

T Southern TIDINGS

OCTOBER 2017

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MARTIN LUTHER:

THE REFORMATION CONTINUES

BREATH OF LIFE:
EVANGELISM
IS WHO WE ARE

IT IS WRITTEN:
REACHING PEOPLE
WITH
TECHNOLOGY

LESTER COON
ADOPTS
FOREST CLASSROOM
MODEL

POSITIVITY,
STRENGTH, AND
PINK

OPEN WIDE THINE
ARMS OF LOVE

Left for Dead

Luke 10:25-37



Ron C. Smith, D.Min., Ph.D.
*President of the Southern
 Union Conference*

The story of the Good Samaritan is one of the most well-known stories in the New Testament. This parable showcases Jesus' response to a lawyer. First, he asked Jesus what must he do to inherit the Kingdom of God. Jesus answered the original question by explaining to him that he must first love God with all his heart, and love his neighbor as himself.

The man then raised a second question. Trying to justify himself and wiggle out of his predicament, he used an old debating tactic: "Define your terms, Jesus! What do you mean by 'neighbor'? Who is my neighbor?" It was this second question that prompted Jesus to share the parable of the Good Samaritan.

You know the story. A man is on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho when he is accosted and assaulted by a band of thieves who beat him within inches of his life. He's left bleeding by the side of the road.

He is too dead to be alive, and yet too alive to be dead.

Now, typically, the primary focus of our passage is on the treatment that is provided to this injured Jew by a good Samaritan; however, what arrests my attention in this story is not so much the treatment of the Samaritan, but the state of our injured traveler. The text tells us that he was left for dead. He was relieved of all his money, his merchandise, his undergarments, his sandals, his dignity, his pride, and almost every vestige of his humanity.

Whether by personal experience, secondhand accounts, eyewitness testimony, television programs, news reports, movies, or videos, all of us can conceptualize with almost pristine accuracy some violent act perpetrated by one person against another.

So, identifying with our fallen comrade is not very difficult, especially when we consider that some of the worse things that happened in our lives share points of commonality with this victim. I'd like to suggest at least three points of identification that we share with the victim in our text.

The first of these is that *what happened to the man on the way to Jericho was something beyond his control*. The road he was travelling was a road leading down from Jerusalem to Jericho. This was 21 miles. While this was not the only way, it was the most direct. It was a rugged, rocky pass, well adapted for the purposes of thieves and desperadoes, and that being well known garnered it the name, "The Way of Blood."

If you live long enough, you will discover that there will be times when stuff happens that is beyond your control.

The second point of identification is that *this man was overwhelmed by external forces*. This was a well-planned, calculated, and coordinated attack. These were not petty thieves, but men of violence, as was shown by their treatment of the traveler.

In the words of Paul found in 2 Corinthians 4:8, this man was troubled on every side... There is a power, a satanic power that seeks to steal, kill, and destroy.

The final reason we can identify with him was *that he was disappointed, and his expectations were not met*.

This man is not only left for dead physically, but emotionally overlooked.

He becomes the cosmological representative of fallen humanity. If the truth be told today, not only do we sympathize with the fallen Jew, we are the fallen Jew. He is us and we are him.

The passage talks about the Good Samaritan. This Good Samaritan went the extra mile to help a stranger. "When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law," Galatians 4:4, 5.

"[Jesus] was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, and by His stripes healed," Isaiah 53:5.

JESUS IS THE GOOD SAMARITAN

The Bible says that Jesus came down from His heavenly throne, took off the robe of His divinity, and covered our nakedness with His grace.

Jesus bandaged our wounds, forgave our sins, and gave us life.

Jesus did more than the Samaritan in our story. He was the one Who took the punishment for US.

I'm glad that while Jesus was left for dead, He didn't stay dead. He got up!!! 🙏

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SOUTHERN TIDINGS | Volume 111
Number 10 | October 2017
Published monthly by the Southern Union.
Free to all members.
Periodical number: 507-0000
POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to
Southern Tidings
P.O. Box 923868
Norcross, GA 30010-3868
EMAIL: idouce@southernunion.com



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COVER PHOTO CREDIT: PD_US

october 2017



Martin Luther: THE
REFORMATION
CONTINUES



BY NIKOLAUS SATELMAJER, D.MIN., STM

October 31, 1517, was a day Martin Luther would never forget. The 34-year-old monk posted the *Ninety-five Theses* in Wittenberg, Germany. Five hundred years later, most still know about the event, though many are not quite sure what happened that day. In that historic document, among other things, Luther challenged the sale of indulgences — something that was important to the Roman Catholic Church. The church needed money for the building of St. Peter’s in Rome, and the sale of indulgences was an effective way of getting the funds. It was easy money. As Luther biographer Roland Bainton wrote, indulgences “were the bingo of the sixteenth century.”

On the same day, Luther also wrote a letter, including a copy of the *Ninety-five Theses*, to Archbishop Albrecht, the most important religious leader in the German lands and one who received a portion of the indulgence income. Even though Luther addressed the archbishop as “Most Illustrious Lord,” and referred to him as “my lord and shepherd in Christ,” the letter was an outright challenge to the archbishop. The formal politeness of Luther’s letter did not soften this stinging statement: “What a horror, what a danger for a bishop to permit the loud noise of indulgences among his people, while the gospel is silenced, and to be more concerned with the sale of indulgences than with the gospel!”



Five hundred years ago, October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed the *Ninety-five Theses* to the All Saints’ Church door in Wittenberg, Germany.

PHOTO CREDIT: PD_US

The posting of the *Ninety-five Theses* and the letter to the archbishop soon made Luther an outlaw. The pope, the head of Luther's own church, was after him, as was the newly elected emperor, 19-year-old Charles V. In 1521, Luther was excommunicated from the Catholic Church and appeared before the Imperial Diet at Worms, Germany, where he proclaimed, "Here I stand, I can do no other, so help me God." God used Frederick the Wise, the elector of Saxony, to save Luther's life by hiding him in the Wartburg castle.

Luther is a complex figure. On the one hand, he was a man who often spoke and acted harshly against his enemies or those who did not agree with him. On the other hand, he started a Reformation that still impacts us today. His actions and writings changed the world for better. What are some of the things that he did, and how do they impact us today? Here are two examples.

Giving Us a Readable Bible

Of course, the Bible existed before Luther, but most were not able to read it, and the church did not encourage the reading of the Bible. The Latin Vulgate Bible was an old translation and only a few understood it. Even most priests, who often had little education, could not read the Latin Bible. There were a number of German Bibles available, but they were rather "wooden" as the translators tended to translate word for word, and such an approach does not make a smooth translation.

While Luther was hiding in the Wartburg castle, he suffered poor health and isolation. But, during his stay he accomplished one of his greatest achievements — translating, in about 90 days, the New Testament from the Greek (not Latin) into German, which could be understood by the people. Luther was a gifted writer and his translation was the prime evidence of that gift. The New Testament was published in September 1522; by Christmas of that year, the first printing was sold out. The entire Bible was translated by 1534, and in that period about 200,000 copies were sold — a best seller. Those numbers are equivalent to 6.5 million copies sold today in the United States. The Bible was preached, and people read it in their homes.

Luther's translation inspired others to put the Bible into their own language. William Tyndale, for example, proposed a translation into English, but the religious leaders opposed such



The All Saints' Church is where Martin Luther nailed the *Ninety-five Theses* in 1517

PHOTO CREDIT: PD_US

a project and he fled from England. He moved to Germany and provided an outstanding English translation that was smuggled into England. His own countrymen betrayed him, and Tyndale was executed in Belgium for the crime of translating the Bible. His work, though, lived on in the later King James Bible (KJV), for scholars estimate that about 80 percent of the KJV is based on the Tyndale translation.

What about now, 500 years after the Reformation started? Is the Bible important in our personal life? What about our preaching and worship? In some worship services only short Biblical passages are read. If we are heirs to the Reformation, the Bible must be central in our worship.

Teaching Us to Pray

Prayer was a part of Luther's monastic life, but he developed a new perspective on prayer once he realized that God was a loving God. Prayer became a powerful force in the Reformation. Ellen G. White writes, "From the secret place of prayer came the power that shook the world in the Great Reformation."

One of Luther's most significant writings on prayer was a pamphlet he addressed to his barber, Peter Beskendorf. The message was clear — Luther was taking prayer out of the monasteries and cloisters and planting it in people's everyday lives.

Luther's prayer life was disciplined, and he focused it around the Ten Commandments. He tells his barber that through the commandments "a heart should be able to get in touch with itself and warm up for prayer." The commandment that tells us to have no other gods, according to Luther, teaches us to trust God in all things. "I should cling to God," writes Luther. And, the Sabbath commandment, ac-

ording to him, gives us time to "hear and reflect on the word of God," and to praise Him.

Luther reminds us that prayer is central in the life of the individual and the church. It must also be a central part of worship and congregational life.

Experiencing the Reformation Today

What can be done to remember and, more importantly, experience the Reformation message today? Some of these activities can be done alone, while others lend themselves to group activities. Here are helpful suggestions for individuals, families, groups, or congregations:

- Read a biography about Martin Luther. *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther* by Roland Bainton is a good start.
- Read the Reformation chapters, especially 7,8,10, and 11, in *The Great Controversy* by Ellen G. White. (She wrote more about Luther than about any other Reformer.)
- Pacific Press has released three books on the Reformation. Two of them, *The Reformation and the Remnant* and *500 Years of Protest and Liberty*, are by Nicholas P. Miller. The third, *Here We Stand: Luther, the Reformation, and Seventh-day Adventism*, is written by an international group and edited by Michael W. Campbell and Nikolaus Satelmajer.
- Organize a group and watch the black and white version of the classic film called "Martin Luther." Search on the web "Martin Luther DVD item 4623D." 📺

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³ Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy* (Nampa, ID: Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1950), 210.
⁴ Martin Luther, "A Simple Way to Pray, for Master the Barber," in Philip D. W. Krey and Peter D. S. Krey, eds. *Luther's Spirituality, The Classics of Western Spirituality* series (Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, Inc., 2007), 217-232.
⁵ Luther, "A Simple Way to Pray," 232.
⁶ *Ibid.*, 223.
⁷ *Ibid.*, 225.

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Breath of Life EVANGELISM IS WHO WE ARE

BY PAUL GOODRIDGE

Since its inception in 1974, and in harmony with its stated mission, *to present the everlasting Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people groups from a contemporary, urban perspective*, Breath of Life (BOL) has been providing weekly religious television broadcasts, along with engaging in public evangelism initiatives, throughout its 43-year history.

From the initial days of Charles D. Brooks, who served as the first BOL speaker/director; to Walter L. Pearson Jr., second speaker/director; to the current speaker/director, Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., the unadulterated Gospel of Jesus Christ has been fearlessly preached, with hundreds of thousands being exposed to the Savior's matchless love and redeeming grace. As a result, nearly 20,000 individuals have been baptized through direct BOL efforts, and 15 churches planted and founded through this ministry.

Presently, BOL airs weekly on several international television outlets, including the Word Network, Three Angels Broadcasting Network, and the Hope Channel, coupled with being shown on select urban affiliates in the United States. Moreover, given the advent of the Internet, the global reach of BOL is limitless as thousands tune in weekly for positive encouragement, doctrinal



Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min., is senior pastor of Oakwood University Church in Huntsville, Alabama, and speaker/director of Breath of Life.

teaching, and inspirational preaching.

The current broadcast home for BOL is the Oakwood University Church in Huntsville, Alabama, where Byrd also serves as senior pastor. Formerly recorded primarily out of the studios of the Adventist Media Center in Simi Valley, California, the Breath of Life Telecast is now “church-based,” as the weekly telecast is produced within the framework of a local church setting akin to the national trend of church-based television ministry in 21st century urban religious programming.

With the eschatological overtones of the world clearly being heard in the postmodern society, as evidenced by the prophetic fulfillment of Matthew 24:7, 8, “You will hear of wars and rumors of wars . . . Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places,” (New International Version). BOL is passionate and enthusiastic about the countless opportunities that exist to offer healing and hope to

the flustered world. Moreover, BOL senses the urgency to sound the clarion call of the Three Angels’ Messages of Revelation 14 to reach men, women, boys, and girls to invite them into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ before His soon return.

To this end, BOL, in addition to its weekly telecast, conducts annual public evangelistic campaigns with scheduled meetings in 2018 for Long Beach, California; Huntsville, Alabama; Columbia, South Carolina; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Also, in collaboration with the Interfaith Broadcasting Commission, BOL will present a Christmas Special entitled, “The Promise,” to be shown nationally on NBC Television affiliates across the United States on Christmas Day, December 25, 2017. This special will be taped and recorded live on November 11, 2017, at 11 a.m., at the Oakwood University Church, and will feature the preaching ministry of Carlton P. Byrd, and the music ministry of recording artist Fred Hammond and the Oakwood University Aeolians and orchestra. Such an initiative will afford BOL the privilege of



Carlton Byrd baptized this man after he accepted Jesus Christ in his life.

reaching the masses in a profound way while exposing the ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to millions. All are invited to attend.

The totality of BOL's existence is rooted in evangelism as it seeks to reach audiences of all ethnicities through evangelistic and religious media tailored to the urban context. Put simply, evangelism is "who we are."

For more information about BOL's ministry offerings, including its television schedule, evangelistic campaigns, Bible lessons, outreach projects, and media products, and/or to partner with its evangelistic ministry, please visit www.breathoflife.tv, or call 256-929-6460.



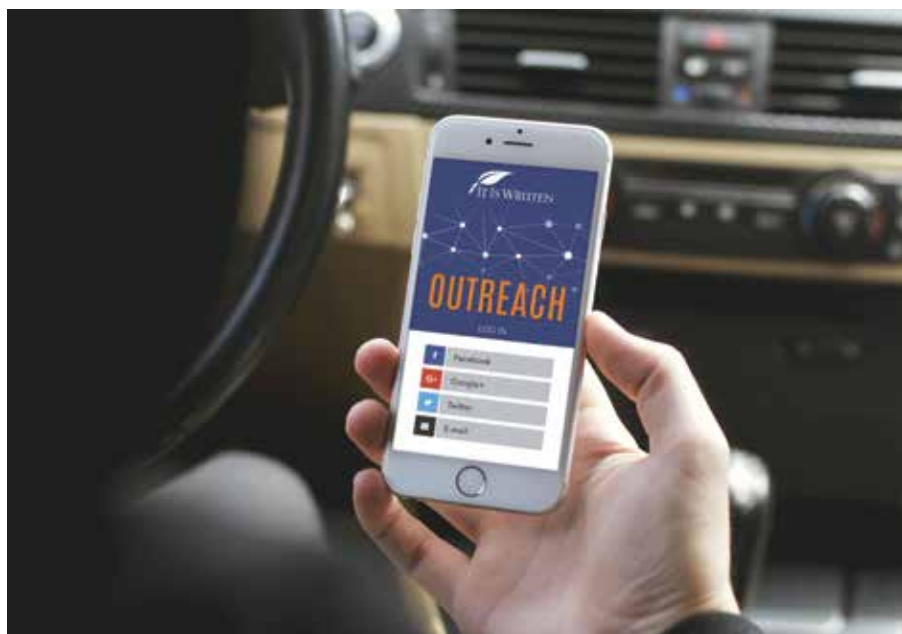
PARTNER WITH BREATH OF LIFE

- **PRAY** daily for this ministry to be used by God for the building of His Kingdom.
- **LEARN** more about ministry opportunities, product offerings, and upcoming events by visiting www.breathoflife.tv or calling 256-929-6460.
- **WATCH** quality Christ-centered programs on the Word Network, 3ABN, the Hope Channel, and other media outlets, including the Breath of Life ROKU Channel. Please visit www.breathoflife.tv for a complete media schedule.
- **DONATE** to this evangelism-based, donor-dependent ministry with your charitable gifts online at www.breathoflife.tv, by calling 256-929-6460, or by mail to: Breath of Life, P.O. Box 5960, Huntsville, AL 35814.



