Sabbath School:
The Church at Study
Philippians 4 gives a formula for managing fear. When people are poised to rejoice, be gentle, pray, think, and act in accordance with God’s revealed will, there is progress toward the management of fear and control over anxiety.

Various studies of military personnel on combat duty in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom, reveal a few ways by which people defend themselves against fear. First, there is the development of self-confidence — a belief in one’s abilities to meet the challenges and dangers of life. Second, there is involvement in work and other activities that expends nervous energy and distracts from the fear-producing situation. This can be a healthy way to prevent excessive fear, unless the work becomes compulsive and a way to escape from the real dangers of life. Third, there is faith in the ability and confidence of leaders who can deal with the fear. Fourth, there is belief in God.

Here are a few recommendations I will extend to you to address anxiety prevailing in the lives of people who suffer with inordinate concern and fear for the future:

1. Trust in God. The person who learns to walk in daily contact with God comes to agree with the hymn writer who wrote, “I know not what the future holds, but I know who holds the future.” This conviction can bring great security even when others are inclined to be fearful.

2. Learn to cope. Coping with the causes of fear, when and before they arise, can prevent the development of unmanageable fear. Such coping involves the following, each of which can become part of a person’s lifestyle:
   • Admitting fears, insecurities, conflicts, and anxieties when they arise.
   • Talking these over with someone else – on a regular basis, if necessary.
   • Building self-esteem.
   • Acknowledging that separation hurts, attempting to maintain contact with separated friends, and building relationships with others.
   • Seeking help from God and others in meeting one’s needs.
   • Learning to communicate more effectively.
   • Learning principles and techniques of relaxation.

3. Keep things in perspective. Whenever we find ourselves in a threatening, challenging, or potentially dangerous situation, most of us ponder the circumstances and try to determine how well we might cope. This process (also called “cognitive appraisal”) helps to explain why two people may look at the same situation but respond in very different ways.

   There is some evidence that personality characteristics influence these perceptions. Some people see bad in everything; others are more optimistic and inclined to look on the bright side of life. To help manage fear we can encourage people (especially those who tend to be negative) to keep a realistic perspective that does not always conclude immediately that the worst is likely to happen.

   Jesus put all of this in perspective when He spoke about worry in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). If we give Him first priority in our lives, we can rest assured that our needs will be supplied and there will be an adequate handle for managing fear.
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Is Sabbath School something that should be looked upon as optional? Is it still relevant in this day and age? Has this valuable institution lost its vitality? Does it need to be dismantled and reassembled?

Like anything that has been around more than one day, the relevance of Sabbath School is questioned by many individuals that are young and old. Many of those who are getting a little concerned about Sabbath School are not against it. Everyone who asks a hard question about that which is good is not against that which they are questioning. If we are honest with ourselves, there are some Sabbath Schools that suffer more than others, yet we can praise God that there are many that are really flourishing.

Because of the tendency to strictly use the business model when we analyze ministries or churches, it is easy to come to some harsh conclusions without any feelings of remorse. To look at everything in a quantifiable fashion can allow us to easily cast aside and even throw out what God Himself values.

**Strengthening and Maintaining**

Hebrews 5:13, 14, says, “For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the Word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” Sabbath School was established as a means of strengthening those who are new believers and to maintain the steadfast faith of those who are established members. Ellen White wrote, “The Sabbath School is an important branch of the missionary work, not only because it gives to young and old a knowledge of God’s Word, but because it awakens in them a love for its sacred truths, and a desire to study them for themselves; above all, it teaches them to regulate their lives by its holy teachings,” *Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, page 10.4.

While Sabbath School does have its challenges, the good news is that God’s Word is still powerful and life-changing. Sabbath School has the potential to transform lives if the members of our churches would spend more time in the Word of God. “For the Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart,” Hebrews 4:12.

It is recommended in order to strengthened Sabbath School for those who are actively involved, to attend the “Hit the Mark” seminars,
Sabbath School Coaching by Curtis Hall of Berean Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Hall remarks, “Sabbath School Coaching assists churches in revitalizing their Sabbath School programs, including teacher facilitation skills for engaging discussions.” His workshops have encouraged those in attendance and helped individuals to make positive changes in their local Sabbath Schools. His passion for this area is God-given, and he is willing to be available to churches on an individual basis or, ideally, to a group of churches in an area. One of the attendees, Gorden Klocko, of the Hendersonville, North Carolina, Church, commented about the presentation: “I attended Curtis Hall’s Hit the Mark, and it is probably the most impressive seminar that I have attended. I think we are missing out on something if we can’t have that done locally for our churches.” Seminars that are attended by individuals who are committed to the growth of Sabbath School will definitely make a major impact.

In an effort to increase Sabbath School attendance at the Montgomery First Church in Alabama, Carole Askew, Sabbath School superintendent, has incorporated the different ministries of the church to present the Sabbath School program before the lesson study. This has created a lot of interest and garnered more participation from the departments that are leading out. Such an effort allows all the departments of the church to not only present their services, but it gives the opportunity for members to see where they can also get involved in other phases of the church.

Precious Commodities

The teachers are probably our most precious commodity in our Sabbath Schools. They have the responsibility of facilitating the lesson study and making every effort to engage the whole class. While it is not the easiest task in the church, our teachers seek the help of the Greatest Teacher to present the lesson in a way that will not only answer the most basic questions, but tackle some of the greater challenges the Word presents. As both the student and teacher interact in the Sabbath School class, each should leave the exchange with a deeper appreciation of God based on the written Word.

Marie Filemon, who served for three years as Sabbath School superintendent at Berachah II in Orlando, Florida, relayed how the teachers meet on a weekly basis to discuss the upcoming lesson. By doing so they are able to deal with pertinent issues that might come up, and share insight with one another regarding them.

When the nominating report is voted by the church, inevitably there is discussion among members about those who are placed in positions of leadership, which does not exclude the Sabbath School Department. When it comes to Sabbath School teachers and how they teach, such a topic can engender a great amount of critical analysis. Even though guidelines are properly followed in the selection of the individuals, it does not end all discussion. It is at these times that wise members should seek God’s help, and pray for one another and encourage one another.

At the First Atlanta Hispanic Church, Elaine Martinez, Sabbath School superintendent, has been able to increase the attendance at Sabbath School by re-establishing the program before the lesson study. She and her two associates intentionally include the youth and older members regularly in the program. While many of the Sabbath Schools have completely eliminated this phase, it is still a viable asset in some of the Sabbath Schools across the Southern Union. Additionally, it can serve as a training ground for our youth, and allow greater involvement for adult members. Martinez is excited about the possibilities, even though the challenges are many. May the spirit of “with God all things are possible,” encourage all of our Sabbath School superintendents to look above the problems, and into the face of the Problem Solver.

David A. Long is the director of the Southern Union Sabbath School, Stewardship, Personal Ministries, Prayer Ministries, and Health Ministries Departments.
Forty-one years ago, a small group of dedicated young people from Forest Lake Academy (FLA) in Apopka, Florida, made a commitment to reach Crawfordville, a sparsely populated community in Wakulla County with no Adventist presence. After graduating from FLA, eight students with a desire to share the Gospel put their formal education aside to work on the front lines before enrolling in college. Working in several places, they were especially inspired by Tallahassee Church member Calvin Pierce, who had a deep desire to plant an Adventist church in Crawfordville.

With bold purpose, the students visited the local postmaster and were granted permission to place notices in the Post Office with an offer for free Bibles and Bible studies. In addition, they walked the dusty roads, witnessing door to door. Within a few weeks, this group of dedicated youth, known as Maranatha Kids, signed up 85 people for Bible studies.

With no Adventist church structure in Crawfordville, arrangements were quickly made to hold evangelistic meetings in a small building known today as the Crawfordville Women’s Club. At the end of the series conducted by Tom Whitsett, Tallahassee Church pastor, and his family, there was an altar call where all in attendance came forward to dedicate their lives to the Lord. Next, the newly baptized members, along with the FLA students, focused their efforts to building a new place of worship.

With this small group of dedicated pioneers, construction on Crawfordville Church began in March 1974. By February 1975, Crawfordville Company, sponsored by Tallahassee Church, had officially organized into Crawfordville Seventh-day Adventist Church with approximately 38 charter members.

Recently, the congregation celebrated its 40th anniversary. Pastors and elders who helped grow the church community during the past 40 years were invited to participate in the reunion events.

Looking back, Crawfordville Church members will always remember that small group of young people from Forest Lake Academy who responded by planting seeds many years ago. Reflecting on those who plant the seeds and don’t always see how God blesses the fruits of their labor, there is a glad reminder of a great reunion day when they will receive their thanks face to face.
Partnering for Eternity

The Partnering for Eternity (PFE) scholarship program offered at Madison Campus Elementary (MCE), Madison, Tennessee, is designed to enhance a relationship of service and friendship between the generations. A student chooses a “scholarship mentor,” a non-related person who is no longer able to maintain an active physical or social lifestyle. The student provides companionship and service, while the scholarship mentor provides guidance and mature stability.

Students enrolled at Adventist elementary schools are eligible to receive scholarship monies while forming relationships with their scholarship mentors. The student, accompanied by his/her parent, is required to spend a minimum of one hour per week in service activities with the scholarship mentor.

At MCE, 41 students have chosen to apply for the program and scholarship. Jacqueline Downs, parent volunteer, is the PFE coordinator. Currently, 15 additional elementary schools are following the MCE model under the supervision of Southern Adventist University Social Work Department Dean Rene Drumm.

“It is possible this year for a student to receive up to $1,000 of scholarship money while serving someone else,” said Downs. More than $39,000 in scholarship money has been donated to support the PFE program this year.

Some of the activities that students perform are assisting with grocery shopping, domestic duties, help feed a meal, laundry, pedicures, hair care, and yard work.

Jake (13) and Nick (10) Johnson selected Wayne and Bobbie Wilson who live near their house. The Wilsons have a really large yard that needs maintaining. The Wilsons enjoy the boys for companionship just as much as the yard help. They like to play Uno and Rummy, and occasionally enjoy a stroll to the railroad tunnel nearby. “It makes my Mondays better,” said Jake. “It improves the outlook for the week for me,” he said. The Wilsons are so pleased to see how courteous and well-mannered the young men are. Bobbie Wilson shows her appreciation with brownie treats and playing games. And, Wayne Wilson likes to show the boys his stained glass projects and gourd carvings.

Robin Forde-Whitefield (11) selected Thelma Davis, an 86-year-old church member who raised five of her own grandchildren. Karen Bass, Davis’ younger sister, invited Davis to live with her and her husband six years ago. Davis uses a walker with difficulty, so Robin encourages her to exercise by batting a balloon back and forth, as well as walking. Robin does Davis’ laundry, helps her eat her meals, and takes her snacks. She reacts to this loving, personal attention by clapping her hands together with a big smile. The two also like to put puzzles together.

