

# TIDINGS

Southern

MAY 2018



## BIBLE EXPERIENCE IS MORE THAN MEMORIZATION

AN OPPORTUNITY  
FOR "BUSINESS  
UNUSUAL"

PURPOSEFULLY  
AFFECTING OUR  
WORLD WAS OUR  
GOAL

HIC+ RETREAT FOR  
STUDENTS

FIT FOR ETERNITY

# The Need to Evangelize Our Youth



**Steve Haley**, *President of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference*

*Guest Editorial*

“What do we do about the youth?” The question, asked with sincerity and concern, was voiced by a church board member who, in the midst of a group discussion, expressed what many board members were likely thinking. The agenda for the meeting had included exploring methods and ideas for attracting and retaining more youth and young adults to become active in church. After a lively discussion, which included ideas and opinions on why the Church no longer seemed relevant to today’s youth, as well as few compelling options on how to change that reality, the rhetorical question was expressed: “What DO we do about the youth?” No one in the circle around the church board table had an answer, perhaps none was expected, and the board agenda moved on to the next topic. Has this scenario happened in your church board meeting?

As I travel throughout my Conference, and as I interact with my presidential peers in the North American Division, it seems that both denominational and local church leaders share a common concern for our youth. This concern could best be summarized as another question: “Where are they?” The reality is that, in many of our congregations, there is a noticeable absence of youth and young adults participating in the life and ministry of the Church. Statistics from the North American Division (NAD) reveal a sobering reality that the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America reflects an overall aging active membership that is proportionally far older than the age demographics of the communities they serve. As denominational leaders we have also become aware that a majority of our Adventist youth are enrolled at public high schools and universities, thus adding to the challenge of connecting them to the local congregation. However, there is hope and there is reason to believe that where congregations and church leaders prioritize the value of youth and young adults, attracting and retaining this important segment of God’s family is possible.

Eighteen months ago, the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, where I serve, elected to invest more resources in youth and young adult ministry. Adding the position of Conference associate youth director — with emphasis in public campus ministries, Adventist school recruitment, and church youth resources — has resulted in some great new initiatives and measurable results. With much prayer and lots of church member support, Nelson Silva, D.Min., associate youth director, and Greg Taylor, youth director, have witnessed God opening the doors to establish multiple Adventist Christian Fellowship chapters at five of our public colleges and universities. In addition, we have reached out to our Adventist public high school students with a retreat weekend, and the response and attendance was higher than expected. We have also discovered that where we intentionally and proactively engage our youth and their parents in the value of Adventist education, we can grow our enrollments. Finally, we are also encouraged that where there are local church leaders who sincerely want to make space for youth and young adults in their congregations, creating environments where youth feel wanted and invited, growth is possible. If I were to summarize our focus in one statement, it would be, “We want to do everything we can to demonstrate to our youth and young adults that we love them unconditionally, and we want them to be active and valued members in the family of God.”

Well over a century ago, Ellen White wrote, “With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Savior might be carried to the whole world!” *Education*, page 271.

Let’s do everything we can to build this army! 🙏



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**PHOTO CAPTION:** Pathfinder Teen Leader-in-Training, Jaden Daviz (left), stands with friends Elijah Scott and Joey Sontay of the Adairsville, Georgia, Church.

**COVER PHOTO:** R. Steven Norman III

# BIBLE EXPERIENCE IS MORE THAN MEMORIZATION

BY KEN ROGERS AND LUCAS L. JOHNSON II

For many youth participating in the Southern Union Pathfinder Bible Experience (PBE) competition, it doesn't really matter who wins or loses, because the reward is the same — a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

"The good thing about this competition is that even if you don't advance, you didn't really lose because the blessing in this is what you have stored in your heart and mind to aid you in troubling times," said 16-year-old Ryan Ramirez of the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. His Pathfinder team and 44 others from eight states competed in the Southern Union PBE event on March 24, 2018, at Georgia-Cumberland Academy in Calhoun, Georgia. Each team was composed of six or seven participants and a coach. Teams that scored 90 percent or better advanced to the next level of competition, which in this case was the North American Division in Orange-wood, Florida. There are four levels of

competition: area, conference, union, and division.

Leading up to each competition, contestants spend hours memorizing biblical verses and chapters, and in some cases, the entire book (or books) of the Bible that are part of the test. At the event in March, the books were Esther and Daniel. There were a total of 90 timed questions.

Before the testing started, one of the pastors at the event prayed that God would give each of the contestants peace and recall, and that they would always keep God's Word in their hearts.

Pathfinder Mark Mapes said he tries to do just that. The 12-year-old, who is a captain on his Carolina Conference team, has been competing three years. When he's preparing, he said the verses of the Bible are more than just words to memorize, but texts that move him in a way that's hard to explain.

"I feel a peace that comes over me," said Mapes. "Like when Moses saw the

"It helps with so many processes of studying," said Wait. "It helps me cast my fears upon Jesus, and have Him help me, and get so much more done."



PHOTO BY: NATHAN ZINNER

**Edén French Pathfinders huddle for prayer before beginning the Pathfinder Bible Experience. Teams consisted of six or seven Pathfinders who answered 90 questions based on the Bible books of Esther and Daniel.**

glory of the Lord, I just imagine what that would be like. It just sends a peace over me.”

Abbie Wait, who is also in the Carolina Conference, said being part of PBE has inspired more indepth study of the Bible, and has given her a “better relationship with God.” The 13-year-old said she’s even seen improvement in her scholastic studies.

“It helps with so many processes of studying,” said Wait. “It helps me cast my fears upon Jesus, and have Him help me, and get so much more done.”

Lisa Myaing is a PBE coach in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference. She said one of the things she enjoys about coaching is watching youth blossom spiritually as they study God’s Word — something she says is contagious.

“I just love to see that growth,” said Myaing. “And not only in them, but my-

self too, because I do it along with them. It’s really exciting to experience that.”

And at that point, “it’s not competition,” because the Holy Spirit is apparently at work, said Tammy Mapes, a coach in the Carolina Conference. She said it’s all about making sure the youth have the best learning and spiritual experience, which is why she and some of the other coaches reach out to other clubs to share ideas. “There’s a whole group of us that have a camaraderie,” said Mapes. “We work together as coaches to help our kids.”

Ken Rogers is the Southern Union youth ministries director and the organizer of the competition at the Union level. He said in the last five or six years, there’s been a rebirth of the Bible Bowl concept, “and the Pathfinders organization has adopted it and it’s just grown exponentially across the North American

Division.”

“It has just become a very, very popular event, and something that the young people have just really adopted,” said Rogers. “They’ve taken to memorizing the Scriptures, and enjoying the fellowship that brings.”

At the March 24 event, there was a special moment in the midst of the fellowship. A young woman, Samantha Grady, who was wounded in the deadly school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, on February 14, 2018, came to the competition to support her Pathfinder group. Seventeen people were killed and 17 more wounded in the shooting. There was silence as Grady talked about how she survived, but a classmate who was near her that day did not. Grady urged those listening to trust God, regardless of the situation, and be faithful. Her tes-





PHOTO BY: NATHAN ZINNER

**Forty-four Pathfinder teams recite the Pathfinder Pledge and Law at the beginning of the Southern Union Pathfinder Bible Experience at Georgia-Cumberland Academy in Calhoun, Georgia, March 24, 2018.**

timony was followed by applause.

One of the pastors then called for prayer, and a little girl, dressed in her Adventurer uniform, came to the front and offered a sweet, sincere prayer. There were tears in many eyes when she finished.

Pathfinder leaders said Grady's testimony helped underscore the need for youth to really understand the verses they're memorizing.

"I believe that the study of God's Word will hopefully be able to be recalled throughout their lives, in times of trouble, stress," said Rogers. "When they're feeling discouraged, maybe a passage they memorized, or a Bible story that they remember, will bring them renewed faith and courage in their spiritual journeys."

Ramirez said Daniel 12:13 is one verse that's dear to him, and he encourages others to also store it in their hearts: "As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance," NIV.

The following Pathfinder teams advanced to the North American Division: Charlotte Sharon Flyers; Raleigh Spanish Chosen; Wilkesboro Crusad-



PHOTO BY: NATHAN ZINNER

**Ken Rogers (left), Southern Union pathfinder director; Julio Barreda, Kentucky-Tennessee Conference area coordinator; and Tim Blake, Southern Union PBE coordinator, officiated the two-hour long quizzing. Teams had limited time to answer the questions that were read in English and Spanish.**

ers; Greenville North Stars; Altamonte Springs Knights; Bethesda French Team A, Team B, and Team C; Eden French; Eliathah Eyoys; First SDA of West Palm Beach; Forest Lake; Fort Lauderdale Spanish Astros; Hialeah Springs Spanish Team A and Team B; Lehigh Royal Knights; Maranatha Team A; Miami Central Spanish Team A and Team

B; Midport Conquerors; Ocala Team A; Pompano Beach Team A and Team B; South Brevard Visioneers; Tampa Spanish; Westchester Spanish Team A; Fayette; Kingsport Swords; McDonald Road Bible Ballers; McDonald Road Flame; Pensacola Gators; Murfreesboro Bible Beast; and Owensboro The Beauty & The Beasts. ☛

# AN OPPORTUNITY FOR “BUSINESS UNUSUAL”

BY STEVE DICKMAN

Current world conditions tell us that time left on Earth is short, as the signs of the times are being fulfilled. Even the secular world wonders what will happen next. Yet, so much remains to be done to spread the Gospel around the globe.

An unusual opportunity lies before the Church. Through the power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, lay business owners, professionals, and ministries can work together with pastors and administrators of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to spread the Gospel to customers, clients, neighbors, tribes, nations, and peoples. Imagine what could be achieved if every Adventist lay professional was 100 percent focused on helping to accomplish the mission of the Church. The work could soon be finished and Jesus could come.

The principle of laymen and pastors working together is repeatedly emphasized by Ellen White in her counsels to the Church: “The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers,” *Gospel Workers*, page 352. “Let ministers and lay members go forth into the ripening fields,” *Australian The Signs of the Times*, August 3, 1903. “It is not the Lord’s purpose that ministers should be left to do the greatest part of the work of sowing the seeds of truth. Men who are not called to the ministry are to be encouraged to labor for the Master according to their several ability. Hundreds of men and women now idle could do acceptable ser-



“Business Unusual”

vice. By carrying the truth into the homes of their friends and neighbors, they could do a great work for the Master,” *Testimonies for the Church*, 7:21.

Ellen White continues: “The world will be convinced, not by what the pulpit teaches, but by what the church lives. The minister in the desk announces the theory of the gospel; the practical piety of the church demonstrates its power,” *Testimonies for the Church*, 7:16. “The dissemination of the truth of God is not confined to a few ordained ministers. The truth is to be scattered by all who claim to be disciples of Christ. It must be sown beside all waters,” *The Review and Herald*, August 22, 1899. Within Ellen White’s counsels are several basic principles. First, lay people are to work unitedly and harmoniously with pastors and church administrators. Second, all are called to labor with their own God-given talents and abilities. Third, the world is looking for people who live the principles of the Gospel in their everyday lives.

The mission of Adventist-laymen’s Services and Industries (ASI) reflects

these principles. ASI is a Seventh-day Adventist organization composed of supporting ministries, businesses, and professionals who are responding to the call of God to actively share Christ’s message of hope and wholeness in the marketplace and around the world.

You are invited to partner with ASI by applying your energy, skills, and God-given talents to help finish spreading the Good News of the Gospel to the world — a world waiting to be amazed with a revelation of the love of God, and a demonstration of the unity that Christ prayed for in John 17.

Remember, “The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers,” *Gospel Workers*, page 352.

To learn more about ASI and the opportunity for business unusual, visit our website at [www.asiministries.org](http://www.asiministries.org). 📍

**Steve Dickman**  
is president of ASI North America, and president of Harbert Hills Academy in Savannah, Tennessee. With his wife, Brenda, he has partnered in educational supporting ministry work for 20 years.





# BILLY GRAHAM TOUCHES THE LIFE *of Adventist Teacher*

BY ERIN MILLER

When Beth Belensky was 10 years old, her parents took her to Al Lang Stadium in St. Petersburg, Florida, to hear evangelist Billy Graham preach the Gospel. His message was so compelling, that when he gave his traditional altar call, Beth walked down the aisle and gave her heart to Christ. That epic moment marked the beginning of her spiritual journey, which eventually led her to become a Seventh-day Adventist and a church school teacher.

Not long after his crusade in Florida, Graham, his wife, Ruth, and their children moved to the mountains of North Carolina. Montreat became their beloved home base as they traveled the world.

Despite all the wonderful opportunities afforded by living in Montreat, one thing that concerned the Grahams was the lack of a Christian radio station in the area. They wanted their children to be able to turn on the radio and be drawn to worship. The Grahams started a radio station, 106.9 The Light, and hired people to work there. Billy was passionate about this ministry and kept close to his employees.

About 30 years ago, Beth, her husband, John, and their daughter, Sarah, moved to Black Mountain. John was hired at 106.9 The Light as a DJ, and for many years his soothing voice was heard during the day.

In the early days at Christmas time, Billy would show up at the radio station with gift-wrapped boxes of English tof-



Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, North Carolina

fee and sometimes tins of popcorn. He made a point of conversing with every employee, and staying aware of what was happening in their lives.

After the Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove was built, Christmas boxes became Christmas dinners for the employees of 106.9 The Light, The Cove, and their families. As the families sat around tables in The Cove banquet room, Billy and Ruth would come to each table. Billy had an amazing memory and would greet John and Beth by name, asking about Beth's work and where Sarah was in school. Beth watched in amazement as Billy and Ruth took time with each of the 100 or so employees.