IT IS WRITTEN REACHING PEOPLE WITH TECHNOLOGY

BY ANNALYSE HASTY



The new Outreach mobile app from It Is Written turns your smartphone into the ultimate Bible work companion by coordinating teams, mapping contacts, finding leads, and more.

In October of 1987, an 18-month-old girl in Midland, Texas, fell into a disused well shaft while playing with cousins in her aunt's backyard. The ordeal of "Baby Jessica" became known around the world, and played out in real time on televisions across the United States. Then-President Ronald Reagan said, "Everybody in America became godmothers and godfathers of Jessica while this was going on." Rescue workers in Midland — and people looking on — just *had* to rescue Baby Jessica. As difficult as it was to reach her 22 feet below the ground, through which digging was described as being "nearly impregnable," to do less than everything possible to save a small child would have been unthinkable.

More than 60 years ago, a similar impulse prompted a young evangelist named George Vandeman to utilize technology to reach the masses of people who were not in a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

Years later, and blessed by God to still be on the front lines of ministry, It Is Written is still striving to keep pace with changing technologies in order to save people for God's Kingdom.

Every day, It Is Written programming on television and the Internet — in English and Spanish — is circling the planet, reaching people with the message of the Bible and the assurance of salvation through Jesus. Updated production techniques make the messages visually appealing, and enable more efficient and effective content distribution than ever before.

In addition to a growing lineup of television programs, It Is Written is providing resources to help each member and church find evangelistic success. The backbone of the It Is Written evangelism tool kit is the It Is Written Bible Study Guides. These 25 study guides are attractive, modern, affordable, and easy-to-use. The brand new Bible guides for children provide life-changing, Christ-centered studies for children ages 12 and under.

“Our entire church uses the It Is Written Bible Study Guides in studying with our community. They are so well done anyone can use them to give a Bible study,” said Chris Anderson, pastor. “The pictures are up-to-date and attractive. The lessons are thorough, and yet simple and clear in their presentation.”

The Bible studies are now available in English, Spanish, Turkish, Arabic, and Farsi. Study guides in German, Italian, Mandarin, and other languages are in process. Trained evangelists and lay people can easily use the studies with their friends and neighbors. It Is Written also offers an active Bible School that, to date, has resulted in hundreds of participating churches.

The newest evangelism tool from It Is Written is the Outreach product series. Outreach is a turn-key resource developed for one purpose: to empower people for soul-winning.

Outreach Series Builder, the flagship resource, equips anyone to present a professional evangelistic series. The boxed set contains a step-by-step instruction book, sample materials, and a USB drive. The USB drive contains a full set of evan-



SALT 365 is It Is Written's free online evangelism training that is available to anyone, anytime.



It Is Written's evangelism resources equip people of any age to go out into their communities and effectively lead people to Jesus.

gelistic slide presentations, promotional materials, letters, radio ads, decision cards, and much more, all customizable for and by the user.

Another member of the Outreach family is The Outreach App, that turns your smartphone into the ultimate Bible work companion. The app will help you coordinate Bible worker teams, find visitation leads, conduct surveys, and find and track your Bible study contacts on a map.

In addition to providing resources, It Is Written offers in-depth evangelism training through SALT, a full-service evangelism training school offered with Southern Adventist University. SALT enables participants to earn college credit, and spend a semester in intensive evangelism training. Summer SALT — the abbreviated evangelism training program — is a one-week training course designed with the busy schedule in mind. Outreach Spark Training is free live evangelism training hosted every summer at various Camp Meetings, and in churches around the country.

If you can't travel to experience evangelism training, SALT 365 is a FREE online evangelism training program offered 365 days a year, 24/7. You can watch video sessions with some of the Church's most experienced evangelists as they cover many topics including how to give Bible studies, responding to objections, and how to connect with people in your community.

Graduates from the SALT programs are active evangelists in their community, and feel that they have the tools they need to be successful. “One of the greatest things I realized was that there is a science to soul-winning.” Orlando, a recent SALT

student, said. “The methods that were shared gave me a lot of confidence. The training showed me the beauty of evangelism.”

Whether someone's passion is giving Bible studies or sharing an evangelistic series or connecting with local neighbors, It Is Written resources and training will give them the confidence to share the beauty of Jesus' love in an attractive way.

Baby Jessica was rescued because people cared and were driven by an impulse to save her from what otherwise would have been certain death. It was important that rescue workers used the right tools for the job. In these final days of Earth's history, It Is Written is providing all with the tools needed to save people for eternity.

True success is gained by being faithful. Use the right tools, learn all you can, do your very best, trust in God, and leave the results to Him. 🙏

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PHOTO BY: KAREN SULLIVAN WILLIAMS

Forest Kindergarten students explore a rotten log during the outdoor education class at Lester Coon Adventist School in Apison, Tennessee.

Lester Coon Adopts Forest

CLASSROOM MODEL

BY KAREN SULLIVAN WILLIAMS

Imagine 10 teachers and a professor wading into a tangled forest thicket armed with loppers and bug spray, laughing and calling to one another while they work to make something beautiful out of a neglected corner of a school playground.

The time was mid-June, the location was Lester Coon Adventist School in Apison, Tennessee. The objective was to prepare for and facilitate a week-long Forest Kindergarten Camp for local children.

Teachers representing four states from three different conferences convened to participate in two graduate-level courses in Forest Kindergarten, offered by Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, Tennessee, under the guidance of Jean Lomino.

For the first part of their training, teachers gathered at Lomino's established Forest Kindergarten, at Wauhatchie School in Chattanooga, Tennessee. They spent mornings observing a Forest Kindergarten in action, and then the afternoons debriefing and

discussing outdoor education as applied to early childhood.

In the following days, they met at Lester Coon Adventist (LCA) School where teachers planned and then facilitated their own week of Forest Kindergarten. Coursework culminated in a presentation to the local school board.

The LCA School board was impressed. Steps were taken to begin a nature-based primary classroom at Lester Coon, where the early childhood classroom spans kindergarten through second grade. The schedule and instructional design would be arranged to meet academic needs of all three grade levels, with two hours of outdoor play incorporated into the school day. Though it would be Forest School rather than strictly Forest Kindergarten, goals and main components of the outdoor program would remain the same. Church members were told, enthusiasm was high, and word got out.

Late this past summer, LCA School was at capacity for the upcoming school year, with full classrooms and a waiting list. This was a welcome change, the result of many small steps on a larger journey.

The Church needs to see outdoor education in action. Abundant research confirms what Ellen White admonished more than a century ago. Outdoor play prepares children for life, physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually. It promotes brain structure, and improves executive function and concentration, both of which are vital for school success.¹ Nature-based play gives children opportunities to challenge their own limits and learn to assess risk,² as well as opportunities to practice problem-solving and creativity.³ Since the publication of Richard Louv's bestselling *Last Child in the Woods*, parents, educators, and concerned citizens are beginning to realize the disconnectedness of society from nature, especially in children. Across North America interest grows as the

media gives attention to Forest Kindergartens and other innovative outdoor programs. The world is catching on to nature education. What better way to bolster Adventist schools, than to go back to the roots and reclaim this part of the mission?

For LCA School, the opportunity to host a group of teachers in training for Forest Kindergarten fit perfectly with the direction the school was already headed. Teachers at Lester Coon had already taken steps to include outdoor education as part of their focus.

An old trail through the woods was reopened last year, and all three classrooms take to the path at different points in the morning. Walking provides a break from classwork and an avenue to see nature up close daily, strengthening observational skills, and promoting critical thinking. Often on these excursions students ask questions and seek answers: “Do roots have bark? What evidence can we find of creatures alive and well in a winter landscape? Where does the morning sun appear, and what direction is the trail taking us now?” Frequent, regular experience in a specific natural area is one of the hallmarks of outdoor education, and a short daily nature walk with time to ponder and

observe gives bountiful rewards.

Other outdoor elements included a school garden, fort-building in the woods, nature journals, and guided experience outdoors replacing lessons from textbooks whenever possible. These gradual additions to the school menu can grow in frequency, purpose, and scope over time.

All three teachers at LCA School have taken at least a handful of outdoor education courses at Southern Adventist University. They have been in close contact with supervisors at the Georgia-Cumberland Conference as they implement new methods. There is conscious effort on the part of the school board to support teachers as they grow in knowledge, experience, and goal-setting for outdoor education.

This intentional direction was part of the reason LCA School was chosen as the host site for Southern Adventist University’s Forest Kindergarten coursework. The school’s location was also a factor, situated only three miles from Southern’s campus, and the school property had potential because of its several acres of forested land.

This year young students at LCA School enjoy daily forest playtime. Parents are happy, and Nancy Zima-Gentry, principal, can’t say enough about benefits of the pro-

gram. “Outdoor education is valuable all through the grade levels,” she says. “Especially in the early years, nature-based education provides important building blocks for student development. Outdoor play is as essential as math and reading.”

Ellen White would have agreed. “During the first six or seven years of a young child’s life, special attention should be given to its physical training, rather than the intellect... Up to this period children should be left, like little lambs, to roam around the house and in the yards, in the buoyancy of their spirits, skipping and jumping, free from care and trouble...let the little ones play in the open air; let them listen to the songs of the birds and learn the love of God as expressed in His beautiful works. Teach them simple lessons from the book of nature and the things around them; and as their minds expand, lesson from books may be added and firmly fixed in the memory.”²⁴

Lester Coon Adventist School is just one small school. Even at capacity, it can only contain so much joy and so much learning. Opportunities are wide open, and potential for outdoor education lies right outside the doors of many classrooms.

Go ahead and step outside. It’s a lovely journey. ●

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Watch a video description of outdoor education through the eyes of outdoor education professors Jean Lomino and Douglas Tilstra: <http://video.wtcivt.org/video/3001618301/>.
2. Remember, this is a teacher-directed process. Best to let teachers choose their own journeys in outdoor education, while conferences, school boards, and administrators support and encourage. Forest School is not for everyone.
3. Understand that outdoor education is not “all or nothing.” Start small. If you don’t have a forest, plant a garden. If all you have is a concrete play yard, plant a container garden. Bring nature into your classroom and substitute hands-on learning for book learning whenever you can. Some schools visit nearby natural areas regularly or attend outdoor programs offered by local organizations.
4. Take a class or two. Southern Adventist University offers outdoor education courses every summer. They are lots of fun, and packed with practical ideas for providing outdoor, nature-based learning.
5. Find a nature-based school in your region and ask to observe. The best way to understand Forest Kindergarten and other programs is to see them in action!
6. Talk to your conference about providing training for teachers who desire it. (See Jean Lomino’s teacher training opportunities at www.wauhatchie.com.)



PHOTO BY: KAREN SULLIVAN WILLIAMS

Teacher Ashley Brude and student study mushrooms. Research has confirmed Ellen White’s counsel that outdoor education prepares children for life, promotes brain structure, and improves executive function and concentration.

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Community Services Evangelism SUCCESS IN TUSCALOOSA

BY TUSCALOOSA HISPANIC CHURCH AND SHANE HOCHSTETLER



The Tuscaloosa Hispanic Church is located in a city characterized by the University of Alabama and the lifestyle that the school brings. The greatest pride of Tuscaloosa is their football team, which boasts the fifth largest football stadium in the United States, and the eighth largest in the world. Beyond college football, Tuscaloosa also has a Hispanic community that exceeds 1,500 people, with more than 60 Hispan-

ic businesses, and more than 15 Hispanic churches of different denominations. Other cities in Tuscaloosa County include Coaling, Coker, Northport, Moundville, and Cottdale.

In October 2015, Rammy Robles Guerrero, pastor, after serving at the IASD (Iglesia Adventista del Septimo Dia) Forest Hispanic as a missionary student, was invited by Huascar Rodriguez, pastor of the Meridian district at the time, to be-

come a missionary pastor in the Tuscaloosa Hispanic Church. Guerrero came with the purpose of developing a strategic plan for discipleship, training the church in the major areas of evangelistic and structural support, and instructing and motivating the brothers to carry out natural evangelism in the church. As a result of this plan, 10 small groups were planted that spanned three different counties: Pickens, Tuscaloosa, and Brent. These small

groups also led to 11 people giving their lives to God through baptism.

By 2016, the church decided to continue with a new mission plan, this time for a year. They requested that the Gulf States Conference would assign Guerrero as a Bible worker/pastor for the Tuscaloosa Church under the supervision of Rodriguez. The plan was approved, and beginning in October 2016, the Conference, in combination with the Tuscaloosa Church, supported the pastor to develop as a Bible worker in the church.

From January to October 2016, Guerrero worked as a volunteer pastor because of the process of changing his immigration status. During that time, he began to develop a community mission plan, which was to meet the needs of church members and non-church members. Combined with Bible studies, missionary visits, and the glory of God, 31 more people were added to the church by baptism and profession of faith. Beautiful things were happening; in a single week, three marriages were performed, two of which were conducted in the church. Additionally, of the 31 people that were added to the church from January to October, 24 were in the same week as the marriages.

From October to December of the same year, the plan didn't stop, and the same methodology continued. The church grew, and they decided to start a new plant in Coker, Alabama, a city where a small group had been started when Guerrero arrived. Soon it was officially recognized as a church group, with 25 to 30 people meeting every Sabbath.

During that time two more marriages were performed, and in December they concluded with 13 new members joining through baptism and profession of faith. Furthermore, the international missionary plan, "RD 2017," arose after several conferences and weeks of stewardship that were given in the church. This plan even encouraged friends who weren't members of the church to donate resources to help a family with children that were affected by the massive floods in the northern part of the Dominican Republic.

By 2017, after completing a year dedicated to missionary work in the church



One of the 10 small groups that were formed prepares to pray during their meeting.



Rammy Guerrero presents at the Hispanic Community Center.



Michael J. Daria, Ed.D., superintendent for Tuscaloosa, Alabama, city schools, and Karra Morrison, social worker for Tuscaloosa city schools, thank Rammy Guerrero, pastor, for his cooperation in serving the Hispanic community by starting the first community center for Hispanics in Tuscaloosa.



The Tuscaloosa Gateway Innovation and Discovery Center in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, is where the Hispanic Community Center hold meetings.

and having formed a substantial membership, Guerrero initiated a new missionary plan called Young Impact and Total Member Involvement. These plans focus on including all the membership, especially the young people, in capturing the attention of the Hispanic community of Tuscaloosa through different activities. Currently they are developing the Community Center for Hispanics; it is a program that has more than 45 friends in the community, 30 of which do not belong to any religion, and the other 15 belonging to various religious denominations. The Community Center aims to educate the Hispanic population about basic skills they should possess. Coordinating with the superintendent of Tuscaloosa City Schools, they provide computer classes, family education, financial education, management classes, English

classes, and, most importantly, religious classes.

The center also includes immigration-oriented programs, and the development of the Mexican mobile consulate to motivate Hispanics to obtain and renew their documents.

The Tuscaloosa Hispanic Church is now making arrangements to officially register the new group that has been planted in Gordo, Alabama, as a result of the entire evangelistic community service program. Today the two churches continue to develop and grow with the same methodology of sincere work.

Following the success of the work in this area, Guerrero has now been transferred to lead the Dothan, Auburn, and Opelika district, where he plans to continue the same method of natural evangelism. ●



More than 200 breast cancer survivors have directly benefited from the Pink on Parade proceeds.

POSITIVITY, STRENGTH, *and* PINK

BY MEGHAN BRESCHER HALLEY

The best way to predict the future is to create it”: a line made famous by Abraham Lincoln that has inspired many to take chances, stay strong, and make their own path. This line is a personal favorite of Olga Ivanov, M.D., medical director of the Comprehensive Breast Health Center at Adventist Health System’s Florida Hospital Celebration Health, and has led her to do something truly remarkable.

