Pathfinders Experience God at International Camporee
Seeking Help for the Family

Although many books, websites, and DVD products have been written, recorded, and produced on the subject of building strong families, there is still much misunderstanding and uncertainty about the value of family therapy and family enrichment in the Christian church. Many church people are hesitant in pursuing professional marital and family intervention opportunities because of misconceptions about the process of clinical therapy in general. This often includes a fear of what it is and how to benefit from it constructively. Many families and marital couples continue to fail because of ineffective communication and unfulfilled expectations. Many spouses and children go stumbling into isolation and confusion. They often doubt their own worth. Caught between the need to talk and not knowing to whom to talk, they begin to drown in helpless and hopeless despair.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a marital and family support system in the daily lives of many people. It also is important to note that this resource for the development of family wellness often goes unrecognized. I need to acknowledge, however, that more attention can be paid to having a functional family ministry department that a church may use to provide psycho-educational support to families. Among possible services are marriage enrichment programs, parenting classes, seminars that address preparation for womanhood, and helps for the transition of boys to manhood.

It is my intention to challenge our readership to seek help from the One who has been called “Wonderful,” “Counselor,” “Mighty God,” and “Prince of Peace.” Second, we encourage all to seek the utilization of church family-building resources. Finally, please understand that all marital couples and/or families need, from time to time, effective professional mental health intervention to navigate the challenging seas of life’s changing vicissitudes. We at the Southern Union Conference urge you to seek help for your family through the resources that God provides.
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Cover Photo: Southern Union Pathfinders Katelyn Lindsey (standing, back row left), Carolina; Allen Rogers, Florida; Wendy Hernandez, Georgia-Cumberland; Thurben James, Southeastern; LaShawn Finley (sitting, front row left), South Central; Billy Anderson, Kentucky-Tennessee; and Rashad Francis, South Atlantic, enjoy their experience with God at the 2014 Forever Faithful International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Cover Caption: Southern Union Pathfinders Katelyn Lindsey (standing, back row left), Carolina; Allen Rogers, Florida; Wendy Hernandez, Georgia-Cumberland; Thurben James, Southeastern; LaShawn Finley (sitting, front row left), South Central; Billy Anderson, Kentucky-Tennessee; and Rashad Francis, South Atlantic, enjoy their experience with God at the 2014 Forever Faithful International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.
Attending the “Forever Faithful” International Pathfinder Camporee is the experience of a lifetime. Every five years Pathfinders from across the globe travel to the town of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and just about double the town’s size. This year, August 11-16, 2014, they brought around 47,000 to the airfield, adding to the more than 66,000 residing in Oshkosh. More than 50 countries were represented, with more than 2,000 international Pathfinders making the journey and sharing camping space with gracious American hosts.

Pathfinders shared a variety of reasons for attending Camporee. The word that kept being repeated was “experience.” Pathfinders came to Camporee to experience a plethora of activities, but God was at the top of their agenda.

Jalen Lawrence, with the Lithonia Saints Pathfinder Club in Georgia, said he had heard that Camporee was “very spiritual, it enhances the mind. I wanted to experience it myself, more fun in daytime, more serious and spiritual at nighttime.”

The Lightbearers Club in Gaines-
ville, Georgia, started a club this year and brought their Pathfinders. because “I knew this was something amazing, and I wanted our children to see what the International Camporee had to offer. This is a once in a lifetime thing,” said Zabrina Dorset, Pathfinder leader.

For Sidra Arnold, with the Mount Calvary Rockets Pathfinder Club, in Huntsville, Alabama, “I wanted to come to Camporee and had never been before,” she said. “I wanted to see what it was like and experience new things. It is amazing trying to trade new pins and meet new people.” Arnold thinks she met 100 people, and she loved pin trading.

For those not attending Camporee, it is difficult to understand the obsession of pin trading unique to this event. When you are in a new location tent camping with 47,000 Pathfinder friends, ages 10-15, who you do not know and who reside around the world, pin trading opens doors. The Pathfinders easily approach one another with pins in hand and strike up a conversation.

Traveling along the streets at Camporee, Pathfinders could be found huddled together trading pins. This was everywhere. There was even a
pin trading honor offered through Georgia-Cumberland Conference that was very popular.

Daniel Kuhlman, with the Chattanooga Eagles Pathfinder Club in Tennessee, summed up pin trading. “You can commune and meet people you have never meet. You trade little tiny pins people made unique with their own style, unique to them, or where they come from.” Kuhlman traded pins with people from Great Britain, Brazil, Germany, and Michigan, and saw others from South Africa and South America. He was very excited to trade for a set of pins from Great Britain that had six pins, three different colors and three different designs. “It was a great experience and I hope to come to the next Camporee.”

For many the path leading to Camporee was filled with hard work. Abner Perez, who was born in Cuba and now lives in Miami, Florida, attended with his club, the Pilgrims, and received financial help from family. Every Sabbath his family would give him $20, sometimes friends would also give him $20, and it took

Southern Union triplets Jared (left), Faith, and Gabriel Maksound from Greeneville, Tennessee, were baptized at the Forever Faithful International Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. They planned to be baptized at the Camporee because they wanted to show everyone that they love Jesus. They are the first in their family to be baptized in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Gene Hope worked as a volunteer at the Camporee. He has autoimmune disease and kidney failure, but came to help anyway. He is with the McDonald Road Pathfinder Club in McDonald, Tennessee.

These four men portraying Daniel and his friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, sing songs of hope and of God’s love during a live play at the Camporee.
a year of fundraising to gather all the funds needed to attend. He said, “Being out here in the camp and nature you feel the Creation of God — everything He has done for you, given to you, to enjoy some people. You don’t [often] get that chance, but we are doing it.”

For Ruth Bellevue, with the Immokalee Spanish Club in Immokalee, Florida, it was about God. “I come to Camporee to meet new people and to get more honors and explore,” she said, “and gain a better connection with God.”

The same is also true for Zienia Cole, with the Lithonia Saints from Georgia. “I wanted to come to Camporee to get a closer relationship with God, to earn honors, and just have fun and enjoy myself. One way that I experienced God was when I took the Ellen White class honor. I learned who she was and what she did for the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

Zuleyna Ortiz, with the Soldiers of the King Pathfinder Club in the First Hispanic Church, from Nashville, Tennessee, said, “Going to school it is really hard to find Seventh-day Adventists. Here there are so many Adventists that it is just like a piece of Heaven. We can come together as one and just worship the Lord. That is the greatest gift I could have. I love coming here every five years.”

Each evening the 47,000 Pathfinders would gather near the stage to sing praise songs, pray in a variety of languages, watch videos from events throughout the day, hear a short sermon from speaker Sam Leonor, campus pastor at La Sierra University in Riverside, California, enjoy the antics of Ryan and Chico the Lion (ventriloquist), and watch the live play on the

Steven Agyemang, Pathfinder from the Atlanta, Georgia, Ghanaian Church, helps to erect a tent for his club.
Ken Rogers (standing, far right), Southern Union youth ministries director, with the eight conference youth directors: Vandeon Griffin (standing, left), South Central director; Wayne Hewlett (sitting), South Central associate director; the late Caesar Robinson, Southeastern director; Stanley Knight, Carolina director; Patrick Carter (sitting), South Atlantic director; Ken Welmore, Kentucky-Tennessee director; Fernando Verduzco, Georgia-Cumberland director; and Pedro Perez, Florida director. James Mangum, Gulf States director, is not pictured.

a live show like that. It was long, but it made me laugh and reflect on things I do every day and how to do them. It made me think about second choices, and how to be faithful to God in everything you do, to not be afraid to tell people about God, no matter what they say about you.”

For many being baptized at the Camporee was something planned for and special. About 600 made the decision to accept Jesus and join the Adventist Church. One unusual set of triplets from Greeneville, Tennessee, chose Jesus and were baptized Thursday night along with the other Southern Union Pathfinders. Not from an Adventist home, the three attend Greeneville Adventist Academy while their mother, a physician, works at Takoma Adventist Hospital. She wanted a good school for her children and looked into the Seventh-day Adventist School close to work, and the triplets love it. They joined Pathfinders and now are officially baptized Church members. From a large family, they are the first in their family to join the Church.

Pathfinders is truly a family event. One family from Spencer, Tennessee, brought four generations to the camporee: great-grandma Lenora Clark; Lenora’s son, Bobby Clark; Bobby’s son, Sean Clark; and Sean’s baby, Benjamin Clark.

“After a while Pathfinders is not what you do, it is who are you,” said Lenora, who went to Tennessee to drive to Camporee with her family and their club, the Spartans. She credits Pathfinders with keeping her involved in her local church. “I have had the chance to do so many things I never would have otherwise, like caving, canoeing, and camporees, starting with ‘Dare to Care’ in Colorado.”

Being around Pathfinders, both Bobby and his son, Sean, could not wait to join at age 10. Sean brought his son, Benjamin, who is attending his second Pathfinder campout experience, well before the age of one. “It is a wonderful experience. You learn a lot, meet a lot of new people, and it is just wonderful all the way around,” said Sean.

Pathfinders and volunteers, mark your calendars for 2019.
The theme is “Chosen” and it will feature the story of the biblical David. Check out the details on the website: http://www.camporee.org/.

Appreciation goes to the team at CYE (Center for Youth Evangelism) who organize the International Camporees. They continue to provide fantastic Camporees filled with activities, honors, opportunities for service, live plays sharing biblical stories, and most important, the opportunity to worship God with Pathfinders from around the globe.

Interesting notes include the following: the TLTs volunteered 5,960 hours of service during the Camporee, the medical team volunteered 130 hours, $40,000 was donated for medical supplies, 130 Pathfinder honors were offered, 5,500 Southern Union Pathfinders marched in the parade, the Nebuchadnezzar statue was built in height of 45 feet, $40,000 was collected for the Sabbath morning offering, and there were 75,000 Hope Channel viewers of the evening program.

The reflection on Kyla Casmer’s helmet reveals the Madison Mission Pathfinders from Huntsville, Alabama, waiting for the parade.

The Westchester Drill Team celebrates their first place award: Emily Gancedo (left), Raquel Amich (drill commander), Eddy Chamizo, Aracely Blanco, Dennyse Alvarez, and Ashley Romero. They are members of the Westchester Spanish Church in the Florida Conference.

Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the Southern Union Conference, and his wife, Yolanda, greet the spectators watching the Southern Union parade.

Tamara Wolcott Fisher is the communication director at the Georgia-Cumberland Conference in Calhoun, Georgia.

Bike for Life video: www.southernunion.com/BikeForLife

Camporee Video: www.southernunion.com/2014Camporee

Pathfinder Club photographers’ photos are included on the sites.
Beyond Tomorrow

BY RAINEY TURLINGTON

Mildred had one request before being transferred to hospice. She wanted to be baptized.

For a moment the thought stopped Amy Jordan, chief nursing officer for Gordon Hospital, Calhoun, Georgia, in her tracks.

“I’m thinking, ‘Okay, well there is probably a lot of liability in this. Is this safe for this patient? What are her diagnoses? What’s going on with her?’” Jordan said. “And then it was … ‘who are we to let those things get in the way of this patient’s request? This was her literal last request.’

From then on, the care team determined that no obstacle would stop them from helping Mildred fulfill her wish, including the various tubes and dressings she had that could not get wet.

“We were able to come up with a simple solution for that, which was Saran Wrap,” said Courtney Taylor, EMS director at the Calhoun, Georgia, hospital.

When the day came, the team carefully dressed Mildred in new bandages and wrapped her in several layers of Saran Wrap. They then took her via ambulance to a nearby church where they had arranged a special ceremony.

“We had a little service at the church where the pastor came down and held her hand and talked with her. Her grandchildren were there and some of her other family members were there, which was so sweet,” said Retha Mcray, R.N.

Before proceeding with the baptism, Taylor and his partner assessed the area and determined that the safest way to lower Mildred into the waters was using a medical chair on wheels.