After the Christmas dinner, everyone would be invited to The Cove chapel where Billy would give a heartfelt and personal Christmas devotional. Then he would call up the nucleus of his musical

team from more than 60 years of crusade ministry: George Beverly Shea and Cliff Barrows. They would lead a Christmas worship of carols and hymns, which was a breathtaking and deeply spiritual experience every year.

Beth and John were among the few employees from 106.9 The Light to be invited to attend Billy's funeral in Charlotte, North Carolina, on March 3, 2018. *The Charlotte Observer*, in celebrating his life, reported that Billy finished in the Gallup Poll's annual list of the world's 10 most admired men, a record 61 times. This observation makes it even more meaningful to hear Beth talk about the aura of humility that surrounded the Grahams, as well as the legacy of family bonds and love for Jesus that she will always think of when she remembers Billy Graham. 🕊

**Erin Miller** is the principal at Asheville Pisgah Church School.



# *Purposefully Affecting Our World* WAS OUR GOAL

BY KIM SIMONS

Global Youth Day 2018 was fast approaching. How could the young people at Forest Lake Church in Apopka, Florida, impact their community in a tangible, memorable way? They began to pray, “Lord what can we do for YOU this year?”

They decided to make 100 gift bags for health care workers and firemen, and 150 care packages for Orlando Coalition for the Homeless. The team met to discuss the projected budget. They had a game plan but only one obstacle — money! How would they fund this? “Our God will supply,” said Frank Celemy, one of the team members. It was clear they were stepping out in faith.

Church members donated items, and friends donated cash. The Holy Spirit impressed Celemy to pick up some needed items. At Dollar Tree, he filled up two baskets with 140 women’s deodorants, and two shopping carts full of shampoos, soap, and socks. While standing in line, a man came and stood behind him. Celemy smiled and said, “I will be a while, so you might want to move on to register 4.”

The stranger said, “No worries.” Scanning Frank’s cart, he asked, “What is this for?” Frank explained to him the youth at his church were making care packages for the homeless in Orlando. The stranger proceeded over to an open register. A few minutes later, he walked back and told the cashier in Frank’s lane, “I want to pay for his entire order, because this means a lot to me, and I want to give back.” Frank stood there frozen, stunned, and speechless; and then he proceeded to thank this man for helping to support the cause.



PHOTO BY: KIM SIMONS

Global Youth Day 2018 found the staff registering more than 70 energized youth. Mark Reams, pastor, gave an inspiring devotional, “Being the Sermon,” to get everyone geared up for the day’s activities.

Instead of 100 gift bags, they were able to prepare 200 gift bags for workers at nine nursing homes, and firefighters at three fire stations in the area near the church. The impact these gifts had was readily apparent in the many thanks received from the firefighters and nursing home workers.

Instead of the 150 care packages

planned in the beginning, 300 packages were delivered to the Coalition for the Homeless and S.A.L.T. When they turned into the street where the shelter was located, people lined the sidewalk under makeshift shelters for protection from the heat. Because of the care packages, the shelter felt they could help another 100 people. The woman in charge was praising God.

God is in total control. All everyone must do is listen and obey, and He will do the rest. Faith is not hoping God can, it is KNOWING He will. ●

# HIC+ RETREAT FOR STUDENTS

*and Mentors at Public High School and College Campuses*

BY NELSON SILVA, D.MIN.

The Youth Department at the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference organized the first retreat for high school juniors and seniors and postsecondary students attending public campuses on February 9-11 2018, HiC+. The focus of HiC+ is keeping your faith. Students attending public campuses are challenged with a secular environment, isolation, and busyness. It makes it difficult to have personal time with God, be part of a faith community, and be engaged in the Seventh-day Adventist mission.

The HiC+ weekend retreat was held at Indian Creek Camp in Liberty, Tennessee. Willy Ramos, an international evangelist and author, spoke at the event. Ramos was raised in the streets of south Florida, and says he “was ultimately rescued by a Jewish carpenter named Jesus.”

The youth and young adults who attended the retreat were blessed by the testimony Ramos shared. Justin Nichols, Middle Tennessee State University student, posted on Facebook, “Indian Creek Camp was an experience that I am thankful that I did not miss. Pastor Willie Ramos has a heartfelt testimony that can show how much a loving God can change your life for the better. Gracias a todos que vinieron. ¡Que Dios les Bendiga!” Tleah Edwards, young adult from Nashville First Church said, “This weekend has been a powerful one.”

In order to make this weekend possible, many individuals contributed time and resources to sponsor students or lead the event. A senior member who attended a public university years ago, read about



HiC+ and decided to sponsor a student and his mentor to attend. One of the high school attendees commented, “I changed my work schedule to attend HiC+. I don’t regret it. Thank you for the invitation!” Whether you prayed for this event, sponsored a student, or shared HiC+ with someone, you partnered with HiC+ and God in mission. Thank you!

The highlights of the retreat were the altar calls to follow Jesus given by Ramos. Two students decided to be re-baptized, and most students stood up when invited to be “CrossFit,” the theme for the retreat.

There are two other events created with students attending public campus-

es in mind. The Campus Catalyst took place in Lexington, Kentucky, on April 7, 2018. The goal was to encourage the congregation and other visitors to support students attending public campuses. The second event is the Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) leadership retreat. The purpose of this retreat is to equip the ACF leaders for mission. You can get more information on ACF chapters and dates of events by visiting [youth.kytn.net](http://youth.kytn.net). 📌

**Nelson Silva, D.Min.,** is associate youth director for Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.



# FIT FOR ETERNITY

BY ROGER R. WADE

The theme song, “Your Great Name,” rang out each night as the 2018 South Central Conference Youth Congress began March 15-18, 2018. Attendees headed to Montgomery, Alabama, for this year’s Congress, where 364 delegates met at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel & Spa Convention Center for three days of worship, training, and fellowship. Delegates came from Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and northwest Florida to celebrate under the theme “Fit for Eternity.” By Sabbath, an additional 2,500 individuals joined the delegates at the Congress.

This year’s speakers, pastors MyRon Edmonds, Eric Peters, Debleaire Snell, and John Coaxum, shared dynamic messages that challenged the students to prepare for God’s return NOW. Each general session included music and presentations that prepared the listeners to respond to the preached word.

A highlight of the Congress was the Fitness Fair held on Friday afternoon. Attendees learned their “numbers” for weight, height, and blood pressure, and the importance of the eight laws of health: sunshine, water, rest, nutrition, exercise, temperance, air, and trust in God. In the Adventist Ninja Challenge, attendees competed for points on a timed obstacle course. Even the younger attendees had bouncers and skilled challenges to enjoy. The Fair included a special feature, an opportunity to win \$500 if someone could beat the youth director’s time for a number of fitness exercises. Lorenzo Shepherd, South Central youth director, put up some decent times. However, a number of delegates gave him a run for his money.

On Sabbath afternoon, the Adventures and Pathfinders led the students on a parade through Montgomery’s Gibbs Village, where drums and vocal cadences could be heard to help keep time for the marchers. The parade and rally at the



The Adventurers and Pathfinders led the students on a parade through Montgomery’s Gibbs Village.

PHOTO BY: KATHERINE GOODRIDGE

end gave the students the opportunity to share their views, and say with one voice, “No to Gun Violence in our Schools and Neighborhoods!” South Central youth ministries stood with the delegates and residents of Gibbs Village, and declared that the violence has to stop. The crowd also heard from local politicians and community leaders as they commended and applauded the students for their courage and witness.

The Congress was not devoid of musical talent. Each general session had opportunities to sing and minister on the main stage. The musical highlights this year were the celebrity concert on opening night, and the Vespers concert on Sabbath evening. The Walls Group headlined the celebrity concert, along with Dale Brown and Truth. The Congress ended as powerful as it started, with South Central’s own youth choir, Jesus Crave. Youth from around the Conference came together to sing under the banner of Jesus Crave. They presented a journey through the decades.

Many youth enjoyed the health and temperance presentations, Bible Bowl games, and seminars that challenged them to take care of their bodies and minds, learn skills that can help with resources for school and life, and embrace



PHOTO BY: EARL JONES

Students attend a seminar.

strategies to help prevent suicides and destructive behaviors. This year a seminar to help parents was presented by Joseph McCoy, former youth director and president of South Central. Attendees to this seminar learned approaches to raising Adventist youth today.

New friendships were formed. New decisions were reached. New experiences were shared. Many attendees said that they enjoyed the Congress and are looking forward to next year’s gathering. 🙏

**Roger R. Wade** is South Central Conference communication director.

# Hispanic-American Church Continues “Su Casa Church”

The Hispanic-American Church of Collegedale, Tenn., on the campus of Southern University, continues to work on the “Su Casa Church” project that launched about a year and a half ago. Building a bigger temple is one of the main goals, as attendance has grown to not being able to accommodate everyone in a single service. However, the main objective is to make this sanctuary a mission center that includes the training of disciples, production of audiovisual material, creation of evangelism tools used locally and abroad, and “organic” mobilization of the believers. Thus, different fundraising activities were organized.

The School of Organic Discipleship took place in June 2017. “We had 32 students from different states of the United States, Central and South America.. During the 10 days, we focused on presenting the Gospel without cultural additives. The group became a true organic church, where young people and adults from different countries mingled in a loving community, and reconfirmed their call to be part of the Adventist movement. Fourteen decided to be re-baptized on the last Sabbath ..... In addition, every night more than 2,000 spectators participated in the evening meeting via the Internet. Many were challenged to be witnesses in the locations where they live, to share the Gospel as the Bible admonishes,” said Jo-

el Barrios, pastor of the Hispanic-American Church and director of the School of Organic Discipleship.

In order to collect funds for the Su Casa Church project, Barrios, together with Daniel García, in charge of the project, and John Younberg, one of the main collaborators, made an appointment with a possible donor who was going to attend an event in which they would participate as well. Before going to the meeting, they prayed intensely for God to intervene as they spoke of their need to this gentleman. The donor’s response was not what they expected: “I am going to donate money,” he said, “but only to plant a new church, not to build a new temple to replace the one you have.” They were not discouraged. On the contrary, they left the meeting convinced that since they had prayed, that was the answer to their prayer.

After the meeting with the donor, the group headed to an invited lunch. They had an assigned table, but one of them took the opportunity to sit elsewhere, leaving his chair empty. A young Chinese man, “Dennis,” occupied it, and they introduced themselves. Dennis told them he is an entrepreneur in China, but decided to study theology at Southern Adventist University in 2016. When Barrios introduced himself, the young man was surprised, because someone had earlier advised him to talk to Barrios about a project he is working on.

A group of Chinese students had started to meet at Dennis’ house on Sabbaths, and started looking for Chinese families in the community. Many they discovered felt lonely and were eager to find friends. Some had family members who are Adventists. Dennis and his friends organized meetings in his house, where they shared meals, cultural experiences, and spiritual conversations. Eventually, three individuals were baptized. The group grew and no longer had a place to meet. Someone told them to talk with Barrios to see if the Hispanic-American Church could help them.

After Dennis presented this request, the Hispanic-American Church group at the table started to think of how they could help. Due to the small church space, they offered Dennis a place for his group on Friday nights for their meetings. “The church welcomed the guests with great joy,” said Dennis, and his mission became the mission of the Hispanic-American Church, who collaborated enthusiastically. In turn, the Chinese group endorsed the Su Casa Church project, and now help with fundraising and activities.

The ways of God are higher than human ways, said Isaiah. If the Hispanic-American Church group had become discouraged after speaking with the preliminary donor, the story would have been different. The group felt that God responded to them according to His thoughts, and they accepted the challenge. That donor has now offered to buy a church, so the Hispanic-American Church and the Chinese group can meet as they build the new temple.

The Hispanic-American members have decided they will allocate a hall in the new temple to help new congregations in the process of forming/finding a place to meet! 🙏



BY MARIEL LOMBARDI



# Smithfield First Church Holds Public Service Recognition Day

Smithfield First Church members recognized the Town of Smithfield's first responders on its Public Service Recognition Day on Sabbath, March 10, 2018. Members of the police, fire, and EMS departments received a warm welcome from the congregation. During the announcement period, they were ushered to a front row pew. After introductions, the first responders were recognized for their efforts to keep the community safe, and plaques were given as tokens of appreciation. Gregg Robinzine, Smithfield First pastor, offered special prayer for the emergency service personnel and their families.

A second Public Service Recognition Day was held on March 24, 2018, for the sheriff's department; two deputies were

present. Due to a scheduling conflict, they were not able to attend the March 10 event. Shemeka Murphy gave a special musical tribute to the deputies by singing the Gaither Vocal Band song, "A Few Good Men."

Afterward, a plaque was presented to the deputies and Robinzine offered special prayer. 🕊

BY JAMES COLEMAN



James Coleman (left), elder; firefighters M. Blackman, J. Womack, and A. Piper; Gregg Robinzine, pastor; T.D. Hayes, police officer; EMS techs D. Ward and D. Wilkins; Cleveland Avery, elder; and Alcega Jeanniton, pastor AWR 360

PHOTO BY: MARC-ANTHONY ALLEN

# Emanuel Church Members Host Community Block Party

One blessing of life in the Southern Union is the weather warm enough in February to plan a block party for the community. This year, Emanuel Church members in Albany, Ga., hosted a community block party in honor of Black History Month. The event also served as a kick-off to the evangelistic season. The event was widely advertised, as the members collaborated with the local business league for their list of black history celebrations.

The day of the party was set to be warm, but the forecast called for rain, so the members started praying. God held back the rain and even allowed the sun to shine in defiance of the forecast that never changed. The event went on without a hitch, as the street near the church was blocked off and the parking lot began to fill up.