Ivanov wanted to do more for her patients, whether they were just beginning their battle against breast cancer or had already won, and she saw a need to build a support system and community to help their healing long after treatment. In

2013, with the help of Florida Hospital, the Pink on Parade 5K came to life — where those touched by breast cancer could come together, all affectionately wearing pink to say, “I won’t let cancer win.”

“This parade touches thousands of lives. Breast cancer doesn’t discriminate. It can happen to anyone, at any age. Pink on Parade allows us all to unite for the cause, and make a real difference in our community,” said Ivanov. “I am inspired by the strength of my patients, and I wanted to find a way to give back to them, to honor them, and I couldn’t think of a better way than pinking out the town of Celebration.”

The year 2017 marks the fifth consecutive one for Pink on Parade. Since its start, the event has brought together more than 3,500 participants, has benefited more than 200 breast cancer survivors, and has raised nearly \$200,000, all of which has gone to women battling breast cancer within the central Florida community.

“This money goes to an important cause of supporting every single patient that gets treated for breast cancer at Florida Hospital Celebration Health,” explained Ken Bradley, chief executive officer at Florida Hospital Celebration Health. “It is part of our mission to care for others as though they were family,



Men and women come dressed in pink to unite for the cause, and raise money to benefit those battling breast cancer.

on all levels — body, mind, and spirit — and this unique event gives us the opportunity to do just that.”

Pink on Parade proceeds are distributed into three specific buckets: innovative research, patient assistance, and wellness packets.

Currently, Florida Hospital Celebration Health is in the process of receiving a relaxation pod, ORRB X, that breast cancer patients will sit in immediately before their first appointment to help clear their mind before getting any news. This technology is only one of two in the entire nation being used within a hospital to provide a positive environment to enhance patient retention.

Treatment can get pricey, and many patients find it difficult to stay financially afloat. The last thing they need on their minds is stress and worry about affording life-saving treatment. In an effort to relieve that burden, a portion of the proceeds goes to helping them pay bills — whether medical or personal. Ivanov shared that these proceeds have paid mortgage bills, and even helped buy a plane ticket so that a mother could be with her recently diagnosed daughter.

A wellness packet worth more than \$500 is also given to each and every patient to provide whole-person healing of

the body, mind, and spirit. This package includes one-on-one counseling with a cancer-certified dietician to develop a nutrition plan that can help prevent a re-



Olga Ivanov, M.D., medical director of the Comprehensive Breast Health Center at Adventist Health System’s Florida Hospital Celebration Health, started Pink on Parade to raise funds for breast cancer awareness, research, and treatment.

occurrence of disease, metabolic testing, functional movement assessment from an exercise physiologist, a lymphatic massage, and more.

Linda, a breast cancer survivor who is a patient of Ivanov, explained how the wellness package helped her heal more effectively and more quickly: “The wellness package truly made my body and mind feel clearer. It was just one more showing of kindness, love, and support from our hospital caregivers.”

On the day of the event, the streets of Celebration, Florida, turn pink as participants lace up their sneakers and come together in their fight against breast cancer. The community wraps its hands around these individuals, empowering them to stay strong, and to create their own future.

“It is very emotional to show up here and see this wave of positivity,” stated K.T., a breast cancer survivor and patient of Ivanov. “Who knew a bunch of women with crazy pink wigs and pink outfits could be so inspiring?” ●

Meghan Brescher Halley
Brand specialist at Adventist Health System

OPEN WIDE

Thine Arms of Love

BY MARYA LATSON



PHOTO BY: ARNALDO CRUZ

Community Vacation Bible School attendees received a special gift from Maxime Pape, Southeastern children's ministries director. Children from Palatka, Hawthorne, and surrounding areas in Florida participated in the VBS program, as well as the opening service of Southeastern's Camp Meeting.

Eight-year-old Mariah Baker and her three siblings will never forget the fun-filled, inspirational Community Vacation Bible School (VBS) Camp held on the Southeastern Conference (SEC) campground in Hawthorne, Florida. She and about 75 other children who weren't Adventist, ages 4 to 16, came from nearby communities to learn the principles of CREATION

Health, and learn of Jesus' love. As the first-ever Community VBS Camp offered to the children of the community at no cost to the families, this program was historic.

Beginning on June 11, 2017, Maxime Pape, Southeastern children's ministries director, along with 30 volunteers, served the community's children. Daily, they would sing their theme song, "Kids of Team Cre-

ation, that's who we are! We love living healthily, we love the Lord!" By God's divine planning, the volunteer staff included registered nurses, physical therapists, and teachers who were trained to work with special needs children enrolled in the camp. Parents of children with physical limitations, food allergies, autism, behavioral issues, and learning disabilities were espe-



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

A FreeD.O.M. Clinic participant receives a glaucoma test from Todd Lang, O.D. Lang is one of the many health professionals from across the state of Florida who volunteered their services to provide care to clinic attendees.



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

A FreeD.O.M. Clinic opens wide for a dental procedure. Clinic organizers report that dental care is in the highest demand because many insurance policies do not cover dental procedures.



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

Hawthorne, Florida, area residents received food items from Southeastern volunteers during food giveaway. Some residents came to receive bags of food while they waited to receive medical care at the FreeD.O.M. Clinic.

cially relieved to know their children would not be excluded; they were welcomed with open arms. Not until Heaven is reached can any human assess the value this community camp had upon the children, families, and staff who participated.

The volunteers who came from as far away as West Palm Beach and Jamaica were pleased to see that by the end of the five-day camp, most of the children, who knew very little if anything about the Adventist faith, expressed delight in learning to make good choices, eat healthily, get rest and exercise, and trust in God for everything. They enjoyed creating crafts and learning Bible lessons, songs, and games to remind them of their camp experience.

Camp concluded with its finale presentation program on the opening night of Southeastern's 36th annual Camp Meeting on the main worship stage, usually reserved for the president's opening address. Gregory O. Mack, Southeastern president, who inspired this year's Camp Meeting to be "mission-driven and service-directed," willingly allowed the children on the platform in his place. Dressed in colorful T-shirts and bright smiles, the children presented a spiritually moving program that will not be soon forgotten. During the program, four exceptional

VBS participants received certificates to attend the SEC Junior Summer Camp for free.

After the Community VBS ended, service to the community continued. On June 17, 2017, Pathfinders marched around the City of Palatka, 25 miles away from the campgrounds. This Freedom Parade, complete with floats and drum corps from all over Florida, informed community residents that a food and clothing giveaway and free health clinic would take place on Southeastern's campground the next day. Southeastern partnered with FreeD.O.M. Health Clinic USA, Inc., an independent ministry to provide "FreeD.O.M." — free dental, optical, and medical services to low income persons, the uninsured, and underinsured.

Late Saturday night and early on the morning of June 18, volunteer medical doctors, dentists, optometrists, nurses, and other skilled medical professionals came from across the country, and set up examining and treatment areas in Southeastern's newly remodeled worship pavilion. Under the direction of Don Bovell, M.D., and his wife, Ann Burnett, 82 persons received dental services, 17 people received optical services, and 144 persons obtained medical treatment. In addition to housing the clinic area, the sanctuary also served hundreds with groceries and

clothing. The efforts of the Conference and the volunteers of FreeD.O.M. Clinic were to alleviate, educate, empathize, and empower those in need. The city council and mayor of Palatka issued a formal proclamation to Southeastern for its service to the community on June 22, 2017.

Ministry to community residents did not conclude in June. On July 30, 2017, the members of Zion Hill Church sponsored a Back to School Bash across the street from the campground. More than 200 backpacks and school supplies were distributed to the area's children, who also enjoyed free food and fellowship. This year Southeastern has operated with a clear understanding of the words of E.G. White when she said, "we are all woven together in the great web of humanity, and whatever we can do to benefit and uplift others will reflect in blessings upon ourselves," *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pages 534-535.

While Mariah Baker won't soon forget the CREATION Health VBS theme song and the big hugs from the VBS camp mother, Grandma Mabel, neither will Hawthorne, Palatka, and the surrounding area be allowed to forget that Southeastern members' arms are always open to receive them, meet their needs, and share with them the Good News about Jesus and His love. 📌

“Girls of Faith” Dolls Reach Young Christians



Sara McCord (left) and Shane Hodges, founders of “Girls of Faith” dolls

the stories and the dolls, McCord headed to the 2014 Carolina Camp Meeting at Lake Junaluska, where she sold all of her dolls using the brand name “Adventist Girl.”

Hodges voiced an interest in collaborating with McCord in this endeavor, who was happy to have a business partner. Around this time, the women were notified that they could not use the word “Adventist” in their branding. They changed the name of their company to “Girls of Faith,” and modified the stories to make them appropriate for all Christian girls, rather than only Seventh-day Adventists. They then formed a limited liability company and continued to research doll manufacturers. As they searched, McCord realized there was only one doll manufacturer left in the United States, and it specialized in doll kits rather than toy dolls. The two women quickly journeyed to Michigan to meet with the manufacturer, where Hodges purchased a clay molding kit, and designed the mold that would be their doll’s face.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

“Creating an original doll has been a long and educational process, and God has led every step of the way,” says McCord.

Girls of Faith launched this past June, beginning with the two dolls modeled after McCord’s daughter and one of her best friends. Currently, their company is the only doll company selling American-made toy dolls. Additionally, the Christian stories set this company apart by reassuring young girls that they are not alone in their Christian walk. McCord and Hodges hope to reach little girls and their families all over the world with the message of Jesus’ love. You can learn more at www.girlsof-faithdolls.com. 📍

BY SARA MCCORD AND ABBY KING

Sara McCord and Shane Hodges, members of the Arden, N.C., Church, have been working on a project that will encourage little girls in their walk with Jesus. The idea first occurred to McCord in 2010 when her two youngest daughters were both under the age of 14 months. Her oldest daughter, who was seven, expressed a strong interest in dolls, as did her three best friends. McCord was inspired to create four dolls fashioned after the girls. Her thought was to produce a line of 18-inch dolls with companion stories that would encourage

little girls to live out their Adventist faith in their daily lives.

Two years later she finally followed through with her dream, and began developing the story lines for the first two characters as well as designing the logo and branding. She then purchased 20 dolls, designed two outfits, and outsourced the sewing of the doll clothes to a local woman. McCord asked Sheri Baker, a teacher at Captain Gilmer School in Fletcher, N.C., to help write the stories. She then enlisted Hodges to illustrate the stories. Upon completion of

Carolina Sponsors “I Still Do” Marriage Weekend



Eric Bates, pastor and family ministries director for the Carolina Conference, presents one of the seminars during the weekend.

Take 30 couples, add a beautiful setting and excellent speakers, and you have the recipe for “I Still Do” marriage weekend, sponsored by the Carolina Conference.

Eric and Ann Marie Bates, who head up family ministries for the Conference, were also the weekend presenters at this retreat held at the RiverStone Resort in Pigeon Forge, Tenn. After nearly three decades of marriage and four children, they’ve been through it all, and lived to tell about it. Their presentations were insightful and well balanced, and offered attendees a godly approach to marital conflict and miscommunication. Even the most seasoned spouses were able to learn something new that would strengthen their bond.

“I began to wonder if Eric and Ann Marie had been looking in our window. They seemed to be speaking straight to me,” joked one attendee. “Honestly, this weekend reminded me that conflict takes two, and changing my approach to my wife could make a big difference for our marriage.”

The couples also had time to enjoy the beautiful natural setting of Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, Tenn., before the Sabbath hours closed with a banquet and a concert featuring Natasha Perez.

“Sadly, those in our Adventist churches are not immune to marriage conflict,” said Eric Bates. “We wanted to help them rebuild and rebirth the love that brought them together, and for those who have great marriages, help them become even stronger.”

Romance at the Ranch is the next marriage weekend hosted in the Carolinas, and will take place in February 2018, at Nosoca Pines Ranch. The theme is “A Weekend in Paris.”



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER

BY REBECCA CARPENTER

SONscreen | Ignite: A Three-year Success Story



PHOTO BY: MARTIN BUTLER

Terry Benedict, award-winning Adventist filmmaker/producer, was the featured speaker at SONscreen | Ignite, sponsored by the Florida Conference Communication Department.

The SONscreen | Ignite film workshop was hosted July 29-30, 2017, for the third consecutive year by the Florida Conference Communication Department at the Altamonte Springs, Fla., headquarters.

The featured speaker was Terry Benedict, the Seventh-day Adventist award-winning filmmaker/producer of *Hacksaw Ridge*, producer/director of *The Conscientious Objector*, and founder/CEO of The Shae Foundation. Benedict's Christian enthusiasm to serve others was infusing. He spotlighted Genesis 2:19, when God asked Adam to name the animals, as the first work of man's creation. "Man was made in His image," Benedict reminded. "Learning to create is a part of that image, like a prism reflecting God," he noted,

while describing faith-based filmmaking as "art with accountability."

Benedict stressed the importance of mining emotion to tell a story. Films, especially those about social issues, are outstanding examples of the call of Christians to serve the need of humanity with stories that stir the human soul. "There is a need for filmmakers of faith," Benedict encouraged, "to get involved in causes that make a change with positive impact."

A screening of the conscious-pricking film, *Freedom*, displayed the outstanding creativity of upcoming teenage filmmakers from Plantation, Fla., Church, along with Collin Williams, their seasoned mentor and owner of Studio 1080.

Eager to learn how stories are transformed into film, authors Terri

McEndree, Jane Allen Quevedo, and Sperantza Adriana Pasos pitched their books with story lines ranging from a seemingly impossible dream to become a physician, to Félix Millán becoming an All-Star Major League baseball player and Seventh-day Adventist, to the personal story of intrigue and harrowing escape of a mother and her teenage daughter from the Romanian KGB.

Nathan DeWild, freelance producer, and Nathan Nazario, Motion Picture Pro Studios, joined Benedict to serve as evaluators, suggesting ideas to pull the emotion from these published books to the movie screen.

Workshops on Sunday morning provided many facets of filmmaking:

- Nathan Nazario, Motion Picture Pro



PHOTO BY: LEE BENNETT

Attendees from Plantation Church film a scene during the Mini-movie Challenge. The team won the Challenge's Best Movie award.



PHOTO BY: LEE BENNETT

Justin McLaughlin won the Best Pitch award following his presentation in the SONscreen | Ignite pitch panel.

Studios, addressed the marketing side of the filmmaker's role.

- Nathan DeWild, freelance producer, gave a presentation on how to make professional-looking videos on a low budget, and how to craft stories that give videos a purpose and meaning.
- Lynda Stein, actress/model, explained what brings acting, directing, and good writing together to make top-notch films.
- Stanley Pomianowski, owner of OrlandoFilmmaker.com, taught systems he uses to make powerful testimonial videos.
- Collin Williams, Studio 1080, dis-

cussed how to start a successful film ministry.

The short film *Without Expectation*, written and produced during the weekend's mini-movie challenge, received top recognition in the winner's circle of hands-on projects completed by attendee teams. Workshop participants also had the opportunity to pitch their film project ideas, with Justin McLaughlin receiving the Best Pitch award from the pitch panel.

Steven Norman, Southern Union Conference communication director, who attended the workshop with his associate, Nathan Zinner, related, "I am extremely proud of the SONscreen | Ignite program

planned by Martin Butler and his able team. The valuable insights from stellar speakers and practical workshops gave uncommon value to the weekend. We left informed and equipped."

Adventist filmmakers literally minister to the world by creating stories that make a difference — stories that find seed in the greatest ministry ever served — the Jesus story. The 2017 workshop is an example of creative talent forging with their art to tell the story of Jesus, the One who told relatable parables to reach into hearts and change lives. ①

BY BETTY KOSSICK

Laton Smith Ordained at Plantation Church

Laton Smith was ordained to the Gospel ministry on May 13, 2017, at Plantation, Fla., Church, where he serves as associate pastor.

Born in Jamaica, Smith began his journey into ministry at the age of eight when he preached his first sermon after the death of his pastor father. He later moved to the United States with his mother, Lametta, and his sister, Donella.