“Being a part of that baptismal was probably — in my 15 years of public safety — the most unique and inspiring thing that I’ve ever done. It was amazing to be a part of that,” Taylor said. “I just remember going to her and grabbing her hand and talking to her and asking her, was she okay, and she just responded with, ‘I just wish I had done this 83 years ago.’”

Ten days later Mildred passed to her rest, but with the hope and assurance that she would one day awaken to her Savior’s face.

“I want to thank God for all the people that He put in place to make it possible for my Aunt Mildred to be able to choose life in order that she might be able to live with Him one day and be in heaven,” said Margaret Barnett, Mildred’s niece. “In this case, the Gospel was taught, it was obeyed, and she was baptized, and I think one day we’ll get to see her in Heaven.”
Eleven area churches representing both the Georgia-Cumberland Conference and the South Central Conference gathered at the World’s Fair Park Amphitheater in Knoxville, Tennessee, on Sabbath, August 2, 2014, to celebrate a 40-day “Season of Service.”

The 40-day period began on June 21, with a challenge to churches in Knox, Loudon, Sevier, Blount, Anderson, and Cocke counties to seek ways of serving the needs of their respective communities in whatever capacity they could.

In addition to local corporate and personal projects, the churches of the area came together for a Season of Service weekend, July 19-21. During this weekend, members of the various churches combined their efforts to work with HOPE Central (a neighborhood ministry house), Water Angels (a church for the homeless), Operation Backyard (landscaping for shut-ins), Clean Up America (trash pick-up), and the Medic Blood Mobile. Several teams spread notes of thankfulness to police and fire stations, as well as to local hospitals.

At the Celebration of Service, representatives from a variety of service organizations in the Knoxville area shared about their ministry and how volunteers can be involved. Representatives from the Knox County Sheriff’s office and the University of Tennessee police were recognized for their efforts to provide a safe community. Local musical groups and choirs from area churches filled the amphitheater with sounds of praise. A special music duo, Rick Metcalf and Ashley Krohn from Crossville, Tennessee, shared songs from their new album, “What About Jesus?”

Celebration of Service in Knoxville
BY RICK GREVE

The goal of the event was to provide information and inspiration for the churches to engage with local community service organizations. By coming alongside those who are already doing the ministry of compassion and care, the church members can build networks of mutual sharing and develop relationships of trust and understanding.

This Celebration of Service provided an ideal prelude to an evangelistic series which will be held at the Knoxville Convention Center, September 20-27, featuring guest speaker Roger Hernandez, Southern Union director of ministerial and evangelism.

The series will be the culmination of a year of planning and preparation by the churches of the greater Knoxville area. ☪
Southern Union Ministerial Spouses
Minister in Guam

This past July, the Southern Union Conference ministerial spouses traveled to Guam-Micronesia Mission (GMM) for a week of sharing, ideas, service, and ministry. The advisory council include Yolanda Smith and the ministerial spouses. Nine spouses were able to take part in the trip to Guam. GMM recently became part of the North American Division, so the purpose of the trip was to welcome and encourage the newest mission members, according to Yolanda Smith, advisory coordinator.

Most of the islanders are native Chamorro, along with a large military presence. About 90 percent of the population is Roman Catholic, and of the remainder, about two percent are Seventh-day Adventists. Work in Guam was begun in 1944 by an Adventist sailor, and resulted in nine baptisms.

After arriving at 2 a.m., local time, they were up early for a delicious breakfast at Heavenly Veggies, a restaurant run by an Adventist physician. He innovatively uses this restaurant as a center for health education. The majority of island residents on Guam and the Marshall Islands are diabetic. This creates a tremendous opportunity for reaching the public with education.

Opened in 1956, the Guam Seventh-day Adventist Clinic has a tremendous influence on the island, and many individuals identify themselves as “SDA” because of the quality care received there. Their facilities are far too small, and they are hoping, in the near future, to construct a church with community education facilities, and then a new building for an increased number of physician offices. There is a severe shortage of physicians on the island. The clinic is heavily involved in outreach to the many islands of the GMM.

At the GMM office, a
check was presented from the Southern Union to Louis Torres, mission president, for a mission boat to go between small islands that make up the territory. In addition, a large supply of toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss was delivered for use in dental clinics on the islands. Next to the GMM office, JOY-FM radio station, with an emphasis on building healthy family units, covers both Guam and Saipan. The manager is Matt Dodd of Madison, Tenn., a Southern Union native. The local Adventist Book Center runs a vegan restaurant that’s heavily patronized, and brings people in contact with Adventist literature.

On that first day, visits were included to churches built by the members’ own hands as funds were available. With membership made up primarily of Chamorro, the Happy Family Church meets under tents, with no running water or electricity available except for a generator. They raise crops of tapioca, bananas, and coconuts, using the proceeds to “pay as you go” in building their churches.

Two days were spent giving an elementary classroom at Guam Adventist Academy a much-needed coat of paint from the ceiling to the floor, scrubbing desks and chairs, and cleaning windows and the classroom bathroom. In the hot, tropical climate, mildew and dirt abound, along with ants and lizards, which seem to get through any size crack.

Meetings were held in the evenings with pastors’ wives and women’s ministry directors from each local church.

On Sabbath, the group split between two churches, providing a speaker for each service. Following a bountiful potluck lunch and fellowship with members, they visited the Adventist World Radio (AWR) station to see the updated facilities, and to hear stories of how AWR is impacting millions of lives in areas where missionary workers cannot go.

There is a close working relationship and support between each Adventist entity — the Mission, JOY-FM, Adventist Clinic, AWR, restaurants — as they work together in unity to share the Good News of Christ.

On the return trip home, a day of adventure was spent in Tokyo to see the vastness of the city and pass out hundreds of GLOW tracts in Japanese. It was inspiring to see how many innovative ways tracts could be left for others to find, or how they could be shared directly with individuals on the streets who could not speak English but could read the tract written in Japanese.

The group felt they accomplished their goal of leaving a warm feeling with the members of the island of Guam, the North American Division’s newest mission. They pray that these seeds planted for eternity will reap a great harvest in God’s time.

—BY BOBBIE MILLBURN

Ministerial spouses in kimonos before leaving Japan.
Adventist Health System

Hayt Named Vice President of Corporate Responsibility

Adventist Health System has named Nancy Hayt vice president of corporate responsibility — a newly created role — effective September 8, 2014. In this position, she will lead the Corporate Responsibility Department and 16 regional corporate responsibility officers located at the Adventist Health System facilities. This team provides training, resources, and guidance on regulatory matters, compliance, and ethics.

“Nancy is an invaluable resource for our organization,” said Sandra Johnson, chief strategy and corporate responsibility executive, to whom Hayt will report. “She is an excellent advisor to our hospitals and other affiliated health care providers on matters affected by the health care regulatory environment. I am confident that the insight and expertise that she brings to her new role will enhance Adventist Health System’s culture of transparency, and further benefit the communities we serve.”

Hayt has an extensive background in health care law that includes experience with Stark and anti-kickback issues, as well as a variety of health care transactions. Prior to joining Adventist Health System in 2009, she worked in the corporate and health care departments of the law firms Fried Frank Harris Shrive & Jacobson in New York; Wiggin & Dana in New Haven, Conn.; and Shuffield Lowman in Orlando, Fla.

Hayt holds a bachelor of science in management from Tulane University, and a juris doctor from Boston University School of Law.

“I am thrilled to be joining the corporate responsibility team,” Hayt said. “I have really enjoyed working with the Adventist Health System Legal Department and serving Florida Hospital during the past five years, and I am looking forward to transitioning to this new and exciting role.”

—BY RAINEY TURLINGTON

Park Ridge Health Recognized for Community Impact

Park Ridge Health, Hendersonville, N.C., has been recognized as a top-ranked Community Value Provider by Cleverley + Associates, a leading health care financial consulting firm that specializes in operational benchmarking and performance enhancement strategies. Park Ridge Health received scores in the top 20 of its bracket, earning a Community Value Five-Star designation. This designation means Park Ridge Health is one of the top-performing hospitals in the nation in terms of value provided to the community through financial strength, reinvestment back into the organization, cost structure, charge structure, and quality patient care.

“At a time when health care providers are increasingly under scrutiny for financial responsibility and community impact, Park Ridge Health is pleased to be recognized for its value to our local community,” said Jimm Bunch, president and CEO of Park Ridge Health. “I believe that if we continue to put safety first, financial viability will follow. As the second largest employer in Henderson County, Park Ridge Health is just as committed to providing a stable future for our community as we are to providing the best possible care for our patients.”

Cleverley + Associates’ annual State of the Hospital Industry uses the Community Value Index® (CVI) to measure the value a hospital provides to its community. The CVI was the first study of its kind, and remains the most comprehensive index dedicated to hospital value assessment.

—BY KIRSTEN CUTLER
Employees Give Back to Local Community

When employees of Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) in Orlando, Fla., came to work on August 27, 2014, they knew it wouldn’t be an ordinary day in the office. All 260 employees, including faculty and staff, met at a local church parking lot and loaded into campus shuttles and charter buses. They were dedicating their day to volunteer at a local food pantry, and were ready to do whatever it took to lend a helping hand.

The Community Food and Outreach Center (CFOC) provides food and hope to those in need in the central Florida area. They not only offer a food subsidy program for low-income families, but also provide a crisis center, job assistance program, and education program for those in need. They believe in giving a “hand up” instead of a “hand out.”

The Center decided to close their doors for the day so that the ADU volunteers could get as much done as possible. Mark Perez is the volunteer coordinator at the Center and couldn’t wait for the volunteers to arrive. “Watching nearly 300 faculty and staff pour out of those buses was an exciting sight! They came prepared to work, and boy did they work hard!” All the volunteers started out by emptying the grocery section that is part of the Cost Share Grocery Program. This meant putting all the goods into boxes and knocking down the shelves. From there, volunteers spent the day doing a variety of tasks. They scrubbed concrete floors, planted a new garden, pressure washed/painted shelves, organized merchandise, painted the walls, and even worked on the roof. Another company in the central Florida area, Tru-Mark Inc., came out at the request of ADU and donated their time to paint new lines in the parking lot. Yvette Saliba, director for the Center of Academic Achievement at the University, worked hard to paint and pressure wash the shelves for the grocery program. “I have never seen so many shelves in one place, but it is amazing to see what can be accomplished with teamwork,” she said. “I love this part of our week, when we get to give back to the community, and work together as one body of Christ.”

By the end of the day, approximately 1,560 man-hours had been completed. Perez was overjoyed by the day’s outcome. “Now our clients have a much brighter campus to visit and get the dignity they so deserve.” However, ADU volunteer hours at the Center won’t end here. ADU’s occupational therapy and nursing programs have partnered up with the Center to have students come assist with multiple tasks during the semesters.

Perez expressed his gratitude for the time and resources that ADU donated to the Center. “Our community is incredibly lucky to have Adventist University. The day all of those helping hands were at our facility was one of the greatest in CFOC’s history!”

—BY DALLAS SACHSE
Carolina News

Boone Church Celebrates Becoming Debt Free

Eighteen years ago the Boone New Life Fellowship was a fledgling group of people committed to the truth. Brought together by a series of evangelistic meetings hosted by Mark Finley in the fall of 1996, the fellowship soon organized into a company, and began meeting in the local Lutheran church.

Robert Collins, elder, recalled how he received a brochure for the evangelistic series and, intrigued by prophecy and questions no one else seemed able to answer, began to attend. “I carried my Bible and I kept up with [Finley] because I was skeptical, and he was following right with the Scripture!” Collins said.

Collins and his wife, along with a few other families, were the backbone of the fellowship when it was first formed. The Lutheran church charged them a dollar a day per person, and allowed them free access to the kitchen as well as the sanctuary — not a bad deal with 25 people attending each Sabbath. As they continued to grow, however, the group began searching for a building to call their own.

Everything seemed too costly for the small congregation, but their prayers were answered when Phil Templeton, a wealthy developer in the area, got word to them that he had a restaurant he wanted to close down. He asked the group to dismantle it for him, and in return they could sell parts and keep the money.