“This program is a win-win for everyone,” said Downs. “Students learn to consider the needs of others, and learn a work ethic while funding their education,” she said. “They can see that there is a world beyond their own elementary school. Through give and take, they build self-esteem. That self-esteem comes from being satisfied that they are achieving something for the good.”

For more information, contact Michael Shofner at MCE, 1-615-865-4575.

BY COLLEEN KELLY
There is a two-church district in central Georgia that does not get dressed up for worship service twice per month. First Church in Dublin and Ebenezer Church in Milledgeville takes community service to a different level: They “Feed the Need.”

Nearly 100 families from the community gather at the churches, where they are met by members who wear jeans and community service T-shirts. “These families have fallen on hard times, and this church district stands in the gap,” says Ernestine Outland, First Church community services leader.

Everyone enjoys a worship experience for one hour that begins at 11 a.m., and then those attending are welcomed into the fellowship hall for a brief presentation on health, and a hearty, healthy meal. Additionally, the ingredients of the meal provided are placed in grocery bags along with other staples for families in need.

While the bags are being distributed, the recipients are invited back to a health and lifestyle class to learn more on how to live and prepare meals that will combat obesity, hypertension, and other chronic degenerative diseases.

John T. Boston II, pastor of both churches, shares, “The idea behind this initiative is that the ministries of our Church will work in collaboration to reach our community with the truth of God's love. We want to share the second coming of Jesus, the health message, and provide our members the opportunity of engaging the community in welfare ministry.”

Outland has been feeding families in Dublin for five years. “We had a small team doing this until Pastor Boston asked us about moving it from Thursday to Sabbath. Now it’s being done in Milledgeville, too,” adds Outland. “There’s more help and we are able to reach more people and provide healthier options. It’s really a blessing to see the whole church filled with the community, and to know every member is doing a fair part to bless those in need. I love it!”

As the numbers grow, each member has begun to bring weekly donations to cover what the food bank cannot. Local grocery stores and farmers have heard about this special ministry, and they have made arrangements to play a significant role in the process. A number of persons have been baptized as a result of this effort, and others attend regular study as they learn more about following Christ and His Word.

Boston believes that this is an initiative no one could have thought of, saying, “This is one of those times where you just follow where the Holy Spirit’s leading, and be amazed at the result.” Jan Tharpe, community services leader at Ebenezer Church, is a new member, and she commented, “This is a God move. The people that come here on Sabbath mornings fill the seats while the members stand along the walls and serve; that's the way Jesus intended it.”

Pray for this ministry in Dublin and Milledgeville as the members serve their area of the vineyard. 🙏
The church officers from the South Central Conference poured into Birmingham, Alabama, to Birmingham Jefferson Convention Center (BJCC) on January 24, 2014, to attend the weekend Church Officers’ Convention (COC). They came to gather information and ministry modules, to be more effective ministers in their local churches.

South Central holds Church Officers’ Convention every other year. This year, 1,305 registered for the event, and the theme was “GOTTA Tell SOMEBODY.”

COC is not just a series of workshops where newly elected church officers and more seasoned church officers come to learn and grow. There is much more to this weekend than workshops and collecting papers to fill up desks and file cabinets. Much more!

GOTTA Tell SOMEBODY opened Friday evening with Vespers, praise, prayer, and preaching. Lola Moore, pastor of Panama City/Greenwood, Florida, district, praised God with the song “He’s Been Faithful,” and then Juleun Johnson, pastor of Hillview Church in Birmingham, preached the Word. His admonition was that despite the challenges of life, God will provide, and all can rely on God’s provisions even in the most dismal circumstances.

Early Sabbath morning there was a prayer session, Sabbath School, and divine worship. For divine worship, Dana Edmond, president of South Central, gifted the sharing book From Darkness to Dawn to about 2,500 attendees, with a challenge not to keep the book for themselves, but to give it away to somebody who is not an Adventist. And he added a simple charge — pay-pray-give it away. All of the pastors were invited to come and lay hands on the books, and then the books were handed out. Now they are in the hands of souls seeking truth. No great need for uncomfortable witnessing: just pay (for the book), pray (over the book), and then give it (the book) away.

Hubert Morel Jr., president of Southeastern Conference, delivered the morning message. He spoke on fishing. Many received inspiration from his message. Jesus can speak to those who are looking for truth and have them come to the soul-winning nets, when we cast them at His command. Basically, it is not up to man to catch fish (souls), it is up to Jesus; all we need to do is cast the net when He tells us to, and not be concerned about the surrounding conditions.

At sunset on Sabbath, January 25, Ed Wright, D.Min., president of Georgia-Cumberland Conference, closed the convention with an inspiring Vesper thought.

In between worship and praise, workshops were conducted.
Adventist Health System

Florida Hospital Lays Foundation for Women’s Health

Just after the sun set on downtown Orlando, February 8, 2014, members of the community excitedly watched pink concrete flow out of trucks onto the construction site for a new comprehensive women’s hospital. Throughout the night and into the early morning, roughly 700 truckloads poured about 180,000 cubic feet of concrete.

This was the second largest concrete pour in central Florida history, following the 2006 construction of Florida Hospital’s Ginsburg Tower.

For Dena Jalbert, a cardiology and obstetrics patient at Florida Hospital, it was also a moment of promise. Jalbert experienced severe cardiac problems after giving birth to her children, and knows firsthand the importance of a comprehensive women’s health facility.

“Having a facility like Florida Hospital for women is truly phenomenal – a place for women like myself to have access to all areas of specialty and have that care truly be coordinated,” she said. “My two beautiful, healthy daughters are proof that comprehensive care can prevent critical problems and make the unbelievable, believable.”

Florida Hospital for Women will be a comprehensive facility to treat the health needs of women in all stages of life. Services will include obstetrics, maternal fetal medicine, gynecologic oncology, women’s surgery, neonatal intensive care, mammography, wellness and education, a lactation center, and the High Risk Breast Center.

“Research is showing that the lifespan of women is not growing at the same rate as men,” said Marla Silliman, senior vice president at Florida Hospital. “Women put others’ health and well-being ahead of their own, but need to take care of themselves, too. That’s why putting all the specialists in one comprehensive facility to work together is so important.”

The 12-story, 400,000-square-foot hospital will house 322 beds, and is set to open in 2015.
—BY JENNIFER ROBERTS

University and Hospital Partner to Help Patients Manage Chronic Diseases

Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center has partnered with Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Fla., to pilot a program called Florida Hospital Community Care, which will help local residents in need manage chronic diseases.

Through this program, a team of clinicians, supported by a team of student health coaches from the University, will coordinate post-discharge care for patients with limited resources to manage their chronic conditions such as heart disease and diabetes.

“This is an innovative way to provide care to our patients who do not have the necessary resources to do it on their own,” said Ron Jimenez, M.D., chief medical officer at Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center. “Once these patients leave the hospital, a team will coordinate care for them indefinitely, free of charge. No one else in the area is doing anything like this, especially partnering with a university to train students.”

The program launched in January 2014 when Jimenez and Jill Piazza, director of health and performance for Florida Hospital Volusia/Flagler, provided training in the form of an elective course for pre-med and health science majors to become health coaches.

The following semester, these students will be enrolled in a practicum internship where they will be paired with patients, helping to coach them and emphasize compliance with the personalized health plan mapped out by the Florida Hospital Community Care team. As health coaches, students will aim to reduce what ultimately falls through the cracks and can escalate into costly and overwhelming health problems. This includes helping patients avoid missing appointments, misunderstandings, and non-compliance with prescribed health regimens.

“This is a hands-on internship,” said Piazza. “These students will gain real-world experience as they interact with patients, and write and present case reports to the Florida Hospital Community Care team each week.”

The program will accept 50 patients in 2014, with plans to grow in time, both in numbers and in reach by expanding to other area Florida Hospital locations.
—BY LINDSAY REW
Registration Open for Nighttime Adventure Race

The 2014 Dusk ‘til Dawn Adventure Race, hosted by Southern Adventist University’s Outdoor Leadership program, is an action-packed event that attracts students and community members every spring for a nighttime contest that often takes participants out of their comfort zone. Begun in 2007, previous races have included activities such as running, zip lining, caving, rock climbing, and even mental challenges that teams complete together. This year’s race is April 12, and begins at 8:45 p.m.

“Last year’s race was so memorable for our team — named the ‘Nifty Fifty’ because we were all beyond that age — since it was our first time for this type of adventure,” said Becky Djernes, interior design coordinator at Southern. “We had such a good time that we actually made a hard cover book to commemorate the experience.”

New features this year include a large vehicle pull and an improved zip line experience. Organizers also say that the Biology Trail, paths that stretch 10 miles from the lowest point of the valley to the ridge top overlooking the university, will be utilized to a greater degree this year. “The intention is to challenge the mind and body, and to foster teamwork,” said Michael Harris, Adventure Programming coordinator. “Spiritual connections tend to develop during the race, because people let their guards down when they are tired and there are challenges ahead.”

The 2013 race had 17 teams of four, and those numbers are expected to increase. All required gear to compete will be provided. Prizes include $200 for first place, $150 for second, and $100 for third.

“We came, we laughed, we struggled, and we conquered,” Djernes said. “And then we collapsed!”

Registration for the event is open until the race begins. For more information, visit facebook.com/dusktildawn, or go to raceit.com and enter “Dusk ‘til Dawn.”

—BY ASHLEY RICH

Instrument Drive to Assist Inner City Students

WSMC Classical 90.5, Southern Adventist University’s 100,000-watt FM radio station, recently kicked off a used instrument drive for arts-poor area schools. A $25,000 grant from the McKenzie Foundation will fund repair costs for all the donations. Launched in January, the campaign runs through the end of March.

Seeds for this campaign were planted in April 2012 as WSMC partnered with NPR’s “From the Top” radio program on a Chattanooga concert and arts education community outreach effort. Many of the schools visited that week had students hungry to learn, but without the musical tools to move forward. In January 2014, WSMC once again brought “From the Top” to Chattanooga, but this time they had a bold vision two years in the making. By using the impressive geographic footprint of the station’s radio signal (nearly 90 miles in all directions), WSMC would spread the word about this need and collect 200-300 used instruments to be repaired and redistributed.

WSMC announced the instrument drive, and the impressive grant, during the “From the Top” performance in front of 1,500 classical music lovers. The response was immediate. In the lobby after the performance, audience members exchanged phone numbers and email addresses with WSMC staff to facilitate the drop-off of their used instruments.

Several schools are already scheduled to receive instruments from WSMC. Parents and educators wishing to add their school’s name for consideration may fill out applications online by visiting www.wsmc.org. For more information, email scottk@southern.edu or call 423-236-2426.