While at Greater Miami Adventist Academy, Smith realized the seriousness of his calling to ministry. Upon graduation he enrolled at Southern Adventist University where he received a B.A. degree in theology in 2008. With a sponsorship from Flor-

ida Conference, he then earned a master of divinity degree from Andrews University.

From 2011 until 2014 he was youth pastor at Miami Temple Church in Miami, Fla. In July 2014 he began serving as associate pastor at Plantation Church.

Smith joined his life with his wife, Itzel, in August 2016. They are still celebrating the fact that when people let God choose, he chooses the best.

Smith's hope for his ministry is to inspire people to see in everyone the potential to achieve their God-given purpose, and help them realize it is harder to be lost than it is to be saved. ①



Rogersville Opens New Community Center

The Lighthouse Community Center in Rogersville, Tenn., celebrated its Open House on Sunday, August 6, 2017. More than a year ago, the Rogersville Church members purchased a double-wide mobile home with about 2,000 square feet. It has a spacious kitchen and living area with seating for training and workshops, as well as an office, rooms to store donations, and a thrift store. Many from the community attended and enjoyed an inspiring concert by Seth Weidemann on violin and Glenda Dale on piano. The Lighthouse Community Center is an extension of the Rogersville Church, and serves Hawkins County by providing food and clothes to those in need, whether it be from a burned-out home, job loss, or other unfortunate life events.

Open House attendees enjoyed refreshments, and learned about future classes, including diabetes recovery, healing herbs, cooking, hydrotherapy, and family/relationships.

The need for the Lighthouse Community Center began in 1977, when a disas-



PHOTO BY: PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DAVID LUTTRELL

Cutting the ribbon at the Open House for the Lighthouse Community Center in Rogersville, Tenn., are Gaylene Taylor (left), assistant; Melville Bailey, county mayor; Judy Reginaldi, director; and Jason Wheeler, Rogersville Church pastor.

trous flood hit the Sneedville area. The Clinch River overflowed its banks 30 feet above flood stage. In response, the local Adventist churches in Greeneville, Morristown, and Rogersville join in assisting the Red Cross and the Conference. In the late 1980s, a mobile home

located near the church became the official beginnings of Lighthouse. Today, the Lighthouse Community Center's ministry continues to grow and be an effective outreach to the area. 📍

BY DAVID LUTTRELL

Rock Spring Church Members Enjoy Freedom Fest

The Rock Spring Church participated in the Freedom Festival in nearby LaFayette, Ga., June 30, 2017. This evening event offers people the opportunity to sell food, and arts and crafts. Local businesses and churches also set up tents to advertise their product or church. It is always the weekend before July 4th, so in the evening, fireworks finish the festival.

The Rock Spring Church had not par-

ticipated in this event before, but decided while the movie Hacksaw Ridge was still fresh in people's minds, they would give away Desmond Doss books. Two Conscientious Objector DVDs were given away as prizes, and the church borrowed the life size Desmond Doss statue to attract people to their booth. Members of the Battlefield Community Church Pathfinder club also came in full dress uniform, and demonstrated the knot that



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JUSTIN CHILDERS

Members from the Rock Spring, Ga., Church held a booth at the Freedom Fest in LaFayette. They even had a life size statue of the late Desmond Doss.

Doss used to rescue those 75 men from enemy fire.

The church provided people the opportunity to sign up for Bible studies. Two people have already signed up. Justin Childers, Rock Spring Church pastor, also sent each person that registered for the drawing a letter advertising an upcoming meeting, a one-week seminar on last day

events in August. He believes that the booth was good for the community and the members, and that it is good to participate in community events, as it provides an opportunity to meet people in the community.

Childers said the members plan to make the Freedom Festival booth an annual outreach, adding that consistency is

important.

Next year the members will give away some of the same books and new ones as they continue to reach out. 📌

BY JUSTIN CHILDERS

Alpharetta VBS Program Goes to Haiti

Seventy-three children and 38 volunteers became Galactic Starveyors as the Alpharetta, Ga., Church conducted its annual Vacation Bible School (VBS), June 19-23, 2017.

Because of the generosity of Alpharetta's members, this year's program will be reproduced in Canaran, Haiti, for an orphanage operated by The Beehive International, Inc. Next month, members of the Alpharetta Church will travel to Haiti to help The Beehive with their community service programs and construction, and teach the same VBS program at the Mexny orphanage of 14 boys and girls.

Alpharetta has not only donated the needed supplies, but also raised \$515 through a "rocket ship" coin collection craft. These funds will build three screened windows for Mexny's children, and Alpharetta representatives will have the honor of putting them into place.

This is the second year Alpharetta has reached out to The Beehive International.

The director of international development for The Beehive, Jonathan Euler, states, "Alpharetta Church has been donating much needed medical supplies and funds to support the work we are doing in Haiti. My first mission trip was actually under the direction of their pastor, Rusty Williams, more than 10 years ago."

Kelly Mosley, director of this year's VBS program at Alpharetta, said, "To me,



SUBMITTED BY: CYNTHIA EULER

Alpharetta, Ga., Church VBS participants proudly show off their Rocket Ship Coin Collection Jars. This team raised money to hold a second VBS program in Haiti next month at the Mexny orphanage.

VBS is the ultimate evangelistic program. Statistics show that kids ages 5-12 are more likely to accept Jesus as their Savior than any other time in their life. I personally experienced this as a child who attended VBS with my cousins a few summers in a row. That's all the Jesus I got for the whole year! I did not come to have a relationship with Jesus and accept him as my Savior until I was an adult, and I know without a doubt my time at VBS had a big part in my decision."

Williams adds, "It is so gratifying to work with a church family that places so much value on kids having fun and learning about Jesus through our VBS program as well as Pathfinders and dynamic Sab-

bath School departments. The fact that the program can overflow all the way to Haiti is incredible!"

The Beehive International was founded in 2009. Their website says they have "blossomed into several unique ministries and services focused on improving the health and well-being of those with whom we come into contact," (<https://www.the-beehives.org/about-us/>). In Haiti, The Beehive assists five orphanages, teaches agriculture principles, and employs nearly 100 full-time workers designing and building furniture. 📌

BY CYNTHIA EULERI

Real Problems Targeted with Messages of Hope



PHOTO BY: JEFF CRAIN

Jeff Crain (right), pastor, takes a selfie with baptismal candidates Cyntoria Davis, Samantha Stallworth, and Cynthia Davis.



Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial/evangelism director, shares Messages of Hope in Pensacola, Fla.

It's all about hope. That was the positive, inspiring Gospel message presented by Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial/evangelism director, at the recent evangelistic meeting series held at University Parkway Church in Pensacola, Fla. Each night of the eight days, Hernandez focused on people's problems, and offered solutions to them based on biblical principles. He also connected to his audience with anecdotes about his own personal experiences. As attendee Skip Giles noted, "He explained biblical truths in a non-accusatory way, and made them more relevant to modern times."

"Awesome" and "the best ever," were the comments of church member Joyce Linford, who said she thoroughly enjoyed the meetings. "It helped me have more hope, and along with hope goes faith," she said. Earl Roberts said he found the meetings "refreshing. Without getting too technical,

the speaker was clear and understandable." As Hernandez emphasized, "Hope is not a political slogan or a pipe dream. Hope is what sustains, inspires, and propels. God doesn't consult your past to build your future." Among problems commonly faced by everyone, Hernandez focused on relationships, failure, money issues, and pain and suffering. Following each message, he invited individuals to come forward for prayer.

Offering something for everyone, the series included music performed by guest soloists, a nightly health presentation, and a Vacation Bible School program for children ages three to 12. Also, there was a nightly drawing for featured gift items, including music CDs, books, and audio Bible tapes. As long-time church member Pat Morrow noted, the series was well planned, down-to-earth, and people-friendly. Jennifer Hubbard, who assisted with greeting and

registration, added that the more intimate, personal approach to Bible guidance led naturally to a more personal relationship with Jesus.

Noted guest musical artists included Naomi Striemer, Hugo Yin, Neville Peter, Steve Darmody, and the Lesser Light Collective. Also, each evening Lynell LaMountain, director of the CREATION Health program, presented a 10-minute health topic. Noting the favorable response, Jeff Crain, pastor, said he is talking with LaMountain to arrange a weekend health seminar. "What I keep hearing over and over from church members and guests is, 'These meetings were excellent and refreshing.' God was being presented in a way that you wanted a relationship with Him." To cap off the meetings, they had five baptisms, and expect to have five more in the near future. 📌

BY GLENDA HASS

Marianna Church Members Honor Veterans

The Marianna Church members held a special Sabbath program to honor the members who are veterans of the armed forces on July 1, 2017. The sanctuary was decorated with a display made by James Meeks, head deacon, that held not only the American flag but the flags of each branch of service — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard. The message for the day was



Army veteran and elder Charles Barkham (far right) stands with honored veterans.



“Challenge” coins were presented to each veteran.

brought by Charles Barkman, elder and a 90-year-old Army veteran, who was dressed in his uniform for the occasion.

At the end of the service, a special “challenge” coin was presented to all veterans in attendance. The coin has the words “Onward Christian Soldiers” surrounding the American and Christian flag

on one side, and the words “Marching As To War — We are not divided, all one body we” on the other side. It was a moving moment, and an unforgettable Sabbath for all who attended. 🕒

BY FELECIA DORCHUCK

Shoals Church Hosts Alzheimer’s Seminar

Author, speaker, and Alzheimer’s caregiver specialist Rebecca Jarrard, R.N., of Athens, Ala., blessed a crowd of attendees ranging from caregivers, to medical professionals, to the curious. Health Ministries of Shoals Church in Florence, Ala., hosted the event on Sunday, March 12, 2017, and it was open to the public and free of charge.

Jarrard has had an interesting journey leading to the specialized area of expertise God has called her to share. While residing in Utah during the 1990s, she was a charge nurse in an Alzheimer’s unit. She observed that the overwhelming majority of caregivers did not know how to redirect agitated and combative patients. Staff members often ran from the patients, sometimes leaving the residents with no supervision. There were few activities, so the residents wan-

dered aimlessly about the unit.

She later accepted a position as director of a 30-bed Alzheimer’s/dementia unit in New Jersey. Jarrard’s unit remained deficiency-free and recommendation-free by the state. Her unit was also chosen as one of the field sites for graduate students from the University of North Carolina to observe behavior patterns of people with Alzheimer’s and dementia.

When Alzheimer’s Touches A Family, *Behind The Scenes of a Five-Star Skilled Nursing Facility*, and *Awakening The Sleeping Heart* are books authored by Rebecca Jarrard. For more information about her ministry, visit www.rebeccajarrard.com.

After Jarrard’s enlightening presentation, refreshments were served, door prizes were given out, and a question-and-answer

session was held. Additionally, certificates were provided for attendees who needed CEU credit. 🕒



Attendee Janene Jenkins (left) poses with guest presenter Rebecca Jarrard, R.N.

BY MARY BEAVER

Ridgetop Church Hosts Student Literature Evangelists

The Ridgetop Church was in full evangelistic mode this past summer. In an effort to work with Roger Hernandez and the SALT field school for the 2018 evangelistic outreach, the church hosted nearly 30 student MagaBook canvassers and a Bible worker to work closely with the pastor, William Little, and the members. These young literature evangelists diligently worked the small towns around the church, and then expanded into the greater Nashville, Tenn., area, generating hundreds of Bible study and health-related interests. Thousands of truth-filled books like *The Great Controversy*, as well as health-related MagaBooks, were distributed. Tens of thousands of GLOW tracts and free Bible study enrollments were given out, and it was commonplace to observe students praying with people in the doors of their homes. Every Sabbath the Ridgetop Church, as well as local sister churches, were blessed by the testimonies and special music given by these young people.

This experience is a healthy reminder of the observation made by Ellen White many



years ago: "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the

whole world," *Education*, page 271. ①

BY ROCKY DAVIS
PUBLISHING DIRECTOR

Ridgetop Elementary Enjoys Total Eclipse Excitement

Ridgetop Adventist Elementary School (RAES) was in the path of totality as the great American eclipse swept across the country on August 21, 2017. Most Nashville, Tenn., area schools were closed that day, but the RAES staff could not possibly let such an amazing educational opportunity pass by. Instead, they decided to turn that day into an Eclipse Party! Enough eclipse

glasses were ordered for all of the students, school personnel, and plenty of guests. The days immediately before the eclipse were spent making pinhole viewers, learning about shadow bands and Bailey's Beads, and studying the orbital mechanics that make a total eclipse possible.

On the morning of the eclipse, there was great anticipation as approximately

60 students, church members, and guests watched the news reports from the West Coast, and kept an anxious eye on the cloud cover in middle Tennessee. Two guests drove all the way from California just for the eclipse! Along with various games and activities, David Garner had prepared a very interesting eclipse presentation for the guests. Everyone snacked on eclipse themed treats like

Moon Pies, Capri-Sun, Sun Chips, and Eclipse gum. At 1:26 p.m., a treat of two minutes and thirty-four seconds of totality, complete with a beautiful diamond ring effect and Bailey's Beads, began.

The eclipse was just the tiniest taste of the intricate marvels of God's universe. It was such a blessing to have had this phenomena right at the front door. Everyone can look forward to having an eternity to study the universe with Him. 🕒

BY AARON RAINES
RAES PRINCIPAL



Victory Church Members Collect School Supplies

The members at Victory Church in Hermitage, Tenn., were looking for a way to become more visible in their community when an opportunity presented itself at the end of the 2017 school year. The church reached out to several elementary schools in the Hermitage area to see if Victory could be of some assistance to the students and staff. Ruby Major Elementary School responded right away, and accepted the invitation for Victory to meet an important need in their school.

Molly Renard, school counselor, discussed how their school provides education to 645 students. Many of these students come from low income households. The students make up a diverse population with 23 countries represented. Included in this population are refugees who are new to this country and have little to support themselves. Homelessness is also a growing problem among families, and it is not uncommon for many of these students to be bused to school from shelters.

Renard made a suggestion that Victory Church collect school supplies for



Victory Church members deliver school supplies to Ruby Major Elementary School in Hermitage, Tenn.

the upcoming 2017-18 school year. Over a period of six weeks, Victory Church members collected the needed school supplies, and on Sabbath, July 29, 2017, the members brought all of their supplies to church. During the service, the congregation had a prayer of dedication for

the supplies and the children who would receive them. The project was a success, and by God's grace Victory was able to collect more than 500 school supplies. 🕒

BY CHRISTINE LUKWIYA
COMMUNITY SERVICES

Ebenezer Members Celebrate Twins' 101st Birthday

The Fifty-Plus Club at Ebenezer Church in Augusta, Ga., made its annual 80-mile trip to Oconee, Ga., on June 3, 2017. The purpose of the trip was to present an uplifting, spiritual service, and to encourage and support one of the oldest members of the congregation, Annie O. Brown, and her twin sister, Gussie Turner, by helping them to celebrate their birthday. This recurring visit is one of the highlights of the yearly calendar for the organization.

On this occasion, the twins reached a milestone when they turned 101 years old. They showed great delight as the church family, consisting of about 25 individuals, including the pastor, church officers, and members, filed into the nursing home where they reside. The cheerful and alert women kept the group at rapt attention as they shared their wisdom and fond memories from the past. They remembered former presidents, world events, and church happenings which occurred during their lifetime. That God has blessed them with good health and sound minds was evident as everyone listened to recollections.

The other residents of the Oconee Nursing Home heartily joined in the singing, and responded enthusiastically as the program was presented. Music, poems, Scripture, congrat-



PHOTO BY: HARDIN DUNN

Twins Annie O. Brown (left) and Gussie Turner celebrated their 101st birthday this past June.

ulatory expressions, and a sermonette made up the program outline. At the conclusion the well-wishers presented tokens of love to the honorees, and the group melodiously sang the traditional "Happy Birthday" song.