“That work really brought the church people together,” Collins said. “We worked hard. We’d go in on this piece of land, we had men who knew they could refurbish the building,” said Dean Shields, head deacon for the fellowship.

“But our debate was, is there any room to grow? Where will the children play?” Shields proposed that they make their first priority to fence in the property, landscape, and make a playground, so they did. “The building was falling apart, but we had a playground,” Shields laughed.

After buying the building in the fall of 1998, the Boone New Life Fellowship performed gradual renovations. Now under the leadership of the head elder, Michael Stevens, they have a beautiful building and are debt free. A special mortgage-burning service was held Sabbath, August 2, 2014. Gary Moyer, Carolina Conference vice president for administration, was the featured speaker.

“One of the greatest things in the growth of this church has been the love of people one for another,” said Collins. That love is still very much alive, and looks as though it will impact the Boone community for years to come.

—BY AIMEE GARVER
Tri-City Christian Academy (TCA), an Adventist school that serves pre-K through 12th-grade students from across the North Carolina triad, held a groundbreaking ceremony on Sunday, August 24, 2014, for its new campus.

The school, located on Clinard Farms Road just outside High Point, has begun construction on a $6 million, 32,205-square-foot facility on 14 acres next to its present location.

The school is operated by the Seventh-day Adventist churches in High Point, Greensboro, Kernersville, and Winston-Salem. "This project is being coordinated and financed and built by the four local congregations of the Seventh-day Adventist Church," said Bryan Hall, TCA building committee chairman for the project. "We’re doing this in conjunction with the Carolina Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. It’s quite an investment and quite a stance that we’re taking on Christian education. This is a facility that will serve kids for generations to come."

The history of the school dates to the early 1880s. It has been at its present site since 1957, with the last addition completed in 1970. The new facility will include more than 10 classrooms; a gymnasium, auditorium, and media center; and art, music, and science labs. The campus will include athletic fields and a new playground. The project is expected to be finished by August 2015.

The contractor is Samet Corp. of Greensboro, and the architect is Peter-son/Gordon Architects of Winston-Salem.

The existing facility will be demolished after the new campus is complete.

—BY PAT KIMBROUGH, ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER, ADAPTED WITH PERMISSION

Corrections on the Radio Station article by Anna Bartlett in the August 2014 SOUTHERN TIDINGS
1. John Earnhardt was captioned as the pastor of the Arden Church, but is instead pastor of the Upward and Fairview churches.
2. Charles Ferguson participates in WFHC broadcasting regularly, and John Earnhardt on rare occasions.
3. WFHC is a ministry of Fletcher, Upward, High Point, Kernersville, Arden, and Mills River/Brevard churches.
Lehigh Acres Church Connects With Community

Purposeful In-Reach, Urgent Out-Reach is Lehigh Acres Church’s focus for 2014. With more than 400 members, the congregation has embraced the task of connecting with their community in practical ways that meet the needs of individuals and families. They use outreach ministries such as Vacation Bible School (VBS) and the Back to School Program.

Vacation Bible School 2014

Traditionally, July is the month families plan vacations, but for many in the community, such plans are not financially feasible. With this in mind, the children’s ministries department, led by Sheila Williams, conducted a five-night VBS in July supported by 50 volunteers.

Here, 115 pre-kindergarten to high school students participated in an incredible adventure of the Wilderness Escape, depicting the children of Israel crossing the Red Sea. This theme directed them to see God’s love through various activities, including one held in a tent where they studied the Ten Commandments.

Families and church members attended closing ceremonies on Sabbath afternoon, July 19, where they listened to the VBS choir and watched drama presentations depicting their VBS lessons. “Vacation Bible School teaches children to love God,” says Williams.

Back to School Supplies

Since 2009, the church education department, previously directed by Georgette Hinds with assistance from Nadine Gordon, purchased and distributed school supplies to community families and church members in need. Members and friends of the church provide financial contributions for this project.

“This summer, 239 individuals ranging from pre-kindergarten through college were provided with school supplies,” said Hinds. “This is a 30 percent increase from the previous year.”

A Word from the Pastor

Pastor Newton Hoilette describes Lehigh Acres Church as a “vibrant, diverse community of faith known for warmth and welcome. We are blessed with a strong, faithful group of church members and a young, energetic body of children, youth, and young adults who embrace each other and their community.”

—BY KARLEEN EDWARDS

Runners Celebrate Freedom

“Seventh-day Adventists Celebrate Freedom” was the message worn on the T-shirts of 12 Ocala Church members who participated in the July 4, 2014, city-sponsored, four-mile Freedom Run. Out of 292 event runners, these four Ocala members were awarded medals in their respective age groups. Pictured from left: Lucille Ellis, third place; Yvonne Hall, second place; Dave Swinyar, third place; and Louise Ostgard, first place. “Keep On Keeping On for Improved Health!” is the motto which drives Ocala Church members in their quest for better health.
Ocala Church Evaluates Music Philosophy

The Apostle Paul encourages us to “… be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;” Ephesians 5:18, 19

Ocala, Fla., Church’s newly elected nine-member music committee takes this biblical challenge seriously. Chaired by Keith Rilea, church elder, their philosophy includes providing music with the purpose of drawing attention to God and not to the performers.

Rilea states, “As music is an expression of worship, it is important that the musical styles presented do not copy the behavior and customs of this world. Rather, they should reflect the transformation we experience as we behold the glory of the Lord.”

An example was witnessed on a recent Sabbath morning when Martin Butler, Florida Conference communication director, integrated music into his sermon. The church orchestra also played. As one young musician stated, “Playing in the orchestra is an opportunity to work together as a team and to worship and praise God.”

—BY CHERYL RILEA AND HERB PRITCHARD

Peter Orta, one of the many talented young musicians at Ocala, Fla., Church, conducted the orchestra for a special Sabbath program.

Alger and Josephine Oster Celebrate 65 Years of Marriage

Alger and Josephine Oster, warmly known as Al and Jo, celebrated their 65th anniversary with a Caribbean cruise. Both were born in Colorado and attended Campion Academy, where they met. One year after graduating, they were married in Sterling, Colo., on June 12, 1949.

After working on a farm for two years, Al became assistant manager of the Broom Factory at Campion Academy, and Jo was secretary for two principals and a registrar. In 1956, they moved to Newbury Park Academy in California for Al to manage the Broom Factory. Jo became the academy nurse with mentoring from a local Adventist doctor, and also served as secretary for the Broom Factory.

In 1963, Al received a call to manage the Broom Factory at Atlantic Union College in Massachusetts. A few months later, the factory burned to the ground. He found a way to keep production up while designing and building a new factory that also housed a bindery. Sales grew, and for several years they ran three shifts, which gave ample opportunity for students to work and pay their school fees.

Jo worked for Atlantic Union Conference as an executive secretary for the education department and for three presidents. In 1972, she teamed with Al to manage the factory office when they took ownership of the Broom Factory for the next 22 years. After serving faithfully at the Broom Factory from 1963 to 1994, the Osters retired to The Villages between Leesburg and Ocala in Florida.

They have three children, Kae, Larry, and Terry; 12 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

—BY KAE BORRERO
One Plants, Another Waters, God Gives the Increase

Tom Pennington was baptized in the beautiful waters of Watauga Lake on Sabbath afternoon, June 21, 2014, with about 40 friends from the Johnson City Church and the Banner Elk Church. His journey from a non-believer to a converted Christian shows the way God often works by using a variety of people.

About two years ago Charles Hindman (now deceased), pastor of the Banner Elk and Boone, N.C., churches, and his wife, Wanda, personally sent out hundreds of copies of the book The Great Controversy to those who requested them in response to a newspaper ad.

Debbie, Tom’s wife, recognized it from her Seventh-day Adventist upbringing, sent for the book, and then visited Banner Elk Church.

Hindman and his wife visited the Penningtons in their home, and started Debbie in Bible studies. Desiring to work with the CHIP health program (now named Complete Health Improvement Program), Hindman referred Debbie to Johnson City Church in Tenn. She found a warm welcome and a place to serve.

Gary Zintak, church elder and a Sabbath School teacher at Johnson City Church, studied with the Penningtons. Debbie made her decision and was baptized last year.

From time to time, Tom came to church, but frequently had to work on Sabbaths. After finishing the lessons, Tom said, “I’m just not ready to get baptized yet.” He started attending Zintak’s Sabbath School class when he could, and also came to some of the Tracing the Footsteps of Jesus seminar.

After Tom had been attending church off and on for about a year, Paull Dixon, pastor of Johnson City Church, felt strongly impressed after a worship service to stop by the pew where Tom was sitting and asked in a whisper, “Tom, have you been thinking about baptism?”

His reply was spontaneous, “Yes, I’ve made my decision, but I don’t want Debbie to know it yet.”

Tom and Dixon ate lunch together and then spent a couple hours reviewing and clarifying the key doctrinal teachings of the Bible, and discussed the dynamics of conversion and a walk with Jesus.

Several weeks later, Tom stood up in front of the church, and gave his personal testimony for Christ and his decision for baptism.

Debbie was shocked and in tears. This couple now shares the joy of being united in Christ and in the Church. God used so many of His people to plant the seeds of truth, and these church families praise Him for the opportunity to witness the reaping.

—BY PAULL DIXON

Conference Hosts Basketball, Soccer Camps this Summer

Children from age 9 to 13 enjoyed free basketball, soccer, and in one town volleyball camps this summer in nine different locations, compliments of 3 Point Play Ministries, the outreach of E.W. Dempsey, Conference health and outreach ministries director.

Dempsey started 3 Point Play ten years ago with the philosophy that they would go into areas where there were no Seventh-day Adventist church-
The first 3 Point Play Ministry volleyball camp took place this summer in Hixson, Tenn. This church remade their Vacation Bible School as a sports camp, and poured love and attention into the program, reaping results.

Sylvia Knoch, a member of the Hixson, Tenn., Church, said of their recent 3 Point Play volleyball camp this summer, “After the camp, we hosted our banquet for all of those who participated and their families. We had more than 50 who attended.”

“This program is one which all churches in the NAD should host!” said Knoch. “Especially as youth presence has dropped in churches, this is a way to revitalize your church.

Mark Piotrowski, pastor of Savannah, Ga., Church, said, “This event is one of many that we plan to hold in the long process of planting a church in this mission community. We had 17 kids come. I had the privilege to mingle and play with them together with E.W. Dempsey and the students from GCA.”

Between two and seven people in the area of Sparta, Tenn., are currently attending evangelism meetings, and plan to be baptized. 3 Point Play is a part of the outreach that makes a difference.

—BY TAMARA WOLCOTT FISHER

Five attendees were baptized: Christine Blankenship (left) from South Bend, Ind.; Wanda Stephens from Dalton, Ga.; Lisa and Tom Black from Powder Springs, Ga.; and Bonnie Fry from Long Lane, Mo. Jeffrey Jordan, deaf pastor, stands in the back.

The ninth annual Southern Deaf Camp Meeting took place at Cohutta Springs Convention Center in Georgia, August 6-10, 2014. The theme was “God With Us,” with Alan Meis from Holly, Mich., as the main speaker.

More than 150 people — another new record — came from various places (15 from Barbados) to hear Meis and Neil Davidson, from Chula Vista, Calif., preach. Live streaming was provided for those who couldn’t come to Camp Meeting.

The Deaf Young Adults for Christ (DYAC) joined this year. They had workshops with Chuck McGehee from Vancouver, Wash., as their speaker. Adventist interpreters also had their own workshops with Darrell and Lorna Strait from Loma Linda, Calif., and Nohe Jarnes from Sumner, Wash. Twenty deaf young adults and 12 interpreters attended.

The group celebrated inspirational testimonies on Friday, and enjoyed a spirit-filled Sabbath School, worship service, and communion service on Sabbath. After lunch, they gathered at the front of the lake and witnessed five individuals as they were baptized.

—BY JEFFREY JORDAN
Teachers’ Convention Kicks Off New School Year

Educators from the Gulf States Conference participated in the annual teachers’ convention at Bass Memorial Academy in Lumberton, Miss., on August 4, 2014.