The evening consisted of bouncy houses, free food for the children, a jousting game, food vendors, face painting, free haircuts, gifts, entertainment, and a Black History

trivia game, and the fire department brought a truck for the young people to check out.

It was a night to remember as the Albany State University gospel choir lifted their voices, which rang through the streets, and local artists mimed, rapped, and sang. The former Miss Oakwood and current Miss Black Georgia, Courtney Buckhanon, was present to sing and share her testimony of standing up for the Sabbath.

The highlight was chaplain Jason Scott, stage name Fisherman, who used Christian Reggae to excite and inspire the crowd. His performance ended with a heartfelt appeal where many came forward to give their hearts to Jesus.

Joshua Nelson, pastor of Emanuel, hopes to continue doing events geared toward reaching the community directly by going outside the church walls. The block party was one of many events and initiatives planned to make Emanuel's presence known in the community. Emanuel mem-

bers desire to be known as a community-focused, friendly church that brings hope to the city. 🕊

BY JOSHUA NELSON



# Healthy Eatonville Place Program Improves Participant's Health

Three years ago Eatonville resident Sarah Williams was one point away from suffering Type 2 diabetes, and weighed more than 400 pounds. Today she's 100 pounds lighter, and her health improved so much that she's just one point away from having pre-diabetes.

Williams is one of nearly 600 people who have used the services of Healthy Eatonville Place, created in 2014 by Florida Hospital, Healthy Central Florida, and the Winter Park Health Foundation after a study showed 24 percent of Eatonville's residents had diabetes — a rate nearly triple the national average.

The goal was not only to help the town of 2,200 residents regain their health with educational programs, counseling, support groups, and healthy cooking classes, but also determine why the population had disproportionate rates of diabetes and other chronic diseases.

Florida Hospital recently released results of the Health Risk Assessment conducted at Healthy Eatonville Place, which followed 273 participants. Among the results:

- 97 percent of participants with pre-diabetes did not progress to overt diabetes.
- 36 percent of participants with pre-diabetes lost an average of 5 percent of their weight.
- 60 percent of participants with pre-diabetes made nutritional and exercise changes.
- 80 percent of participants with uncontrolled diabetes reached their blood pressure goal.

"These results demonstrate that the nutrition, exercise, and diabetes classes are having a major impact to improve the health of the community," said Richard Pratley, M.D., Samuel E. Crockett chair in diabetes research and director for research and education at the Florida Hospital Diabetes Institute. With more than 7,000 visits, Healthy

Eatonville Place has developed a loyal following that is more educated about diabetes and aware of the impact lifestyle choices have on their health.

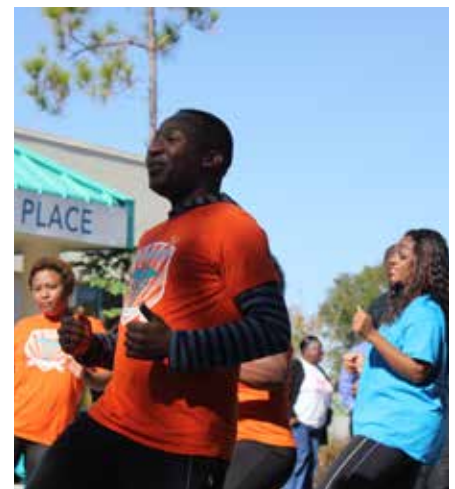
"The Florida Hospital team has delivered consistent, personalized care to the patients at Healthy Eatonville Place, and this additional service is evidence of their knowledge and response to patient needs," said Lisa Portelli, program director at the Winter Park Health Foundation. "HEP is an important part of the community, and a visible sign of the residents' efforts to improve the health of their community."

Given the success of the program, Florida Hospital is now adding a new service to Healthy Eatonville Place. The program's staff will now help participants navigate through the health care system, ensuring they are connected to all community health resources (such as primary care physicians), not just diabetes care.

"The program gave me better health," said Williams, who has completed several

5k races since joining Healthy Eatonville Place. "It has been a journey, and I've been able to make life changes because I've become more educated about diabetes." 📌

BY FLORIDA HOSPITAL MEDIA RELATIONS



The Florida Hospital team offers personalized care to the patients at Healthy Eatonville Place.



# Adventist Health System Forms Accountable Care Organization

Adventist Health System (AHS) today announced that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved the formation of its first Accountable Care Organization (ACO), and its participation in the Medicare Shared Savings Program. The ACO provides the infrastructure for the Shared Savings Program, which cares for senior citizens across the state of Florida. Nearly 55,000 Medicare beneficiaries are expected to be part of the Shared Savings Program in the inaugural year.

“We are excited that CMS has the confidence in our ability to provide coordinated, high quality care to seniors in Florida,” said Nishant Anand, M.D., chairman of the AHS ACO board. “We believe that, with skilled and compassionate physicians, hospitals, and other health care facilities working together, we can improve health outcomes for seniors in communities throughout the state.”

Approximately 1,500 physicians provide care as part of the AHS ACO, with Florida Hospital employed physicians across the state participating alongside leading-edge, independent physicians who desire to help make the communities they serve healthier. AHS ACO providers understand the need to improve the patient experience, and provide high quality medical care at a reduced cost, and will collaborate with each other and with Florida Hospital facilities to achieve those goals.

“In health care today, it is critical that the needs of the patient are at the center of the health care delivery system,” said Tim Pursley, M.D., an independent primary care physician at Maitland Family Practice. “As an independent physician, I am excited to join with other health care providers to make improvements across



The program will provide care for nearly 55,000 seniors across the state.

the industry as part of the AHS ACO.”

Physician leadership is also an important component of the AHS ACO. The AHS ACO board is physician-led, with a total of 18 voting members; 14 are physicians and three are Adventist Health System executives, with the final board member being a Medicare beneficiary to help ensure the needs of patients are considered at the highest levels of the ACO. The AHS ACO board ensures quality standards are met, and that the clinical focus of the organization aligns with the

health care needs of its beneficiaries. The ACO is one of several ways Adventist Health System is working to make care more accessible through population health initiatives. ❶

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BY JENNIFER ROBERTS

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# First ReGenerate! Revitalization Conference Held

The first ReGenerate! Church Revitalization Conference was held on February 23 and 24, 2018, at the Spartanburg, S.C., Church. Co-sponsored by the Southern Union and the Carolina Conference in partnership with the South Atlantic Conference, the event focused on helping declining or stagnant churches learn what it takes to thrive.

Daniel R. Jackson, president of the North American Division, presented the keynote messages on Friday evening and Sabbath morning. His overarching theme was that Jesus is at the center of true revitalization. Bill McClendon, a pastor who has facilitated church growth at every church he has led, also spoke Sabbath morning and again in the afternoon. McClendon shared the key elements of turning a church around, which include the attitude of the leadership as evidenced in active faith, the absolute necessity of the entire church connecting with God through prayer, and the church-wide focus shifting from the worship service to

evangelism.

Throughout the weekend, attendees heard compelling firsthand stories of once-declining churches that are now flourishing, and on Sabbath afternoon, breakout speakers offered encouragement and strategies for revitalization. After the final appeal on Sabbath evening, many individuals expressed an interest in being contacted for church growth seminars and/or meetings with a church growth director.

If your church is in need of revitalization, contact Brad Cauley, Conference church growth/revitalization director, about assistance and resources for your church. Videos of the ReGenerate! main presentations and breakout sessions will be available on the Conference YouTube channel by mid-April. Next year's ReGenerate! will be held at the Charlotte University City Church, February 22 and 23, 2019. ❶

BY JOALYCE WAUGH



Bill McClendon, pastor of the Ellicott City Church in Tulsa, Okla., shares with the attendees what "Our Greatest Challenge" is.

PHOTO BY: COURTNEY HEROD



PHOTO BY: REBECCA CARPENTER



# Summit Asks “You are Here, But Where is Your Heart?”

**Y**ou are Here, But Where is Your Heart?” was this year’s theme for the Generous Living Summit held February 24, 2018. Folks in the Columbia area stepped out of the chaos of life and gathered at the Columbia First Church. The summit featured Del Johnson, lifestyle and finance coach, along with Naomi Stierner, recording artist. In addition, there were young adults delivering short, powerful tips and testimonies on how to live more abundantly.

Since its inception in 2012, the Generous Living program has been a tremendous blessing for the church in Carolina. It has provided focused materials and programs for the financial needs of the church. All stewardship materials are branded with the theme of Generous Living. The success of the program is based on a focused, well thought-out-plan. However, perhaps the most important reason for its success is that each and

every Monday morning The Generous Living team meets to begin the week with a season of prayer for God to lead in the financial matters of the Conference. It’s recognized that when all unite their efforts with God’s wisdom and blessings, amazing things can happen to grow God’s Kingdom. ❶

BY RON QUICK



Del Johnson (left), lifestyle and finance coach and weekend speaker; Rick Hutchinson, Generous Living director at the Carolina Conference; and Naomi Stierner, special musical guest and recording artist



Bryan Aalborg, lead pastor of Charlotte Sharon Church, introduces one of the afternoon speakers, Erin Bates, member of the Arden, N.C., Church.

PHOTO BY: RON QUICK

# Retired Pastor Takes on Added Responsibilities

**A**fter working in the ministry for several decades, Barry Mahorney didn’t head for the beach or the golf course to take it easy when he retired from pastoring in Morganton, N.C. He chose to plant a church in the heart of the Waldensian settlement of Valdese, N.C. He also took on the leadership of the Carolina Retirees Association Northwest (CRAN). Mahorney is the president of CRAN, and his wife, Sharryn, is the editor of the organization’s publication, the CRANberry VINE. To learn about CRAN and access their resources page, visit <https://www.carolina-adventist-retirees.com/>.

In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, Mahorney has done extensive research on the history of Adventists in the Carolinas,



Members of the Great Hope Church gather. This mission group is located in the heart of the Waldensian settlement in Valdese, N.C.

specifically in the area of Valdese. You can find his historical work at <https://vimeo.com/channels/historycarconference/118498122>.

BY RON QUICK

PHOTO BY: RON QUICK

# “God in Me” Stories Featured at 2018 Women’s Retreats

Women throughout Florida Conference descended on Camp Kulaqua in search of serenity and fellowship with friends and family during three weekends of women’s ministries retreats. They found these things, but also so much more. Of the 1,860 women in attendance, more than 700 participated in an ordination service, and 13 gave their lives to the Lord in baptism.

“I wanted to provide a multigenerational service where daughter, mother, and grandmother would feel satisfied worshipping together,” says Annie Pérez, Ph.D., Florida Conference prayer ministries and women’s ministries director. “The need to restore our worship services and come together instead of fragmentizing the family is of vital importance.”

With the addition of technology, a richer and faster program was created with more opportunities for intentional praying. Five large LED screens aided in transmitting the messages of God in Me stories, where four extraordinary women were featured who had to overcome traumatic situations, and did it with prayer and holding on to God’s promises.

An environment to increase spiritual opportunity was also needed to enable a deeper connection with God and understanding of the message of God in Me. This was accomplished by transforming the Camp Kulaqua gym into a worship center with a cloud of white fabric that brought tranquility and intimacy with God to the services.

Attendees had 27 seminars available to choose from each weekend. Keynote speakers Tamyra Horst, Janet Page, and Damary Ramirez-Lebrault powerfully preached the Word on how God is in every decision made in life. Loréal McInnes, pastor, and Gloria Ceballos, Ph.D., delivered transformational devotionals to start



Florida women are happy to be at the 2018 Women’s Retreat.

BY ANNIE PÉREZ

each day. On the first weekend, Carla Baker, director of women’s ministries for the North American Division, welcomed Pérez as the new women’s ministries director for Florida Conference.

Speed artist Alejandro “Revel” Ruiz painted pictures of Jesus during the worship services. And then, each weekend Ruiz donated proceeds from one of his paintings to Hope for Hurting Hearts (HHH), an educational program to help survivors of sexual abuse during childhood.

Reiterating the message of God in Me, Messiah’s Mansion, a replica of the wilderness sanctuary, was set up at the retreats. While communicating God’s love with visitors, local home schooled students and their parents, under the direction of the owners of Messiah’s Mansion, conducted free tours during the retreats, as well as during the week for the community.

The retreats for 2018 are over, but the memories remain. 🕊



Alejandro “Revel” Ruiz creates one of his speed paintings during a praise and worship segment at the 2018 Women’s Retreat.



# Changes in Leadership at Florida Conference

**M**ike Cauley, D.Min., has chosen to step down from his responsibilities as Florida Conference president to address health issues. Thanks to good medical care and a change of pace, he expects a full recovery.

Mike and Dottie Cauley have diligently served Florida Conference as president and first lady since 2003. Together, they have accomplished many great things for the enhancement of God's Kingdom.

Three passions have characterized Cauley's leadership:

1. Promoted personal and professional growth of pastors and educators which led to Florida Conference being recognized as a pacesetter in training and leadership development.
2. Advocated for a change in ministry approaches while maintaining a solid biblical foundation and Adventist theology.
3. Exhibited a strong passion for reaching and retaining the second and third generations by encouraging change without compromising principle in order to carry forward the legacy of Adventism.

The Executive Committee met on Sunday, April 22, 2018, to accept Cauley's resignation as president and reassign him to serve as part of the Conference ministerial department team.

The Executive Committee also appointed Allan Machado as interim president of Florida Conference until a new president is elected in accordance with the Conference Constitution and By-laws.

"My main purpose is to serve the Lord and His Church," says Machado. "I want to be a good steward and a tool in His hand." His kind demeanor will



**Mike Cauley, D.Min.**

continue to be felt as he leads the Conference during this interim period.

Machado holds a D.Min. in pastoral ministry from Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Mich. He is currently working on a Ph.D. with an emphasis in religious education.