The club, which was organized by Hardin Dunn, deacon, is actively involved in outreach in the Augusta area, and ministers to some of the local nursing homes and sick and shut-in people in the city. The club members are truly blessed themselves as they remember and seek to implement the words of Jesus, "Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me," Matthew 25:40. 📌



PHOTO BY: HARDIN DUNN

Ebenezer Church in Augusta, Ga., Fifty-Plus Club members

BY SHIRLEY JOHNSON

East Market Church Holds Computer Class



Pictured are Elease Cornelius (front row, left); Frances Cook; Bessie Bordgen; Shirley Shaw; Elaine Scott (back row, left); Mildred Vincent; Annie Johnson; Essie Brown, assistant; Mattie Todd, president; Dell Cohen, instructor; and Helen Graves.

Mattie Todd, president of the Golden Age Department at East Market Church in Greensboro, N.C., had a vision for her group to learn computer skills. Sharon Cornelius, group advisor, approached Dell Cohen, since she was retired, and ask if she would volunteer to share her computer knowledge with the seniors. Realizing the growing need for technology, Cohen agreed. The women accepted the opportunity to attend a two-

hour session each Wednesday for one year.

The program not only taught them how to use the computer, it also created an environment which allowed the women to fellowship as they encouraged one another to achieve their goals. They received certificates at completion of the course, and an advance course is planned. 📌

BY VERONICA J. ROSS

Five-Day Gospel Caravan Held Across Three States

Roger Hernandez, Southern Union ministerial/evangelism director, initiated preparations for a Gospel caravan in April 2017, and each participating pastor received Bible lessons, PowerPoint presentations, and flyers to promote the caravan.

Hernandez preached for five consecutive days in a different city, starting the

evening of August 22, 2017, in Warsaw, N.C.; Raleigh, N.C., on August 23; Charlotte, N.C., on August 24; Columbia, S.C., on August 25; and Dalton, Ga., on Sabbath morning, August 26. The grand finale was at Berean Church in Atlanta, Ga., where more than 400 attendees celebrated with music, baptism, and fellowship.

Pastors Kircio Mota, Luis Espinosa, Jorge Quintiana, Abraham Acosta, John Newlove, Ismael Uribe, Jose Reyes, and Efrain Poloche reported 50 baptisms as a result of the entire caravan. All of these pastors praise God for the results. 🙏

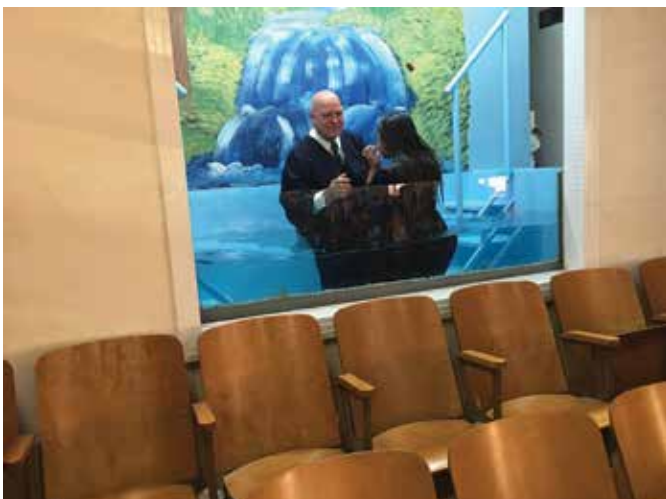
BY EFRAIN POLOCHE



Columbia, N.C.



Warsaw, N.C.



Dalton, Ga.



Atlanta, Ga.

Southeastern Hires New Chaplain for School Support, Outreach



PHOTO BY: EDDY GUERRIER

Eddy Guerrier pauses between class sessions for a selfie with Miami Union students. Guerrier serves as chaplain for Southeastern schools, and outreach liaison for secular universities.

Eddy Guerrier is the new chaplain for Southeastern Conference. Guerrier has been charged with outreach to the secular universities in the Miami, Fla., area, providing spiritual support to the Conference schools in south Florida, and helping to determine the spiritual direction each school should take.

His “go-getter, let’s-solve-it” attitude joins with the fact that he is mission-driven, making him fit for the task. At Miami Union Academy, he introduced himself to the student body in a way that they would never forget, as “Pastor Eddy Spa-

ghetti.” This introduction filled the room with laughter and lightened the atmosphere. It is with such lightheartedness that he is able to reach out to students of all ages.

Guerrier has already begun to have positive impact. In a recent message that aimed to teach students of various age groups how to pray, he utilized differentiated instruction to connect with the students. He placed the students in groups with varied praying tasks. One group received notecards to write their prayers, one group received dry-erase markers to

draw their praise, and one group received sticky notes to write something they pray would be forgiven. Then they placed it on a cross. The activity was well received by all age groups.

When asked about this tall order, he commented, “My greatest responsibility is the ministry of presence and the ministry of patience, before I can even start pouring into them.” His plate is running over with responsibilities, but his cup overflows with joy. 🙏

BY GAVIN GAYNAIR

“March for Hope” Held in Delray Beach



Jeff Goldman (left), Delray police chief, marches with Leonard Newton, pastor of the Daughter of Zion Church in Delray, Fla., and other church members in the second annual March for Hope. Daughter of Zion has worked consistently to partner with Delray police to educate children and promote community solidarity.

PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

stand for hope today, we unite together today, to ensure that our children of today are taken care of. We're going to stand and go all in — radical being the new normal for us.”

Pastor Leonard Newton; Delray Police Chief Jeff Goldman; and local church members took a “March for Hope” to promote public safety and collaborative community building. Newton and the Daughter of Zion members spent the day with the rally for hope and public safety, back-to-school supplies giveaway, food distribution, and more. When asked about the benefits of cultivating relationships with local law enforcement, Newton remarked, “I believe it's a very good relationship that we have with our law enforcement. In fact, they were just with us this past AY to help us with a program we were doing.”

BY WPTV WEBTEAM AND SEC STAFF

It was all about bringing the community and law enforcement together at one rally in Palm Beach, Fla. Community members marched side by side with Delray Beach, Fla., police officers to unite as one. After the march a rally was held at Daughter of Zion

Church. There the children were able to grab back-to-school supplies and groceries. Organizers say the rally is not only about creating change, but doing it together as a community.

Coordinator Michael Hannah said, “We

Churches Unite to Promote Health

South Florida Adventist Games is a weekend event which takes place annually in July. Hosted by several churches, the weekend includes worship services, health seminars, a track and field competition, and health expo. Sabbath services featured worship and a short series of sermons on the theme of overcomers and victory, delivered by Nigel Lewis, D.Min., of New Life Church in Brooklyn, N.Y. Sabbath evening worship focused on family life, and included breakout sessions geared to reach different groups, and a health seminar by Fidel Goldson Jr., PT, DC, from Goldson Spine Rehab Center. Goldson shared keys to keeping the athletes safe and injury free on Sunday. Sabbath activities were concluded with an evening concert.

Sunday's events hosted more than 1,000 people, and included a health expo and athletic events for ages five to 75, that ranged from the shot put and 100-yard-dash, to



PHOTO BY: C.C. THOMPSON

Participants in the 100-yard dash race to the finish during the SoFlo Olympics. Track and field events ranged from shot put to sack races. This is the seventh year of the Olympics.

sack race, three-legged race, soccer, volleyball, and basketball, all held at the Joseph C. Carter Park in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

The event also featured a prayer tent, where members prayed for and with participants. Local vendors provided free giveaways for attendees. Medical missionaries Peter and Sheila Roesler hosted free vegetarian cooking classes. There was also

a “kids zone,” with large bounce houses, games, and treats for children.

SoFlo promotes strength of spirit, soul, and body. It was begun with a burden to help area churches fellowship more, and adopt healthy lifestyles. Seven years later, they're doing just that.

BY PATRICIA REYNOLDS

ADU Grad Student Leads Initiative to Combat Community Hunger



Fernando Blanco (right), Pharm.D., poses with Dean Compher, warehouse manager at Florida Hospital's food processing center, holding donations ready to be sent to Second Harvest Food Bank.

Recently, Florida Hospital (FH) Orlando began a partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank (SHFB) to launch a new initiative. Unused food that had previously been thrown away will now be packaged and stored for donation to SHFB, which will take these donations to local soup kitchens, churches, and other organizations.

This project received a big helping hand from an Adventist University of Health Sciences (ADU) master of healthcare administration (M.H.A.) graduate student, Fernando Blanco, Pharm.D. Blanco took a Capstone project graduation requirement and turned it into a passionate mission. When Blanco was informed of the planned partnership with SHFB, he was immediately drawn to its purpose, one that

he saw as a natural fit with his work as a second-year pharmacy administration resident at Florida Hospital.

Reports that 70 percent of central Florida households have made the choice between buying food or paying mortgage or rent at least once during the previous year are devastating. From the perspective of one who is involved with providing patients often costly medications, Blanco imagined another difficult choice facing these disadvantaged households: the decision between buying food and paying for vital prescriptions. "It's an unrealistic expectation for patients to adhere to their medicine regimen if they're struggling to pay for food or rent."

Getting the project off the ground was no easy effort. Blanco collaborated closely with Tennille Yates, a registered dietician from FH's Nutritional Services team. SHFB needed an estimate on how much food they could expect from Florida Hospital each month. Blanco began the process by presenting information to the FH Nutritional Services team on the "how" and "why" of the initiative.

He covered nutrition, as well as relayed guidelines on what types of food could and could not be sent for donation. Next he began his waste assessment phase by placing receptacles in the hospital's cafeterias and kitchens for potential food donations to be sorted by the workers there. At the end of each day, he collected these and weighed them. After a month he calculated the average amount of food for SHFB to expect each month — a staggering 2,000 pounds of food.

He presented his results to the Nutritional Services team as well, which allowed them to evaluate where they were wasting resources the most, and enabling them to be more efficient with food production. The members of SHFB were surprised by the thoroughness of Blanco's work, noting it was a first from one of their

partners. As a bonus, the foods primarily being donated from Florida Hospital were expected to be more nutritious, consisting primarily of high quality proteins, vegetables, and fruits, as opposed to typical food donations of processed meals and canned foods.

Blanco was excited about the future of this project, mentioning the community impact this partnership will have, and how it ties strongly to FH's and ADU's population health initiatives. Re-purposing leftover food that would have ended up in landfills decreases monetary and environmental costs for the community, while providing health benefits for impoverished families.

The goal is to spread this program to all Florida Hospital campuses, and the east Orlando campus is already on board, having received a visit from Blanco to get the process started. Overall, the project has been successful, with more than 10,000 meals donated since March 2017.

Currently, Blanco has completed his residency with Florida Hospital and started a new role as the pharmacy business and operations manager. He is in the final stages of earning his M.H.A. degree, with an expected completion date of December 18, 2017. But still, his community work continues. His dedicated, detailed work impressed SHFB, and they invited him to present his educational materials and findings to other community leaders, including members of Orlando Health, paving the way for others to follow.

Blanco's exemplary work represents the qualities that Adventist University of Health Sciences envisions for all its graduates. Students leaving the institution are trained to become healthcare leaders who display innovative thinking, and a drive to serve their community through superior, compassionate care. ●

BY LISA MARIE ESSER

Visiting Students Take Home Broader View

For nearly three weeks this summer, Southern Adventist University hosted 13 Japanese students, primarily from Saniku Gakuin College, an Adventist institution less than two hours from Tokyo, Japan. This annual program, which began nearly 10 years ago, gives students the opportunity to take a nursing course as well as an English as a second language class while on campus.

Beckie Retzer, Southern nursing professor, believes the program can be eye-opening for them.

“Nursing is different in Japan,” Retzer said. “The nurses are not allowed quite the autonomy that nurses are here, so they see some cultural differences, which I think is invaluable to young people.”

Most of the attendees are sophomore nursing majors back in Japan. Like many of her classmates, student Yui Oashi said that her family ties are a big influence in her career aspirations.

“I want to be a pediatric nurse in the future, because I like to take care of children,” Oashi said. “My mother is a nurse, and I want to respect her.”

Other participants expressed how much



The visiting Japanese students donned traditional attire for their farewell dinner at Southern.

they enjoyed being able to come to America and visit Southern because they believe the experience will help them reach their goals.

“My courage is not so big at home, but here it is so big,” said student Kaho Ogawa.

Local families host the students and try

to immerse them in American and Adventist culture.

“I used to be a student missionary in Japan, so having the students stay with me gives me a little taste of the culture again,” said Linda Case, host parent and cafeteria hostess at Southern. “It’s nice because I know a little Japanese, and they know a little English.”

English professor Amanda Livanos, the program coordinator, also sees these visits as a way to reach out to the students spiritually.

“They come from an Adventist college, but most of them are not Adventists,” Livanos said. “Here they have worship in class and can attend church on Sabbaths with their host families. It is a wonderful experience to be able to show them God.”

Livanos believes that this experience is not just good for the visiting students, but also for campus and the host families.

“When we get to know other cultures,” Livanos said, “we gain a broader worldview and understanding, and that’s beneficial.” ●

BY TIERRA HAYES

New Film Project Gives Southern Students Valuable Experience

Southern film students are gaining hands-on experience working on the School of Visual Art and Design’s latest feature film, which began production this summer. Filmed in Chattanooga, Tennessee, *Belly of the Whale* is currently in post-production. The project was written and directed by Nicholas Livanos, M.F.A., associate film professor, and produced by David George, M.F.A., film program coordinator — both graduates of Southern.

“This film is helping me see what I want to do with my degree,” said Sydney Tooley, a 2017 film graduate. “And, it looks good on a resume to have a feature film under your belt.”

Belly of the Whale is a light-hearted tale involving a high school play about Jonah and a reluctant math teacher, Theodore Pitts, tasked with directing the play. The story explores the underlying spiritual struggle that Jonah and Pitts have in common.

Film production students are involved in every aspect of the project, from working on set to post-production editing, color correcting, music and audio refining, and more.

“I can say with certainty that there is learning going on in every moment,” George said. “Students are getting a lot out of this experience.” ●

BY GELISSA LEVEILLE

Fayetteville, Un Distrito Que Trabaja



Ceremonia bautismal en el grupo de Lumberton

Grupo de Lumberton “A Los Pies Del Salvador”

El nuevo y creciente grupo de Lumberton, tuvo una emotiva celebración sabática de evangelismo luego de la semana que comenzara el 8 de julio y se extendiera hasta el 15. El título de la misma fue “A Los Pies del Salvador.” El programa fue especial. La iglesia estuvo acompañada de amigos y visitas quienes participaron de la alegría de la congregación, al ver los frutos de la cosecha: seis personas entregaron sus vidas a Cristo por medio del bautismo.

El líder del grupo José Moreno juntamente con el invitado especial pastor Eliasib Pérez, esa semana visitaron a los interesados para motivarlos a tomar el paso de entregar sus vidas a Jesús.

Es alentador ver el ánimo con que la nueva y creciente hermandad trabaja en un evangelismo nutrido de la gracia salvadora del cielo. El director del grupo y los miembros continúan dándole

seguimiento a las personas que noche a noche respondieron a la invitación de entregar sus vidas a Dios. De esta forma, varios se preparan para el bautismo que se llevará a cabo al finalizar la próxima campaña de noviembre.

Raeford “Levántate y Resplandece”



Levántate y Resplandece, Ministerio de la Mujer

El Ministerio de la Mujer dirigido por Erenia Rivera, llevó a cabo un excelente programa cuyo título fue “Levántate y Resplandece”. El mismo tuvo lugar los días 9 y 10 de junio. La oradora invitada fue Magaly Minaya, quien con el carisma y la experiencia que la caracterizan, motivó a las participantes a buscar las grandes verdades atesoradas en las Sagradas Escrituras, fuente inagotable de riquezas celestiales. La invitación fue a levantarse y resplandecer. Se subrayó la importancia de transitar por el camino de la santificación producida por el Espíritu que transforma día a día, visualizando a través del ojo de la fe la patria eterna que Dios tiene reservada para cada una de sus hijas.