Nate Elias, youth pastor and former chaplain, delivered the keynote address on Monday evening, and led the worship services on Tuesday and Wednesday morning. Elias reminded the teachers and administrators of the vital role that they play in introducing young people to Jesus Christ, and in nurturing students in their relationship with Him.

Tuesday’s sessions focused on technology. Phil Wilhelm, principal of Bass Memorial Academy, presented strategies for using iPads in the classroom. Stephen Bralley, principal/teacher at Shoal Creek Adventist School, Sharpsburg, Ga., demonstrated the many ways that educators can use technology for professional development and collaboration with other educators. Mark Seguin, CEO of TGB Solutions, ended the day with a presentation about how to safely use social media, and he included information about identity theft as it relates to teachers and schools.

Wednesday’s session ended at noon. Stan Hobbs, Gulf States superintendent of schools, discussed several current issues that are impacting the national and local conference school systems.

Eldon Roberts, grades 7-8 teacher in Pensacola, Fla., shared what he learned at the EXSeeds Conference he attended at Loma Linda University this summer. Finally, Luberta Biggs, Southern Union registrar, presented the latest information regarding teacher certification.

The Office of Education exists to support the educational ministry of Gulf States. Its mission is to deliver great education, so that Gulf States Conference schools are places where academic excellence, the message of Jesus Christ, and the acceptance of God meet!

Thanks to all who helped make this year’s convention a success, including Kelsey Abbott, administrative assistant for the Office of Education, and Lena Nappi, food services director at Bass Memorial Academy.

Please remember the students and teachers in your prayers this school year. Your support has a positive impact on the spiritual, mental, and physical development of the young people who enroll in Gulf States schools.

—BY STAN HOBBS

Andalusia Members Celebrate Couple’s Baptism

God is at work at Andalusia, Ala., Church. Out of the blue, Pattie and Mike Henry, a sweet couple, started to come to church. They came every Sabbath even though they live in McKenzie, Ala. Mike even brought his parents with them. Mike’s father is a Baptist preacher. The Henrys studied their Bible, and discovered that the true Sabbath is on Saturday, the seventh day.

That’s what brought them to Andalusia Church, and they expressed a desire to unite with the congregation. They gave their lives to God through baptism on May 24, 2014. The members were happy to see them get baptized and join the church family, and Shawn Dutcher, pastor, was so happy to baptize them. God is blessing Andalusia Church.

—BY CAROLYN MCCOLLOUGH
New Albany Hispanic District Has New Pastoral Family

Gerson Sanchez, pastor, was born in Managua, Nicaragua, on April 19, 1978. He is the sixth of seven children. He met Christ in 1987, and was baptized on February 26, 1987, at the age of eight.

After serving as youth leader, small group leader, and church elder, he felt the call to ministry, and studied at the Adventist University of Central America “UNADECA,” and graduated in 2007.

He worked on the core mission of Nicaragua as district pastor, field secretary, and departmental personnel ministry until 2011. He received a call to work in the department of chaplaincy and teaching for the school and the Adventist University of Nicaragua, and served until 2012.

In 2013, he received a call to the northwestern Nicaragua mission to work as district pastor, field secretary, personal ministries, and small groups’ director, developing plans for the evangelistic growth. From January 2014 until his arrival in the United States, he was appointed as chairman of the experimental mission in north central Nicaragua.

Today, Sanchez works at the Adventist church in New Albany, Miss., and Tupelo, Miss., with a goal and God’s help, to organize Tupelo as a company and establish a new group in the city of Pontotoc, Miss., this year.

He is married to Karol Suazo and they have two beautiful children, Eunice Libni and Gerson Obed Sanchez Suazo.

Pombo and Rodriguez Ordained During Camp Meeting

On Sabbath afternoon, June 24, 2014, during Gulf States Camp Meeting, a very special ordination service to the Gospel ministry was held for Jaime and Michelle Pombo and Huascar and Ana Rodriguez. The service featured special musical items by Michelle Pombo and Rebeca Garcia. Dan Jackson, president of the North American Division, was the keynote speaker for the ordination service. Special delegations from each one of their churches witnessed the service, and Elder Livermore led out in a prayer of dedication as the ordained pastors laid their hands on them.

Rodriguez responded to the call to ordination by describing Joshua and Elijah as being men who lived in the presence of God. He declared his desire to dwell in God’s presence and made a stirring appeal on behalf of His God. “When men live in the presence of God, nothing is impossible. God invites you this day, ‘Be now in My presence.’”

—BY SEAN DAY
Decherd Churches Pour a Blessing into Community

At Franklin County, Tennessee's, first one-day community outreach event, the two Decherd Adventist churches were poised to share a blessing. With more than 1,200 bottles of cold water, Bibles, financial assistance for medical supplies, and a broad selection of pamphlets, First Church of Decherd and Decherd Church joined other local congregations to serve individuals in need from throughout the region.

Organized by the Christian Medical and Dental Associates of Southern Tennessee, the all-day event provided free medical screenings, free dental screenings and extractions, bags of groceries, and free clothing. Churches, civic groups, and businesses partnered to support the massive outreach event.

Bilingual Adventists accompanied individuals to the various stations, as other church members mingled in the crowds offering cold water. An oversized white tent just off the town square provided a dry place to sit and rest, pick up a piece of literature, and receive an invitation to church.

"Sharing God's love with our community was such a priority for our church that we voted to spend the entire day downtown rather than having our own worship service," explained Kathy Prall, coordinator for Decherd Church. "The blessing is that we have First Church as a strategic partner in ministry, and they provided Sabbath services for those in our community who would have found it a hardship to be at the event."

Members of the nearby Tullahoma Church also participated.

"It does not take a lot of money or a lot of members to make a kingdom difference in the lives of people surrounding our churches," exclaims Annette Martinez of First Church. "Willing hearts serving in practical ways provide a profound glimpse of God to people who may never step inside the doors of the church."

First Church and Decherd Church continue to create ways to reach beyond their own interests, and put the community first. July's combined Vacation Bible School and this fall's evangelistic series are just two more examples of the cooperative spirit that is uniting the churches of two conferences to serve one community.

—BY JAY PRALL

Ridgetop Members Conduct Vacation Bible School for Community Children

More than 40 children participated in the Vacation Bible School (VBS) program, Gateway to Galilee, at Ridgetop, Tenn., Church. Leaders sought to make VBS an outreach program for the community, and to give the children an opportunity to reach out to others in a tangible way. This year the staff chose Robertson County's backpack program as a project for VBS.

This is a program which provides needy school children with food to take home for the weekend. Several containers were filled with food packages the children and adults brought, which represented hundreds of individual servings.

—BY HELEN KELLY
Lawrenceburg Youth Baptism
Includes Amish Teen

Jonathan Dewar, Matthew Dewar, and Moses Yoder were baptized in Crockett Park’s Shoal Creek on Sabbath afternoon, June 21, 2014. More than 90 members and friends witnessed the baptisms. The baptismal candidates had completed the Thunder in the Holy Land video series.

Jonathan and Matthew are homeschooled teens who have captured the hearts of church members by allowing Jesus to be seen in their smiles, polite manners, leadership, and professional musical talents. They have been influenced by the living testimonies of their grandparents, Don and Pat Litchfield.

Moses has been attending the Lawrenceburg, Tenn., Church for more than a year. He was born into an Amish family, and although doctrinal differences exist, his parents consider the Litchfields and Dewars close friends. Moses has enjoyed visiting and often staying with the Litchfields and Dewars.

After the baptism, Moses was excited to share that not only had three Amish aunts come, but also his closest brother, Daniel. “I prayed that he would be able to get off work to be here today,” Moses said, “and God answered my prayers.”

—BY LLOYD SCHOMBURG

The Amish aunts of Moses Yoder greet the baptismal candidates: Yoder (foreground), Jonathan Dewar, and Matthew Dewar.

La Grange Mission is Organized as a Company

La Grange Mission Group was organized as a company by Steve Rose, secretariat of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, on Sabbath, August 9, 2014.

The mission group began on January 12, 2013. As soon as the group began, the members were out knocking on doors distributing literature. They also started conducting seminars on health, depression, and gardening. Although they were having positive results, they felt a need for young families and couples to join them. So they began earnestly praying that God would fill this need. And He did!

In only a few weeks, Larry and Michelle Lescher joined the group. Larry, a vegetable farmer, and Michelle, a registered nurse and licensed dietician, are wonderful assets in giving seminars on better lifestyles. Next came Ryan and Leah Swain with their daughter, Shania. God was answering prayers. Swain is an anesthesiologist at Children’s Hospital in Louisville, Ky., and has done seminars on health and wellbeing.

In May, just 16 months after the group began, all the criteria to become a company had been met. Kenneth Green, M.D., provided the group a place to meet, rent and utility free, and others in the group donated carpet, furniture, air conditioning, paint, and items to decorate and make it a beautiful place to worship each Sabbath. Now they are looking forward, with God’s blessings, to becoming a church.

—BY FRANCES CAMPBELL

Worship service at La Grange Company on Sabbath, August 9, 2014
Franklinton Book Bags Help 82 Children

Fervent prayers went up that God would hold the rain until after the 82, fully loaded book bags could be distributed to the boys and girls of Franklinton, N.C., by members of the Franklinton Church.

For many weeks prior to distribution of the school supplies, several members of the church distributed flyers in the surrounding neighborhood. An article was also placed in the local paper regarding the event. Yvette Rainey, Sabrina Rainey, Patricia Still, Ruby Booth, Lisa Dunston, Terrianne Simonson, Stacy Gayle, Talia Dyce, and Nadine Glasgow were instrumental in preparing the book bags with school supplies and snacks, which included organic popcorn, juice, fruit snacks, and water. Pat Still and Georgina Brewer, who are bilingual, went to the public housing area to assess the need. Their search yielded many who received the much needed assistance which Pat and Lisa Dunston, Adventist Youth leaders, delivered to them.

Several of the children of Franklinton Church attended, and they helped to fill the bags with the supplies. A light meal was served, and Spirit of Prophecy books in English and Spanish were distributed.

The Franklinton Church family is committed to outreach, to letting their lights shine, to doing their best to relieve the suffering of their neighbors, to visiting the local nursing home, and to proclaiming the Blessed Hope. The book bag committee includes Yvette Rainey, Sabrina Rainey, Sonravea Privette, Patricia Still, and Lisa Dunston. The Community Services Department and the Education Department also assisted in this outreach endeavor.

—BY LONIETA THOMPSON CORNWALL

Emanuel Students Participate in Community Services Project

Students of Emanuel Junior Academy assisted the Women’s Ministries for women at Albany Rescue Mission. The packages included assorted toiletries and a devotional book.

“Participation in such community service projects enables our students to achieve learning goals,” says Vanessa Wilson, Emanuel Junior Academy principal-teacher. “It engages them in active learning; creates new knowledge; deepens their understanding of the complex causes of social problems; creates an awareness of purposeful civic learning; integrates disciplinary knowledge, theories, and practices; and affords students to be positive contributors to society.”

Twenty-five pastel colored tubs were delivered to the facility on Friday, August 22, 2014. In addition to the students, among the team of women were Felecia Hawkins, Jeanette Warren, Gwendolyn Boone, Shari Turner, Shirley Rivers, Georgia Gilbert, Katie Johnson, Felecia Simmons, and Lavenn Allen. The week of community affairs culminated on Saturday, August 23, 2014, with the church’s annual Women’s Day program, “You Are the Light of the World.”

—BY RACQUEL GRIER
Berean Chariots Take Historical Trip

The Berean Chariots took an historic trip to Tuskegee, Ala., one of the most educational and enjoyable trips they have experienced. It is the prayer of all involved that their families will remember this experience for a lifetime.

At Moton field, the Adventurers were able to put on period specific uniforms to reinforce the roles of the Tuskegee Airmen. They were not just the pilots. They were base commanders, parachute packers, mechanics, doctors, nurses, and various support personnel. They learned that the airmen were not given much help. Robert Stewart, national park ranger, mentioned that they were fixing a plane as they were reading the book for instruction. And, they succeeded.