—STAFF REPORT
Mills River Holds Little Lambs Induction Ceremony

Seven children were inducted into Little Lambs during a service held Sabbath morning at Mills River, N.C., Church on November 2, 2013. This is a new program to Mills River, spearheaded by Laura Figueroa, a former elementary school teacher who has recently relocated to Mills River from Gainesville, Fla.

The Little Lambs program meets every Wednesday morning, which gives these little tykes a chance to experience what school will feel like when they are old enough to attend. They also have the privilege of occasionally participating with Mills River Church School in their trips and church programs.

Every class is based around a different theme, such as My Home, My God, My Family, About Me, Community Helpers, Happy Helpers, Zoo Animals, and more. Every week they make crafts, play games, and have outdoor time. Figueroa’s goal is to get them ready for school by teaching them skills like raising their hands to speak, walking in a straight line, sharing, and socializing.

The children also work on some pre-k activities such as letters, numbers, colors, shapes recognition, calendar skills, and learning to speak Spanish. They go on field trips and invite guests for presentations — such as the local fire department, who came and talked to the children about fire safety.

The Little Lambs program is teaching these children to have a deep love for Jesus in their hearts, while also giving them skills that they can carry forward with them as they grow.

—BY ANGELA RAIMONDO

Christmas Unites Upstate South Carolina Churches

Sabbath evening, December 14, 2013, churches in Upstate South Carolina were treated to a one-of-a-kind event.

A musical Christmas program brought together various churches in the area in celebration of the season. “At first, the idea was to have our district churches come together,” said Sarah Fernandez, coordinator of the event, “but then the idea evolved to include all the churches in the area.” The invitation was extended to churches in the Carolina and South Atlantic conferences. In the end, more than 200 members from area congregations — Anderson, Clemson, Greenville, Pickens, Salem, Spartanburg, and Westminster — packed the host church, Clemson, for a night of singing, instruments, skits, and stories. There was even a gospel choir from the Baptist church that rents the building on Sundays.

“We want this to be a bridge-building event in our community,” said Nelson Fernandez, host pastor of Clemson and Greenville Spanish churches. “Next year, the idea is to pass the torch to another Adventist church that would like to host the event, so that everyone can support the service and help foster a sense of community among our churches.”

—BY NELSON A. FERNANDEZ JR.
Conference VP Certified as Ziglar Legacy Trainer

In the summer of 1986, while searching for direction and fulfillment in his life, Gary Moyer accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and Lord after listening to a cassette tape of the testimony of motivational speaker, Zig Ziglar. God eventually led Moyer into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and then into full-time ministry. Moyer has been listening to and reading Zig Ziglar’s materials, which are based on biblical values, ever since then, sharing with others the life-changing principles that have had such a positive influence in his life.

In November of 2013, Moyer received certification as a Ziglar Legacy Trainer. He will be incorporating keynote speeches and seminars on personal development, winning relationships, and goals as part of his ministry. Churches can use these seminars to minister to their members, as well as a way of reaching out to their communities and acquainting them with your congregation. Business owners can also benefit by taking advantage of these character building presentations for employee development.

Please contact Gary Moyer at gmoyer@carolinasnad.org for more information if your church or business would like to take advantage of this new ministry opportunity to help grow your people.

“The Game Ends at Sundown”

A boy from the New Jersey ghetto, Sandy Smith, has done it all! With a basketball scholarship to Winston Salem State University in North Carolina, he was selected All-Conference three straight years, then All-South two years, and then two years Sporting News All-America. In addition, Smith was selected as an alternate on the 1973 World Cup Basketball Team. Then after years of struggle, disappointment, and determination, Smith succeeded in becoming a valued player with the NBA (National Basketball Association), and was drafted by the Phoenix Suns.

Growing up on the streets of Trenton, N.J., wasn’t easy for Smith. His father was in and out of jail, and his mother was an alcoholic. To escape the tension in the home, Smith realized there was one thing he was good at, and that was basketball. His success proved his skill was exceptional. But, did this make him happy? Had he fulfilled his dream? After four years with the NBA, Smith called it quits and went to work for the courthouse.

It was there that a fellow worker told him about a book called The Great Controversy. Smith read it, was convicted, and became a Seventh-day Adventist.

Today, you could say the boy from the ghetto has tasted success, but is now striving for something even better. This former pro-basketball player has written 13 books, produced a 30-minute Gospel radio program, and has developed his own Bible study plan. Smith has traveled the world with ShareHim conducting evangelistic meetings, and has won well over 1,000 souls for his Lord. In addition to ShareHim events, Smith has traveled on his own to hold evangelistic events to such places as Cuba, Hungary, and Finland.

A little more than 20 years ago, Smith worked as a literature evangelist in the Asheville, N.C., area with the Listen program, where he called on schools to present Listen Magazine. Smith was the leading literature evangelist in the Carolina Conference for several years, and walked away with many awards.

Having abandoned professional basketball with its opportunity for wealth and fame, and having given his life to God, Smith finally found true fulfillment.

A book about this former pro-basketball player, The Game Ends at Sundown, can be found at the Adventist Book Center. Smith and his wife, Jerry, live in Canton, N.C.

—BY RON QUICK
Florida News

Belleview Church Members Dedicate New Sanctuary

Early in 1981, a group of individuals from Ocala, Fla., decided to plant a new church south of town in Belleview. A local bank contributed its basement facilities for the congregation’s use on Sabbath afternoons after the bank had closed.

While enjoying the bank’s hospitality, the small group began donating money toward the purchase of five acres just outside the city limits, and started making plans to build a church. Upon purchase of this land, and as soon as weather permitted, the congregation of 45 held a worship service on their newly acquired property. Soon after, a groundbreaking ceremony was held with officials from Florida Conference in attendance.

The newly organized church had three contractors in their congregation who supervised the construction and worked every Sunday with other members and non-Adventist friends in the labor of love. Dollar by dollar, brick by brick, the small congregation went forward in faith and began to build the church. Members pledged more than they could afford, and the Lord provided.

Within a year, the new building was completed debt free as each member generously gave their time, money, and talents. The new sanctuary, dedicated in April 1982, was to serve as a temporary place of worship. Almost immediately, plans were under way for a larger sanctuary.

As membership increased through the years, several additions were added to the original structure. Construction of a larger sanctuary was put on hold while the congregation continued to worship in the original 100-seat sanctuary.

With the arrival of Shawn Lathrom, pastor, the church members renewed their commitment to building a new sanctuary. By this time, the church was bursting at its seams; however, with the dedication of their new sanctuary. Of the original 45 charter members, seven still attend. After 30 years of waiting, their hopes and dreams have become a reality; and now, with other members and visitors, they worship the Lord in a new, spacious, 250-seat sanctuary.

By the time the current pastor, Ric Pleasants, arrived, a significant amount of money was in hand, and the members were motivated to build. Several members sacrificially gave large sums of money for various projects such as a sound system, steeple, and a chandelier for the foyer.

The beginning of a new era for Belleview members began on June 9, 2012, with the dedication of their new sanctuary. Of the original 45 charter members, seven still attend. After 30 years of waiting, their hopes and dreams have become a reality; and now, with other members and visitors, they worship the Lord in a new, spacious, 250-seat sanctuary.

BY ZLATA SABO
Lake Worth Couples Recommit to Marriage Vows

Lake Worth, Fla., Spanish Church hosted a weekend Family Life seminar conducted by Byron and Ximena Rivera this past fall. The Adventura Matrimonial (Marital Adventure) seminar began on Friday evening and ended Saturday evening with 40 couples in attendance.

The closing gala included a banquet and vow renewal ceremony for the couples. The seminar was memorable for the entire congregation, but especially for the 40 couples who are taking advantage of the information to build solid relationships full of love and patience while seeking God’s presence in their homes.

—BY ERIK GARCIA

Food Pantry Client Develops Cookbook

Members of Homosassa, Fla., Church compiled a cookbook as a special gift for families served twice a month at their Food Pantry. The cookbook contains recipes for the foods they distribute.

The recipes could hardly be considered gourmet; yet, “They provide a very practical and simple approach to cooking,” says the brainchild of the project. Although she prefers to remain anonymous, she is one of the Pantry’s former clients and was baptized in January.

The Food Pantry was started more than four years ago in an effort to meet and serve the community around the church, and is well-received by the 60 to 75 families who use its services.

—BY BOB HALSTEAD

Silver Springs Shores Church Dedicates Agape Center

Silver Springs Shores Church in Ocala, Fla., celebrated a dedicatory service in November that included burning the mortgage for their Agape Center. The two-year early payoff was due to the sacrifice of members, as their vision and planning came to fruition.

More than a decade ago, members recognized the need for a multipurpose building as a safe place for healthy recreational activities for the young people of the church and community.

Pastor Matthew Christo and the BeSmart team, which promotes healthy lifestyles, were commended for hosting a Wednesday night exercise and Bible class for 40 to 50 young people from the community. “How thankful I am for the opportunity to participate in the exercise classes held weekly in the Agape Center,” said one of the visitors.

Christo led the Agape Center dedication service that included Creaton Francis, former pastor. Representing Florida Conference were Marvin Williams, ministerial field secretary, and Conrad Duncan, vice president for administration and director of stewardship.

—BY NORMA HENRY
Hazekamp Publishes Book on Stewardship


The book shares the idea of Psalm 24:1, 2, “The earth is the Lord’s, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein. For He has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the waters.”

Some of the titles within the book include “Stewardship and Walking with God,” “Stewardship and Pets,” and “Stewardship and Doing Good.” Hazekamp shares lessons he has learned about stewardship from his personal life, family, wallet, church life, outreach, and ministry.

It was not until about age 50 that Hazekamp even learned how to type. “I took typing classes after I moved to Savannah to pastor. The Conference said that we would be doing reporting on the computer, so I bought a $3,000 computer; the best they had at the time, and I learned how to type.”

“Writing the book energized me,” said Hazekamp, who felt his career stagnating. “I also had support from the North American Division, Brad Forbes at AdventSource, and the Conference Communication Department. Writing for ‘Communique’ was a big part of that. My wife, Vivian, whom the book is dedicated to, was a wonderful encouragement also.”

Hazekamp wrote this book after experiencing a terrible accident while cutting down a tree in his yard. He was told he might never walk again, but by God’s grace he is in great health. Hazekamp has served the Adventist Church for nearly 40 years: 24 years as a pastor, five as ministerial director, and 11 in his current role as stewardship, planned giving and trust services director, and associate secretary. He has also ventured overseas with evangelistic outreach in Venezuela, Cambodia, Kenya, India, and the Philippines.

He is married to Vivian, a retired teacher. They have four adult children, and three grandchildren.
—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Buford Family Become Church #165

What started as a church plant for the Auburn, Ga., Church about five years ago, became Georgia-Cumberland Conference church number 165 on Sabbath, January 25, 2014, with 113 members.

Buford, Ga., is located about 25 miles north of Atlanta, on the southern shores of Lake Lanier.