He has served as a pastor, director of volunteer lay pastors, vice president for Spanish-language ministries, assistant to the president, and executive secretary.

Per the Florida Conference constitution and by-laws, the sitting Conference Executive Committee and the last Nominating Committee (2016) chaired by Ron Smith, D.Min., Ph.D., Southern Union president, will hold several meetings during the next couple of months to complete the process of selecting a new president for Florida Conference. In the meantime, please pray for the



**Allan Machado, D.Min.**

combined committees and Union leadership as they work under God to select a president.

Also, pray for Allan Machado and his wife, Elsa, as they take up their new interim responsibilities. His family includes two sons, Alan and Eric; and one daughter, Tatiana. ①

# Keele Named Director of Young Adult, ACF Ministries

**D**on Keele Jr. knows God directly called him to work with young people when he was in college, and for more than 30 years he has answered that call, most recently being named director of young adult and Adventist Christian Fellowship (ACF) ministries. “My goal is to empower young adults to do their own ministry. Great things are taking place all over the Conference,” says Keele.

“Over the past few years, ACF and young adult ministries have grown to the point that administration believes that a coordinated effort would foster continued growth and expansion,” says Gary Rustad, general vice president. “With Don Keele Jr. directing these ministries, we look forward to seeing how the Lord will continue to grow young adults and expand ACF chapters.”

Keele shares that when you examine the collegiate ministries age group, there is a one-third to two-thirds split. Roughly one-third of Adventist youth attend an Adventist university, and two-thirds attend public universities. Upon graduation, many stop attending church for a variety of reasons. Some stop and discover that no one misses them; others stop because they have no role or function at church.

“Let’s face it: none of us stay where we don’t feel wanted or needed,” Keele said. “And, after a busy week it’s easy to sleep in, and they just fall out of the habit of going.” They are not against church, or mad; they just aren’t there. Then there are those 10-15 percent who are actively running from God. They want to be away and are running from the Father, and want nothing to do with Him or His Church. And sadly, there is that group that has been hurt by someone. They quit the church where they were hurt, can’t find another church, and simply stop looking. “We need to stop complaining

about them and begin actively seeking them, calling them back, and integrating them into the body life of the Church,” says Keele.

To reach out to the varied youth and young adults, Keele is offering training events designed to assist members as they pursue these groups. In January his office offered young adult liaison (YAL) training. In this position, individuals are trained to become a connecting point for youth and young adults, ages 12-35, at their church. They connect people to service, to one another, and to opportunities that are often unique to each church. The next YAL training is August 17 and 18, 2018, at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp. “Any person who wants to connect young adults to their church can attend this training,” says Keele. Another event especially for young adults is the Conversations Young Adult Retreat, August 31 to September 2, 2018.

The goal with ACF is to visit and build up the 12 existing chapters, as well as add several new chapters; there’s a potential for 32 universities within the Conference borders. ACF offers training and ways to connect youth/young adults attending public colleges and universities with the Church. Re.Start, held August 24 in the Atlanta area, is a Friday evening back-to-school worship and inspiration event for anyone attending a public university. Additionally, the ACF Leadership Reboot for all ACF officers and their advisors, will be October 26-28, 2018; and February 22-24, 2019, the ACF CONNECT Retreat will be held at Cohutta Springs for any student attending public universities, whether they are involved in a local ACF chapter or not.

Keele plans to form regional and Conference level advisory boards for post-collegiate young adults, as well as ACF. The regions will include northern Tennessee, Chattanooga area, Atlanta ar-



PHOTO BY: BRIAN YOUNG

**Don Keele Jr., was recently named director of young adults and ACF ministries. Keele has been working with youth and young adults for more than 30 years. Before working at the Conference office, Keele was a pastor for the Georgia-Cumberland Academy Church in Calhoun, Ga.**

ea, and south Georgia. Keele says, “There are young adult groups everywhere in our Conference, and we just need to connect them, empower them, and get out of the way. One great example of what can happen when you empower them for ministry is 71.5 magazine with editor Emily Long.” (<http://715youthmag.com>)

Once a speed skier, skiing at speeds of 92 mph, Keele now enjoys reading, especially books on young adult ministries; writing (his teen devotional book is on Amazon, *Ed’s Tohlet & Other Stories*); photography; woodworking; motorcycles; and birding. Keele is married to Sandy, and they have two adult children, Donnie and Andrea. ☛

BY TAMMY WOLCOTT FISHER



# Students Spend Spring Break Helping Rebuild Puerto Rico

Rebuilding the Caribbean is not a top news story anymore. But, in Duluth, Ga., there are a few people who have not forgotten that Hurricane Maria made landfall on Puerto Rico, September 20, 2017, with the eye of the storm passing directly over, and including the smaller Island of Vieques. The students of Atlanta Adventist Academy (AAA) and Duluth Church felt a passion and drive to help make a difference during their spring break, March 1-8. The focus was Academia Adventista de Vieques.

Five and a half months later it “got real,” as students, faculty, and sponsors landed in San Juan, the capital city of Puerto Rico. Once out of the airport, they learned that the city had experienced a black out and it would not be fixed for another 15-24 hours. This, along with all the blue tarps on house roofs, gave the newly arrived missionaries a major reality check. If the capital city was experiencing blackouts and in obvious need of repair, how much more was the demand for the remainder of the island, let alone smaller islands like Vieques.

The next morning the mission group took the ferry to Vieques, and the students of AAA and Duluth youth prepared to work. Work they did! They completed twice as many projects as expected, including hosing down and repainting the church sanctuary, uprooting the mangled fence around the property, removing damaged walls of the trailer classrooms, cleaning and sealing the roof of the multi-purpose room, and re-leveling and tiling the multi-purpose room.

Following are a few testimonies from students.

Gisselle Pizarro, a 10th-grade student with the Duluth youth group, said, “Going on the mission trip to Vieques Puerto Rico was a blessing to the people there and to myself. The empty hole in my heart I had

been feeling was filled. I was able to connect spiritually with God and got to help those in need.”

AAA senior Nicole Pustea said, “I approached this mission trip thinking I was ready for everything that hit me since this was my fourth one. One could see signs of the devastation everywhere you looked, from the SOS written on the street in front of the school we worked on, to the blue tarps that were too numerous to count

and give up their spring break to do the work of God.”

The theme for the trip was “Blood, Sweat, and Tears.” While in the early stages of planning this trip to Puerto Rico, they decided that fellowship must be the key for everything they did. Fellowship with Jesus was first, fellowship with brothers and sisters in Puerto Rico second, and fellowship with each other third.

Jesus shed His blood for all in His fi-



PHOTO BY: ROBERT ABDUL-KARIM

**Students from Atlanta Adventist Academy and Duluth youth spent spring break helping to rebuild the Academia Adventista de Vieques in Puerto Rico. Vieques is a small island that suffered great damage during Hurricane Maria.**

from the sky. It just showed me how Jesus in your life can truly change it to something completely different.”

Nick Mu, a refugee student at AAA, said, “I didn’t expect to be on the mission trip at all, but God provided and I was there with all the friends. The trip helped to develop our character as Christ followers, and also showed us how Christ worked through us. It was a big blessing for them to see these youth helping out,

and the students of AAA and Duluth youth sought to share their compassion for the bloodshed, loss, and damage on Vieques. What they experienced was a beautiful example of what church is always meant to be — a fellowship through Jesus of blood, sweat, and tears. ❶

BY ROBERT ABDUL-KARIM AND JAMES MELLO

# Grace Fellowship Breaks New Ground

Community leaders and church members of the Grace Fellowship Church came together Friday, March 16, 2018, in Madison, Ala., to break ground on their new church expansion project. About 50 believers began meeting in March 2003, renting space from a local Presbyterian church to hold Sabbath services. In nearly a year's time, they transitioned to official church status, and they felt that God was leading them to move to a different facility. Three years later, with much prayer, they began the process of purchasing a property of their own.

They found a piece of property that included a house with six acres of land. However, the house needed remodeling to serve as a church. The group was nervous about taking on the responsibility of a mortgage, renovating the house, and maintaining the rental fee of the Presbyterian church, but God made it clear this was the place for them. God provided for them right when they needed it, and they completed the house renovations in about six months. With the remodel complete, and the rental fee out of the way, all that remained was the \$300K mortgage. God stepped in again, and the loan was paid in full in about 18 months. Through God's grace and the stewardship of the members, Grace Fellowship was able to acquire additional property without the need for loans, purchasing the property in lump sums. The church intends to use the combined property to build a new facility that will not only provide a more spacious place for worship, but also support the launch of a church school, Grace Preparatory Academy. The school will start with two early childhood education classrooms for 3- and 4-year-olds, and will expand to include kindergarten and higher grades in the future.

Jaime Pombo, pastor of Grace Fellowship, made it clear in his remarks at



Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony were Winton Forde Sr. (left), local elder; Wayne Thompson, local elder and construction coordinator; Tamara Libonati, associate director for early childhood education at the Southern Union; Martin Fancher, Gulf States executive secretary; Stan Hobbs, Gulf State vice president for education; Thom Lopez, local elder; Jaime Pombo, pastor; and Shushannah Smith, school board chair.



Artist's proposed rendition of the new Grace Fellowship facility

the groundbreaking ceremony that, "We have never wanted to acquire property simply to give us a bigger plot of land to occupy. Grace Fellowship has a set of values and goals that we have collectively embraced, and at the heart of all those values and goals is the desire to serve our community. As Peter says, 'Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.' We are not building to provide a bigger, more comfortable place for us to sit

during church. We want to make a difference by serving our community."

Pombo and other church leaders maintain that the development of Grace Fellowship is purely God's doing. He is the one who has provided every resource the church has needed from the very beginning, and He is the One who will continue to provide as the members place faith in Him. ①

BY LINDA FREEMAN



# University Parkway Hosts Pathfinder Bible Experience

The Conference-level Pathfinder Bible Experience took place at the University Parkway Church in Pensacola, Fla., on February 24, 2018. The event attracted three teams from the Gulf States Conference, two more than last year. The Hattiesburg Hawks, Montgomery Warriors for Christ, and Pensacola Gators answered detailed questions based on the Bible books of Daniel and Esther, and the theme sections from the *SDA Bible Commentary* on those two Bible books. Teams employed various strategies to learn these sections of the Bible in preparation for the event. Some groups divided the books and chapters between each Pathfinder, leaving individuals responsible for specific parts of books. Other teams simply learned as much as they could as a group without explicitly dividing the responsibility.

The seven-member Pensacola Gators achieved first-place status by correctly answering more than 90 percent of the

questions asked. Both the Hattiesburg Hawks and Montgomery Warriors for Christ achieved third-place status by correctly answering between 70 and 79 percent of the questions. The Gulf States Conference is proud of all the participating teams in this year's event.

The Gators advanced to the Southern Union Pathfinder Bible Experience event on March 24, where they again made first-placement by correctly answering

more than 90 percent of the questions asked. The Gators will advance, along with 31 other teams from the Southern Union, to the North American Division finals in Florida, where they will meet with 193 teams from across the Division to test their memory on these pivotal books of the Bible. ❶

BY GLENDA HASS



Pathfinders from around Gulf States Conference busily work on their answers during the Pathfinder Bible Experience at University Parkway Church.

# International Dinner Draws Crowd

The Piedmont, Ala., Church hosted an international dinner on Sunday, February 18, 2018, where more than 50 community guests and more than 60 church members came together to sample food from 14 different countries. Ginger Blythe and the church social committee organized the event intended for reaching the community from the outset. In 2015, the Pew Research Center named the Seventh-day Adventist Church as the most racially diverse religious group in the U.S., and this event was a great example of that diversity.

The countries represented at this year's dinner were Argentina, Bahamas, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Georgia, Guatemala, Israel, Korea, New Zealand, Pitcairn Island, Poland, and Turkey. Each country was represented not only by food,

but also by their flag, photos, and native artifacts. The event provided an excellent opportunity for the community to come together. "I reconnected with a girl I went to school with 60 years ago and had not seen since that time. She is a friend of one of our church members," stated Sarah Woodfin.

Each guest received a *What Adventists Believe* book and a Bible Study Offer card. The church also offered a drawing for a door prize. The visitors left with full stomachs and smiles on their faces, encouraging the church to hold this event again next year. Several even said they were anxious to visit the church for a worship service. ❶

BY SHANE HOCHSTETLER



Violet Eads (left) serves a Bulgarian dish with her granddaughter, Taylor Coley, and great-grandson, AJ Rogers.

# Kentucky-Tennessee Holds 57th Annual Music Festival

Highland Academy was filled with excitement and activity on March 15, 2018, as students from all over the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference arrived for the first day of Music Festival. Under the leadership of Elaine Will, more than 300 students came together to expand their musical skills. With a reputation for music excellence, the Conference receives participation requests from schools outside its territory. The festival was blessed with students, not only from the Conference, but also from Greeneville Adventist Academy in Greeneville, Tenn.; Thompsonville Christian Academy, Thompsonville, Ill.; and Oaks SDA School, Ooltewah, Tenn.

The festival featured the concert band, string ensemble, hand bell and chimes ensemble, and the 9-12 and 6-8 choirs. During the festival, the students presented three performances, with a sacred concert on Friday night, special numbers during Sabbath School, and a secular concert on Saturday night.

Five talented clinicians blessed the students and those who attended the performances. The concert band included students in grades 6-12, under the direction

of Wes Bradford. Bradford teaches at Ooletwah Adventist and Bowman Hills SDA schools. He has conducted festival bands in Washington, California, Georgia, Maryland, and British Columbia. In his spare time, he enjoys making music with his family, often playing brass quartet or string band gospel music. His wife, Summer, is a graduate of Highland Academy.