Everyone was able to view a real parachute and participate in folding and packing it in an actual pack. No, they didn’t test them out, but the club was treated to live parachute jumping at Moton field’s operational runway.

After a brief tour of historic downtown Tuskegee, the Adventurers toured The Oaks, the actual home of Booker T. Washington. Completed in 1900, it has entertained many dignitaries. It housed a reception for President Theodore Roosevelt and for the wedding of Washington’s daughter, Portia.

The Adventurers stood in famous rooms, as well as in Washington’s personal office and bedroom.

They also toured George Washington Carver Museum. Did you know that Carver was one of the first scientists to cross-breed plants? Did you know he had a mobile classroom that went throughout the community? The group learned many wonderful facts. At the end of the day, they gathered in Tuskegee’s famous chapel. One of the well known facts about the current chapel is that it has no right angles. The original chapel, built almost entirely by students, burned down in 1957.

The biggest surprise was yet to come, as the Adventurers and their families sat in the chapel. In walked the choir. This was no ordinary choir. This was the Golden Voices, under the direction of William Barr, D.M.A., Tuskegee University’s equivalent of Oakwood University’s Aeolians. They sang a marvelous a capella rendition of “Ezekiel Saw the Wheel.” Michael Tompkins Sr. wrote, “I had just thought to myself when visiting the chapel that I would love to hear what a choir would sound like in such an edifice. Moments later, their choir got in position. I know that the Lord was truly intervening from beginning to end!”

The tour concluded with a viewing of the Tuskegee cemetery, including the grave sites of Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver. Of course, no trip to Tuskegee University is complete without a photo by the Booker T. Washington National Monument, referred to as “Lifting the Veil.”

“It was the best trip ever. I liked seeing the men jump from the plane, I remember the church and the singing, I really liked the singing. I had fun playing in the build-ing with the phones and the airplanes, and the house built by the students,” said five year old Gabrielle T.

There is so much more you can learn by visiting Tuskegee, Ala., and the historic sites. It’s two hours from Atlanta, and it is one of Alabama’s best kept secrets. This trip will have a lasting influence on the Adventurers.

Investing time and resources in Adventurer-aged children is critical. Ellen White says, “Too much importance cannot be placed on the early training of children. The lessons that the child learns during the first seven years of life have more to do with forming his character than all that it learns in future years,” Child Guidance, page 193.

Put them up front. Let them serve on the program for divine service. Not only can they do it, they want to do it. Don’t wait until they’re teens and are no longer interested because they were turned away. Do it now, and they will not stop. “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it,” Proverbs 22:6, KJV.

These are the leaders, pastors, doctors, lawyers, nurses, pilots, teachers of tomorrow. They not only need to know about history, but they need the opportunity to perfect it, now.

—BY SAMUEL F. CORT JR., M.D.
Pastoral Fellowship Evolves to “Men On A Mission”

In 2010, Marvin L. Allison Sr., pastor of New Beginnings and Gethsemane churches in South Central Conference (SCC), went to the Cody Road Church in Mobile, Ala., Gulf States Conference (GSC), one afternoon to meet Gary Tracy, the pastor at that time, with a dream that all the Mobile area churches in both conferences, would cooperate as one church in service for the Kingdom. Tracy shared that he was praying for a pastor from SCC to partner with for his dream — also for the Mobile area churches to work together as one church in service for the Kingdom.

This meeting resulted in the Greater Mobile Pastoral Fellowship (GMPF), where pastors come together in prayer. Soon after, the church elders from nine churches in both conferences began to meet for prayer. After that prayer initiative, the area churches began to come together for Wednesday night prayer meetings. This fellowship led to Tracy sharing that GSC was planning an evangelistic effort with Mark Finley. The SCC pastors got on board, and each SCC church received an appropriation from the conference and joined in cooperative plans and implementation of the area-wide evangelistic meeting in February 2012. While working together, Adventists from all walks of life fanned out over the area as far west as Gulfport, Miss., to as far north as Bay Minette, Ala., as far south as Gulf Shores, Ala., to as far east as Pensacola, Fla. The spirit of cooperative unity was riding high.

However, after that meeting was completed, the normal course of ministry began to affect the GMPF. Out of the six pastors from nine area churches, four were relocated by their respective conferences, and some churches were redistricted. Only Allison and Tracy remained.

With the new pastors agreeing, once again they began to meet and pray, and created the theme, “One Church, 9 Locations.” Tracy eventually retired, and the GMPF was left to the leadership of Allison. During this same time, he became the communication director for SCC, and, along with pastoring two churches, felt he could not continue to lead the GMPF. The future of the GMPF was in trouble. But, God always has a ram in the thicket. Harold Goodloe, pastor of Emmanuel Church in SCC, took the reins and brought the pastors back together again.

Before long Goodloe suggested that they have a joint men’s ministry weekend. The Holy Spirit moved, and all of the pastors jumped on board and once again the GMPF was back in business.

The weekend’s theme was “Men On A Mission,” with Emanuel Chester, lay assistant to Roy Rugless, as men’s ministries director for SCC.

The weekend began with Chester setting the thrust with the topic “Man in the Mirror.” It was expressed that since Adam was created in the image of God, then men must begin to reflect and live according to that image. Although all have sinned and fallen short of God’s glory, the Holy Spirit can restore in His image. If men are to be leaders in the home, church, and community, it can only be by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Men must return to the image, and that image says love others as God has loved you. Men must teach, by the power of the Holy Spirit, others to love and be loved.

Throughout the weekend, there were lively discussions about dealing with emotions. The men were challenged to focus on an emotion that was plaguing them. They wrote their emotions on cards and casted them into nothingness, and then they were challenged to leave them there.

Sunday morning the men came together for a breakfast buffet, and each man introduced himself and shared what he does for a living.

The area churches put a list together of professionals, so that they could have a pool of various skills to go out and extend service to local members and the community. It is the goal of the GMPF men’s ministry to impact the greater Mobile area with the love of Jesus Christ.

To close the weekend, there was a demonstration as to how the things that hinder men from their leadership roles, i.e., vice, substance, sports, medication, food, or social media, can be covered and destroyed by the blood of Jesus.

The men wrote their issues on cards, placed them in a bowl, and watched as symbolic blood covered all those issues. Powerful!

If the weekend could be summed up in a phrase, it would be, “Love is the most important ingredient for men to be leaders.”
Central Mississippi Couples’ Retreat

Central Mississippi Family Ministries Council and the South Central Conference Family Ministries Department teamed to sponsor a weekend retreat for married couples at Lake Tiak-O’khata, Louisville, Miss. More than 31 couples attended the retreat, and the length of their marriages ranged from eight days to 45 years. A special highlight for the weekend was keynote speaker Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., president of the Southern Union Conference. Also, he and his wife, Yolanda, conducted a special session for pastors and their spouses.

Realizing that a church’s health is a function of the marriages and homes, which comprise the Church, central Mississippi Family Ministries Council was formed February 2014 to collectively engage Adventist churches in central Mississippi to bolster marriages. Under the leadership of Belinda Jenkins and Mae Henry, the Council began sponsoring “date night” and laying plans for a couples’ retreat. Trevor Fraser, Ph.D., Edith Fraser, Ph.D., and Anita Pembleton consented to be the workshop presenters. Melvin Davis, Ph.D., South Central Family Ministries Department director, and his wife, Sheila Davis, Ph.D., helped facilitate implementation.

On the last day of the retreat, a team of pastors and their spouses led the couples into a season of prayer and commitment to vows. God’s presence at this retreat was undeniable! In the midst of having lots of fun and eating good food, lives were changed, tears were shed, testimonies were powerful, and couples left with a renewed commitment to permit God to display through their marriage what He can do for fallen humanity.

After experiencing the Holy Spirit’s work at this retreat, many agree that this retreat is a good strategy for enhancing the Church’s spiritual and social health.

—BY MELVIN DAVIS, PH.D.
Record Number of Southeastern Pathfinders Attend Forever Faithful International Camporee

More than 800 Pathfinders from 32 Southeastern Conference Pathfinder clubs joined more than 46,000 Pathfinders at the 2014 Forever Faithful International Pathfinder Camporee (FFIC) in Oshkosh, Wisc., on August 11-16, 2014.

Hosted by the Center for Youth Evangelism (CYE), in Berrien Springs, Mich., the International Camporee is held every five years, and the past four Camporees have been held at the Experimental Aircraft Association’s Airfield in Oshkosh.

With more than 46,000 Pathfinders attending the Camporee — 44,000 from North America and 2,000 from 100 countries — this was the largest Camporee to date, said event organizers.

**FFIC Baptism**

Three Southeastern Pathfinders, Calandra Lee and Christian Staten from Progress Village Church in Tampa, Fla., and Zakirah Green from Thonotosassa, Fla., Church, were among the more than 600 Pathfinders who were baptized during the Camporee.

“My baptism means everything to me,” said Green, who made her decision to get baptized before attending the camporee. “I love the Lord. This is a big step for my life,” she added.

Antwon Mells, pastor of Progress Village and Westside churches in Tampa, Fla., baptized the three Pathfinders from Southeastern. He made the trip to Oshkosh because he personally wanted to baptize the youth from his church. “It’s always exciting to witness young people make a decision to follow Christ,” said Mells.

Maureen Peterkin, Progress Village Pathfinder director and mother of Calandra Lee, was extremely pleased by her daughter’s decision to be baptized. “It strengthens my heart to see my daughter make her stand,” stated Peterkin.

**Perrine Hosts International Pathfinder Club**

For many international clubs, attending the Oshkosh Camporee can be a logistical nightmare. To make traveling to Oshkosh easier, the CYE encouraged clubs from North America to host an international club. Hosting a club required the
local club to provide tents, sleeping bags, food, and any other items that a club would need to camp.

One club that made the decision to be hosted by a North American club was a group of Pathfinders from Tanzania, Africa, under the leadership of Emmanuel Sumua, director of youth and music ministries for the Eastern Tanzania Conference, South Tanzania Union. More than 40 Pathfinders from the Tanzanian Conference decided to come. However, due to issues with obtaining a visa, only 18 received visas to travel to the United States.

The Pathfinder club from the Perrine, Fla., Church took on the challenge to host the Tanzanian club. Velma Wilson, club director, was made aware of the hosting need while registering her club for the Oshkosh Camporee more than a year ago. She thought that it would provide a great opportunity for her club to participate in missionary work. “The experience of hosting the club from Tanzania was a tremendous blessing for the children,” said Wilson.

FFIC Activities
Event organizers planned a variety of activities for the campers, which included sports activities, community outreach projects, a talent showcase, drill and drum corps competitions, honor courses, and the most popular activity — pin-trading.

Five Pathfinders from Southeastern taught Pathfinder honor classes. Patrick and Hakeem Brown from the Town and Country Church in Tampa, Fla., taught a mammal honor. Gordon Wilson, from Patmos Chapel in Winter Park, Fla., taught the knot-tying honor. Ray Daniels, also from Patmos Chapel, taught the camping skills 1-4 honor. Catherine Collins from the Ridge Area Church in Avon Park, Fla., taught one of the most sought after honors — the Travel Honor. By Thursday, she had taught more than 500 students in her class.

Two drum corps from Southeastern garnered first place in the Drum Corps Competition, the Maranatha Pathfinders Club in Tallahassee, Fla., and the Shiloh Pathfinders Club from Ocala, Fla.

FFIC Master Guide Investiture Service
A Master Guide Investiture Service was held on the final day of FFIC. Randall Richards from the Shiloh Church Pathfinder Club in Ocala, Fla., was the only Pathfinder from Southeastern to be invested as a Master Guide.

“To see more than 46,000 young people gather for this spiritual event was exhilarating,” said Hubert Morel, president of Southeastern Conference. “I want to encourage our Pathfinder directors to continue to be faithful in teaching our children, so that they will make the decision to make Heaven their home,” he added. A Master Guide himself, Morel served as an honorary chaplain for the Camporee.