“People are seeing the Buford Church family as a welcome place where they can come to meet Jesus,” said Matt Smith, pastor. “I don’t know how else to put it. We’re just friendly and people come!”

—BY MATT SMITH

Members of the Buford Church family sign the roster for the formation of their church from a company into an official church. Matt Smith is the current pastor.
Leila Pink Turns 100 Years Old

Leila Pink, affectionately known as Grannie Pink, was born in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, March 12, 1914.

She and her family have been Adventists for several years. She was married to the late Alexander Pink for more than 75 years, and they had 11 children. She is also blessed with 33 grandchildren, 45 great-grandchildren, 10 great-great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Some of Grannie Pink’s favorite past-times are singing, reading God’s Word, and praying for her family. She is also a good cook. She lives with her daughter, Primona Allen, in Jonesboro, Ga., and is a member at the Powder Springs, Ga., Church.

She is currently homebound and listens to songs and watches 3ABN.

Staats Receives NAD Excellence in Ministry Award

Ernest Staats, information technology (IT) director at Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA) since 1999, was the recent recipient of the Excellence in Ministry Award.

This award, given for “continual outstanding excellence” in various areas of ministry, is given out twice every five years when the North American Division (NAD) holds its Adventist Ministries Convention.

Nancy Lamoreaux, NAD information technology services director, presented the award to Staats at the Monterey, Calif., meetings in January.

Lamoreaux noted that this is the first time an academy IT director has received this award. “Ernest demonstrates a very high commitment to the Seventh-day Adventist Church with the work he has done and is doing at GCA.” She also noted his work in providing resources to the Church in the area of security, as well as his training of GCA students in “best security practices as well as general computer best practices.”

Lamoreaux and Staats both see IT work as an important ministry within the Church. Lamoreaux says that IT services should deliver those they serve the “best software, hardware, and service that we can provide.”

Staats observed that, “Everything in the Church runs on technology. Technology is expanding the ways people receive the Gospel through streaming, social media, and other ways of sharing information.”

Staats was surprised and honored that he was recognized with the Excellence in Ministry Award. “I am humbled that I have been able to contribute to the ministry of the Church,” he stated. “I am pleased that my team of youth and I are able to facilitate the ministry of the Church.”

Passionate about working with and protecting young people using technology, Staats is a frequent presenter at professional meetings, as well as Church-related programs. His presentation at the NAD meetings focused on how churches can stream services and set up a wireless network. It was entitled, “The Streaming and WIFI Best Practices on a Budget.”

Staats holds bachelor of science degrees in computer science education and business management from Union College, and a master’s degree in information assurance from Norwich University.

He is married to Carrie Staats, who is also a GCA staff member, and is the father of Nuriah and Asa.

—By Nancy Gerard
Students Go “Beyond Bass” to Reach Community

I could not sleep. After tossing and turning, I got out of bed to spend some time talking with the Lord. During my conversation with Him, I felt strongly impressed to start something different for the second semester of junior Bible class at Bass Memorial Academy.

The phrase “Beyond Bass” was stuck in my head, and soon it became the name of our initiative. But, what would the students think of it? I was excited to share with them, but nervous to see their response. After presenting my idea to the class the following morning, I was thrilled to see that even though many were hesitant, the students put aside their fears and took ownership of the project.

The more we discussed it, the more our goals became clear. We wanted to go beyond the Bass campus and reach the community for Jesus. We specifically wanted to do this with the book The Great Controversy. The first goal was to read the book, because often we share materials with others, but we have not read them ourselves. We dove into the book through class discussions, student presentations, and reading together. The next step was to raise money to purchase enough copies of the book so that we could give one to every household in Lumberton, Miss. The students raised the money within a couple of weeks, and the order for the books was placed. The final task was to personally knock on every door and offer a book at each home.

As the students went out in twos, they were encouraged by the response of the community. Our neighbors were open and receptive to receiving the book. The students told each person that they were reading this book in class, that it had blessed them, and that they had personally raised the money to give them a book for free. Amazed by this, very few turned the students away. Each time, the students took the opportunity and offered to pray with the people. God works in miraculous ways. A couple of students even had neighbors chasing them down the street or approaching them because they had not received a copy of the book and desperately wanted one.

The larger goal of this project is to go to all the towns surrounding Bass Memorial Academy, with each junior class taking on a new town each year. By God’s grace, within four years, we want to knock on the doors in the entire area surrounding Bass Memorial Academy and offer The Great Controversy. The students did it all — they read the book, raised the money, mapped out the territories, and shared the books with their neighbors. Clearly, they not only want to reach the area around Bass, but around the state, the Conference, the Union, the Division, and the world.

Two students are in their final task of knocking on every door and offering a book at each home. As the students went out in twos, they were encouraged by the response of the community. The larger goal of this project is to go to all the towns surrounding Bass Memorial Academy, with each junior class taking on a new town each year. By God’s grace, within four years, we want to knock on the doors in the entire area surrounding Bass Memorial Academy and offer The Great Controversy. The students did it all — they read the book, raised the money, mapped out the territories, and shared the books with their neighbors. Clearly, they not only want to reach the area around Bass, but around the state, the Conference, the Union, the Division, and the world.

We want to go beyond our campus and beyond our borders and reach this dying world with hope of the Savior. If you want to join the students in going “Beyond Bass” or beyond your area, please contact us at http://www.bmasda.org/church-visit-request-form/. To watch the “Beyond Bass” video or find out how you can financially support this project, go to www.bmasda.org/about-bass/. Also, thank you for the most important support — your prayers.

—BY CHELSY SCHAUER
Edmeade Joins Gulf States as Assistant Treasurer

Jerome Edmeade is the youngest of three boys born to Lester and the late Clotil Edmeade. They were raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., where his family still resides. His mother was an educator in the Adventist school system, and his father still teaches in New York City’s public schools.

Edmeade graduated from Blue Mountain Academy, class of 2005. From there, he went on to Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, Md., where he was a member of the New England Youth Ensemble as a percussionist. After two years of touring and playing music, he put the mallets down and transferred to Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala., where he completed his degree in finance and graduated April 2010. Following graduation from Oakwood, Blue Mountain Academy called him back to serve as an assistant boys’ dean.

After spending two years there, Edmeade received the opportunity to intern for the Southern Union Conference as a participant of the Business Leadership Internship Program. One of the highlights of his internship experience was the opportunity to work under Phil Wilhelm at Bass Memorial Academy in Lumberton, Miss.

After the assignment at Bass was completed, he was transferred to the Adventist Book Center in Collegedale, Tenn. From there, he moved to Nashville, Tenn., to work in the Treasury Department for the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.

Edmeade is pleased to say that, “God has now seen fit to allow me to continue to work for Him as I join the laborers of the Gulf States Conference. I look forward to witnessing the blessings that the Lord has in store for His children here in Alabama, Mississippi, and the Panhandle of Florida. Let us continue to pray for each other as we work together to spread the Gospel of Christ’s redeeming love.”

Rodriguez to Serve Clanton and Montgomery

Michel Rodriguez, 29 years old from Cuban origin, came to the United States in 2006 in search of new opportunities and new horizons. After crossing the straits of Florida with his parents in a makeshift boat on shark-infested waters, he reached the shores of Florida. Two years later, he decided to continue his studies at Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Tex. While in his second year of studying sciences and mathematics, he felt the call of God to ministry, which totally turned his life around. He was elected pastor of the 2011-2012 class, and graduated with a degree in theology.

A month later, he married Elizabeth, a beautiful young woman from Mexico whom he had the pleasure of meeting in college. That same year, he received a call from the American Church in Birmingham, Ala., where he was asked to work as an associate pastor for one year. Subsequently, he received an official call to serve the Hispanic district of Clanton and Montgomery in Gulf States, where he is today. Rodriguez loves God with all his heart, and has a passion for evangelism and missions.
Conference Holds Year-end Meeting in Fort Walton

The Gulf States Conference year-end meeting was held in Fort Walton Beach, January 3-5, 2014. The weekend began Friday evening with a welcome from Mel Eisele, Gulf States president, along with greetings from Martin Fancher, pastor of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Church. There was a footwashing ceremony and an agape feast, where individuals shared what they were thankful for and what goals they had set for themselves in 2014. Carlton Robinson, an attorney from South Carolina, also gave a brief but inspiring talk to the group.

Robinson also led the Sabbath School program. Sabbath was a high Sabbath, not only because it was the first Sabbath of the New Year, but also because it was the year-end meeting for the literature evangelists. Even though it was cold outside, Fort Walton Beach members warmly greeted everyone, and all were given a cordial welcome by Fancher and the congregation.

Eisele delivered a touching message titled “Heaven’s Passion,” where he expounded on God’s love for His children. During times of struggles in this life when we see no hope, we may be tempted to say, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” Matthew 17:46, but the promises of the Lord are true when He says He will not forget His people in their trying hours.

After a delicious meal, the attendees were instructed on the reasons for health reform by Gulf States literature evangelist Stacy Banks. She reminded all how they rob God of service when they violate the laws of health and suffer from self-inflicted wounds. The more perfect our health, the better all can be of service to God and fellow man. God loves you and will not forsake you, and you owe it to Him and yourselves to obey His laws as well as the laws of health. On Sabbath afternoon, Ruwie Vasquez, administrative assistant to Eisele, gave an uplifting musical concert. Ingrid Robinson also performed for the group.

Sunday morning’s business meeting began with Vasquez leading a vibrant song service. Eisele gave the devotion, and awards were given to Gulf States Conference and David Sigamani, Gulf States publishing director, for the largest percentage gained during 2013. The weekend was God-enthused. The individuals who attended were inspired to make this year unforgettable by showing God’s love to every individual they meet.

—BY DAVID SIGAMANI

Huntsville Central Raises Religious Liberty Funds

Huntsville Central Church in Huntsville, Ala., raised $4,559 for the 2013 Religious Liberty Campaign. This will enable the Southern Union Religious Liberty Department to mail out 760 Liberty magazine subscriptions, many of which will go to elected officials in the state of Alabama.

Liberty subscriptions are not the only way that the offering is used; it also contributes to educational efforts in the Southern Union, as well as helping with the litigation fund when the Religious Liberty Department has to go to court. We want to thank George and Janet Decker, the Religious Liberty sponsors at Huntsville Central Church, for their enthusiastic and dedicated commitment to religious liberty in America.

—BY CHRISTOPHER BARR
SPIRIT OF THE PIONEERS

JOHN NEVIN ANDREWS, a Millenite, later accepting the Sabbath, and mostly self-educated, became known to early Seventh-day Adventists as “The Ablest Man in Our Ranks.”