The string ensemble was directed by Ellen Francisco, who teaches violin, viola, and chamber music as an adjunct professor at Southern Adventist University (SAU), both to university students and to students from the community. She also organizes and directs two summer workshops for youth and adults at SAU.

Beth Davis directed the 6-8 choir. Da-



Grades 6-8 choir is directed by Beth Davis.



The concert band is directed by Wes Brand.

vis is the fine arts and band director at Mt. Juliet Christian Academy in Tennessee. She previously taught 10 years at Madison Campus Elementary and Madison Academy. She has performed as a soloist with the Monterrey City Symphony in Mexico, the Bryan Symphony Orchestra, and the Nashville Praise Symphony.

John Neumann directed the 9-12 choir. Neumann has more than 40 years of teaching and church choir experience. He is a veteran of the U.S. Army. He served as a non-combat medic in the Vietnam conflict, and for distinguished service was awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart, and Combat Medical Badge. In his retirement, he mentors beginning music teachers and serves as a producer to the Walla Walla Choral Society.

Shelly Miller, the clinician for the hand bell and chimes ensemble, is currently a stay-at-home mom, and instructs the Madison Academy's Bellissimo hand bell choir. She taught previously at Highland Academy for eight years, with seven of those instructing the Bells of Praise hand bell choir. She continues to play whenever possible in various ensembles in the Highland and Madison areas.

The Conference believes in giving students an opportunity to meet together and share the talents God has given them. For many students, this was their first opportunity to sing in a large choir or play in an instrumental ensemble. Every participant left with increased musical skills, new friendships, a challenge to grow spiritually, and the opportunity to enjoy the best of Highland Academy life. ❶

BY PAM WILLIAMS,  
ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT



# Memphis-Raleigh Shares God's Message of Hope and Healing

For years the Memphis-Raleigh Church has hosted cooking and wellness classes, but getting the word out to the community has been a challenge. Ads posted on social media did not influence the average attendance of 18.

A new approach was needed to make an impact. They decided to try another venue, and do free classes with food samples instead of a full dinner. The public library was visited with prayers that they would be receptive. The librarian was thrilled and promised to advertise.

The day of the class, the librarian didn't know if anyone would attend, so she set the room up for eight guests. The facilitator planned for 15, but when the class began at 5 p.m., there was only one attendee who sadly said, "My doctor told me I need to become a vegan."



**Cooking and wellness class**

If Jesus had died for only one, the class would go on for only one. Then others started trickling in until extra chairs had to be set up, and 18 participants filled the room. The librarian's face was beaming! The cooking instruction, taste testing, and short discussion on dietary fiber were all well received.

As the class wrapped up, the participants were invited to the Simply Vegan & Wellness class that would be held at

the Memphis-Raleigh Church on the following Monday. Prayer, preparations, and plans were in place, and God blessed with more than 30 participants; many were from the library class.

The vegan diet is a hot topic across America right now, and no one cooks vegan like Seventh-day Adventists. The Lord has opened an amazing door in these last days, by giving the Church the health message. Moving prayerfully and carefully forward, there are unprecedented opportunities to make friends with the community, and share God's message of hope and healing with them. ❶

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BY LESLIE CAZA

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# Church Members Minister to Homeless in Memphis

Predictions of a bitterly cold New Year's Eve concerned some Memphis-Raleigh, Memphis, Tenn., members because of the homeless population. One of the members called a few police departments to find out where the homeless people frequent. Three different officers said, "The warming center at a public library." A call was made to library personnel who gave permission to bring in food on New Year's Eve. With permission granted, the members got busy. One member prayed they would have enough food.

Fourteen people had spent the night at the shelter the week before, so the members prepared for 25. Arriving at the shelter shortly after 9 p.m., they were

welcomed in to find 60 homeless people, including children, with inadequate clothing. Fortunately, they brought warm clothing and blankets to share.

God answered prayer, and the last person received the last cup of soup! After the clothing and blankets were distributed, one member asked if they could pray with the people, and the answer was, "Sure." They went around the room praying with people and giving them a GLOW tract titled, "Does God Care When You're Hurting?" Then an officer called out, "Come here!" He was not happy and asked, "Who gave you permission to do all of this?"

The story of the phone calls, accompanied with multiple apologies for the mis-

understanding, poured forth. Apparently that was the first night that the city had made plans to feed the homeless, and he had thought they were sent by the city; if he'd known who they were he would not have let them in. Quietly the members listened until at last, after a pause, he said, "I really appreciate what you did. I'm a Christian too."

God's grace had been with them. They fed, clothed, and shared God's love before being asked to leave. The group praised God for an excellent New Year's Eve! ❷

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BY LESLIE CAZA

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# Joyce Bellamy, D.D.S., Honored

Growing up, Joyce Bellamy, D.D.S., remembers starting each day with family worship, being taught the importance of keeping her word, and witnessing the blessings of keeping the Sabbath holy. As a little girl, she had little idea that those principles would one day be tested.

In the spring of 2017, Bellamy was hired as the solo-practicing dentist at Bryant Dental's Huntsville location. When she took over the practice in early 2017, she requested a four-day work week so that her Fridays would be free for Sabbath preparation. Her employers and staff knew about her Adventism, and how strongly she felt about the Sabbath.

In January 2018, Bellamy attended the first annual Marquee Dental Partners (MDP) Conference in Destin, Fla. She had been notified several months earlier that, as one of their newest dentists in the firm, she had earned an award that would be presented to her during the conference. When she found out that the award ceremony was on Friday night, she knew this was in conflict with her beliefs.

Although Bellamy knew what she had to do, she admits that it was not an easy decision. "The human side of me was like, 'Absolutely! I want to be there.' I knew how hard we worked," said Bellamy, who took over the failing two-days-a-week practice, and turned it into a full time four-days-a-week office in a matter of months.

"And, I knew I had to be consistent. If I refrain from doing work and anything affiliated with my job during the Sabbath, then I had to refrain from being honored... because it's affiliated with my job."

During the ceremony, Bellamy spent quiet time in her hotel room, and relied on God to keep her strong. Unbeknownst to her, Fred Ward, chief operational officer (COO) and regional director of MDP, was speaking with the Alabama regional director of MDP, Sydney Keown, about doing a private ceremony for Bellamy in her office. If her beliefs kept her from be-



Joyce Bellamy, D.D.S., holds her award.

ing honored publically, they would bring the award directly to her.

Ward, along with the CEO, Jim Usdan, travelled from Nashville, Tenn., to Huntsville, Ala., on February 1, 2018, just to present Bellamy with the "Bright Beginnings Award for Excellence" in her first year with the company.

Bellamy was honored that the administrators of her company would drive all that way to do this. Surrounded by her husband, Michael Bellamy; mother,

Nanetta Pressley; grandmother, Nannie Joiner; and her office staff and friends, Bellamy humbly accepted the award, but was quick to point out Who it is that makes Bryant Dental of Huntsville "rock star good." 🙏

PHOTO BY: GIANNA SNELL

BY GIANNA SNELL



# Students Trained, Prepared to Lead

The Youth Excel Scholarship Program (YESP) has trained more than 200 students, youth, and young adults, during the past year as literature evangelists. Centered at Oakwood University's Literature Evangelism Training Center (LETC), it focuses on leadership development of its participants. Students are groomed to assume leadership roles in the program and in the Church. YESP gives economic empowerment primarily to minority youth through educational scholarships; teaches personal finances and stewardship, and the principles of servant leadership; and provides discipleship and mission opportunity. Leaders are developed year-round at the LETC, and take mission trips on their Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring, and summer breaks. YESP is encouraged to "let those who have been in school go out into the field, put in to practical use the knowledge they have gained in school, and their talents will increase by exercise," *Colporteur Ministry*, p. 33.

They have distributed more than



Students learn to lead in training sessions.

100,000 pieces of Christian literature on trips in the last year, sharing the hope of eternal life; raised more than \$600,000 in donations to help fund their education; shared the Gospel in more than nine major metropolitan cities and surrounding areas; signed up Bible study interests; and prayed with countless seeking souls.

YESP is gearing up for this summer's

activities, and invites youth to join the movement. The program begins May 20, 2018, and ends August 5, 2018. For more information, apply at [sccyouthexcel.com](http://sccyouthexcel.com), or call 404-217-6338 and ask for Java Mattison, South Central publishing director. 📞

BY JAVA MATTISON

# Vegan Supper Club Impacts Community

The Vegan Supper Club of South Jackson Church in Jackson Miss., presents a new start for some and a refreshing confirmation for others of the value of a plant-based/vegan diet. Club members listened on Sunday, March 18, 2018, in engrossed attention and awe as devotional speaker Danny Chandler drew parallels between Israel's journey through the wilderness and the current journey. "Now is the time," Chandler said, "to take diabetes and other lifestyle-acquired chronic diseases and fight back by reversal of our lifestyle habits." He emphasized that God will not do for others what they can do for themselves.

"Tim," a community resident, told the

group that it was not until his appointment with an eye doctor that he became aware that he had dangerously high blood pressure. With that, he entered healthcare and was placed on medications. Thereafter, he was strongly impressed to eat what Adam ate.

To his amazement, it was a plant-based diet. Tim began to incorporate this diet into his lifestyle. Now, after nearly three years, he states that he is no longer on blood pressure pills, has lost weight, and feels great!

The Vegan Supper Club has given the community another option in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. 📞



Vegan Supper Club attendees

BY SHEILA DAVIS

# Perrine School Hosts Southeastern Spelling Bee

The future is bright in Southeastern, and the youthful lights were shining at the most recent Spelling Bee. The hope of the future showcased the students' vocabulary skills for those who were in attendance to cheer them on. Students, teachers, family, and friends traveled from the east, west, north, and south to the Frank C. Martin International K-8 Center in Miami, Fla., for the annual Conference-wide event on February 24, 2018. The 2017 winner was from the Perrine SDA School; therefore, Perrine hosted this year's event. The 13 participating students were 1st place winners of

their local school Spelling Bee.

Each student utilized their own unique technique. Some asked for definitions, and some wanted the word used in a sentence. After 62 rounds of competition, Shelby Pinnock of New Hope SDA School, emerged as the 1st place winner. Her spelling style proved hard to best as she broke down every word into syllables, and then spelled each syllable. Pinnock, and 2nd place winner, Stevens Etienne, pushed each other for more than 40 rounds, until croquette proved to be too tricky of a word. Pinnock's winning word was physique.

Benjamin Alcide of Miama Union Academy, was the 3rd place winner.

The event was a challenge even for the pronouncer, who gave students words from various word origins, with all their possible pronunciations. One word was even withdrawn completely because the pronouncer told the audience that she did not know how to pronounce it herself. The word was kishke.

One dictionarian stated, "I have never even heard of some of these words myself." ❶

BY KEITHA HATCHER



PHOTO BY: EDSON JARVIS

Participants of the 2018 Spelling Bee include Shelby Pinnock (left), NH; Vanessa Blemur, BJRB; Benjamin Alcide, MUA; Wadson Dieudonne, MSJA; Caleb Ruff, BES; Brenae Curry, PS; Stevens Etienne, BJA; Colhendie Zulmar, DOZJA; Brianna Graham, MTC; and Farrah Murray, MTO. Not shown are Stephron Allyson, EJAX; Mikayla Desilus, Elim; and Cassidy Clarke, EWPB. Each participant represented their school as champions of their local school's spelling bee.

# Robert Moore Selected ACS, Personal Ministries Director

Robert Moore Jr. is a veteran pastor, ministry leader, and administrator. He has spent the last several years as pastor of the Northside Church in Miami, Fla. Prior to that position, he served as director of community services and executive secretary of the Allegheny West Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

In addition to decades of ministry leadership experience, Moore brings significant academic preparation to the work. With both a bachelor of theology and social work, and a master of divinity, Moore

is well suited for his new responsibility.

Moore was recently appointed to serve as director of community services and personal ministries. Having spent several years as a licensed social worker, he is well-acquainted with the needs of the community and the challenges to meet those needs.

Moore is joined in ministry by his wife of more than 30 years, Dezrie. Together they raised two adult sons: Robert III (Trey) is an engineer, and Ryan is a medical doctor. ❶



BY CHRISTOPHER C. THOMPSON



# Six Miami Union Academy Students Baptized for God

Six students from Miami Union Academy (MUA) were baptized on February 3, 2018, at the West Park, Fla., Church. Jessica Charilus and Diandra Barnes are 12th-graders; Jerry Brilsaint, Grener Polynice, Junisha Niclasse, and Cassandra Menard are ninth-graders. In addition to their Bible course at MUA, these students had also been attending Bible studies to further prepare for baptism.

The baptism was well attended by family, friends, and church members. Also there to support were MUA faculty, staff, and administrators, including Edwin Silie, MUA principal; Gavin Gaynair, vice principal; and Trina Bowden, Southeastern assistant superintendent of education. The baptismal vows were read by

Kelissa Delva, MUA Bible teacher, and all candidates took a stand and verbalized their commitment to God. The baptism was conducted by Eddy Guerrier, Conference chaplain.

After the service, the students received baptismal certificates, gift bags with new Bibles, study guides, cards signed by family and friends, and other small tokens to commemorate the day. They were greeted with the right hand of fellowship by those in attendance, and light refreshments were served. These students remain active in the MUA community, and continue to attend Bible study on campus to support their spiritual growth. ❶

BY KELISSA DELVA



PHOTO BY: KELISSA DELVA

Senior MUA student Diandra Barnes (left) demonstrates her commitment to Christ in baptism with Eddy Guerrier, MUA chaplain. Barnes was baptized with five of her classmates.