Fayetteville “El Rey Ya viene”

De acuerdo a la Biblia, la historia de este mundo está llegando a su momento final. Por esta razón el Espíritu del Señor está trabajando con mayor énfasis en el corazón de los miembros de la iglesia de Fayetteville. Del 5 al 12 de agosto participaron en una fructífera semana

de evangelismo bajo el lema “El Rey Ya Viene.” El orador fue el pastor Pedro Cortez de Puerto Rico, quien compartió las maravillosas verdades registradas en el libro de Daniel capítulo 11. El énfasis se puso en los versículos 40 al 45. Los asistentes disfrutaron descubriendo verdades profundas, que les dieron la certeza de la pronta venida de Jesús. Se pudo respirar la presencia del Espíritu Santo, y todos salieron altamente motivados a estudiar la palabra de Dios con seriedad, y a poner sus vidas a los pies del Salvador.

La iglesia agradece a Dios por esta bendición, y a los miembros que liderados por la directora misionera Marilyn Nater, colaboraron en la planificación y ejecución de este programa. En la actualidad, trabajan con los interesados que resultaron de este evento, esperando que en un futuro cercano se puedan ver frutos para el reino de los cielos. 🕊



Pastor Cortez en una de sus presentaciones en Fayetteville

ELÍAS SANDOVAL, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Noticias del Distrito de Mableton



Uno de los 8 grupos pequeños



Uno de los niños predicadores

“Grupos Pequeños Misioneros de Verano”

En el mes de julio el distrito de Mableton lanzó la temporada de los grupos pequeños. Participaron un total de 8 grupos que llevaban a cabo reuniones semanales de estudio y oración. Estas reuniones finalizaron con una semana de conferencias en hogares que redundó en muchas personas interesadas en continuar profundizando las verdades de la Biblia. La iglesia continúa trabajando por ellos.

Esta dinámica de discipulado misionero de los miembros ayuda en el desarrollo de sus dones espirituales, en el crecimiento

de la fe por medio de la testifacación, y crea un semillero de almas para las conferencias evangelísticas de cosecha. La iglesia está convencida de que su enfoque debe centrarse en el discipulado práctico de sus miembros, y no solamente en la labor pastoral.

Niños Predicadores.

La iglesia hispana de Canton llevó a cabo una conferencia especial titulada “José en Egipto”, durante la semana del 17 al 24 de julio. Lo que hizo de este evento algo especial, fue que los protagonistas fueron los niños. Ellos dirigieron las alabanzas, tuvieron a su cargo la música

especial, los dramas y las predicaciones que causaron impacto en los asistentes. Cabe destacar que el número de personas que se llegaba cada noche superaba el de las conferencias habituales, en las que se cuenta con evangelistas invitados. Esta experiencia evangelística trajo como resultado 2 bautismos, con relatos de conversión inspiradores.

La iglesia glorifica a Dios por los pequeños, quienes serán usados por el Espíritu Santo en la terminación de la obra en esta tierra. 🙏

RICHARD URDANETA, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO

Escuela de Discipulado Orgánico

Después de años de planificación y preparación, la iglesia Hispanoamericana de Collegedale, situada en el campus de la universidad Southern, Tennessee, concluyó el primer ciclo lectivo de la escuela de discipulado orgánico, que tuvo una duración de diez días. El pastor Joel Barrios informa: “Teníamos 32 estudiantes de diferentes partes de los Estados Unidos, de Centro y Sudamérica, con edades comprendidas entre los 16 y 61 años. Durante los diez días, nos enfocamos en presentar el evangelio sin aditivos culturales. El grupo se convirtió en una verdadera iglesia orgánica, donde jóvenes y adultos de diferentes países se mezclaron en una comunidad amorosa y reconfirmaron su llamado a ser parte del movimiento adventista. Catorce de ellos decidieron ser rebautizados el último sábado. De acuerdo a sus testimonios, descubrieron que hasta ahora habían vivido para sí mismos y no para Jesús. Se habían esforzado tratando de ganar la salvación, sin darse cuenta de que la obra de Jesús es suficiente, y es el factor motivador para servirle sin restricción.



Grupo de estudiantes de la escuela

Cuatro de los jóvenes sintieron el llamado al ministerio. Entre los asistentes había doctores, ingenieros, enfermeras, maestros, abogados, trabajadores regulares, inversionistas y un pastor de jóvenes. Además, todas las noches se registraban más de 2.000 espectadores que a través de Internet, participaban de la reunión vespertina. A todos se les presentó el desafío de ser testigos en los lugares donde viven, compartiendo el evangelio de la manera que se da en la Biblia.”

El currículo se dividió en siete áreas: 1) los principios del Evangelio, 2) los principios del Reino de Dios, 3) los principios de las

relaciones interpersonales, 4) la profecía 5) la naturaleza de la iglesia 6) la espiritualidad práctica y 7) la adoración. Los presentadores fueron los pastores Robert Amaya (asociación de la Florida) y Juanfer Monsalve (Impacto). Axel Orellana (anciano de Collegedale español) Alex y Melany Candelaria (directores de adoración de Collegedale español) y el pastor Joel Barrios, director de la iniciativa. Los miembros de la iglesia Hispanoamericana de Collegedale estuvieron muy involucrados en la logística (comida, transporte, experiencia de rafting, cuidado de niños, y administración). A los pocos días de finalizado el evento, ya había inscripciones de candidatos que desean asistir el año que viene.

Fue una experiencia espiritual que traerá grandes resultados en las vidas de quienes participaron, y por ende, en vida de las personas con las que estén en contacto en sus ciudades de origen. 📌

MARIEL LOMBARDI, EDITORA

Dios Capacita a Quienes Llama

Hace unas semanas, Beatriz conducía por las calles de Atlanta, rumbo a la tienda de libros cristianos. Mientras lo hacía, su mente estaba perpleja. Pensaba en maneras de mejorar la forma de administrar las finanzas de su hogar, y compartía sus pensamientos con Dios. Su objetivo era ahorrar dinero, pero eso nunca parecía posible. La razón por la que se dirigía a la tienda de libros cristianos era que Miguel, su marido, ha adquirido el hábito de regalar Biblias. Estaba contenta por el deseo de Miguel de compartir su fe, pero al mismo tiempo se daba cuenta de que estaban gastando mucho dinero en esto. El precio que pagaban por cada Biblia era de 35.99 dólares, y la lista de conocidos de Miguel que no tenían ningún ejemplar de las Sagradas Escrituras parecía crecer. De todos modos allí estaba, yendo a comprar dos Biblias más.

Faltando poco para llegar, se distrajo

cuando vio el supermercado Sam’s Club. No había planeado detenerse allí, pero por alguna razón decidió hacerlo. Entró en la tienda y comenzó a recorrer los pasillos con sus góndolas llenas de alimentos. De repente, algo llamó su atención: había un cartel que indicaba que en ese lugar había una oferta, y para su sorpresa, ¡lo que se ofertaba eran Biblias! “¿Qué?” Pensó. “¿Desde cuándo Sam’s Club vende Biblias?” Se acercó al lugar donde se exhibían y descubrió que la misma Biblia que ella iba a comprar por 35.99 dólares se estaba vendiendo por 15.99 dólares. Quedó en estado de shock por un momento, con sus ojos muy abiertos. Parecía como si Dios le estuviera diciendo: “Yo inspiré el nuevo hábito de Miguel, y lo voy a ayudar.”

Beatriz compró las Biblias y regresó a casa. Cuando Miguel las preparaba para regalarlas, sacó las pegatinas que decían 15.99 y vio que debajo de cada una de ellas había otra

etiqueta que decía 35.99. Dios había hablado con Beatriz ese día, guiándola para obtener las herramientas que su esposo necesitaba para cumplir con la misión. Ella y Miguel se sintieron bienaventurados.

“Y el Dios de paz que resucitó de los muertos a nuestro Señor Jesucristo... os haga aptos en toda obra buena para que hagáis su voluntad.”

Hebreos 13: 20-21 (NVI)

¡Y lo hará !! 📌



Miguel y Beatriz Verdecia

MARIEL LOMBARDI, EDITORA

Servicio Comunitario de Evangelismo en Tuscaloosa



Una de las clases del servicio comunitario



Miembros de la iglesia de Tuscaloosa

La ciudad de Tuscaloosa, Alabama, se caracteriza por ser sede de la universidad estatal de Alabama, lo que hace que el estilo de vida sea diferente. El ambiente es jovial y animado. Aparte de la universidad, allí se encuentra el quinto estadio de fútbol de los Estados Unidos y Octavo en el mundo, en lo que se refiere a tamaño. El equipo de fútbol al que pertenece este estadio es el orgullo de Alabama. La comunidad hispana es numerosa. Existen alrededor de 60 negocios latinos y más de 15 iglesias hispanas de diferentes denominaciones. El condado de Tuscaloosa tiene algunas ciudades importantes como Coaling, Coker, Northport, Moundville, Cottondale y Tuscaloosa.

En octubre del 2015, el pastor Rammy Robles, después de haber estado en IASD Forest Hispanic como estudiante misionero, fue invitado por Huascar Rodríguez, entonces pastor del distrito meridiano, para ser pastor misionero de la iglesia hispana de Tuscaloosa. Robles se puso como meta desarrollar un método estratégico de discipulado. Para ello creó un plan de capacitación evangelístico y estructural, entrenando y motivando a los miembros a llevar a cabo un evangelismo natural en la iglesia. Como resultado de este plan, se plantaron 10 grupos pequeños

que abarcaron tres condados diferentes: Pickens, Tuscaloosa y Brent. Once personas dieron su vida a Dios por medio del bautismo luego de la ejecución del plan.

En el año 2016, la iglesia decidió continuar con la implementación este plan de misión que esta vez tendría una duración de un año, solicitando a la asociación que el pastor Rammy sea asignado como obrero bíblico de la iglesia de Tuscaloosa, bajo la supervisión de Huascar Rodríguez. La asociación aprobó el nombramiento.

Desde enero hasta octubre del 2016 se trabajó en servicios comunitarios, combinado con estudios bíblicos y visitas misioneras. Como resultado de esta iniciativa, 31 personas se unieron a la iglesia. En el período octubre a diciembre la iglesia creció y decidieron iniciar una nueva filial en una ciudad donde a la llegada del pastor se había plantado un pequeño grupo de entre 25 y 30 personas. Allí se bautizaron 13 interesados.

La ayuda comunitaria se extendió internacionalmente. Luego de asistir a varios programas sobre mayordomía, amigos no miembros de iglesia decidieron donar sus recursos para ayudar a niños afectados por las inundaciones en República Dominicana.

Para el año 2017, se motivó a la juventud

de la iglesia a que se integre en el trabajo por la comunidad. Esta vez se desarrolló un plan de mayor alcance. Se creó un centro para hispanos en el que participan personas de la comunidad, 30 de los cuales no pertenecen a ninguna religión, y 15 a diferentes denominaciones. En coordinación con el superintendente de las escuelas de la ciudad de Tuscaloosa, se dictan clases de informática, educación familiar, financiera, administración, y de inglés. Como parte del plan, se ofrecen también clases de Biblia, a las que se da la mayor prioridad. También se ha incluido un programa de orientación para inmigrantes que coordina esfuerzos con el consulado mexicano y motiva a los hispanos a obtener y renovar sus documentos.

La iglesia de Tuscaloosa está trabajando en el proceso de registrar un nuevo grupo, resultado de este programa comunitario, y las dos iglesias del distrito continúan creciendo utilizando esta metodología de trabajo. El pastor Tammy Robles ha sido llamado a dirigir el distrito de Dothan Auburn-Opelika, donde planea continuar el mismo método de evangelismo. ●

RAMMY ROBLES, PASTOR DEL DISTRITO DE
DOTHAN, AUBURN-OPELIKA

Joven, Levántate

La asociación llevó a cabo el segundo retiro de jóvenes hispanos titulado: “Joven, Levántate”. El mismo fue organizado por FEJA, bajo la dirección del pastor Michel Rodríguez, líder de los jóvenes hispanos de la asociación. El escenario del evento que se efectuara del 16-18 de julio, fue una de las hermosas playas de Panama City, Florida.

Un total de 225 muchachos participaron del retiro, con el objetivo de fortalecer su relación con Jesús. El orador principal fue el pastor José Feliciano. Su dinamismo fue uno de los medios que Dios usó para reavivar a los jóvenes de la asociación y los amigos que se dieron cita en ese lugar. Entre otras cosas, Feliciano abrió su corazón para dar testimonio acerca de su vida espiritual como joven. Los asistentes pudieron identificarse con su situación, y sus mensajes fueron pertinentes para la realidad por la que muchos de ellos atraviesan.

Se realizaron diferentes actividades. Una de las más destacadas fue la final del concurso del libro de Apocalipsis. Las diferentes congregaciones se prepararon durante los meses previos al retiro. Las eliminatorias se habían llevado a cabo los sábados de tarde en las iglesias locales. Se otorgaron reconocimientos



Grupo de organizadores del retiro

para los cinco primeros lugares. Esta actividad representó un estímulo para estudiar a fondo las profecías y tener un conocimiento más amplio del libro de Apocalipsis.

Citlaly Avila, secretaria de FEJA, expresó: “El retiro fue algo increíble. Nuestros jóvenes definitivamente disfrutaron cada momento, y experimentaron un crecimiento espiritual notable. No hay duda de que luego de los mensajes recibidos, ellos esperan con gozo la segunda venida de Jesús”.

Yacquelin Velázquez, otra líder de jóvenes, dijo: “El retiro fue una gran bendición. La vida espiritual de los asistentes fue altamente enriquecida. Me

impactaron las predicaciones del pastor José Feliciano. Con mucha alegría pude notar que los muchachos están entusiasmados participando en la obra de nuestro Señor.”

Los asistentes dan gracias a la administración por invertir en estas actividades que forjan el carácter y los alientan a continuar con la llama viva de su fe. El título “Joven, Levántate” sin duda fue el llamado que todos necesitaban escuchar. El Espíritu Santo está trabajando. 🙏

ELIZABETH RODRÍGUEZ, SECRETARIA DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Encuentro Juvenil



Organizadores del evento

El fin de semana del 3-6 de agosto, el pastor Nelson Silva director asociado del departamento de jóvenes de la asociación, tuvo a su cargo un bendecido encuentro juvenil. Más de 250 jóvenes fueron llevados ante el trono de la gracia a través de la temática “Los Mapas de Jesús.” El evento tuvo lugar en el campamento Indian Creek en Tennessee.

Se agradece a todos los pastores y sus familias, como a los directores de jóvenes locales por el empeño que muestran en su labor de llevar la juventud a la Nueva Jerusalén. 🙏

ARMANDO DE LEÓN, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Sábado Juvenil

Más de 350 delegados provenientes de las iglesias Marietta Central, Roswell, Doraville, Chamblee, Carrollton y Douglasville se llegaron a la iglesia de Carrollton, en Georgia, el sábado 1 de abril para dar lugar al programa titulado “Joven, Levántate.” Durante el evento se llevó a cabo una ceremonia bautismal a cargo del pastor Quintiana. Cuando al finalizar la misma el pastor Poloche extendió el llamado a entregar las vidas a Cristo por medio del bautismo, siete personas tomaron

la decisión de bautizarse.

Estudiantes de la Universidad de Oakwood, en Alabama, dieron un toque de alabanza al programa por medio de la música, y el pastor Belisario también de Oakwood, estuvo a cargo de las predicaciones y seminarios. El evento fue inspirador para los asistentes, y se respiró un espíritu de alegría y alabanza. 📌

EFRAÍN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



Personas que acudieron al llamado a entregar la vida a Jesús

Celebración en la Iglesia Central

La iglesia Central celebró con alegría la ceremonia de finalización de pago de su hipoteca. La misma estuvo organizada por el pastor Ismael Uribe, nuevo líder de la congregación, y los miembros de la junta de iglesia. El programa tuvo lugar el sábado 3 de junio, y fue muy emotivo. Se hicieron presentes el presidente de la asociación, pastor William Winston, el secretario, pastor David Smith, y Merkita Mosley, tesorera.