Pouring out his life as evangelist, editor, General Conference President, and our first Adventist Missionary, he exemplified the sacrifices of our pioneers. After the death of his wife, he left for Europe with his son and daughter and one small trunk of belongings. Living in the most austere manner, they learned the languages of Europe and started not only the first publishing work, but helped give birth to the total European Adventist church. His daughter died at 17, and he at 54; both died of tuberculosis. One of his last acts was to sign over his remaining $500 to be used in the Lord’s Work in Europe.

The spirit of the pioneers is not dead but still resides in many members right here in the Southern Union. Planned Giving and Trust Services is designed to help all our members to further the causes they believe in, as well as to adequately provide for the needs of their family. You are invited to contact for counsel and services the Conference or University Planned Giving and Trust Services Department.

Caroline Rick Hutchinson (704) 596-3200
Florida Phil Bond (407) 644-5000
Georgia-Cumberland Mitch Hazekamp (706) 629-7951
Gulf States (334) 272-7493

Kentucky-Tennessee Lin Powell (619) 859-1391
Oakwood University Fred Pullin (256) 736-6278
South Atlantic Lawrence Hamilton (404) 792-0535
South Central Michael Harper (613) 226-6500
Southeastern (352) 735-3142
Southern Adventist University Carolyn Lewis (423) 236-2818
Last summer at Indian Creek Camp, Peter Foster requested a Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal in braille. On Sabbath, January 4, 2014, Foster received the hymnal he requested. It was delayed a month because of sickness he has endured, but it was with joy that he finally accepted the four volumes. The only non-braille printing is on the covers. All the material inside is in braille.

Foster looked up the hymn he selected for the congregation to sing to open the service — #246, Worthy, Worthy Is the Lamb — an exceptionally fitting hymn for communion Sabbath. He led the congregation as his sister, Patricia Brown, played the piano.

—BY FRED CALKINS

“GracePoint Church is Blessed to Build

“I’m amazed how God is moving here,” says Michael Cauley, pastor of GracePoint Church in Franklin, Tenn., about 20 miles south of Nashville. “We were reviewing 2013 and realized that our group of 90 started 19 ministries. Nineteen!”

“When someone has a passion for something, the leadership supports it,” adds Cauley. “Clearly, God has brought a lot of passionate and willing people.” In fact, the church has grown four times since Cauley joined in 2010.

A year ago, the church purchased a 10-acre parcel in the middle of fast-growing Williamson County, and moved into the public school next door. Worshiping in a school cafeteria isn’t comfortable, but it keeps them focused. “This has been a blessing,” says Cauley. “We have been able to serve in concrete ways, giving the school needed A/V equipment, and supporting their families at Christmas. Plus every week we drive right by our land, reminding us of the good to come.”

The group quickly realized it would cost the same amount — about $3 million — to build an adequately-sized church as it would to build a six-classroom school, gym, and offices, allowing for a fully-utilized facility.

As confirmation, an anonymous $500,000 matching donation stipulated the project must be completed debt-free. “We embrace it,” Cauley adds. “This blessing will ultimately provide a sustainable ministry.”

The board asked member Nikki Getman to lead the fundraising. “I can tell you I wasn’t looking for this job,” she laughs. “But, the Lord organized a path to make it a priority.” Immediately she launched a market research and operational feasibility study.

“The more I learned, the more excited I became,” says Getman. “But what encourages me is how quickly others get fired up, especially those I expect to be most skeptical.”

Adds Pam Williams, associate education superintendent for Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, “For years we’ve had to tell families moving to the area there wasn’t a school in Franklin. Now we’re thrilled to say a building project is in process.”

To learn more about the school building project in Franklin, visit www.northchapelacademy.com, or contact Nikki Getman directly at 610-704-0404.

—BY NIKKI GETMAN
**Glasgow Juniors are an Extraordinary Class**

Much effort goes into the preparation of denominational resources for the children’s departments. The materials are excellent, but the Junior Department of Glasgow, Ky., Church was looking for something even more challenging.

Under the leadership of Sandra Pierce and her assistant, Kathy Bryant, the Juniors have undertaken a chapter-by-chapter study of the book of Revelation. They began learning the symbolism of Revelation in July of 2012, and have spent six quarters on it thus far.

Students Rachel, Kate, and Jordan McCoy used marking pens and colored pencils to prepare posters that illustrate what they have been learning. These have been placed on the walls in their classroom, and are an inspiration to all who enter.

The uniqueness of this class is also exhibited by their enthusiasm for mission projects. From January through October of 2013, the class raised $500 for developmentally disabled children in India. They are currently collecting money to help the church blanket the city of Glasgow with inspiration books — *Path to Peace* and *On the Edge of Time*.

The enthusiasm for Bible study and missions is contagious. This extraordinary class has proven to be an extraordinary blessing to their church family.

— BY TERESA CARMICHAEL

**Young Women’s Ministries Gives 2013 Report**

Young Women’s Ministries Mission Statement:

- To provide a way for young women to develop a deeper relationship with God.
- To encourage Christian involvement in their schools and churches to fulfill the Gospel commission.
- To mentor and to be mentored as women in leadership and promote Women’s Ministries.
- Our hope and prayer is for young women in their spiritual walk, to be involved in the ministry, and experience the significance of Women’s Ministries in their daily lives.

With this commitment, the leadership team included young women from various high schools who participated in the planning for the year. They visited schools and churches to promote Young Women’s Ministries. Closer relationships with each other were nurtured, and they experienced how wide, high, and deep is God’s love.

The 2013 calendar was full of activities. The sleepover at one of the leaders’ home was an opportunity to get acquainted and plan the year. In March, they visited downtown Nashville for photos at historic landmarks. Thank you to Chelsea Soapes, professional photographer and MA alum, who gave each girl a CD as a keepsake. For May graduation, senior girls were given a personalized card in acknowledgment and celebration.

The highlight of the year was the annual Young Women’s Retreat at Indian Creek Camp. The theme “Circle of Friends” was a gathering of 62 young women, and 35 chaperones and staff.

— BY MENIE’ BELL

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*Posters illustrating the book of Revelation*
South Atlantic News

Community Services Torch Passed to Georgia Top-10 Nurse

Dorothy Reeves, community services leader of Decatur, Ga., Church, was recognized as one of Georgia’s top-10 nurses of 2013.

An independent panel of judges picked 10 honorees from more than 350 nominations in Georgia for the 2013 Nursing Excellence Awards. The nominees were feted at the Cobb Galleria Center with Channel 2 Action News evening anchor Jovita Moore hosting as emcee for the event. Reeves was noted for her efforts to help clothe refugees, feed the homeless, and serve people during medical missions to Haiti. Reeves’ co-worker, Janet Stephens, at Rockdale Medical Center, cited her for the nomination because she had personally seen Reeves “provide tennis shoes for a homeless man, send encouraging cards to patients, visit former patients in hospice care, and attend their funerals to comfort families.”

Decatur Church members honored Reeves for her accomplishments during Community Services Day in November 2013. As the new community services leader, she continued the legacy of Jeremiah Brantley who died in January 2013 from complications following surgery. Brantley was community services leader for more than six years, and was renowned for consistently rallying the congregation for donated food, blankets, sleeping bags, and coats for the homeless and refugee communities, and ensuring that those in need were provided for and treated with dignity and respect. Brantley regularly searched under Atlanta city bridges for the least, lost, and forgotten in society to ensure that food and a warm blanket were provided to them during the cold winter months.

Reeves has vigorously continued this legacy. She and her staff continue to serve the Clarkston, Ga., refugee community by providing clothing and toys to the families, and regularly organize food drives for the homeless. For Thanksgiving, she and her team packed more than 100 food baskets that were distributed to families in the Decatur community. For Christmas, toys and more than 100 bicycles were delivered as Christmas presents for children in homeless shelters in Atlanta and refugee communities in Clarkston.

Reeves brought her caring, teaching, critical-thinking, problem solving, and get-it-done qualities as one of Georgia’s top-10 nurses into her role as community services leader. Decatur Church and surrounding communities are all the richer for it.

—BY KAREN WOOTEN

Decatur Church community services team: Betty Phillips, Dorothy Reeves (center), Harriett Perkins, and Tyrone Kay

The late Jeremiah Brantley, and his wife, Sarita, are pictured packing Thanksgiving baskets.
Mt. Olive Members Minister to Less Fortunate

During the Christmas holidays, Mt. Olive Church in East Point, Ga., brought holiday cheer to the residents of the Carrie Steele-Pitts Home (CSPH) for children. Residents of the orphanage, youth and young adults ages 11 to 21, were sponsored by members of the church, and were given clothes, shoes, toys, and even tickets to an Atlanta Hawks basketball game. Eleven youth and seven adults from the Adventist Youth Society (AYS) Department presented a program that consisted of Christmas songs, Scripture readings about the birth of Christ, refreshments, and fellowship. Inspirational literature was also distributed to the young residents. The AYS Department was welcomed by the facility’s director, Evelyn Lavizzio, and social worker, Eloise Mitchell.

The Carrie Steel-Pitts Home was founded in 1888 by Carrie Steele, a former slave. She cared for African-American children in the city of Atlanta, Ga., who were homeless, abused, and neglected. One hundred and twenty-five years later, the organization continues to care for and support orphaned and destitute children in the metro Atlanta area. The orphanage has three cottages: one each for boys, girls, and college students. Spread out over multiple structures, the orphanage consists of living quarters, a swimming pool, playground, conference rooms, and a cafeteria. During the past century, the home has served thousands of children in need, and has made a difference in the lives of children and adolescents. The Carrie Steele-Pitts Home is truly building a legacy of love.

The AYS Department participated in this outreach activity to minister to the less fortunate, but, instead, was richly blessed. The youth at Mt. Olive Church were excited to have the opportunity to share the love of Christ in such a tremendous way. They are looking forward to their monthly outreach ministry at CSPH.

—BY BETTY WESTON AND JONAE JACKSON

Residents of the Carrie Steele-Pitts Home open Christmas gifts donated by Mt. Olive Church members in East Point, Ga.

For less than 2¢ per household you can reach more than 84,000 households with this space. Call Nathan Zinner at 404-299-1832, x412 for information.
Etta Mae Maycock Dudley … A Beautiful Life

...And so it was in Castries, St. Lucia, in the British West Indies, on February 3, 1880, that Albert Maycock and Susan Goddard bore a son named Albert. In the same manner, in the same century, in the United States of America, Alvin Price and Mary Josephine Price bore a daughter named Pauline. As God would have it, there came a time when young Albert Thomas Maycock met Pauline Cecilia Price, and they were joined in holy matrimony in 1910. To that union were born eight children: Leontine, Manley, Raulins, Ruth, Audrey, Mary, Etta, and Harold. Baby girl Etta grew up to be a very talented and sweet young woman who loved the Lord.

Etta was born May 30, 1922, in Atlanta, Ga., but when she was six months old, her parents moved the family from place to place and eventually to Indianapolis, Ind. As a teenager, Etta was baptized in the Capitol Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church, where she also attended Church School. She later enrolled at Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in Huntsville, Ala., where she graduated with an associate degree in secretarial science in 1947.