SketchCast, Southeastern Conference Sketches Video News Magazine, was at Oshkosh. To view SketchCast stories that were filed from Oshkosh, visit www.youtube.com/secsda. To view photos from the Camporee, visit www.flkr.com/secsda.

—BY ROBERT HENLEY
Perrine Church Holds Annual Community Services Day

The Community Services Department at Perrine, Fla., Church held its annual Community Services Day on Sabbath, May 3, 2014. During the service, Brenda Griffin, community services director, honored Agnes Reco and Jimmy Moore for their contributions to the department.

Reco, from Perrine Social Security office, was honored for her outstanding contribution to Perrine Church’s Food Pantry by collecting donations from her co-workers. Moore, a community helper, made his truck available to get food from Broward County to the food bank.

Members of Perrine were also honored for their services. Trevor Beckford, along with his team, made community services his full time job. He and his team were instrumental in raising money to purchase a truck for the transportation of goods to the Community Services Center. Arlene Benjamin was honored for dedicating many hours on Tuesdays to register each individual served.

Griffin explained that, “although we are doing much, there is so much more to be done, so much more we can do.”

The Community Services Department has been very active in taking its ministry outside the Perrine Church walls, and has used various methods to evangelize the communities as far south as Homestead and the Richmond Heights areas.

The department has partnered with other faith-based organizations to provide food, clothing, housewares, and furniture to the surrounding community. Every Tuesday evening, long lines of individuals are seen waiting for Perrine’s Food Pantry to open. They receive canned foods, packaged goods, meats, fruits, and vegetables. Additionally, they are given Bibles, tracts, pamphlets, and entertainment during the holidays.

Another well-received program, “God’s Love Delivered,” helps the Meals-On-Wheels ministry, which provides hot nutritious meals to more than 140 individuals in the communities they serve. All the meals are personally delivered every Sunday to the homes of individuals with disabilities, the sick and shut-ins, senior citizens, and the homeless. Moreover, a team of 15 volunteers serve approximately 250 meals on the first and third Sundays each month at the Morris Chapman Homeless Shelter in Homestead.

“God calls us to simple service,” said Michael Owusu, pastor of Perrine Church. “God requires us to make a difference in a person’s life. We do not have to spend a lot to give.”

—BY MILLICENT TAYLOR

Legal Notice

Oakwood University
Notice of Special Meeting of Members

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the constituency of Oakwood University, Inc., a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of Alabama, will be convened in the auditorium of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, Maryland, on Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at 9:00 a.m. (EDT) for the transaction of business that may come before the Corporation. The purpose of the meeting is to approve amendments to the Articles and Bylaws of the corporation and to transact other matters related thereto.

Dan Jackson, Chairman
Leslie N. Pollard, Secretary
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**


CAPE CORAL SDA CHURCH Third Annual Golf Tournament and Banquet Fundraiser – Oct. 5. Will benefit local Adventist Community Services. Palmetto-Pine Country Club, Cape Coral, FL 33914. Details: Juan & Mercedes Ruiz, mrr0530@aol.com, 239-691-5477 (C), 239-945-1375 (H).

SANDIA VIEW ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION – Oct. 9-11. Corrales, New Mexico. Honor classes: ’44, ’54, ’64, ’74, ’84, ’89, ’94, and ’04. The first Academy 12th grade graduate, Max Martinez, class of 1942, will be in attendance. Details: Jerry Ruybalid (’54), Alumni Association President, 405-570-3833 or jrsleeper@gmail.com.

MADISON ACADEMY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS AS AN ACADEMY AND 110 YEARS AS AN INSTITUTION – Oct. 10, 11. Events include Golf Tournament, Sunset Café, and Sabbath Services, afternoon luncheon with time to fellowship and share memories, and a softball game. Details: To get involved in planning, contact us at 615-865-4055 or by emailing office@madisonacademy.com.


VIBRANT HEALTH MINISTRY – Nov. 7-9. Learn how to lead, encourage, and relieve human suffering by sharing the Seventh-day Adventist health lifestyle with your church and community. Southern Union Health Ministries invites you to attend a Union-wide health ministries training with North American Division Health Ministries at the new Southern Union Office in Norcross, GA. The program will begin at 7 p.m., on Friday night and conclude at 4 p.m., on Sunday. Details: Call AdventSourc at 800-328-0525 or www.adventsource.org and click on the “EVENTS” tab at the top of the page. Registration deadline is Oct. 31.

LA SERRA ACADEMY ALUMNI REUNION – April 24, 25. Friday evening reception, 7 p.m.; Sabbath worship, 10 a.m.; registration, 9:30 a.m. on campus. Class reunions TBA. Honor classes 1955, ’75, ’85, ’90, ’95, ’05. Details: www.lsak12.com, JNelson@lsak12.com, or call 951-351-1445 x244.

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Oakwood University Calls for Spiritual Renewal, Fresh Anointing

First Chapel, held on the first Thursday of each new academic year, has become a time for spiritual renewal and a call for a fresh anointing at Oakwood University in Huntsville, Ala. This year’s program fell on August 21, 2014, and the entire academic community was invited — including the faculty, staff, and students of Oakwood Adventist Academy — to join in a special dedicatory service.

The program, first instituted by Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., president of Oakwood University, in 2012, begins with a comprehensive litany involving every member of the Oakwood community, even its pre-kindergarteners. Led by the University’s administrative team and touching on various aspects of faculty, staff, and student life, the service is filled with opportunities to respond to the call for consecration of heart and mind to God’s service.

Asking God to take control of all facets of the institutional functions and to continue to lead the school in its mission, Pollard delivered a stirring address. Ferdinand, M.M., provided various musical selections, starting with the Negro National Anthem, “Lift Every Voice and Sing.”

—BY MICHELE SOLOMON

Ronald Pollard, M.Div., senior chaplain and director, assisted by Kimberly Pearson, M.A., associate chaplain, offered the benediction to end the service.
Southern Adventist University

Southern Launching Faith-Based Radio Station

In the more than 50 years since Southern Adventist University’s classical music radio station first came on the air with the goal of friendship evangelism — a mission that remains in place and effective — there have always been those who offered a polite push for the station to become more overtly Christian in its programming. During Alumni Homecoming Weekend, October 23-26, these desires will be realized as WSMC launches a second, web-based radio station with exclusively spiritual content.

“Community members, donors, students, and many other groups approached us with their pledge to help make this happen,” said Scott Kornblum, WSMC general manager. “We believe listeners will be excited to hear broadcasts that feature programming from LifeTalk Radio, Amazing Facts, and Voice of Prophecy, as well as original content produced right here at Southern!”

Exactly what the Southern-specific content looks like is still being finalized, but initial plans include a weekday devotional by the Clear Word author and retired School of Religion dean, Jack Blanco, along with the recording and broadcasting of some of Southern’s more popular lecture classes, such as Life and Teachings of Jesus. Students and professors have also expressed interest in sharing testimonies over the air, and there will be health tips and nature nuggets as well, demonstrating the University’s dedication to holistic health.

Though the station is starting off online, there are plans to grow the broadcast footprint. After its launch in October, the project will enter Phase 2, which includes work on generating a digital (HD) signal. Once completed, those with an HD radio will find the faith station at 90.5 HD2. Phase 3 involves additional fundraising that will allow Southern to take that HD broadcast and repeat it on an analog FM band where traditional car and home stereos in the greater Chattanooga area will be able to receive the signal.

While Kornblum oversees the entire WSMC station, this new move to create a separate, faith-based outreach has generated opportunities for student leaders to flex their creative, managerial, and spiritual muscles. For example, WSMC classical music host Robby Raney, a junior music education major who has worked at the station since 2010, was promoted to student manager of the faith station and will play a leading role in all facets of its growth: marketing, operations, and even some fundraising.

“I’m still learning a few of the tasks laid before me, but have confidence that God’s strength can be made perfect through my weakness,” Raney said. “At this point the biggest challenge will be remembering that God is in control, and asking Him to always lead and guide. It is His station, and we are doing his bidding.”

—BY LUCAS PATTERSON

University Honored for Promoting Workplace Health

Southern recently received the 2014 Governor’s Healthier Tennessee Workplace award for meeting all 32 of the state program’s requirements, and for being an involved community advocate for wellness.

The normal lifestyle on campus met a lot of the simple criteria for having a healthy workplace, including vegetarian meals and a smoking-free environment. A sample of additional areas where Southern excelled were the University’s health-related lunch-and-learn programs, employee participation with group activities such as intramurals, and the availability of hiking and biking paths.

“At Southern we don’t just promote being active and fit, but look at health in a more holistic way,” said Robert Benge, chair of the employee wellness committee and dean for the School of P.E., Health, and Wellness. “We’re focused and intentional about what we’re trying to do here on campus.”

David Edwards, director of project implementation for the Governor’s Healthier Tennessee Workplace program, was so impressed with Southern that he expressed an interest in featuring the University on his group’s website as a participant and partner with the state for promotion of healthier living in Tennessee. For more information about the award, visit healthiertn.com.

—BY ASHLEY RICH
Presentación de Nuevo Pastor en el Distrito Zona Fayeteville, NC, y Campaña de Siembra y Cosecha

El sábado 9 de agosto el pastor Samuel Romero, director del departamento hispano de la asociación, hizo la presentación oficial del pastor Elías Sandoval, quien fue designado como guía espiritual del nuevo distrito misionero Zona Fayetteville, en NC. Para esto ambos ministros recorrieron las congregaciones que forman parte del mismo, junto a la esposa de Sandoval. A la hora de la escuela sabática visitaron la iglesia de Raeford, durante el culto divino hicieron la presentación en Saint Pauls, y luego disfrutaron de un nutritivo almuerzo en la iglesia de Fayeteville. La jornada culminó en Sanford, a la hora de la sociedad de jóvenes.

El pastor Sandoval ya está haciendo planes con los líderes de las cuatro iglesias para el gran evento evangélico de cosecha que tendrá lugar en la ciudad de Fayetteville, el 12 y 13 de diciembre. Esta campaña está patrocinada por el departamento hispano de la unión y de la asociación, y contará con la presencia de Alejandro Bullón, evangelista internacional.

Como anticipo de cosecha, dos personas sellaron su pacto con Jesús el sábado 23 de agosto. Socorro Uthima y Jésica Cepeda fueron recibidas con felicidad en el seno de la familia de Dios.

– ELÍAS SANDOVAL, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO
NO a la Violencia en Contra de la Mujer

El sábado 23 de agosto, el ministerio de la mujer del distrito llevó a cabo un programa especial cuyo lema fue: “Di no a la violencia contra la Mujer”.

Las iglesias en su totalidad disfrutaron de este evento. Las oradoras fueron para la iglesia de St. Pauls, Clarita Granobles; para Raeford, Esperanza Flores. Ambas vinieron desde la ciudad de Charlotte y abordaron temas de relevante actualidad en referencia al abuso hacia la mujer. Durante la escuela sabática se presentaron votos de fidelidad y entrega.

Las oradoras destacaron en su mensaje del culto divino, que las mujeres debieran siempre permitir que Cristo brille en sus corazones y jamás admitir o ser cómplices de abuso o maltrato de parte de su pareja. Granobles enfatizó que en cada bolso o cartera jamás debiera faltar un ejemplar de la Palabra de Dios, ya que es ella la que alumbrá la vida. Por la tarde se desarrollaron seminarios bajo el lema Mujeres al Servicio del Señor.

Deseamos que Dios continúe bendiciendo a Ruth Vásquez, Directora del ministerio de la mujer de la iglesia de St. Pauls, y Maricela Ponce, directora afín en la iglesia de Raeford, junto a sus colaboradoras.

– ELÍAS SANDOVAL, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

“Voy a Preparar Lugar Para Vosotros”

Del 24 al 30 de agosto se llevó a cabo una serie de evangelismo de 7 días en la iglesia de Raeford. El lema fue “Voy a preparar lugar para vosotros.” El orador, pastor Moisés Sausa, compartió con los asistentes las benditas promesas de las Sagradas Escrituras. Se presentaron mensajes de amor, esperanza y consagración, que llevaron a la reflexión. Noche a noche, todos fueron invitados a entregar sus vidas en las manos del Señor.