Cabe recordar que la Iglesia Central fue la primera congregación hispana de la

asociación South Atlantic, y sus comienzos se remontan al año 1987. Por ella han pasado un buen número de pastores entre los que se encuentran Carmelo Rivera, Efraín Poloche, Alberto Treiyer, José Montenegro y Luis Espinosa. En el presente la asociación cuenta con más de 40 congregaciones hispanas en el territorio que abarca Georgia, Carolina del Norte y Carolina del Sur.

El broche distintivo fue la ceremonia bautismal, en la que tres personas se unieron a las filas de quienes esperan el regreso de Jesús. 📌



Momento del corte de la cinta de inauguración

EFRAÍN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Bautismo en Douglasville



Candidatos de bautismo previo a la ceremonia de toma de votos bautismales

La compañía de Douglasville estuvo de fiesta al empezar la temporada de verano con cuatro bautismos que tuvieron lugar el sábado 3 de junio. Se usó un bautisterio portátil preparado por el Salomón González.

Los candidatos fueron el resultado del trabajo de los miembros de su propia familia, quienes por su ejemplo y oraciones, impresionaron los corazones de estos nuevos hermanos en la fe.

La felicidad de la ceremonia se vio completa cuando cinco personas acudieron al llamado que el Espíritu Santo hizo por medio del pastor Poloche. Las mismas darán el paso de bautismo en la próxima ceremonia. 📌

EFRAÍN POLOCHE, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO

Consagración de Capellanes y Pastores Voluntarios

Sheeler

La iglesia de Sheeler, Florida, llevó a cabo una ceremonia en la que un grupo de miembros fueron consagrados como de pastores voluntarios. Estos laicos tienen sus trabajos particulares durante la semana, pero obedecen al llamado del Señor “Apacienta mis ovejas,” y están disponibles para asistir al pastor local en las tareas de su ministerio. La hermana Consuelo Romero, junto a Rafael Ortega, pastor de la iglesia, hicieron una valiosa tarea en la organización de este emotivo evento.

Winter Garden

El sábado 12 de agosto la iglesia de

Winter Garden, Florida, bajo el liderazgo del pastor Isaac Ibarra, fue escenario de una graduación histórica de Capellanes Voluntarios. Los mismos harán trabajo de visitación de enfermos, ministrarán a personas que están en prisión, y atenderán necesidades comunitarias y de la membresía. Estas personas tienen el deseo de servir como en la época de la iglesia cristiana primitiva, en la que todos trataban de llevar el amor de Cristo a los que sufren necesidad 📌

ROGER ÁLVAREZ, DIRECTOR DEL DEPARTAMENTO HISPANO



Pastores Voluntarios de la iglesia de Sheeler



Consagración de Capellanes en Winter Garden

Nuevo Programa de Transición y Apoyo

Los estudiantes con discapacidades ya sea físicas de autismo, etc., deben enfrentar muchos ajustes y situaciones nuevas al comenzar el ciclo universitario. La universidad Southern ha introducido un nuevo programa de transición y apoyo con el objetivo de permitir que estos alumnos se integren cómodamente a su nueva vida en la universidad. Se les ofrece las herramientas para superar obstáculos que de otra manera tienden a reducir la tasa de graduación para estos grupos, y encaminarlos hacia una vida estudiantil exitosa. “La iniciativa hace las veces de puente entre la universidad y el alumno discapacitado, tratando de evitar situaciones potencialmente traumáticas que los lleven a la deserción escolar. La meta es hacer del paso por las aulas una experiencia que puedan recordar con alegría,” dijo Mariella Pechero, coordinadora de Servicios de Apoyo a la Discapacidad. Se trabaja también en la concientización de los estudiantes que interactúan con aquellos con discapacidades. “Tuvimos un alumno que había dejado de bañarse porque se había quedado sin jabón,” dijo Pechero. “Las personas neuro-típicas a veces no comprenden que la vida es más difícil para aquellos que tienen una discapacidad, y la forma en que ellos manejan

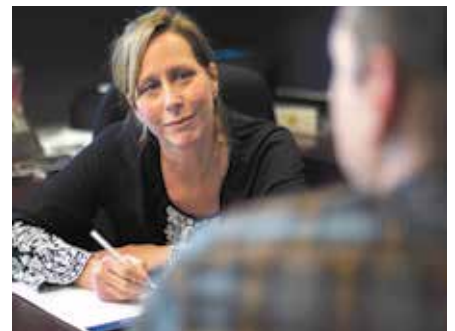
las situaciones es diferente. Es por eso que la universidad se esfuerza para lograr un ambiente de comprensión y cooperación.”

Se ofrece un sistema de apoyo tanto en lo académico y social como en los asuntos cotidianos relacionados con la vida en las residencias. Cada uno cuenta con un entrenador—un estudiante voluntario—que lo ayudará a acostumbrarse a las interacciones sociales y habilidades necesarias para la vida. Usualmente, esta interacción ayuda a que se convierten en amigos íntimos, y comparten la vida universitaria.

“Es común que los estudiantes autistas esperen que alguien se una a ellos en su experiencia, no al revés,” dijo Gina, madre de uno de los estudiantes especiales. “Una persona neuro-típica necesita ir a la persona autista y atraerla hacia su mundo. Deberá armarse de paciencia e insistir. Si no lo hace, se pierde la posibilidad de una gran amistad. Todos tenemos nuestros puntos fuertes y nuestros puntos débiles, y todos podemos aprender cosas valiosas de otros.”

Los estudiantes del programa también pueden participar en sesiones semanales de asesoramiento individualizado. Pechero insiste en que vivan en

los dormitorios del campus, ya que les da una experiencia en el mundo real que no pueden encontrar en escenarios fabricados de terapia. Esto les ayuda a ser más adaptativos. Para los padres este programa ha sido una valiosa herramienta que ayuda a que sus hijos discapacitados experimenten la vida de manera independiente. 📌



Mariella Pechero, coordinadora de Servicios de Apoyo a la Discapacidad en Southern, ayudando a los estudiantes con desafíos especiales a integrarse en la vida universitaria.

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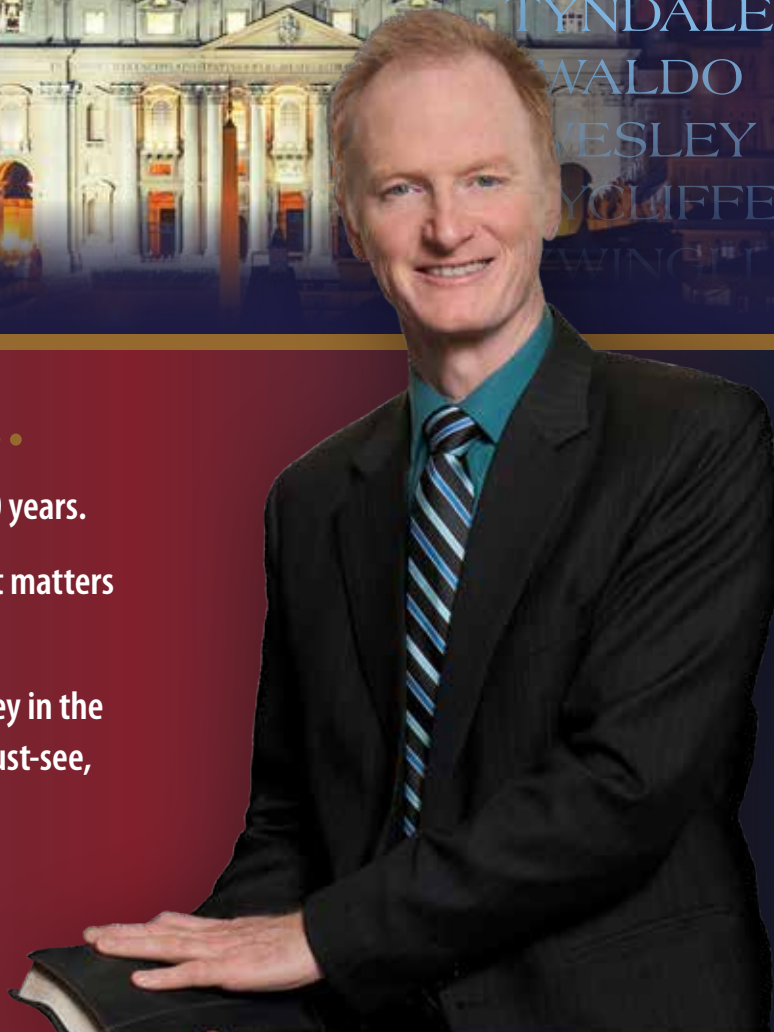
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COLLEGEDALE HOME FOR SALE - 4 bed, 3 bath, 2,700 square foot home plus 2 story (with basement) 1,500 square foot carriage house for library/exercise room and spare garage on 1 acre 2 miles from SAU. FSBO \$317,000, 5519 Barrington Circle. Call 423-504-4005. [10,11]

COUNTRY LIVING! Brand new home Dunlap TN. Near beautiful church/school. End of road privacy with open 3/2 floor plan, hardwood floors, custom cabinets, upgraded appliances. Garden area, stream, hardwoods. Close access walking trails, pond with beach and dock. Asking \$195,000. Call for pictures, 301-992-7472. [10, 11]

LOTS FOR SALE Cumberland Plateau, Dunlap TN. 2,000' elevation, springs, level to rolling topography, end of hardtop country road, hardwoods with trails and pond with beach and dock. Great gardening. \$3,000/acre and up. 10 miles to town and church/school. Call for pictures and plat. 301-992-7472. [10, 11]

HOUSE FOR SALE - Built in 1965, needs upgrading. Next to the Graysville, TN Adventist church. 3 bed, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, kitchen, dining and living rooms open. 1300 square foot living space. 520 square feet attached open carport, which includes storage and laundry rooms. 1.1 acre fenced lot. 20'x12' insulated slab floor outbuilding. Call *Roger* at 423-667-9516. \$88,000. [10]

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SOUTHERN'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY seeks full time professor to teach **graduate outdoor education** courses. Responsible for: engaging in activities of department including research; providing leadership to graduate assistant; providing academic advising; and serving on university committees. Qualifications: earned doctoral degree in leadership, education, or other; familiarity with online programming, and willingness to obtain pertinent outdoor certifications. Send cover letter, CV, statement of philosophy as it relates to outdoor education, and three references: *Dr. John McCoy, Dean - School of Education and Psychology, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315* or via email: jmccoy@southern.edu [10]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks part-time professor for **History and Political**

Studies Department (starting June 1, 2017) to teach American history, develop courses, advise/mentor students, engage in service activities, and sustain a research and professional growth agenda. Must be able to teach courses in Atlantic history, topics in African history, and African-American and or Latin American pop culture; with a combination of expertise and strong knowledge in at least one of the two regional/cultural areas. PhD in History preferred. Send letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of teaching philosophy, and three references to *Dr. Mark Peach, peach@southern.edu* and *Dr. Robert Young, ryoung@southern.edu, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315*. [10]

SOUTHERN'S SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY seeks full time professor to teach undergraduate **methods courses and teacher education courses**, as well as teach graduate level education courses. Also responsible for: academic advising, serve on university, department, and Teacher Education Program committees, and engage in activities of the department, including research and scholarly activities. Requirements: earned doctorate in education or related field, committed to Christian higher education and the integration of faith and learning, experience with online learning, mathematics background and successful teaching in public and church school preferable. Send cover letter, CV, statement of philosophy of Christian education, and three references: *Dr. John McCoy, Dean - School of Education and Psychology, Southern Adventist University, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315* or via email: jmccoy@southern.edu [10]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks an **Adjunct Instructor of German** for its Modern Languages Department. Must be an experienced educator, hold an MA in German (with 18 graduate credits hours in German) and be familiar with ACFTL National language guidelines. Must also be willing to participate in professional development activities ensuring awareness of goal-oriented and student centered instruction. Send CV to *Dr. Adrienne Royo-Chair, Modern Languages Department via US Mail or email to: aroyo@southern.edu, PO Box 370 Collegedale, TN 37315, Att. Dr. Adrienne Royo*. [10]

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks applicants for **Associate Vice President for Academic Administration**. This leadership role provides direction for academic strategic planning, curriculum development, instructional methods, grading practices, admission standards, registration procedures, and graduation requirements. Additional responsibilities include: providing oversight to Institutional Research and Online Learning; chairing/or serving on committees; approving exceptions to academic policies and serving as liaison for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) and the Adventist Accrediting Association (AAA); facilitating the administrative processing of program review; and serving as the administrative liaison to first-year experience, the honors program, and all extension programs. Qualifications: Earned doctoral degree with at least five years of successful, full-

time teaching experience in higher education; the ability to effectively chair meetings and lead groups; strong verbal and written communication- which includes writing accurate technical reports; and professional tact and skill to interact with students, parents, faculty members, and administration. *To apply: Send letter of application, CV, and three references via US Mail or email Dr. Robert Young, Senior VP for Academic Administration, PO Box 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, ryoung@southern.edu. For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [10]*

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Professor for its School of Journalism and Communication** to teach undergraduate courses and advise in journalism, with a focus in print, broadcast, or new media. Master's Degree required, doctorate is preferred; with five years of professional experience and three years of teaching experience. *To apply: Send CV via US Mail or email to Dr. Rachel Williams-Smith, Dean for School of Journalism and Communication, PO BOX 370, Collegedale, TN 37315, rwilliams-smith@southern.edu. For full description of position visit: www.southern.edu/jobs [10]*

THE SCHOOL OF RELIGION at Southern Adventist University seeks a faculty member in the area of applied theology, with possible emphases in church ministry, homiletics, evangelism, and/or missions, to begin in the summer of 2018. *For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs [10]*

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY seeks **Director of Clinical Education (DCE)** for its Physical Therapist Assistant Program. The DCE's primary responsibilities are to plan, coordinate, facilitate, administer, and monitor activities on behalf of the academic program and in coordination with academic and clinical faculty. *For full description of position and application procedure, visit www.southern.edu/jobs [10]*

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY is hiring! To see the list of available positions, go to jobs.wallawalla.edu [10-12]

UNION COLLEGE seeks committed Adventist to **direct its NCATE accredited Education program**, effective December 2017. Doctorate preferred, Master's required. Experience in K-12 church schools essential. For further information, www.ucollege.edu/faculty-openings. *Apply and submit C.V. to Dr. Frankie Rose, Academic Dean, at frankie.rose@ucollege.edu [10]*

PUC is seeking a candidate for **Facilities Associate Director** in our Facilities Management Department. Preference for experience in planning, budgeting, maintenance of college facilities, in addition to strong leadership/interpersonal skills/team leader. Responsibilities in roads, building safety, HVAC, water distribution/treatment, general building maintenance, compliance for hazardous materials, etc. *For more information or to apply, please call 707-965-6231 or visit <http://puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings> [10-12]*

PUC is seeking full time positions in our Facilities Management Department. Looking for

positions of **Tradesman Supervisor-Painter, and Tradesman 1- Carpenter**. Preference is for training and applied experience in trade areas of general painting, and carpentry. For Painter, experience in color/finish/application/etc. For Carpenter, experience in cabinet making/floor coverings/installation/etc. For both, able to be team player, handle multiple projects. *For more information or to apply, please call 707-965-6231 or visit <http://puc.edu/faculty-staff/current-job-postings> [10-12]*

WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER is seeking a dedicated Christian **licensed nutritionist** with knowledge of a plant-based diet. Responsibilities include cooking classes, diet plans, and nutrition consultations. *For more information or to apply go to www.wildwoodhealth.org or call 706-820-1493. [10]*