# Maranatha Church Utilizes “Full Plate” Weight Loss Program

The universal New Year’s pledge around the world seems to be to lose weight and live a healthier lifestyle, but how many honor that pledge? Even with the best of intentions, goals somehow seem to elude many. The Maranatha Church in Apopka, Fla., has recently utilized a lifestyle program to encourage their church and community to live healthily.

Scripture says, “Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers,” 3 John 1:2. With this in mind, on February 1, 2018, the Maranatha Church started the Full Plate Weight Loss Program. This is not a diet, but a lifestyle change.

The facilitators for the program were Lenore Brantley, Ed.D., professor at Adventist University of Health Sciences in Orlando, Fla., and Laurretta Bivins. After completing

the program at another church, they approached the facilitator to find out how they could utilize the materials. They received encouragement and all the program materials at no cost.

The doors to the Maranatha gym opened on February 1, 2018, to more than 80 individuals eager to begin the lifestyle journey. Nurses from Florida Hospital were on hand to provide biometric screenings, weigh-ins, and blood pressure checks.

Each week, the group learned the keys to the Full Plate plan, to power up, and how to eat enough to lose weight. The program concluded with a celebration where participants shared stories of the benefits of following the plan. They celebrated as did the Psalmist who said, “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made...,” Psalm 139:14. ❶



Full Plate seminar leaders Lenore Brantley, Ed.D. (left), and Laurretta Bivins pause for smiles after a recent health education session. Full Plate encourages healthy lifestyle practices, as well as a balanced diet.

BY NADINE CENAFILS

# Oakwood University Reinvents Career Services

The Oakwood University Career Connections Center (OUCCC), scheduled to open later this year, will create a comprehensive, holistic, integrated pathway leading students to successful entry into graduate school, and careers that will enable them to serve God and humanity. The goal is to ensure that students who complete matriculation at Oakwood will be able to enter into graduate or professional school, can be employed as an entrepreneur or their employee, or can be profitably engaged in community service in their desired career field within 12 months of graduation.

The three main areas of the OUCCC's focus: **implementing** a process designed to actively engage every student in developing and using their individualized "Career Map" and Career Transcript; **strengthening** employer relationships designed to increase shadowing, internships, and post-exit place-

ment; and **monitoring** placement and job retention rates.

The desired outcome of participation is gainful employment for all students within 12 months of graduation. Gainful employment includes industry jobs, community service engagement, entrepreneurship, and graduate and professional schools. By fall of 2022, 100 percent of the students will be "career technology literate."

Career technology literate is defined as students who are fluent in using technology to find and use accurate and up-to-date information regarding the following:

- Employers
- Market trends
- Posting resumes
- Searching and applying for target jobs that align with past work experiences and skill set
- Generic job hunting websites such as Monster, askalo, or Indeed

• Government websites such as usa-jobs.gov

• Signing up on networking site/apps i.e. LinkedIn & GemConnect

• Removing or burying negative social media or search engine hits

• Creating your own professional blog or website

• Watching out for hiring scams

This new and exciting initiative will allow students to create a "Career Transcript" and a "Career Map" plan. The Career Transcript will include evidences of a student's awards, skills, quantifiable accomplishments using numbers/data, education, work experience, professional development, leadership activities, and special recognition from teachers and employers.

The Career Map consists of comprehensive assessments outlining each student's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities; threats (SWOT) analysis; and a skill development plan. These, along with GEMConnect (a custom application introduced fall 2017), allow students to take career assessments, build a digital career portfolio, communicate with their advisors, and be linked to a mentor. All of these strategies will help to ensure that the students reach their career goals.

This initiative constitutes a significant change in the functioning of Career Services. A career connection team will be introduced, which will consist of a center coordinator, two career development specialists, and one office assistant, all motivated to ensure a successful outcome. Each team member is tasked with ensuring that students are assigned to their own career specialist, and with enhancing all career-related activities. The students' success is Oakwood's success! 📌

SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF INTEGRATED MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS





# Oakwood Completes Healthy Campus 2020 Program

Oakwood University's Healthy Campus 2020 program has reached the end of its initial three-year Healthier Campus Initiative with Partnership for a Healthier America. This enabled Oakwood to receive the designation as one of the healthiest campuses in America.

The three-year commitment included the completion of 23 initiatives, activities, and programs. These included a Jingle Bell Run, the Calorie Burn Challenges for employees and students, installation of blood pressure machines, provision of bicycles for on-campus transportation and exercise, revision of snack items available in vending machines, and the offering of healthier choices in the dining hall, health fairs, cancer awareness programs, and more.

As one of the very first schools to join the Partnership for a Healthier America's Healthier Campus Initiative, Oakwood's efforts have led the way for the other 50-plus campus partners to fulfill commitments and implement programs



to provide students, faculty, and staff a healthier environment in which to thrive.

This milestone was celebrated on February 22, 2018, immediately following chapel. 📍




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BY STAFF WRITER

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The Healthy Campus 2020 reception was held February 22, 2018.

# Physical Therapy Students Do Mission Service in Haiti, India

Students and faculty from Adventist University of Health Sciences' (ADU) doctor of physical therapy (DPT) program completed two mission trips in February during their Spring Break. Students had the opportunity to join trips in either Haiti or India to fulfill the program's international service learning (ISL) requirement. The ISL is a unique component in the DPT program that was created to satisfy three criteria: academic learning, service learning, and cultural development.

On the Haiti trip, Jeff Emde, D.P.T., DPT's director of clinical education, led a group of five students and a consulting pediatric orthopedic surgeon to Port-au-Prince, organized by Florida Hospital's Global Health Initiative. The group stopped at New Life Children's Home, working with children with disabilities. They also visited the region's Seventh-day Adventist hospital, working with patients as well as training rehabilitation staff and PT aides. "It was an invaluable opportunity to leave an enduring legacy, and help staff continue our work when we're gone," said Emde.

Jennifer Porter, a DPT student who joined the Haiti trip, shared her experience, "Traveling to Haiti ... was the first of many mission trips I hope to take." She described her "positive and helpful" interactions with the rehabilitation staff in Haiti, and said, "Supplementing their work with new knowledge and advancements in research seemed simple, but their gratitude and excitement was a reminder that there's more work to be done to help ... as they continue promoting wellness in their country."

Jennifer Collins, Ed.D., DPT chair and professor, and Laura Podschun, D.P.T., a DPT assistant professor, led the India trip with 14 students to Kerala where they provided similar services, working with children with disabilities and at a

physical therapy clinic. The students also participated in an exchange with PT students from the Lourde Institute of Allied Health Sciences, learning about traditional Indian medicine, Ayurveda. Students from each school completed presentations and shared ideas. This immersion gave ADU students the chance to expand their own worldview as well as leave their own impact on another culture.

On both trips students provided assessments for patients, and followed up with training PT staff to ensure recommended treatment continued after the team left. Podschun spoke about the trips' effect on the students: "It broadens them as people. They find value in the cultural experience, working with different languages but finding ways to communicate."

The international service component is a central element in the mission trips;

however, the professors see another, equally important value for students. Collins explained, "The ability to have a professional exchange with people in another country, where we often focus on what is different, allows students to have a clear sense that our profession and its practitioners have the same intent and desire to serve others regardless of the culture or where they live."

These mission trips provide a valuable experience not only for students, but for the international communities they serve. Their work leaves a lasting impact, carrying out ADU's mission to develop skilled professionals who *live* the healing values of Christ. ❶

BY LISA MARIE ESSER



Jeff Emde (top left), D.P.T., and Jennifer Porter (top right), with other ADU students as well as staff and children from New Life Children's home in Haiti



# Felix is New Associate Vice President for Academic Administration

**D**ionne Felix, Ph.D., will join the Southern Adventist University administrative team as the new associate vice president for academic administration beginning this June. Felix will oversee institutional research, online learning, and much more as she works closely with senior vice president for academic administration Robert Young, Ph.D.

"I am delighted Dr. Felix has agreed to join the administration of the University," Young said. "She brings a passion for faculty development and student success that will be very helpful in her daily work. She is also a gifted communicator and good listener. These abilities will serve her and Southern well."

Felix has 17 years of experience working in education at Capella University in Minnesota, University of Alabama, Oakwood University, and most recently Cal-



**Dionne Felix, Ph.D., is the newest member of Southern's administrative team.**

houn Community College in Alabama. She has a doctorate in education, a master's degree in English, and a bachelor's in communication.

In her free time, Felix enjoys cooking, painting, and reading. She and her

husband, Ron Felix, have one daughter, Saiuri, who is a sophomore clinical psychology major at Southern. Felix looks forward to the challenges ahead as she transitions to her new position.

"All my life, I have watched God order my decisions, my steps, and my reality; He has never disappointed me," she said. "My journey to Southern was quite unexpected, but I covenanted with God that if Southern was the direction in which He was leading, I would go; however, He would have to be in the details. I am thrilled beyond words to be joining the Southern family because I know that even as I covenanted with the Father, He has covenanted with me. He will be in the details. I look forward to partnering with the Southern family as, together, we walk into God's purpose." ❧

BY JANELL HULLQUIST

# Southern Students "Telling Herstories" One Woman at a Time

**S**outhern students are working with the City of Chattanooga Mayor's Council for Women and other local colleges to collect oral histories from a broad range of notable women in Chattanooga. With the goal of gathering 200 stories, the project titled "Telling Herstories" has collected 90 interviews so far — 60 conducted by Southern students.

"We are so pleased to connect students with people in the community because it is making our neighborhood stronger, while contributing toward intellectual inquiry and further research," said Lisa Clark Diller, '96, Ph.D., professor of history and political studies at Southern, and member of the Council for Women.

Southern students first became in-

involved in 2016. As part of the project, Abby Jansen, senior history major, was able to conduct interviews with three key leaders in the Chattanooga area. Her time with these women gave her insights on how they raised their kids, the type of education that had been available to them, and the types of things they had been encouraged to do or not to do throughout their lives.

"Working with prominent women in Chattanooga has allowed me to learn from the community, while simultaneously seeking to benefit it by recording these valuable stories," Jansen said.

Carolyn Runyon, a member of the Mayor's Council for Women, has been impressed with the work Southern stu-

dents have put into this project.

"They are conscientious interviewers who have provided hours of interviews that document the rich and vital history of women in Chattanooga," Runyon said. "They approach difficult topics, such as segregation and inequality, with poise and professionalism."

The project is scheduled to conclude in 2020, but as interviews are processed, they can be heard at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga's digital collections library online. Currently the archive includes the stories of at least 15 local Adventist women. ❧

BY OKSANA WETMORE



**ARMSTRONG, P. GORDON**, 79, of Collegedale, TN, born Oct. 16, 1937 in St. John, NB, Canada, died Oct. 13, 2017 peacefully as the sun was setting. His parents were the late John E. and Regina Horseman Armstrong. Gordon was a member of the McDonald Road, TN, Church. He assisted with the audio visual online streaming for Southern Deaf Fellowship. He was also a member of the Greater Collegedale Adventist Amateur Radio Club. He retired from the College Press after many years of service. He is survived by his wife of nearly 58 years, Phyllis A. Armstrong; three children: Tamelia (Larry) Armstrong Cowan of Collegedale, TN, twins: Randy Armstrong of Fairmont, MN, and Luane (James) Armstrong Black of Carrollton, GA; five grandchildren: Janie Bryan, Johnathan Armstrong, Julianna Black, Marylynn Black, and Lauren Armstrong; one great-granddaughter, Harper Bryan; several nieces; and nephews. A graveside service was held on Nov. 5, 2017, with family and Pastor Don Gettys officiating with Pastor Jeff Jordan. A Celebration of Life Service was held the same day at the McDonald Road Church with Pastor Fred Fuller officiating. Interment was at the Collegedale Memorial Park.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Phillip Gordon Armstrong Jr.; three sisters: Rena Wilkins, Grayce Paisley, and Dorothy Armstrong; and two brothers: Walter and Donald Armstrong.

**BLOODWORTH, VELDA J.**, 88, born June 28, 1929 in Spartanburg County, SC, to parents Lloyd and Nora Burke, died Oct. 31, 2017 in Winter Garden, FL. She was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for more than 60 years. Her early years were spent in Michigan. When she was 14 years old, her family moved to Key West for a year. She really enjoyed the Key West lifestyle, and had many fond memories of that time. The family then moved to the central Florida area where she graduated from Forest Lake Academy in Apopka in 1947. She attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN, but quit to accept a job teaching Church school in St. Petersburg, FL. In the mid-1960s, Jean went back to SAU and completed her degree in 1967 with a bachelor of arts in English. She received a master of arts in library science degree from Florida State University in 1968, and that fall began her career as librarian at Forest Lake Academy in Apopka.

In 1974, she became reference librarian and associate professor at Rollins College where she retired 25 years later. She loved reading, spending time with her grandchildren, and hosting picnics and holiday gatherings at her home on Bear Lake. She always said since she was fortunate to live on a lake, she should share it with others.

She is survived by two daughters: Jill (Michel) Henderson of Colorado, and Jackie (Rick) Herschberger of Forest City, FL; two sisters: Darlene Burke Ward of Georgia, and Beverly (Don) Huff of Michigan; three grandchildren; and one great-grandson. She was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, Clifford Bloodworth; and two brothers: John Taylor Burke who was killed in the battle of Tarawa in 1943, and Kenneth I. Burke. The interment service was conducted at Highland Memory Gardens in Apopka, with Pastors Phyllis Peck and Jim Appel officiating.



**DALTON, CLARICE CHRISTINE APLIN**, 87, of Lynn Haven, FL, born Oct. 19, 1929 to the late Harold and Martha Aplin at Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park, MD, died June 17, 2017 in Panama City, FL. She often remarked that was the same day H.M.S. Richards started the Voice of Prophecy. She attended J. N. Andrews Church School in Takoma Park, then Shenandoah Valley Academy in New Market, VA - graduating in 1947. She enrolled in pre-nursing at Washington Missionary College (now Washington Adventist University), but soon realized God was calling her to be a teacher. She switched to secondary education and graduated in 1950. Later she took graduate studies at Wright State University in Dayton, OH.

