Aug. 30-Sept.1. NFR.

Florida
Complete calendar online – http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar/
Singles’ Ministries events and mailing list information. Spiritual study groups, fellowship dinners, outings, and more.
http://www.floridaconference.com/ymi/childrenandfamily/events/, djmiller4000@gmail.com orrodger downs. Details: http://bacacademy.org/reunion/, baca@cfl.rr.com, or 321-636-2551.

Kentucky-Tennessee
Highland/Madison Academy Boards – May 9.

Georgia-Cumberland
Gordon Hospital Circle of Prayer – May 10. Calhoun, GA.
June 8. Battlefield Community Church. Ringgold, GA.
Heritage Singers – May 11. Collegedale Community Church. Collegedale, TN.
Hispanic Marriage Retreat – May 17-19.
Academy Graduations May 18. AAA. May 18. GCA.
May 19. Collegedale.
Health Rally – May 18. Bowman Hills Church, Cleveland, TN.
Diné Outreach Mission Trip (Navajo Indian Reservation) – June 15-28. Page, AZ.
Online registration for events available: www.registration.gcscsda.com.

Gulf States
Complete Calendar online http://www.gcscsda.org
Bass Memorial Academy Graduation – May 17, 18.
Conference Executive Committee Teleconference – June 18.

Announcements
Southern Singles Ministries Annual Cades Cove Campout – May 17-19. Details: avocadofiddler@gmail.com or 423-243-4001.


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Sunset

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CAROLINA
Portions of Camp Meeting will be viewable at www.carolinadsa.org
Hispanic: May 10-12, 2013...Noscosa Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC
English: May 26-30...Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE
Hispanic: May 24-June 1...Theme: Go Light Your World...Highland Academy, Portland, TN
English: May 31-June 8...Highland Academy, Portland, TN

SOUTH CENTRAL
English: May 31-June 8...Oakwood University,Huntsville, AL

SOUTHEASTERN
English: June 20-27...Theme: TBD...Hawthorne, FL
Youth Pavilion...June 20-27...Theme: TBD...Hawthorne, FL
Haitian: July 3-6...Theme: TBD...Hawthorne, FL

GULF STATES
Cohutta Springs Adventist Center, Crandall, GA
[Details: www.csa-yc.com]

FLORIDA
Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL
[Details: http://summercamp.campkulaqua.com/]

CAROLINA
Noscosa Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC
[Register online at www.noscosa.org]
Traditional Camps
Adventure...June 9-16
Junior Camp...June 2-9
Teen...June 23-30
Specialty Camps
STY Camp...June 2-9
Horsemanship...June 9-16
Water Sports...June 16-23
Cowboy...July 16-23
Horsemountain Trip...July 22-28
Family Camp...July 1-5

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE
English: May 24-June 1...Theme: Go Light Your World...Highland Academy, Portland, TN
Speakers/Seminar Presenters: Shawn Rosintra, Kirk Noll, Ed Reid, Bill Richardson, Philip Samaan, River Jordan, Gail McKenzie, and Don Morgan

SOUTH ATLANTIC
June 6-15...Theme: Grace Through Every Generation: Remembering, Rejoicing, Rededication...River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC
Speakers: MyRon Edmonds and Jose Rojas

GULF STATES
Camp Alamisco, Dadeville, AL
[Details: www.alamisco.org]

SOUTHEASTERN
Indian Creek Camp, Liberty, TN
Blind Camp/SIT (mixed ages)...June 9-16
Tworn Camp (ages 12-14)...June 16-23
Teen Camp (ages 14-17)...June 23-30
Family Camp I (all ages)...July 2-7
Cub Camp (ages 7-9)...July 7-14
Extreme Camp (ages 13-17)...July 14-21
Junior Camp (ages 10-12)...July 14-21
Family Camp II (all ages)...July 21-28

SOUTH ATLANTIC
River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC
Junior Bible/Summer Camp (ages 8-17)...June 23-30

SOUTH CENTRAL
Camp Thunderbird, Chattanooga, TN
Camp Orientation...June 3-5
Camp “Kids Rock” (ages 6-12)...June 16-22
Ultimate Sports Camp (ages 8-17)...June 23-29
Extreme Team Camp (ages 13-17)...June 23-29
Conference Camporee...July 18-21

SOUTHEASTERN
Southeastern Conference Campground, Hawthorne, FL
Junior/Summer Camp...TBD
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