La iglesia trabajó unida durante toda la semana, y la cruzada terminó con 2 bautismos. Toda la hermandad continúa trabajando en la preparación del terreno para la campaña de diciembre.

– ELÍAS SANDOVAL, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO
Nuevo Año Lectivo en el Instituto de Evangelismo Fiel

El tiempo pasó rápidamente y el receso de verano del Instituto de Evangelismo Laico de la Florida llegó a su fin. El domingo 27 de julio los alumnos del área central dieron comienzo al ciclo que los llevó a trabajar en Brandon el 3 de agosto y en Gainesville el 17 del mismo mes. El grupo del área sur que se reúne en Hollywood comenzó sus clases el 24 de agosto, y el que se reúne en West Palm Beach el 31. Esta será la última ronda de este año ya que entre los meses de agosto y noviembre los alumnos de FIEL participarán de experiencias de evangelismo prácticas, que serán monitoreadas por los pastores locales. También serán parte del grupo de apoyo de la RED 2014 de la Florida, en la que el pastor Rolando de los Ríos expondrá el mensaje de salvación desde la iglesia de Hollywood, del consecutivas. Ambas son importantes en la preparación de la parte práctica a llevarse a cabo enviando materiales de trabajo, que serán de utilidad durante la etapa práctica de este programa.

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El ambiente del comienzo de clases fue muy animado. Los alumnos del área central comenzaron a llegar al salón de conferencias de la Asociación de la Florida a las 9:00 a.m. a pesar de que algunos debieron recorrer distancias considerables ya que venían desde Vero Beach, Melbourne, Avon Park y Sebring. Después de saborear una taza de té caliente, recibieron el alimento espiritual ofrecido por el pastor Jorge Rojas, del distrito Melbourne/Vero Beach.

Todos los grupos recibieron dos clases consecutivas. Ambas son importantes en la preparación de la parte práctica a llevarse a cabo enviando materiales de trabajo, que serán de utilidad durante la etapa práctica de este programa.

El pastor Oscar Tavera, del distrito de Orlando, presentó magistralmente los “Principios y métodos para lograr decisiones”. Después de un breve receso, se continuó con el tema “Preparación y presentación de una campaña pública” a cargo de los pastores Abraham Guerrero, del distrito Orlando Sur/Haines City/Poinciana, y Rolando de los Ríos. En esta clase se recalcó la importancia de la organización. El objetivo de salvar a otros requiere de cuidadosa atención a todos los detalles por más mínimos que estos parezcan. El pastor Abel Paulín colaboró

En los próximos meses, el pastor Oscar Tavera, del distrito de Orlando, presentó magistralmente los “Principios y métodos para lograr decisiones”. Después de un breve receso, se continuó con el tema “Preparación y presentación de una campaña pública” a cargo de los pastores Abraham Guerrero, del distrito Orlando Sur/Haines City/Poinciana, y Rolando de los Ríos. En esta clase se recalcó la importancia de la organización. El objetivo de salvar a otros requiere de cuidadosa atención a todos los detalles por más mínimos que estos parezcan. El pastor Abel Paulín colaboró

se disfrutaba del delicioso almuerzo preparado por el chef David de la Torre, el técnico del equipo Guillermo Pimentel presentó las instrucciones para el envío de evaluaciones por medio del sitio de internet. En el mes de noviembre, los alumnos serán evaluados por los pastores locales de acuerdo a su participación en las campañas.

– ROLANDO DE LOS RÍOS, DIRECTOR DE FIEL
Con notable entusiasmo y un considerable número de visitas y asistentes, la iglesia hispana de Marietta GA, llevó a cabo la semana de enriquecimiento espiritual “Salud Total”. El sábado 21 de junio se inició con un programa intensivo que duró todo el día y fue dirigido por el ministerio Salud para Siempre. Se dictaron varios seminarios que motivaron un cambio en el estilo de vida. También se realizaron diversos tipos de exámenes de salud. Esta actividad encendió el interés de continuar durante la semana con las conferencias “Salud Total” que fueron presentadas por el Dr. Eliseo Vallejo.

El sábado 28, el pastor Richard Urdaneta culminó el segundo seminario de intimidad con Dios Salud y Adoración, con la ceremonia de graduación de 42 personas que se comprometieron a continuar su experiencia de comunión diaria con Dios, y aplicar las enseñanzas de estilo de vida saludable recibidas durante esta campaña. Se hizo un llamado a honrar a Dios, no sólo con la mente y el espíritu, sino también a través del cuidado del cuerpo, “templo del Espíritu Santo”.

– RICHARD URDANETA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO
Cada Uno Ganando Uno

El grupo de ancianos de iglesia de Memphis, TN, se ha estado reuniendo para elaborar planes estratégicos que ayuden en el cumplimiento de la misión de la iglesia. El lema es bien claro: “CADA UNO GANANDO UNO.” Se está orando para que la iglesia abrace este objetivo renovando los votos de consagración y entrega a Dios para recibir el derramamiento de la lluvia tardía sobre cada uno de sus miembros.

– ARMANDO DE LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

La unión y la asociación South Atlantic reconocieron la labor del pastor José Reyes durante el año pasado en un acto público llevado a cabo en el salón de reuniones de la unión. El doctor Jorge Mayer, director del departamento hispano de la unión, entregó una tableta electrónica como muestra del agradecimiento por su trabajo cuidadoso y esmerado. El Pastor Efraín Poloche, director del mismo departamento, estuvo presente e hizo entrega del diploma de reconocimiento.

Las pautas que se usan para designar a un pastor sobresaliente son las siguientes:

1.- Que el porcentaje de los bautismos anuales sea mayor al 15% del total de su feligremía
2.- Que sus iglesias entreguen el diezmo a la asociación cada mes, y en el tiempo estipulado

Jorge Mayer haciendo entrega de un IPad al pastor Reyes por su esmerada labor
3.-Que organice como mínimo una junta de iglesia mensual y promueva la devolución del diezmo
4.-Que abra nuevos grupos o compañías a partir del trabajo de las iglesias existentes
5.-Que promueva, apoye, y en lo posible asista a las actividades del departamento hispano de la asociación y la unión.
6.- Que provea propiedades para las congregaciones que no tengan lugar propio de reunión
7.- Que mejore su nivel de educación a través de la maestría o doctorado
8.- Que envíe delegados a las actividades del departamento hispano de la asociación y la unión
9.- Que organice entrenamientos para líderes de las iglesias de su distrito
10.- Que presente regularmente las estadísticas de miembros, diezmos, bautismos, y líderes

-- EFRÁIN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

Conferencias de La Voz de la Esperanza

Con 11 personas bajando a las aguas bautismales culminó la semana de conferencias titulada “Su familia para Cristo” en la ciudad de Atlanta.

El director y evangelista de La Voz de la Esperanza pastor Omar Grieve, presentó los temas proféticos y doctrinales, y su esposa Nessy Pittau, ofreció temas de relación y salud para las familias presentes. El programa radial La Voz de la Esperanza lleva más de 70 años en el aire y ahora también se transmite por televisión los domingos a las 9am por Galavision. Durante esta semana varias personas se graduaron del curso “Hogar Feliz” y recibieron su certificado de manos de los pastores Grieve, Quintiana y Poloche. Este evento fue organizado por el pastor Jorge Quintiana y su equipo de ancianos. La música fue ofrecida por la señora Elidi y el grupo Reach One. Carola Salcedo estuvo a cargo de la transmisión los temas a través de internet.

-- EFRÁIN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Bautismo en Charlotte

El sábado 2 de agosto se bautizaron 6 personas del distrito que está bajo la dirección del pastor Juan Reyes en North Carolina. Las congregaciones que trajeron candidatos al bautismo fueron Concord (3); Enmanuel (2) y Gastonia (1). Esta ceremonia se llevó a cabo en una de las iglesias de la asociación hermana de las Carolinas donde Alejandro Bullón tuvo 4 días de conferencias para todas las congregaciones de los alrededores de la ciudad de Charlotte, NC.

-- EFRAIN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Candidatos de bautismo antes de la ceremonia
Exitosa Campaña en Conway

Nueve personas bajaron a las aguas del bautismo al final de la campaña de evangelismo llevada a cabo durante la semana que concluyó el día 19 de julio en Conway, SC.

Esta campaña fue presentada por el pastor Elías Santana y fue de gran bendición. En lo que va del año, ya llega a 22 el número de personas que se han unido a la iglesia como resultado del trabajo del distrito de Carolina del Sur, que se propone traer medio centenar de almas para el Reino de Dios en el 2014.

– JOSÉ REYES, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO SOUTH CAROLINA

Los 49

El Pastor Sergio Romero, director del departamento multilingüe de la asociación Allegheny West, instruyó a delegados de 8 iglesias en el tema de ganancia de almas para Cristo, en un programa titulado Los 49. Durante el mismo se organizaron equipos de 7 personas que estuvieron unidos en la búsqueda de hogares para ofrecer estudios bíblicos. Para ello se usaría un nuevo juego de 10 lecciones.

Las iglesias que participaron en el fin de semana del 25-27 de julio fueron Carrollton, Douglasville, El Este, Central, Chamblee, Dalton, Marietta y Maranata. Los pastores de esos distritos, Espinosa y Quintiana, junto al pastor Poloche, están preparando a las iglesias de Georgia para la caravana de cosecha que tomará lugar entre el 14-17 de diciembre, y estará a cargo del evangelista Alejandro Bullón.

– EFRAIN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Alegría en Saluda

El 26 de Julio la congregación de Saluda, NC, recibió gozosa a un alma más que tomó la decisión de bautizarse y unirse al camino que lleva al Reino de los Cielos.

– EFRAIN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Material de publicidad preparado para el evento

Momento de la ceremonia bautismal
Nuevo Director del Centro de Recursos de Evangelismo ERC

Edgar Alquinta

Southern dio la bienvenida a Edgar Alquinta, quien de ahora en más se desempeñará como coordinador del Centro de Recursos de Evangelismo (ERC). Su responsabilidad más importante será dirigir los eventos de evangelismo en el Departamento de Religión, pastoreando los viajes misioneros en que los estudiantes participan cada año. La descripción de sus tareas incluye el reclutamiento de estudiantes, recaudación de fondos, entrenamiento de jóvenes evangelistas, y predicación.

Alquinta se graduó en Southern en el año 2009 y recientemente trabajó como pastor de la iglesia Central de Knoxville, TN. En el pasado fue empleado de una agencia de turismo internacional en Chile, donde se desempeñó como coordinador de hotelería, programación de vuelos, transporte local, y visitas turísticas a las ciudades. La combinación de su experiencia en estos trabajos fue lo que llevó a que Carlos Martin, profesor en el departamento de Religión y director del Instituto de Evangelismo y Misiones Mundiales, le extendiese un llamado formal a formar parte del ERC. “Alquinta participó en varios viajes organizados por ERC durante su tiempo en Southern,” dijo Martin. “El demostró un notable compromiso con la tarea de evangelizar, y su experiencia en el área de turismo será de gran utilidad para la posición.”

Alquinta tiene muchos objetivos para su gestión en ERC. Uno de ellos es permanecer en contacto con los estudiantes después de cada viaje, e incluso luego de que se gradúen. Desea hacer de Southern el lugar por excelencia en el área de educación y promoción de la Misión. “Creo que los estudiantes pueden ser una gran ayuda para los pastores locales si continuamos en contacto con ellos incluso después de que se gradúen,” dijo.


Retiro Para Pastores y sus Familias RECHARGE

Recharge, un retiro pastoral de estudio, tomó lugar del 6-18 de julio en la universidad Southern. Para José Emilio De León, pastor de dos iglesias hispanas de Florida, este tiempo de descanso, educación, y ánimo fue una bendición. El y su esposa junto con siete familias pastorales participaron en este evento de casi dos semanas de duración.

El programa incluye tiempo de adoración, clases, y actividades familiares para mejorar el desarrollo personal y profesional del pastor. Mientras los adultos asisten a las clases, sus hijos participan de otras actividades programadas para ellos.