During a College Ingathering campaign, "Participate in '48," Christine was soliciting while being supported by a singing band in a pick-up truck. On the ride back home, she began talking with one of the young men who had been singing. Arriving at her house, he got off the truck to help her down and the driver drove off. He walked her to the door, asked her for a date, and ran back to the college. Neither ever dated

another! They were married June 5, 1950 in the "old" Takoma Park Church by William H. Shephard, president of WMC.

Christine taught both elementary and secondary levels at Adventist schools including Church School and Junior Academy in Dayton; Spring Valley Academy in Centerville, OH; and Church School in Panama City. She often said she taught every grade from one through 12.

She was very active in her church, variously serving as Sabbath School teacher, church clerk, bulletin secretary, religious liberty leader, Pathfinder director, and other offices. Christine was a Master Guide, particularly enjoying camping, bird watching, astronomy, and gardening. She enjoyed playing softball with her children (especially pitching), playing the organ and piano for church, and writing stories and poetry. She was a published author. For the last 15 years, she was a member of the North Bay Church near Panama City. Although very busy with teaching and serving her church, she was an excellent homemaker. She baked delicious whole wheat bread, served wholesome, healthful vegetarian meals to her family, and she made her sewing machine "hum."

One of her children posted this, "A great lady, the quintessential teacher, she possessed the patience of a saint, and always showed her students, friends, and family with kindness and love. She will be greatly missed. Her life will be daily celebrated." Surely, she exemplified the words of Proverbs 31.

She is survived by her husband of 67 years, A. Stanley Dalton Sr.; five children: Stan Jr. (Josiane), Mark (Marilee), Dori (Ed) Neufeld, Karyn (Art) Stagg, and John (Carolyn); 12 grandchildren: Emily, Kristin, Mannie, AJ, Chris, Eric, Julie, Mitchell, Didier, Andy, Kristi,

Caty; and 13 great-grandchildren: Aidyn, Gwen, Lyla, Evi, Sebbi, Ethan, Dylan, Avery, Tatum, Audrey, Marielle, Leo, and Adam. She is now resting in Collegedale Memorial Park beside her parents, awaiting Jesus' return. Christine's faith remained strong to the end in the certainty that "joy comes in the morning."



**DARNELL, MARGARET ANNE DAVIS**, 76, born Feb. 24, 1942 to the late Claude and Leeoma Davis of Marble, NC, died March 3, 2018 in Hendersonville, NC. She was a member of the Arden, NC, Church for 40 years. She went to Mount Pisgah Academy where she graduated in 1959. After academy, Margaret went to Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) and graduated with her B.A. in elementary education and a certificate as a Bible instructor in 1963. She met the love of her life, Nolan Darnell at Southern, and they were married shortly after her graduation. Margaret taught elementary education in several Adventist schools in the Carolinas and Tennessee. She received her Master's in education from La Sierra University in 1996. After retiring from elementary education in 1999, she taught GED classes at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College in Asheville, NC. She loved teaching. Encouraging her students to love Jesus, and do their best in everything was foremost in her life. Margaret was involved in teaching Sabbath School classes from Cradle Roll through the Youth Department. She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Nolan B. Darnell; two sons: Loren Darnell and David (Heather) Darnell; and two granddaughters who look forward to seeing her at Christ's second coming.

**FREEMAN, JOHN DODD**, 95, born Nov. 16, 1921 in St. Augustine, FL, died May 22, 2017 in Salem, OR. John was the owner of Freeman Studios and founder of Maranatha Flights International. After graduating from Forest Lake Academy in Altamonte Springs, FL, he was drafted into the Army. Before he was shipped off to the Pacific Theater, he eloped in 1942 with his sweetheart Ida Mae Budde, a registered nurse at Florida Sanitarium. In the Army, he served as conscientious objector medic, ambulance driver, and personal driver for a general in occupied Japan. After returning from Japan and being reunited with his wife, John went to photography school in Harvard, CT.

John and Ida Mae settled in Berrien Springs, MI, where he started Freeman Studios, his commercial photographic company. They built their own house on the Chapin River, where they raised their five daughters and were active members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The Freemans were known for their hospitality, their eagerness for wholesome fun, and enjoyment of nature. The years in Berrien Springs were full of activity, from water and snow skiing, to snowmobiling to Sabbath dinners in which the house regularly overflowed with guests and conversation.

In 1969, John founded Maranatha Flights International (MFI). This was his way to help spread the message of Christ's salvation around the globe. In 1989, MFI became Maranatha Volunteers International, which is now responsible for many volunteer building projects around the world each year.

In 1970, John and friends built a cabin in Marble, CO. This was a beautiful location where they continued to entertain guests, jeep through the Crystal River Valley, enjoy the snow covered peaks, and beautiful spring flowers. In 1985, the Freemans moved to Marble, CO, from Berrien Spring. In 1993, when the mountains became too rugged for them to navigate, the Freemans moved to Hendersonville, NC, to enjoy their retirement years. John never officially retired, he was still taking pictures, enjoying their RV adventures, and family vacations with all of his daughters and grandchildren.

**FREEMAN, IDA MAE**, 97, born May 20, 1920 in Neenah, WI, died Feb. 23, 2018. After graduating from high school, she attended Madison College in Madison, WI, for pre-nursing. Upon completion, she attended Florida Sanitarium and Hospital in Orlando, FL, where she obtained a diploma in nursing.

While in nursing school, she met and eventually eloped with her sweetheart, John Freeman, who had been drafted into the Army, and was being shipped to the Pacific Theater in 1942. This was most daring since nurses at that time had to quit school for six months if they married. During John's military tour, Ida Mae was allowed to return to complete her nurse's training.

Soon after the war, Ida Mae and John settled in Berrien Springs, MI, to be near Andrews University and the Adventist community there. She worked several years as a private duty nurse before becoming a full time mother of five daughters.

Ida Mae was known for her legendary hospitality which included large Sabbath dinners where the house overflowed with guests and conversation. Whether it was the gourmet food that was always in plentiful supply or fun that was never in short supply, Ida Mae made every occasion memorable. She had a servant's heart and took every opportunity to reach out to both friends and strangers.

Her life was dedicated to serving God and her family. She was the consummate mother teaching all of her girls how to sew, can, and freeze. Years later, she gifted each of her daughters with Bosch bread makers. She was a life-long example of honesty, integrity, and true friendship.

We know that behind every successful man is a strong woman, and Ida Mae's kind and gentle spirit was a compliment to John's vision and energy. She enjoyed traveling to mission projects where she orchestrated meals for the working volunteers, helped with construction, and supervised clean up. Those who knew her on mission trips often called her the "Mother of Maranatha."







**GRAVES, OTIS**, 91, and **MARGARET**, 89, Otis was born in Clearwater, FL, on Oct. 14, 1925, died Oct. 31, 2017. Margaret was born in West Palm Beach, FL, on May 12, 1928, died July 9, 2017. Both had been residing at Florida Living Nursing Center in Apopka, FL. They were members of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka for 29 years.

Otis graduated from Fletcher Academy, Hendersonville, NC, in 1943, and Margaret from Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL, in 1945. They met at Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN, on the same campus where Otis' parents, Cecil and Lucille, met and resided. Otis and Margaret were married for 70 years and had two children.

Otis was ordained in Florida and spent the early years of his long, dedicated career pastoring churches throughout the South, primarily in Florida: Pensacola, Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Lakeland, and St. Petersburg; in Alabama: Birmingham and Gadsen; and in Mississippi: Natchez, Brookhaven, McComb, and Tupelo.

In 1961, the family moved to Maryland where Otis pastored the church in Silver Spring, and Margaret was secretary to the chaplain at the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital (Washington Adventist Hospital) Takoma Park, MD. Not long afterward, Otis' career path changed, and he entered education and MV departmental work for Potomac Conference in Staunton, VA, while Margaret was secretary to two conference presidents. From departmental work and running Blue Ridge Youth Camp in the summers, Otis next accepted the challenge of teaching Bible in the classroom at Takoma Academy in Takoma Park. Principal J. P. (Prof) Lawrence strongly encouraged him to attend American University in Washington, DC, to obtain his Master's Degree in education. While engaged in his graduate studies, he also fulfilled his lifelong desire to learn to fly airplanes. In addition to teaching Bible courses, he taught academy students to fly after earning his commercial pilots license.

Otis and Margaret had the opportunity to move to Hawaii where he taught at Hawaiian Mission Academy, and she was secretary to the director of nurses at Castle Memorial Hospital. Upon returning to the mainland a few years later, they both worked for the Iowa-Missouri and New Jersey Conferences: he as superintendent of education and director of the youth department; she again as executive secretary to the conference presidents.

At the close of their denominational careers, Margaret served as registrar and Otis as principal of Greater Miami Academy and Florida Conference associate superintendent of education.

Music always played an integral part of the Graves' lives. Together, they sang and played the piano, trombone, and various other instruments in churches, youth camps, evangelistic meetings, camp meetings, and other denominational venues. While at Forest Lake and Hawaiian Mission Academies, the Graves' formed singing groups of students who recorded albums and toured churches throughout the Florida Conference and Hawaiian Islands to share their ministry of the Love of God. In their retirement years, the Graves volunteered by regularly playing the lobby piano at Florida Hospital, Apopka. Otis was a founding member of Florida Living Low Brass, where he played the trombone.

Otis and Margaret are survived by their son, Gary (Becky) Graves of Mt. Airy, MD; their daughter, Barbara (Bobbi) Sue Graves of College Park, MD; Otis' brother, Sandy (Bedi) Graves of Apopka; Otis' sister, Dorothy Jean Salhany of Lawrenceburg, TN; one granddaughter; two great-granddaughters; and other extended family members.

**HOFFMANN, CAROL JEANNE**, 89, born Oct. 15, 1928 in Chicago, IL, died Jan. 27, 2018 in Hendersonville, NC. She was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church.

She was employed by the Seventh-day Adventist Church as a registrar and elementary education teacher for 25 years. Her work (and her husband's work) moved them around the country: Illinois Conference and Broadview Academy (1949-1958), Sandia View Academy/New Mexico (1958-1962), Lynwood Academy/California ((1962-1966), Maplewood Academy/Minnesota (1966-1969), Sheyenne River Academy/North Dakota (1969-1973, now Dakota Adventist Academy), Union Springs Academy/New York (1973-1976), Georgia-Cumberland Academy/Georgia (1976-1979), Athens Elementary School/Georgia (1979-1989), and Fletcher Academy/North Carolina (1989-1991). In 1991 she traveled to Taiwan to teach elementary school at the Taiwan Adventist College for a year.

For 23 years, she volunteered with the Park Ridge Hospital Auxiliary and was involved with Fletcher Church as a deaconess, elder, and outreach ministries.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 56 years, Raymond Hoffmann. She is survived by her daughters: Linda (Peter) Connell of Marston Mills, MA, and Janet (Tim) Novak of Hendersonville, NC; her granddaughter, Erin (Andrew) Knittel of Ooltewah, TN; adopted granddaughter, Carolyn Stockwell; great-granddaughter, Emily; great-grandson, Aidan of California; and great-granddaughter, Sylvia Quispe of Pennsylvania.



**KIMBALL, ROBERT BRYSON**, 94, born March 15, 1922 in Marathon, TX, died Sept. 23, 2016 peacefully at home in Ooltewah, TN, with loved ones by his side. Robert spent his youth in Marathon, TX.

After serving a tour of duty in the Navy, he moved to California to attend La Sierra University. He began his lifelong love of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Calexico, CA, as a teacher. He went on to teach and was the principal for 16 years.

The first church he pastored was in Paducah, KY. He went on to serve as pastor in Patterson, N.J., Johnson City, TN, and Macon, GA, where he retired.

After retirement, he chose to volunteer for two years as a pastor in Yuma, CO. All in all, he served the Church for

more than 38 years. In retirement, Robert enjoyed gardening, visiting with close friends and family, reading, and spending time with his love, Gaye. His greatest joy, though, was the close relationship and great love he had for his Lord and Savior, which he joyfully shared with all he came in contact with until the very end.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Gabrielle (Gaye) Kimball; two sons: R. Bruce (Dixie) Kimball and Paul L. (Vondeane) Kimball; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held in the Gospel Chapel at the Collegedale, TN, Church.



**MARLEY, ARLINE BRACEBRIDGE**, 82, born Jan. 5, 1934 in Saginaw, MI, died Dec. 22, 2017 in Lexington, SC. She was a lifelong member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and served her faith in a variety of roles from kindergarten teacher to choir director, and deaconess.

She was a beloved pastor's wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, and friend to all who knew her. She was known as a woman of strong faith in God, and was an avid prayer warrior. She had a great heart for hospitality, and her home was always open to anyone in need.

In 1954 she married her academy sweetheart, Clarence "Bud" Bracebridge in San Bernardino County, CA. Together they pastored churches in Michigan, Tennessee, and South Carolina. Bud transitioned from the role of pastor to serving as one of two civilian chaplains for the Seventh-day Adventist Church based in Columbia, SC.

In 1987 they moved to Washington, DC, where Arline worked in the General Conference Auditing Department, and Bud served as director of the General Conference chaplaincy ministries.

Arline's passion for music was borne out in her involvement in the Melodyaires, a quartet that performed throughout the South for many years. She owned and operated a large ceramic shop, and loved painting and creating wall art. Writing and directing plays were also important parts of her life.

She also served as a secretary in various legal and real estate firms in South Carolina.