While at Oakwood, Etta met and was pursued by Charles Edward Dudley, a ministerial student from South Bend, Ind. Charles and Etta were married December 28, 1947, in Indianapolis.

Their ministry together began in Knoxville, Tenn., where they lived in a small rooming house until they were moved by the South Central Conference Executive Committee shortly thereafter to Jackson, Tenn. While living in Jackson, Charles took Etta to Riverside Sanitarium Hospital in Nashville, Tenn., where their first child Bonita was born November 21, 1948.

In 1951, the Dudleys were assigned to pastor the Mississippi Boulevard Seventh-day Adventist Church in Memphis, Tenn., and they made another trip to Nashville for Charles II to be born at Riverside Hospital on November 8, 1951. Thirteen months later, they took to the same road trip again for the birth of Albert on December 11, 1952.

Dedicated to her husband and to the ministry to which they were both called, Etta accompanied her husband from Memphis to Montgomery, Ala., where they met Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1955, Etta and Charles were called to the Southwest Region Conference to minister at Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church in Baton Rouge, La., and then in 1958 at City Temple Seventh-day Adventist Church in Dallas, Tex. While in Dallas, Etta worked briefly as secretary to her husband, and later became secretary to Southwest Region Conference officers Lee Paschal and James Meredith until Charles was called back to the South Central Conference in Nashville to become president in August 1962.

Etta's life was all about ministry — to the poor, to the rich, to the homeless, to the sick, to children and adults, and as first lady of the Conference, to the wives of other ministers. Her infectious smile was ever present, and her tender heart touched the lives of many. She was a seamstress, pianist, artist, friend, mentor, children's storyteller, bread maker, mother, wife, sister, and an overall beautiful person inside and out!

With her husband, she traveled at home and abroad, teaching and living the love of Christ to all with whom she came in contact. Etta was a lover of people!

After Charles’ death in 2010, Etta’s health began to change. And although her condition had her repeating the same interesting stories from her times in Africa (where she learned about, and often threatened with her “African soup bone”) to her childhood memories, she was seldom without...
Oakwood and Southern Students Canvass Together

This winter, literature evangelists from Oakwood University, Huntsville, Ala., and Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tenn., entered the mission field sharing their faith, and returned with testimonies and $28,000 in donations toward their tuition.

Here is one student’s testimony: “This winter was my first canvassing experience with South Central Conference, and I can say that the Lord couldn’t have revealed to me why canvassing and witnessing to everybody in the world is very important and critical to our times now. We must constantly remember Matthew 28:19, 20, because that is the verse that I keep in my head all day while going out in the field for hours at a time each day.

“One day while working a parking lot, the day was coming to a close. I wanted to talk to one more guy that the Holy Spirit led me to speak to in that very moment before leaving. I approached the man in the car with his face looking very upset and disgruntled toward me. I began to give him my canvass when he looked at me and said, ‘Go away, I don’t have any money, and I have had two people who took me for everything I have, so now I am poor and broke.’ I told him that I didn’t want his money, but to only pray with him. At this point, God opened a window of opportunity for the Holy Spirit to work through me and minister to this man’s life. I began telling him about Jesus and His soon coming; moments after that the man began to cry. We prayed together and he also accepted a Bible study that day.

“This goes to show that when you are faithful to the Lord and are doing His work, blessings will come your way and the Lord can use you to change many lives. We are all vessels in the sight of the Lord, and if we are true to God great things will happen in the name of Jesus!”

Be a part of the blessings and call Java Mattison, South Central publishing director, at 404-217-6338 for the next semester and summer. Also, you may apply at youthexcels.info.

—BY JAVA MATTISON

that beautiful, genuine smile.

In Jesus, Etta Mae Maycock Dudley fell asleep just after sunset on Sabbath, January 25, 2014. She is survived by her daughter, Bonita Dudley Scott; two sons: Charles E. (Deborah) Dudley II, and Albert L. (Nancy) Dudley Sr.; one sister, Audrey Maycock Spencer; two sisters-in-law: Luada Maycock and Lucille Dudley Sneed; two granddaughters: Kahlima “Nikki” Dudley and Karea “Karee” Dudley; three grandsons: Albert “Albie” (Jessica) Dudley II, Charles “Chaz” Dudley III, and Kevin Hatchett; five great-grandchildren: Avery, Aubrey, Albert “Ace” Dudley III, LaKeisha Hatchett Nunn, and Antwain Green; three great-great-grandchildren: Amari and Carrington Nunn, and C. J. Hatchett; numerous cousins; nieces; and nephews; adopted children: Benson, Annette, Peter, and Rachel Muge-mancuro; Seth, Teresa, Jessica, and Godfrey Bardu; Edmond, Averi, and Nicole Julius; Lee and Helene Julius Cort and their children; Charles and Lola Julius and their child; Michael (Yvette) Paschal, Sharon Johnson, Brenda Lee, and Judy (Joseph) Dent; and a host of friends. She will be especially missed by her dedicated and kind caregivers: Sandra, Carol, Heidi, and Amanda.
Mount Olivet Church Community Health and Temperance Ministries conducted its annual Health Fair on September 28, 2013.

During the event, attendees were given the opportunity to have their blood pressure, glucose level, spinal condition, cholesterol level, dental screening, and other health-related issues checked.

Event participants included a chiropractor, the Broward County Health Department, a dentist, the Healthy Mothers-Healthy Babies Organization, an OB/GYN doctor, CPR specialists, a nutritionist, and a natural food special-

King’s Daughters Event Raises $3,000 for Education

The King’s Daughters of Orlando held its 5th Annual Winter Wonderland — A Christmas Affair at Mt. Sinai Church in Orlando, Fla., on December 1, 2013. The annual event raises funds to assist high school juniors and seniors who are preparing to enter college. The 2013 event raised more than $3,000.

Established in 1929, the King’s Daughters is a national Christian women’s organization that participates in and conducts Christian, civic, cultural, and social activities in their areas. The King’s Daughters organization is composed of 29 chapters throughout the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Orlando Chapter I was organized in 1966, and has been involved in a variety of activities to uplift the spiritual, financial, and cultural experiences of the Adventist community in central Florida. The charter members were Ethel Stewart, Pauline Ravenal, Susie Sankey, Omar Richards, Barbara Smith, Elaine Cox, and Ruth Stokes. During the event Sankey and Ravenal, the only surviving charter members, were recognized.

The event included special music from Mark Bunney, the renowned inspirational saxophonist from London, England; the smooth and soulful voice of Altamese Blake; and Rossyl Lashley, who jazzed up the keyboards to many of the Christmas favorites. Daniel Smith and Meisha Fernandez served as master and mistress of ceremony. Chef Errol Castello prepared the meal.

“As we look to the future, we hope to partner with other organizations that also believe in the same core values — helping the seniors and children through scholarships,” said Karen Winston, president of King’s Daughters Orlando Chapter I.

The event concluded with the highlight of the evening, a fashion extravaganza. Several church members were decked out in their finest winter wear, which included casual and evening attire. Herman Davis, pastor of Mt. Sinai, surprised and delighted the audience by revealing his inner ‘swag’ as he walked down the aisle.

Alpha Footman, president of the eastern region Federated King’s Daughters, was delighted by the efforts of the event.

—BY HADASSAH LANSQUO

An attendee of the health fair receives information from a health product vendor.

Mount Olivet Conducts Annual Community Health Fair
Southeastern News

Perrine Members Celebrate 31st Anniversary

Family reunions are great occurrences. Such was the occasion of the 31st anniversary and homecoming of Perrine, Fla., Church, from November 29 to December 1, 2013. Former members and friends from all over the country returned to celebrate.

On August 13, 1981, 13 believers gathered in the home of Trevor Beckford and his wife; along with Roy R. Brown, former pastor and former president of Southeastern Conference; and Herman Mills, elder, to establish a mission. In May of 1985, Perrine was voted into the sisterhood of churches.

The weekend was filled with rich music and praises. The celebration began on Friday night with a consecration service. Music was provided by “Perfect Harmony” and Maya Loctar. Eric Walsh, M.D., a member of Perrine, returned to deliver the sermon based on the prodigal son, “Pig in a Blanket.”

Sabbath School was conducted by the superintendent, Phyllis Rose. She focused on the theme, “Remembering the Past, Embracing the Present, Investing in the Future.” Perrine’s male group rendered two selections. Antownyn Mells, former pastor of Perrine, presided over the Sabbath School lesson.

During the divine service, Michael Owusu, D.Min., current pastor of Perrine, welcomed the hundreds of family and friends present. Greetings were sent in the form of video from Hubert J. Morel Jr., president of Southeastern Conference and a former pastor of Perrine; and letters from Rick Scott, Governor of Florida, and Commissioner Denis Moss.

Presentations were made to Ivy Hermit, the oldest original member, who represented the past, and to Theophile Fredling, a six-year-old youth, representing the present with a promising future.

Roy Brown, the founding pastor of Perrine, delivered a resounding message entitled, “Hitherto.”

The weekend concluded with a banquet with 190 people in attendance. It was an evening of elegance and mystique.

Today, Perrine has a membership of more than 500 members and has made an impact in the community of Perrine. “What a privilege it has been to serve this community. No doubt God has placed this church on this corner to be a beacon of light that will draw men to Him,” said a member of Perrine.

—BY MILICENT TAYLOR
North Orlando Conducts Marriage Vows Renewal Ceremony

The North Orlando Church in Orlando, Fla., conducted a marriage vows renewal ceremony on December 7, 2013. The event was sponsored by the Family Life Ministries Department, which is led by Garnet McKenzie.

It was a joyous occasion as 22 couples including Tony Taylor, pastor of North Orlando, and his wife, Laura, marched together to the altar to participate in the rededication ceremony. Special recognition was given to the Paynes and the Jamiesons for being married for more than 50 years.

The homily was delivered by Gordon Martinborough, pastor, who expounded the need to have a triangular marriage with Christ at the top. A prayer of recommitment was offered by Samuel Campbell, pastor. All the couples were given marriage certificates.

A reception was held in the fellowship hall for the couples following the ceremony. They took turns taking pictures while cutting the wedding cake. The master of ceremonies was Everard Daley, elder. Some of the grooms gave toasts to their brides.

Twenty-two couples renewed their marriage vows at North Orlando, Fla., Church.
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April 9 and 10, 2015

*Includes free meals and lodging for students interested in attending Southern. Student families are encouraged to visit, too.

To arrange your visit, call 1.800.SOUTHERN or go to southern.edu/enrollment.
OBITUARIES

BEASLY, Margarette Marie. 84, born April 29, 1929 in Cullman, AL, died Nov. 14, 2013 in Decatur, AL. She was a member of the Decatur Church. She is survived by one daughter, Cheryl Brown; three sons: Kenneth, Larry, and Darryl Beasley; and one sister, Jesse Matthews.