Se presentaron seminarios enfocados en la crianza de los hijos y las relaciones familiares, con muchas oportunidades para reunirse con un consejero matrimonial en privado. De León y su esposa disfrutaron de cada actividad de Recharge, pero mencionaron que esta sección en particular les resultó de mucha utilidad.

Usualmente se separa suficiente tiempo como para que los pastores dediquen a sus familias en actividades como rafting, etc. “No existe otro vento que pueda ser más útil para el desarrollo personal y profesional del pastor en un escenario tan bueno.” dijo Doug Tilstra, profesor en el Departamento de Educación y Sicológía de Southern, quien también ayudó en la organización del primer retiro en 2008.

El costo de registración cubre todas las comidas, un apartamento privado para cada familia, clases, consejeros, y actividades recreativas. Algunas asociaciones han decidido subsidiar este programa; los pastores pueden consultar con sus directores ministeriales, quienes podrán informarles acerca de este subsidio.

Para más información, visite southern.edu/recharge.

– CHARLES CAMMACK Y ELIZABETH CAMPS, EDITORES
HOMES FOR SALE IN THE COLLEGEenade AREA: *New listing in Ooltewah! Huge 3,100 square foot 4 bedroom home plus an office, workshop, and workout room for only $279,900! Check out www.6895Nevile.com for virtual tour. Also new listing in Ooltewah with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms and 2 master suites for $289,900! Check out the virtual tour at www.B473refuge.com. Also, like new 3 bedroom charmer in Ooltewah with mountain views for $158,500, check out www.7532passport.com. *Also, immaculate 4 bedroom home with 3,000 square feet with community pool and mountain views for $266,900. Go to www.4349Wellesley.com. Call or email me at JDhelpingyou@gmail.com with questions about properties in the SAU area. Jon D’Avanzo, Davanzo Real Estate. 423-834-4545. [10]

LAND FOR SALE IN THE COLLEGEnde AREA: *30 wooded acres that can be subdivided, $265,000, check out www.Neuchatelestates.com. *Also, 121 acres near Collegeen that has both pasture and wooded areas that can be divided into 5 acres parcels or more! Davanzo Real Estate, ask for Jon Davanzo 423-834-4545 or Lyle Spive 423-421-3456. We specialize in land! [10]

PRIVATE COUNTRY LOTS – 2 - 10 acres, close to SAU in Tennessee. Gorgeous views, mature hardwoods, all utilities, stocked lake, 2,000’ elevation, end of county road. Call Jeff at 301-982-7993. For pictures, plans and more information: ksnicholenn.com/countryland. [10, 11]

TWO LATE-MODEL HOMES FOR SALE on adjoining properties, 45 minutes from SAU. 2,100 square feet, 3 bed, 3 bath, garage, basement, 10 acres. 2015 square feet, 3 bed, 2 bath, basement, 16 acres. Can be bought as one property, $350,000, or separately, $180,000 each. 706-734-3324. [10]

HENDERSONVILLE, NC: Mountain views, 1 level, 3 bed, 2 bath, 1774 square feet, 9+ acres. Metal roof, Cemplank siding. Large kitchen, Buck stove, Jacuzzi tub. Garden and fruit trees. Ceiling shed, paved driveway, 42x45’ steel building insulated, with apartment. Can subdivide: $268,000. 828-684-0163, Aaron Dennis. [10]

DOUBLE CEMETARY PLOT in Highland Memory Gardens near Forest Lake SDA Church and Academy, Apopka, FL. Their current price is $9280, asking $6200. Also have one double marker, two vaults worth over $3000, asking $1000. We no longer live in Florida. Call 615-563-5742 or jakpaints@gmail.com. [10]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (ADU) in Orlando, FL seeks a Vice President for Marketing/PR/Enrollment. The position has overall responsibility for the image and brand of Adventist University of Health Sciences. He/she oversees all advertising and publications which seek to educate the local community, and the wider national and international audience to whom the University appeals. He/she oversees the functions of the Enrollment Services Department and provides direction to the team which performs new student prospecting using the Goldmine Software. Reply to Fred.Stephens@adu.edu. [10]

SOUTHWESTERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY Advancement office seeks full-time Vice President. Responsibilities center primarily in development in addition to PR/Marketing & Alumni. Minimum bachelor’s degree and 2 years advancement experience required, master’s degree preferred. Anticipated begin date is January, 2015. Submit cover letter and CV/resume to Human Resources at denise.rivera@swau.edu. [10]

UNION COLLEGE seeks Seventh-day Adventist experienced in K-8 education and eligible for Nebraska certification to teach curriculum and instruction courses and supervise student teachers. Doctorate preferred, master’s degree acceptable. Effective summer 2015. Email letter of interest and C.V. to Dr. Denise White, Chair of Human Development, dewhite@ucollege.edu. [10]

FLETCHER ACADEMY INCORPORATED in Fletcher, NC is seeking a full-time Plant Services Director. The position includes oversight of all plant services functions, including building maintenance, grounds, renovations, and water/wastewater treatment systems. Must love young people, have excellent organizational, planning, and communication skills. A degree in facilities management preferred and three years’ of relevant management experience required. If qualified and interested please send resume and cover letter to Gary Carlson, FAI President, at gcarison@fletcheracademy.com or call 828-209-6701. [10]

WEB PRESS OPERATORS WANTED – Pacific Press Publishing Association seeks Seventh-day Adventist Web Press Operators for Head Press Operator and 2nd Press Operator full time positions. Applicants should have 2 to 4 years’ experience, showing mechanical aptitude and the proven ability to lead employees in a production process. Hourly rate based on experience. Contact Ms. Alix Mansker, HR Director, PO Box 5353 Nampa ID 83653. Phone: 208-465-2567, fax: 208-465-2531, aliman@pacificpress.com. [10]

NEWSTART MEDICAL GROUP of Weimar, CA seeking mid-level providers, RN’s, xray, ultrasound, and lab techs, to staff Rural Health Clinic and Urgent Care center. Candidates must have interest in, and reflect the values of Weimar Institute’s NEWSTART lifestyle. Call 615-604-0142, r61@me.com.
Like the rose of Sharon in Song of Solomon 2:1, June Rose Watkins, a longtime member of Durham-Five Oaks Church, impacted everyone she met. She had a pleasant inner beauty and a loving fragrance of genuine care. Rose never met a stranger, and many have testified how she helped them during difficult times.

Rose never married and had no children. She recognized estate planning documents were necessary to effectively distribute her estate after life. Rose chose the Carolina Conference as her Trustee, placing most of her estate in trust so that God’s Work would continue to bloom after her death.

For help in effectively distributing your estate, contact your local Conference or University Planned Giving and Trust Services Department today!

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For help in effectively distributing your estate, contact your local Conference or University Planned Giving and Trust Services Department today!
**Events Calendar**

**Carolina**

Women’s Retreat — Oct. 10-12. NPR.

ECCM Camp Meeting — Oct. 25. Greenville, NC. Church. Visit carolinasda.org for details on this one day event.

Share Him Boot Camp — Nov. 14-16. NPR. This training will prepare you for homeland and overseas campaigns. Even if you do not intend to speak, this session will help you support your Share Him Team.

Elder’s Certification Training — Dec. 6. Fayetteville Church. This session’s focus is on “Preaching”.


**Florida**

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


Singles’ Ministries events and mailing list information.


Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule

Oct. 5. Titusville, Cocoa, Ft. Pierce, Midport in Port St. Lucie, West Palm Beach. (Southeastern Conference: Palm Bay, Port St. Lucie.)


Oct. 27. Port Charlotte, North Port, Sarasota, Bradenton, Brandon, Tampa First.

Nov. 2. Silver Spring Shores, Ocala, Cross City, Perry, Tallahassee.

Nov. 3. Belleview, Lady Lake, Inverness.

Nov. 9. Daytona Beach, New Smyrna Beach, Pompano Beach, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Ft. Lauderdale.

Nov. 10. Margate, Boynton Beach, Victory in Port St. Lucie. (Southeastern Conference: Ephesus West Palm Beach.)

Nov. 16. Palm Coast, Palatka, St. Augustine, Orange Cove, Jacksonville First, Jacksonville Southpoint. (Southeastern Conference: Jacksonville Florida.)

Following Jesus—Florida NET 2014 — Nov. 8-15. A Conference-wide, eight-message evangelistic series broadcast via satellite on the Hope Church Channel and online. You are invited to participate via a local church congregation or small group gathering. Speaker: Dave Smith, senior pastor of Collegedale Church. Details: http://www.followingjesusflorida.com

Larry Ford/Gale Murphy Concert — Nov. 15. Forest Lake Church. 5 p.m. Free concert by Family Reunion Series musicians Larry Ford and Gale Murphy. A love offering will be received and Family Reunion Music Collection products available after the concert. Details: 407-869-0680.


Judiasm and Christianity—Repairing the Breach — Dec. 11-13. Beth Tehillah Vetikva (House of Praise and Hope Company). 7:30 p.m. Speaker: Alexander “Sasha” Bolotnikov. Details: bettehilleh@gmail.com or 786-514-7062.

Georgia-Cumberland

Day of Prayer and Fasting — Oct. 3.

NE Tenn. Camp Meeting — Oct. 3-4. The Oaks, Greeneville, TN.

Pathfinder Drill Instructor Training — Oct. 3-5. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

ACF Student Leader Reboot — Oct. 3-5. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

Hispanic Men’s Retreat — Oct. 3-5. Unicoi State Park, Helen, GA.


Association of Adventist Women’s Annual Conference — Oct. 16-18. Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN.


Pathfinder Teen Challenge — Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA.

Marriage Retreat — Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Speakers: Jorge and Evelyn Torres. Musician Chad Mitchler. Cost $385 per couple. The Lodge and Spa at Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA.

Reversing Diabetes Seminar — Nov. 1. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., with presenters Stephen (MPA, RN) and Karen (RN) Wickham. Georgia-Cumberland Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

Will Clinic — Nov. 1, 2. Jeff Wilson, pastor. Wildwood Church, Wildwood, GA.

Sandy Erickson Race for Christian Education — Nov. 2. 1:30 p.m. Kids’ Fun Run (1 mile) for pre-K through second grade, 2 p.m. 5K Race (3.1 miles) for grades 2-12 and adults. Collegedale Adventist Middle School, Collegedale, TN.

ShareHim Homeland Lay Evangelism Training — Nov. 7, 8. Georgia-Cumberland Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.

Makeover: Hispanic Youth Rally — Nov. 7-9. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.

Teen Prayer Conference — Nov. 7-9. The Oaks, Greeneville, TN.

**Gulf States**


Come and worship with us at the College Drive Church on Sabbath. At sunset we will have pizza, and play paintball on Sunday. This is a teen event only. Details: Pastor James Mangum, 334-652-3021 or email: jmangum@gscsda.org.

Teen Invitational: Rock Climbing — Oct. 31-Nov. 2. Sand Rock, AL. The group will be setting up the camp grounds on Friday. Bring your own food and camping equipment. The Conference will provide the rock climbing equipment. This is a teen only event. Details: Bob and Bea Hill, 727-560-8023 or email: bobbiehill@gmail.com. Epic Camp Alamosico Teen Weekend — Nov. 14-16, Daddeville, AL. Access registration forms at www.gscsda.org. Details: Michael Showalter, 256-726-0055, mikedarlene@gmail.com.

**Kentucky-Tennessee**


Adventur Camporee — Nov. 6. Indian Creek Camp.

Highland Academy Board — Nov. 6. Highland Academy.


**Southern Adventist University**

Preview Southern — Oct. 9, 10. Homecoming — October 23-26. Return to campus during Alumni Homecoming Weekend for “Southern, Naturally: Finding Our Mission in God’s Creation.” Featured honor classes are 1934, 44, 54, 64, 69, 74, 84, 89, 94, and 04. Highlights include a Die Meistersinger (male chorus) reunion concert, the dedication of Fenton Forest Trails, and an Outdoor Education/Outdoor Leadership reunion. On-campus lodging now available. Details: visit southern.edu/alumni.
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