WANTED: Part-time **administrative assistant** for the Director of the E.A. Sutherland Education Association. Experience in education preferred but not required. Strong computer and communication skills a must. Office is located in Collegedale, TN. *Please send resume to wandasarr@easea.org [10]*

PSYCHIATRIST OR CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, PhD needed for Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, California. Competitive pay and benefits. *Call Dr. Randall Steffens at: 615-604-0142. [10]*

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE - Country Life Natural Foods is taking applications for various positions in their vibrant health food ministry. Current openings include warehousing, shipping and receiving, delivery driver (CDL not required), and customer service office positions. Country Life is a distributor of natural, organic, vegan, non-gmo, gluten-free and bulk foods based in southwest Michigan. Our mission is to integrate the health food ministry with the spreading of the gospel. *Call David Meyer at 800-456-7694 to inquire. [10]*

HOUSE PARENTS for mentally challenged adult female. Must be converted and energetic with verifiable church membership. Live in rural setting near Uchee Pines Institute of Health, Seale, Alabama or can possibly move to your place. *Call Carrie at 334-855-0733. [10]*

DOES A WARM SUNNY CLIMATE on coastal Central Florida sound interesting? Our well established practice of seven Pathologists and two Pathologist Assistants are looking for a full time AP/CP Pathologist to join our group. Fellowship training is a must, Surgical Pathology preferred. Interest in or experience with Molecular Pathology and Blood Bank is a plus. Benefits include health and dental insurance, CME, malpractice insurance, 401K and relocation expenses. Desired start date of January 2018 through July 2018. *Please send CV or inquiries to ECP@595nova.com [10, 11]*

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

COUNTRY LIFE NATURAL FOODS is a wholesale and retail supplier of bulk, organic, vegan, and

natural foods based in southwest Michigan. Our mission is to integrate the health food ministry with the spreading of the gospel. We have recently acquired the operations of Something Better Natural Foods who has served people all over the Southern Union for over 30 years. We look forward to continuing to serve your needs in natural foods and health ministry. Look for our products at the ABC or contact us at Country Life Natural Foods. *Call 800-456-7694, or see our complete product line at our website www.clnf.org [10]*

MISCELLANEOUS

RELOCATING? Apex Moving & Storage has a national account contract with the General Conference for your moving needs. Take advantage of a volume rated discount. Be assured you are moving with the BEST! *Call Marcy Dante' at 800-766-1902; or visit us at www.apexmoving.com/adventist [10-12]*

THE WILDWOOD LIFESTYLE CENTER can help you naturally treat and reverse diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, arthritis, fibromyalgia, lupus, multiple sclerosis, chronic fatigue, cancer, depression, and many more. *Invest in your health, call 1-800-634-9355 for more information or visit www.wildwoodhealth.com [10-5]*

AUTHORS of cookbooks, health books, children's chapter and picture books, Call 800-367-1844 for your free evaluation. We publish all book formats, distribute to over 39,000 bookstores in 220 countries. *Find our new titles at your local ABC or www.TeachServices.com, used SDA books at www.LNFBooks.com [10-4]*

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY offers master's degrees in business, computer science, counseling, education, global community development, nursing, religion and social work. Flexibility is provided through some online and many on-campus programs. Financial aid may be available. *For more information, call 423-236-2585 or visit www.southern.edu/graduatestudies [10-5]*

SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED? Meet compatible SDA companions ages 18 to 98 the old-fashioned way - by pen and paper. No computer needed! Safe, confidential, effective, fun! *For more information, application, and pen-pal catalog, send \$25 to: SDA Pen-Pal'S, P.O. Box 734, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. [10-2]*

NESTLED AMONG TREES & WOODLANDS in the mountaintops of East Tennessee, Laurelbrook Academy has been providing its students with quality Adventist education for 65 years. We are located about an hour north of Chattanooga, TN and Southern Adventist University. We offer a unique combination of fully accredited academics, top notch vocational training with unparalleled missionary experiences for our students, patterned after the Madison School program. *Please call us at 423-775-3336 to find out more information on our affordable tuition programs, tailored to meet your family's needs. We look forward to hearing from you! Visit us at www.laurelbrook.org [10]*

CAROLINA

- Hispanic Women's Retreat** - Oct. 6-8. NPR.
- Women's Retreat** - Oct. 13-15. NPR.
- Adult Sabbath School Retreat** - Oct. 20, 21. NPR.
- Carolina Mission Trip** - Oct. 26-Nov. 3. Traveling to Honduras.
- Community Services Retreat** - Oct. 27-29. NPR.

FLORIDA

- Complete calendar online** - floridaconference.com/events
- A Better Choice / Florida Adventist Book Center** - Altamonte Springs: national toll-free number, 877-55-FLABC (877-553-5222). Miami: 305-805-9900. High Springs: 386-454-7956. Shop online: floridaconference.com/abc or order by e-mail: FloridaABC@floridaconference.com
- Florida Adventist Bookmobile Schedule** - Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a location as scheduled below. Orders must be made by phone or email before 5:30 p.m. on the Thursday before a scheduled Sunday delivery.
- Oct. 1. Inverness, Tampa First, Brandon, West Coast Christian Academy in Bradenton, Sarasota, North Port, Port Charlotte.
- Oct. 8. Pompano Beach, Ambassador in Lauderdale Lakes, Sunrise, Plantation. (Southeastern Conference: Mt. Olivet.)
- Go Fish for Kids Community Outreach** - Oct. 7. Brandon Spanish Church, 513 E. Clay Ave., Brandon. 2:00-5:00 p.m. Details: judy.smith@floridaconference.com or 407-644-5000 x2440.
- Fourth Annual Adventist Motorcycle Ministry Camp Meeting** - Oct. 13-15. Southeastern Conference Campground, 1771 S.R. 20, Hawthorne. Guest speaker: Patrick Nave. Cost: \$120, includes registration, room, and meals. Sponsored by Spring Meadows Church. Details: adventistmotorcycleministry.org, 813-633-0803, or 407-970-6467.
- Unquenchable Love Couples' Retreat** - Oct. 20-22. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd St., High Springs. Guest speaker: Mike Tucker. Cost: \$325. Details: floridaconference.com/events/couples-retreat
- Florida State Pathfinder Camporee** - Oct. 26-29. Fisheating Creek Outpost, 7555 US 27, Palmdale. Outdoor activities, honors, special guest presentations, hands-on classes, games, spiritual programs, and more. Cost: \$44. Contact your local church Pathfinder director for more information.

- Hope for Hurting Hearts Retreat** - Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212nd St., High Springs. An educational retreat for those who've been sexually abused as children, providing educational support for survivors of sexual abuse. This retreat is confidential, anonymous, and private. Speaker: Annie Pérez, Ph.D. Cost: \$125, all-inclusive. Nov. 2-5. English-language. Details: floridaconference.com/events/hope-hurting-hearts-retreat-english
- Nov. 9-12. Spanish-language. Details: floridaconference.com/events/esperanza-para-corazon-dolidos

GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

- Day of Prayer and Fasting** - Oct. 6.
- Personal Ministries Rally with EW Dempsey** - Oct. 14, 2-5 p.m. Jamestown, TN, Church.
- Health Rally with EW Dempsey** - Oct. 7, 2-5 p.m. Griffin, GA, Church.
- Executive Committee** - Oct. 18. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
- The Upper Room** - Oct. 20-22. Latin American Ministries event with intense Bible study, Dahlonega, GA.
- Pathfinder Regional Event** - Oct. 20-22.
- Will Clinic with Jeff Wilson** - Oct. 21, 22. Chattanooga South Bay Church, TN.
- Hispanic Camp Meeting** - Oct. 27-29. "Y Serás Salvo Tú y Tu Casa," Programs for all ages. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.
- Marriage Retreat** - Nov. 3-5. WinShape Retreat, Rome, GA.
- Pathfinder Teen Challenge** - Nov. 3-5. Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA.
- ShareHim Homeland Lay Evangelism Training** - Nov. 4-5. Conference Office, Calhoun, GA.
- Prayer Ministries Day with Mark Piotrowski** - Nov. 11. Camden Church, Kingsland, GA.
- Some events require pre-registration; details at registration.gccsda.com.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

- Hispanic Women's Retreat II** - Oct. 6-8. Indian Creek Camp.
- Executive Committee - Oct. 10. Dec. 12. Conference Office.
- Board of Education** - Oct. 19. Conference Office
- Hispanic Men's Retreat** - Oct. 20-22. Indian Creek Camp.
- Men's Conference** - Oct. 27-29. Indian Creek Camp.

- Highland Academy Board** - Nov. 9. Highland Academy.
- Elders' Certification Training** - Nov. 10-12. Indian Creek Camp.
- KYTN Acrofest** - Jan. 25-27. Highland Academy.

SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

- Wind Symphony Concert** - Oct. 1. With Laurie Redmer Minner conducting, Southern's Symphony Orchestra will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. This and many other musical events are also broadcast at southern.edu/streaming.
- Wind Symphony Concert** - Oct. 8. Presenting musical pieces that celebrate the Protestant Reformation, Southern's Wind Symphony, with Ken Parsons conducting, will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Collegedale Church. For more information about the School of Music's events, visit southern.edu/music or call 423-236-2880.
- PreviewSouthern** - Oct. 19, 20. Students are invited to take a campus tour, discuss majors with professors, sit in on financial aid workshops, and enjoy a fun activity in Chattanooga. Other PreviewSouthern dates are also available. For more information, visit southern.edu/preview-southern or call 1-800-SOUTHERN.
- Fruition Lab Event** - Nov. 2. Young entrepreneurs are invited to Southern for a one-day seminar designed to inspire, connect, and educate. Held in Ackerman Auditorium on the University's campus, the event is relevant to both students and business owners. For more details and registration information, visit southern.edu/fruitionlab.
- Homecoming** - Nov. 2-5. With an emphasis on missions, highlights of the weekend include a Parade of Nations, a hands-on service project to relieve local and global hunger, and a missionary reunion. Honor classes include: 1937, '47, '57, '67, '72, '77, '87, '92, '97, and '07. Visit southern.edu/alumni or call 423-236-2830 for additional details.
- Wind Symphony Concert** - Nov. 12. With Laurie Redmer Minner conducting, Southern's Symphony Orchestra will perform works by Beethoven at 7:30 p.m., at the Collegedale Church. This and many other musical events can be viewed at southern.edu/streaming.

SOUTHERN UNION

- Appalachian Work Camp** - Oct. 15-19. Clay County, KY.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLETCHER ACADEMY HOMECOMING WEEKEND - Oct. 6-8. Fletcher Academy Campus. Please up-date your contact information at agibbs@fletcheracademy.com, 828-209-6704. This weekend will honor the class years ending in 2's and 7's. The Class of 1967 will be marking its 50th Reunion. Special invitation to former Fletcher Academy gymnasts and Acroknights. Details at www.fletcheracademy.com.

CHATTANOOGA FIRST CHURCH CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY - Oct. 6, 7. At the church at 7450 Standifer Gap Road, Chattanooga, TN. The celebration includes: Nostalgic Friday evening Vespers with It Is Written associate speaker, Eric Flickinger; Sabbath School program with an interactive lesson study by Pastor Fred Fuller; inspirational worship service with a message by Pastor Roy Caughron; fellowship luncheon; and a special Sabbath afternoon program. Past students from the old church school, come and reconnect with classmates. Former members and friends, please join us for a memorable celebration of 100 years in service to God and the community. For further information, call 423-400-6485.

SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY/PLAINVIEW ACADEMY/DAKOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - Oct. 6, 7. Dakota Adventist Academy, 15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND. Come and renew your friendships. Honor classes: '43, '48, '53, '58, '63, '68, '78, '88, '93, '98, '03, '08, '13. For more information, call 701-751-6177, ext. 212, or visit our website at: www.dakotaadventistacademy.org or www.dakotaadventistacademy.org/

ROSSVILLE (formally Wallaceville) CHURCH 50TH ANNIVERSARY - Oct. 7. This will be a homecoming celebration. John Strickland will be the speaker. Sabbath School begins at 9:30 a.m., with the worship service at 11:30 a.m., and a fellowship luncheon to follow. There will also be a program of music and reminiscing in the afternoon. For additional information, call 706-866-8214. Church address: 2524 North Highway 341, Rossville, GA 30741.

TAKOMA PARK, MD, CHURCH FIRST HOMECOMING CELEBRATION - Oct. 7.

Come to reunite/reconnect in the historical worship center. Former members/new friends are cordially invited to join in the first celebration. Events will include Mark Finley, guest speaker; a historical tour; and mass choir concert. Register today at <https://tpchomecoming2017.eventbrite.com>.

MADISON ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND - Oct. 13, 14. Come reconnect, reminisce, and reinvest in your Academy friendships and alma mater. Please update your contact information by going to www.madisonacademy.com/alumni or call 615-865-4055. We will be celebrating all graduates, but especially honoring classes ending in 2 or 7. We look forward to reconnecting with you!

SOCIETY OF ADVENTIST COMMUNICATORS 2017 ANNUAL CONVENTION - Oct. 19-21. SAVE THE DATE - Celebrating 28 Years of Communication Excellence! Theme: "Building Bridges." Embassy Suites Portland, Washington Square in Portland, Oregon. Join Seventh-day Adventist communication professionals and university students from all around the North American Division for training, networking, and spiritual renewal opportunities. Additional details: www.adventistcommunicator.org.

COVINGTON, KENTUCKY, CHURCH SCHOOL/TAYLOR MILL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY 100TH ANNIVERSARY - Oct.

28. If you or someone you know attended our school, please contact us at 859-905-0077, alumni.tmca@gmail.com, or our website at tmcacade-my.net, and like us on Facebook at Taylor Mill Christian Academy. We are trying to reconnect with alumni and are soliciting prayers, stories, and volunteers. Your input is crucial to making this event meaningful and memorable.

GYC 2017 - ARISE: Dec. 27-31. Join thousands of young people from around the world at GYC Phoenix, as we spend four days looking at God's glorious vision for His people at the end of time from Isaiah 60. Engage in Bible study, prayer, witnessing, fellowship, seminars, and sermons. Visit www.gycweb.org for details and registration.

10 DAYS OF PRAYER RETURNS 2018 - Jan. 10-20. With the theme, "Our High Priest." Congregations worldwide continue to be blessed by this powerful prayer initiative. For more information and to sign up your church, visit www.tendaysofprayer.org.

RESCHEDULED: The Natural Remedies & Hydrotherapy workshop scheduled for Aug. 6-11 at Andrews University has been rescheduled for spring 2018. Details will be provided as they become available. For more information, email chis@andrews.edu.

	OCT 6	OCT 13	OCT 20	OCT 27	NOV 3	NOV 10
ATLANTA, GA	7:15	7:06	6:57	6:50	6:43	5:37
CHARLESTON, SC	6:58	6:49	6:41	6:33	6:27	5:21
CHARLOTTE, NC	7:00	6:50	6:42	6:34	6:27	5:21
COLLEGE DALE, TN	7:18	7:08	7:00	6:52	6:45	5:39
HUNTSVILLE, AL	6:23	6:14	6:05	5:57	5:50	4:45
JACKSON, MS	6:39	6:30	6:22	6:15	6:08	5:03
LOUISVILLE, KY	7:18	7:08	6:58	6:49	6:41	5:34
MEMPHIS, TN	6:37	6:27	6:19	6:11	6:04	4:58
MIAMI, FL	7:02	6:55	6:48	6:43	6:38	5:34
MONTGOMERY, AL	6:23	6:15	6:06	5:59	5:53	4:48
NASHVILLE, TN	6:23	6:13	6:04	5:56	5:49	4:43
ORLANDO, FL	7:05	6:58	6:51	6:44	6:39	5:34
TAMPA, FL	7:10	7:02	6:55	6:49	6:44	5:40
WILMINGTON, NC	6:49	6:40	6:31	6:23	6:17	5:11

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