BOYLES, Annetta. 89, born Jan. 26, 1924, died Sept. 20, 2013 in Punta Gorda, FL. She was a member of the Port Charlotte Church. She taught in St. Augustine and Fort Lauderdale, FL, and in Charleston, SC. She is survived by her husband, Hubert; sons William (Joy) Boland and Terry (Dale) Boland; brothers, Marc (Evelyn) Sterner, David (Irene) Sterner, and Denis (Thyra) Sterner; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

CRIST, Geraldine Alice. 90, born Aug. 26, 1922 in Peoria, IL, died Aug. 17, 2013 in Orlando, FL. She was employed by Florida Conference Office as an office secretary. She is survived by one son, Kenneth; one daughter, Linda Phelps; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

JACKSON, Harold. 78, born June 22, 1935 in Orangeburg, SC, died Sept. 29, 2013 in Cleburne, TX. He was the wife of Gordon Hyde; mother of two daughters: Oleta (David) Emerson and Cherie (Barry) Fields; and one brother, George Hadley. He is survived by one son, Lanny C. Hadley; one daughter, Kathryn J. McLane; one brother, Bud; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

HALL, Margaret Geraldine Hughes. 78, born in Crossville, TN, died June 4, 2012. She attended Southern Adventist University and was married in May 1987 to a fellow student, David B. Hall. They settled in Murfreesboro, TN, where David joined and later became the managing partner of the firm now known as Hall, Davidson & Associates, Certified Public Accountants. She assisted him in that business for more than 50 years as secretary and receptionist, as well as being a homemaker. She was an organist at and later moved to the Woodbury Church, where she served as organist, Sabbath School Superintendent, and bulletin editor. She is survived by her husband, David; one son, Bruce Anthony Hall of Murfreesboro; one daughter, Carolyn Lucille (Lynne) Hasty of Bismarck, FL; five grandchildren: Samuel, Nathan, Benjamin, and Jonathan Hasty, and Jeba Hasty (enhanced); and two great-grandchildren: Callie and Alena Southard.

LONG, Clarence Dean. 92, born March 16, 1920 in Silverton, OR, died Dec. 11, 2013 in Goodlettsville, TN. She was a long-time faithful member of Ridgetop, TN, Church. She was preceded in death by one son, Cletis Brown; and one brother, George Pownall. She is survived by her husband, Ed Davis; two daughters: Oleta (David) Emerson and Cherie (David) LaTourrette; two sons: Ervin (Karen) Brown and Rusty Brown; two step-children: Mark Davis and Tracie Davis; one brother, John (Hazel) Pownall; two sisters: Marie Karau and Lexie (Bill) Gilley; and 10 grandchildren. Pastor Bob Korzyniowski conducted the funeral service which was held at Ridgetop Church.

EDWARDS, Charles, Sr. died Sept. 14, 2013, in a local healthcare facility.

FORD, Betty Jean. 91, of Doltehw, died Sept. 22, 2013. She was born to Oliver Raymond and Besie Shreve, missionaries in Shanghai, China, and South Africa. She went to Nursing School at White Memorial in Los Angeles, CA. She then obtained a master's in psychology, and worked as a school psychologist; later she became a real estate agent. She was also the church organist for more than 30 years at Chattanooga First Church. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, and grandmother, who will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Augustus Carroll Ford. She is survived by her four children, G.A. Ford, Dr. Dennis Ford, Dr. Cynthia Hollie, and Dr. Tamarin Larson; eight grandchildren; and sister, Winsome Erick. Memorial Services were held Oct. 19, 2013, at Collegegedale Church. Internment was held Sept. 24, 2013 at Chattanooga National Cemetery.

HADLEY, Carroll E., 84, born July 6, 1928 in Coloma, MI, died Nov. 10, 2013 in Candler, NC. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Beatrice “Bea” Hadley; one son, Lanny C. Hadley; one daughter, Kathryn J. McLane; one brother, Bud; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. 

HYDE, Irma. 95, born July 1, 1918, died Oct. 10, 2013. She was the wife of Gordon Hyde; mother of Bradly (Sylvia) Hyde and Rodney (Barbara) Hyde; and grandmother of Conrad (Christine) Hyde, Kimberly (Danny) Roth, and Geoffrey (Monique) Hyde; and great-grandmother of Zachery and Cheyenne.

JACKSON, Harold. 78, born June 22, 1935 in Orangeburg, SC, died Sept. 29, 2013 in Cleburne, TX. He was born to Bernice and Oliver Jackson; and sister, Winona Jackson. He is survived by one daughter, Janice Fisk of Cope, SC; one grandson, Robbie Fisk of Cope; one sister, Dorothy Thomas of Cordova, SC; one brother, Reedy (Gwen) Jackson of Orangeburg; one niece, Michelle; one nephew, Kevin Jackson of Orangeburg; two stepsons: Robert (Tama) Rains of Grapevine, TX, and Don (Betty) Rains of Aurora, IN. His body was donated to science at Texas University.

JACOBS, Lloyd R., 73, born Aug. 10, 1940 near Asheville, NC, died Nov. 22, 2013 in Cicero, IN. He was 13 when he joined his older brother and rode their bicycles from Meridian, MS, to the April 1954 Southern Union Youth Congress in Chattanooga, TN. He began 42 years of denominational service by teaching business and secretarial science classes at Mount Pisgah Academy, becoming the fourth generation in the Jacobs family to teach in Adventist schools. In 1967, he began 37 consecutive years as a Adventist Book Center manager in the Northern New England, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Indiana conferences. After participating in mission projects in Peru and Mexico, he coordinated more than 10 short-term mission trips to Central and South America for Cicero members and Indiana Academy students. He was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Ruth Jacobs; and his first wife of 16 years, Rita Beth (Washburn). He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Ingrid (Rogers) Jacobs of Cicero, IN; four sons: Jonathan, a pastor; John Johnson, a school superintendent, and Bulletin editor. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Patricia; one daughter, Julie (Greg) Fuller of Menifee, CA, and Amy Jacobs of Tampa, FL; one brother, Frank Jacobs of Williamsport, MD; and five grandchildren: Skylar, Nathan, and Juliette Jacobs, and Bryce and Brooke Fuller.

JOHNSON, Lawrence (Larry) Elwin. 83, born March 16, 1930 in Canandaigua, NY, died June 7, 2013 in Cleveland, TN. He came to Tennessee in 1950 to attend Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University). He was a literature evangelist for several years, and then he and his wife Geraldine taught Church School in various schools in the Southern Union: the last being Coolidge, GA. He is survived by his wife of more than 60 years, Geraldine; three sons: Don Johnson of Lynn Haven, FL, Steve Johnson of Cleveland, TN, and Chris Johnson of McDonald, TN; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren; three brothers: Bernard Johnson of Canandaigua, Walter Johnson of Penn Yan, NY, and Ben Johnson of Guthrie, OK; several nieces; and nephews. His internment was at Chattanooga National Cemetery with military honors.

LONG, Clarence Dean, 93, born July 7, 1920 in...
Hope Hull, AL, died Sept. 26, 2013 in Burkville, AL. He was a longtime member of Montgomery First Church in Montgomery, AL. He was dedicated to his church and to witnessing to everyone he met. His favorite “hobby” was studying the Bible. He was preceded in death by his son, James Dean Long. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Agnes Lawton Long; one son and daughter-in-law, Gerald and Thelma Elizabeth Long; one daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Harold Preston; seven grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

LONG, Agnes Jane Lawton, 91, born April 1, 1922 in Coudersport, PA, died Nov. 18, 2013 in Burkville, AL, following the death of her husband, Clarence Dean Long, on Sept. 26. She was a long time member of the Williamsburg, KY, Adventist church school. She later was the wife of Lloyd McFarlane, mother of Lorna (Canute) Birch, and grandmother of Alexa, Dorian, Sergio Gutierrez and Elder Marlin Walter conducted a memorial service in Apopka, FL. He was a member of the Florida Living Church in Apopka for 17 years, and pastor of that church until he retired in 2012 with 67 years of service. As a young man, he trained as an Irish tenor and learned piano to accompany himself. He studied at the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, MD. He then enrolled at Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University) in Takoma Park, MD, in the pre-medical program, but soon he felt a call to the ministry. He began denominational work as a singing evangelist in Salisbury, MD. He would later serve pastors in Delaware, New York, Florida, and Pennsylvania. He was the first to receive a Master of Divinity degree from Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Berrien Springs, MI, and the first Adventist minister chosen to become a military chaplain. After serving as a military chaplain, he became a chaplain at Loma Linda University Medical Center in California, and taught Bible classes for 10 years. He is survived by his daughter, Bronwyn (Bob) Jenkins of Saint Cloud, FL; brother, Bryan Walsh of Nashville, TN; and two grandchildren. His first wife, Pat, died in 1977, and his second wife, Aimee, died in the mid-1990s. The service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was at Deltona Memorial Gardens in Deland, FL.

MORRIS, Doris, 90, died Nov. 28, 2013. She lived at the Maranatha and Palm Bay churches. He served as elder, deacon, Sabbath School teacher, and served as elder, deacon, Sabbath School teacher, and was later appointed personal ministries leader. He worked for 24 years at Home Depot. He will always be fondly remembered as a kind and caring person who always carried the presence of Jesus with him. His smiles and hugs have touched many lives. His favorite quote was “It’s not me; it’s the Christ in me.” Among his survivors are his mother, Esther (Bob) Jenkins of Saint Cloud, FL; brother, Bryan Walsh of Nashville, TN; and two grandchildren. His first wife, Pat, died in 1977, and his second wife, Aimee, died in the mid-1990s. The service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was at Deltona Memorial Gardens in Deland, FL.

MULL, David L., 87, born June 22, 1926 at Dundee, MI, died Oct. 1, 2013 at St. Augustine, FL. He was a member of the St. Augustine Church for 15 years. He was preceded in death by his sons, Larry Mull and Todd Mull; daughter, Tonya Mull Bliss-Wilkinson; brother, Alvin Mull; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. The service was conducted by the Lutheran church pastor in St. Augustine, FL. PLOCHER, Earl George Sr., 59, born April 1, 1954 in Kingston, Jamaica, died April 18, 2013 in Palm Bay, FL. In his early adult years, he married Ula, and both moved to Miami, FL. Close to 25 years of marriage, Ula preceded him in death. Being a faithful servant to God, he did not lose hope, but continued to see people and bring them to Christ. As an achiever, he decided to further his education and graduated from Keiser University with a degree in computer programming. In 2002, he married Veta, and relocated to Palm Bay, FL. He was loved by all at the Maranatha and Palm Bay churches. He served as elder, deacon, Sabbath School teacher, and was later appointed personal ministries leader. He worked for 24 years at Home Depot. He will always be fondly remembered as a kind and caring person who always carried the presence of Jesus with him. His smiles and hugs have touched many lives. His favorite quote was “It’s not me; it’s the Christ in me.” He is survived by his mother, Esther (Bob) Jenkins of Saint Cloud, FL; brother, Bryan Walsh of Nashville, TN; and two grandchildren. His first wife, Pat, died in 1977, and his second wife, Aimee, died in the mid-1990s. The service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was at Deltona Memorial Gardens in Deland, FL.

ROTH, Kenneth Sherwood, 76, born March 1, 1937 in Hecktown, PA, died Sept. 24, 2013 in Lake Mary, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church, Apopka, FL. His denomination employment included: 1963-1982 lab tech at Kettering Medical Center, Dayton, OH; 1982-1991 purchasing and credit union at Florida Hospital Orlando, FL; 1991-2002 printing and shipping at Florida Adventist Book Center, Winter Park, FL. He is survived by his wife, Bronwyn (Bob) Jenkins of Saint Cloud, FL; brother, Bryan Walsh of Nashville, TN; and two grandchildren. His first wife, Pat, died in 1977, and his second wife, Aimee, died in the mid-1990s. The service was conducted by Pastor Floyd Powell at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was at Deltona Memorial Gardens in Deland, FL.

Sergio Gutierrez and Elder Marlin Walter conducted a memorial service in Apopka, FL. Interment was at Deltona Memorial Gardens in Deland, FL.

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THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM at Adventist University seeks applicants for the position of Academic Coordinator in its developing program. The position is a non-tenure track full time position. The Academic Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating and developing courses in all phases of the curriculum as well as overseeing student assessment, advising and faculty mentoring. The successful candidate will possess a minimum of a Master’s degree and be a certified physician assistant who is licensed or license eligible in the state of Florida. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae and complete contact information for three professional references to: Dr. Mark Payne, DHSc, PA-C Chair, Physician Assistant Program, Adventist University of Health Sciences, 671 Winyah Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. Mark.Payne@adu.edu. [3]

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MISCELLANEOUS

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THE WILDCOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression and many more. Invest in your health, call 1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.org/ lifestyle. [3-5]

PLANNING AN EVANGELISTIC SERIES OR HEALTH SEMINAR? Have questions? Need affordable, professionally prepared handbills, brochures, signs, banners and mailing services? Call free, 800-274-0016 and ask for HOPE Customer Service or visit www.hopesource.com. Your deserve the best with confidence and peace of mind. Your friends at Hamblin’s HOPE deliver on-time. [3-6]

LOOKING FOR AUTHORS who have written a book on self-help for young adults (depression, suicide, eating disorders, dating, etc). Also accepting children’s books, mission stories, biographies, and inspirational/doctrinal topics. Call TEACH Services at 800-367-1844. [3, 4]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master’s degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion, and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduastudies. [3-5]

EIGHT NATURAL REMEDIES online & correspondence courses for laypersons and professionals. Ask about free classes. Email education@jjohnsonmd.com. Phone/fax 815-523-2136. www.healthcare-online-education.org/ 8remedies.html. [3]


GUEST LODGING AT SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY – Newly renovated 2 bed/1 bath apartments. Some with equipped kitchens. Available year round. To reserve call 423-236-7000 or email guestlodging@southern.edu. [3-5]

HEALTH EXPO EVENT – Let us train and equip your church to do a health expo. This approach is a proven way to reach your community. Call Chuck Cleveland at 423-949-8211 and visit www.HealthExpoBanners.com. [3, 4]

FLEA MARKET EVANGELISM provides a great opportunity to spread the printed page like the leaves of Autumn. This is an easy way to place our truth-filled books in the hands of interested people who come to our booths. “It is in working to spread the good news of salvation that we are brought near to the Saviour,” Desire of Ages, p. 340. We invite you to join us in this ministry and will supply about 700 books to help you get started. The books are free but we require you to pay the shipping charges. Call or email for a free DVD. For further information, please contact us at 191 Pattie Gap Road, Philadelphia, TN 37846. 865-376-2142, hjphibbs@gmail.com. [3-6]

TOUR ISRAEL WITH AUTHOR ANDY NASH and violinist Jaime Jorge (performing on site). Sites include: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Bethany, the Dead Sea, Nazareth, Cana, Joppa, Caesarea, Megiddo, Capernaum, the Jordan River, and the Sea of Galilee. Contact andynash5@gmail.com or 423-298-2141. [3]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNION COLLEGE HOMECOMING – April 3-6. Honor classes: 1944, ’54, ’59, ’64, ’74, ’84, ’89, 1994, and ’04. Special tribute to veterans and MCC. Details: Contact the alumni office at 402-486-2503, 3800 S. 48th Street, Lincoln, NE 68516 or alumni@ucollege.edu.

EASTER CONCERT – April 17. The Dalton, GA. Church will be sponsoring an Easter concert with Michael Card at 7 p.m., at the NW Georgia Trade and Convention Center. The concert will be preceded at 6 p.m. with a lecture by Dr. Michael Hasel entitled, “Jesus in History and Archeology.” When they become available, all ticketing will be done through the Trade Center box office or online.

OAKWOOD ADVENTIST ACADEMY CLASS OF 1974 40TH REUNION – April 18-20. Huntsville, AL. Several activities are planned for Alumni Weekend. Please join us! Details: oaclass1974@gmail.com or call 678-637-6034. You can also visit the website: http://oca-classof1974.yolasite.com/.

OKLAHOMA ACADEMY DAYS – April 18-20. If you are a student who is serious about your walk with the Lord and His mission for your life, Oklahoma Academy may be just right for you. Attend our Academy Days weekend and find out. Call 405-454-6211 to make your reservations today! Also visit www.oklahomaacademy.org.

BROADVIEW ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND – April 25-26. All alumni are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendars, call your classmates, and start planning for this weekend now. Honor classes: 1944, ’54, ’64, ’74, ’84, ’89, ’94, and ’04. North Aurora SDA Church, North Aurora, IL. Friday night Vespers, Sabbath School, and Church. For communication purposes, we need your email addresses; postage is too expensive. Send emails to: Ed Gutierrez edjulie1@att.net; or call: 630-232-9034. More information to come. Don’t miss it!

RAMAH SDA JUNIOR ACADEMY REUNION (formerly Ramah Parochial School) Celebrating 100 years of Christian Education – April 30-May 4. Savannah, GA. Students (present/former), teachers, principals, pastors, and staff are invited to the celebration. Join us on Facebook for updates and news regarding the reunion: facebook.com/ramahacademyalumniassociation; email: ramah100years@hotmail.com.


“YE OLDE” CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION – June 6-8. Alumni and schoolmates of 1964 and earlier at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, MI. Honor classes: 1934, ’44, ’54, ’64. Details will be forthcoming by postal service. For further information you may contact GLAA Alumni office at 989-427-5181 or visit http://www.glaa.net/.
Events Calendar

Carolina


Pathfinder Workbee – March 14-16. NPR.


Music Festival – April 3, 4. MPA.

Adventurer Fun Day – April 4-6. NPR.

Women’s Spring Retreat – April 11-13. Gatlinburg, TN.

Education Face to Face – April 16-21. Carolina Conference Office.

Elders’ Retreat – May 2, 3. Arden, NC. Church. The focus for this training session will be Unit #1 “Elders’ Duties.”

Florida

Complete calendar online – http://www.floridaconference.com/calendar/


Planned Giving and Trust Services Clinics

March 29. Brazilian Temple in Oakland Park.

April 5. Winter Park Spanish.

April 26. West Palm Beach.

Forest Lake Academy Alumni Weekend Golf Tournament – March 24. Retdail Golf Club, Sorrento. Registration and breakfast: 8 a.m. Shotgun start: 9 a.m. Cost: $125 with discounts for students and pre-paid foursomes includes green fees and catered lunch. Format: scramble with four-person teams. Individual golfers also welcome. Details: http://www.forestarkeacademy.org/wp/alumni/, kellerm@forestlake.org, or 407-748-8888.

Greater Miami Academy 5th Annual Golf Tournament – March 30. Doral Golf Resort and Spa. Check-in: 12 p.m. Theme: Jump Start the Dream! Entry fee: $185 for either golf or spa participant. Details: http://www.gma.edu/, ctrevilco@gma.edu, or (305) 220-595 x151.


Georgia-Cumberland

Georgia-Cumberland Academy Days – March 14, 15. Calhoun, GA.

Women’s Spring Retreat – March 14-16. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Teen Girl’s Spring Retreat – March 14-16. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

LEAD Evangelism Training – March 15-4-7 p.m. “Preparing for the Harvest” with Jesse Wilson. Smoky Mountain Church, TN.

Pathfinder Drill Event – March 16. 10 a.m. Lee University, Cleveland, TN.


Youth and Young Adult Festival – March 22. The Church at Liberty Square, Cartersville, GA.

Prayer Ministries Day – March 22. Knoxville First Church, Knoxville, TN.


Health Rally – March 29. Rossville, GA.

Collegedale Academy Academy Day – April 1. Collegedale, TN.

Day of Fasting and Prayer – April 4.

Hispanic Children’s Ministries Convention – April 4-6. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Camp Turnaround – April 4-6. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Georgia-Cumberland Academy Alumni Weekend – April 4, 5. Calhoun, GA.

South Georgia Camp Meeting – April 4-6. Savannah, GA.

Leadership Training – Health and Personal Ministries – April 5. Crossville, TN.

Spring Tea – April 6. 2-6 p.m. Marietta, GA.

Power PAC Youth Rally – April 11, 12. Peachtree City Church, Sharpsburg, GA.

Personal Ministries Rally – April 12. Newton County Church, Social Circle, GA.

Leadership Training – Health and Personal Ministries – April 13. Crandall, GA.

Pastors/Elders’ Retreat – April 14. Willow Springs, GA.

Southern Adventist University

Archaeology Lecture Series – March 11. Jodi Magness, Ph.D., presents “Ossuaries and the Burials of Jesus and James” at 7 p.m. in Lynn Wood Auditorium. Details: Call 423-236-2030.

Graduate School Open House – March 20. Get face time with faculty and administrators running Southern’s graduate school programs during a 6:30 p.m. open house in the Hulsey Wellness Center. Details: Call 423-236-2585.

PreviewSouthern – March 20, 21. Students are invited to take a campus tour, discuss majors with professors, sit in on financial aid workshops, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. Details: Call 1-800-SOUTHERN.
Southern Adventist University now offers a Christ-centered master’s degree that may be a perfect fit for you if:

- You have a heart for global service and building thriving communities through servant leadership.
- You feel called to work with populations in need.

Complete this hybrid program from anywhere in the world through a combination of online classes and one semester at a field site. You can begin during any semester, and full- and part-time options are available.

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