She was predeceased by her parents, Clyde and Mildred Hendrick; her brother, Jack (John); and her loving husband of 37 years, Clarence "Bud" Bracebridge, who fell asleep in Jesus in 1991. Subsequently, she was married to Pastor Horace Ace Redding in 2001. Horace passed away in 2006. In 2010 she married Pastor Everett Marley, who was laid to rest in 2013. She is survived by her sister, Dottie Tebo of St. Charles, MI; one brother, Roger Hendrick of Madison, TN; one son, Ronald Lee Bracebridge, and his wife, Anita; daughter, Rhonda Kay Bracebridge, both of Lexington; and daughter, Rachelle Bracebridge Bussell, and her husband, Mark, of Redlands, CA; seven grandchildren: Shannon Haus (John), A.J. Bracebridge (Thalita), Alexsondria Combs (Dustin), Chelsea Zinke (Benjamin), and Clarissa, Michael, and Matthew Bussell; two great-grandchildren: Jacob and Ethan Haus; numerous nieces; and nephews.

**MAZAT, PAULINE KLADY**, 98, born March 4, 1919 in Florence, OH, died peacefully to her rest on Sabbath afternoon Aug. 17, 2017. She was the third of the five daughters born to the late Glenn Kladý and Elva Draper Kladý. When Pauline was 10 years old, the family moved to the Harding farm in Blooming Grove, OH. Her father was farming the land and often would have Pauline help him on the farm because she was the strong one.

At an early age, Pauline developed a liking for music, especially the piano. She attended Mt. Vernon Academy in Mt. Vernon, OH, during her teen years and then attended Washington Missionary College, in Tacoma Park, MD. She graduated from college in 1937. Shortly after graduation she began working at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as a secretary, and continued for 20 years. Jesse Gibson, who was a cousin of Pauline, also worked at the General Conference, and told her of a widowed minister by the name of Walter Mazat who was living in Florida. Jesse arranged a meeting of the two. Walter rode the train Friday night to Washington to meet Pauline on Sabbath morning. It was clear to them that the Lord approved of their courtship. They were married Feb. 1962, in Orlando, FL, where Walter was pastoring.

Pauline's love of music was fulfilled, for Walter played the violin and Pauline played the piano and organ, and together they made beautiful music. At that time, Walter was a minister in the Florida Conference, and Pauline served as a personal ministries secretary. Together they would visit the churches; Walter would preach and they together would present the special music. Later, Walter was called to the Southern Union Conference, and Pauline accompanied him. They made their home at that time in Atlanta, GA.

Pauline did not have children, but she was a wonderful aunt to her many nieces and nephews. Later in his ministry, Walter became ill with Parkinson's Disease and had to retire early. Pauline did not entertain the idea of putting him in a care facility, but cared for him at home until his death in 1998. Her devotion and strength were seen in how she cared for him.

After Walter died, Pauline continued living in their house they built on Woodland Drive in Columbus, NC, where she had been active in playing the organ and piano, and entering into activities of the Tryon Church. In 2008, her sister Marilyn and husband Marlo moved to Columbus to help take care of her. In 2010, she entered Ridge Rest, an assisted living facility nearby.

She leaves to mourn one stepson, Terry Mazat; one sister, Marilyn Fralick; one half brother, Bruce Ames; five nieces: Darlene Harris, Joan Habenicht, Ann Shaw, Jane Layva, and Julia Hill; six nephews: Ron Schoonard, Ted Schoonard, Larry Schoonard, Allen Kennedy, James Kennedy, and Steve Kirk. Relatives and friends gathered for a memorial service at the Tryon Church on Nov. 11, 2017, so that the nieces and nephews and their families could be present.





**SMITH, RONALD G.**, 81, born June 20, 1936 in Shewsbury, VT, died Dec. 14, 2017 in Altamonte Springs, FL. He was a member of the Forest Lake Church in Apopka, FL, for more than 40 years. He served more than 30 years in hospital work: Palatka, FL, Hospital in the business office, and Florida Hospital South, Orlando, FL, in the business office and social services.

He is survived by his wife of more than 58 years, Nancy; two sons: Kevin of Longwood, FL, and Keith of Sorrento, FL; one daughter, Karen Kunder of Maitland, FL; one brother, Wendell Smith of South Lancaster, MA; two sisters: Eleanor Mapes of Leominster, MA, and Rachel Lowe of South Lancaster, MA; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The service was held at the Forest Lake Church in Apopka. Interment was in Benson, VT

**BEAULIEU, HENRY JOSEPH**, 82, born Nov. 23, 1933, died Sept. 20, 2017 in a Chattanooga hospital. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. Henry was actively involved in disaster relief as a member of Adventist Community Services. He was a devoted husband, loving father, beloved grandfather, and great-grandfather. Henry and Pauline met in 6th grade, and shared more than 61 years together in marriage. They truly have one of the greatest love stories the world has known. His loved ones are so proud to be a part of that legacy. He is survived by his wife, Pauline Parent Beaulieu; five children: Karen McClendon and Ray Wiacek of Ocoee, FL, Timothy Joseph Beaulieu of Orlando, FL, Kenneth Henry Beaulieu and his wife, Barbara Graves, of Marblehead, MA, Susan Reuther and her husband, Tom Reuther, of Boxborough, MA, and Amy DiBernardo of Cleveland, TN; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters: Elaine Hamel of Kingston, NH, and Doris Faren and her husband, John Faren, of Winthrop, MA. Henry was preceded in death by his parents, Phillip and Germaine Beaulieu; his daughter, Debra Van Allen; and granddaughter, Erin Elizabeth. A memorial service was held Sept. 23, 2017 at Collegedale Church Chapel.

**BOWERS, ANNE L.**, 95, born April 10, 1922 in Bluefield, WV, died Jan. 10, 2018. She was the first child of Thomas H. Lambdon and Roulette Niswander. She lived in Wytheville, VA, until moving to Ooltewah, TN, in 1990. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. She is survived by her daughter, Kitty B. (Bill) McGhinis of Ooltewah, TN; son, Dr. Roger Bird of Phoenix, AZ; two grandsons: Jonathan David Bird and Christopher Thomas Bird of Phoenix, AZ; and one sister, Marydora L. Hudgins of Winston Salem, NC. The funeral service was held Jan. 16, 2018, at the Collegedale Church with pastors Will Eva, Paul Smith, and Cherie Smith officiating. Burial followed in Collegedale Memorial Park. Pallbearers were Fred Bennett, David Bates, Chris Bird, J.D. Bird, Gary Bowers, and David Bowers. She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers: Thomas H. Lambdon, Jr., M. Donald Lambdon; one sister, Betty L. Crawford; her husband of 25 years, Garnette M. Bird; and her second husband, Uzell D. Bowers.

**BRADLEY, GARY FURMAN SR.**, 79, born July 28, 1938 in Asheville, NC, died Jan. 21, 2018

in Hendersonville, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church. Gary enjoyed racing in his youth and working on race cars. He served in the Army for two years. He was also an inventor, and many of his patented inventions are being used today. Gary is preceded in death by his parents, Carl Furman and Robbie Laughter Bradley, and his three siblings: Ann Krupp, Ronald Bradley, and Shirley Snyder. Gary is survived by his wife, Ruth of Hendersonville; his son, Gary Jr. (Stella) of Candler, NC; daughter, Amy Jean Larrabee (Clark) of Hendersonville; grandchildren: Allison, Zachary, and David; numerous nieces; and nephews.

**BROWN, ESTHER ELLEN**, 86, born July 5, 1930 in Orlando, FL, died peacefully on April 15, 2017. She was the daughter of Alfred and Polly Corbett. She is survived by her husband of 28 years, Robert Brown; her youngest son, Kenneth Zervos; daughter-in-law, Fimia; one grandson, Ethan; and one sister, Louise Weimer. She was preceded in death by her first husband of 29 years, George Zervos; sons: John and Mark Zervos; and second husband of four years, Norman Timberman. A celebration of her life was held on April 22, 2017, at the Bowman Hills Church in Cleveland, TN.

**BUCHANAN, WILLIAM ALBERT**, 22, born July 21, 1996 in Raleigh, NC, died Feb. 16, 2018 in Minot, ND. William joined the United States Air Force after high school to serve his country. He served as a security forces specialist with the 91st Security Forces Group, 791st Missile Security Forces Squadron, at Minot AFB, ND. He had a passion for writing and wanted to be a gaming script writer one day. He graduated from Fletcher Academy in 2014, and was a member of the Fletcher Church. He is survived by his mother and father, Terri and Charles Buchanan of Ivor, VA; his sister, Gayle Buchanan of Petaluma, CA; his maternal grandparents, Ann Luthy and Richard Luthy of Newport, NC; paternal grandparents, Dave and Elaine Buchanan of Raleigh, NC; two aunts; one uncle; and seven cousins.

**BULLARD, EUGENIA**, 56, born Feb. 4, 1961 in Fulton County, GA, died Dec. 22, 2017 in Meansville, GA. She was a nurse and member of the Thomaston Church. She is survived by her brothers: Andrew W. Day of Thomaston, GA, Barry Day of Palm Coast, FL, and Randy Day of Las Vegas NV; her father, Russell Day of Zebulon, GA; one aunt,

Phyllis Gilbert; one nephew, Kneeland (Bethany) Day; two nieces: Natalea Day and Jamie Lyn (Ryan) Behrendsen; and one great-nephew, Liam Day. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Sophia Mariel Bullard; mother, Cecile Gordy Day; and sister, Deborah Day. The funeral service was held Dec. 23, 2017 in the chapel of Coggins Funeral Home. A private graveside service and interment was held at Valley Grove Baptist Church Cemetery on Dec. 25, 2017.

**BULLARD, SOPHIA MURIEL**, 20, born Oct. 31, 1995 in Griffin, GA, died Oct. 27, 2016 in Henry County, GA. Sophia was a member of the Thomaston Church. She was a vet-tech at the McDonough Animal Hospital. She is survived by her parents, Eugenia Day Bullard and John Bullard both of Thomaston; grandfather, Russell Day of Thomaston; and one uncle, Andrew Day of Thomaston (currently stationed in Afghanistan). She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Cecile Day. The funeral service was held on Nov. 3, 2016 in the chapel of Coggins Funeral Home. Burial followed at Valley Grove Baptist Church Cemetery.

**CHASTAIN, SHIRLEY LEONE**, 93, born March 14, 1924, died Aug. 5, 2017. Shirley was the daughter of the late Genoa and Ellen Howe Zollinger. She worked for many years in the family business, and was a vital part to its success. All who knew Shirley knew she had a kind, genuine heart that was always eager to give. Her generous hospitality, and her love for working with children were always wonderful traits that were observed by all around her. She will be dearly missed. She leaves to cherish her memory, her loving husband of 69 years, Andrew Chastain; four children: Bettie (Ric) Griffin, Don (Lucia) Chastain, Ken (Karen) Chastain, and Jeannie (Marty) Hefner; four grandchildren: Tara Hills, Mandi Gane, Bekki Wade, and Tyler Hefner; eight great-grandchildren; three brothers: Le Zollinger, Bob Zollinger, and Beecher Zollinger; one sister, Betty Ashlock; as well as numerous extended family and friends. The family held a private celebration of life graveside service at the Collegedale Memorial Park. Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by three siblings: George Zollinger, Glen Zollinger, and Eddie Zollinger.



**COGGIN, JULIAN THAYER “BUTCH,”** 81, born Jan. 14, 1936 in Orlando, FL., died Nov. 14, 2017 at his home in Nellysford, VA. Butch grew up in the Cocoa, FL., area, graduating from Cocoa High School where he was involved in all sports and the band. His parents introduced him to golf at an early age, and it became a lifelong enjoyment. After graduating from Southern Missionary College, Collegedale, TN (now Southern Adventist University), it was on to Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA. where he earned his medical degree. Next it was being drafted into the army, after serving two years he was offered a residency in pathology at Fitzsimmons Army Medical Hospital, Denver, CO. Ending a 20-year army career as chief of pathology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC, Butch accepted a position as chief of pathology at Montgomery County Hospital, Onley, MD. Once again after serving 20 years, he retired, this time to his vacation home in Wintergreen, VA. Now many hours would be enjoyed playing golf with his friends. Butch joined the Waynesboro Church serving as Sabbath School teacher and elder. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; his daughter, Jill Oldiges (Jason); two grandsons; three great-grandchildren all of Erlanger, KY; and one brother, Dave (Sylvia) of Lakeland, FL.

**COLBURN, GRACE LOUISE,** 102, was born June 29, 1915 in Jasonville, IN, died peacefully on Oct. 31, 2017 in her home with some of her family close by. She was the daughter of the late William August and Ida Clara Lutenberg, and was the youngest of four children. She was a contemporary of Ellen G. White, being 2½ weeks old when Mrs. White passed. She was in excellent health most of her life. She lived independently until the last six years of her life, when she needed caregivers to assist her. She grew to love them as her own children. Completing her elementary education in 1929 at the Jasonville Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School in Jasonville, she went on to graduate from Jasonville High School in 1933. Following her high school graduation, she attended the Hinsdale, IL, School of Nursing, where she met her future husband. She married Ernest Roy Colburn in Jasonville on July 19, 1936. In addition to living in Jasonville, she lived in Muskegon and Saginaw, MI, before moving to Cookeville, TN, in 1998. She was a faithful, life-long member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and served her Lord in many community outreach endeavors. She was the leader of the Community Services Center for several years in Saginaw. She loved reading her Bible, devoting her life to her husband and children, and to her Lord and His Church. Her favorite Bible text was Psalm 119:165, “Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.” She was an excellent homemaker and thrived in the kitchen, no matter how many people were ready to eat. She loved flower and vegetable gardening and house plants, but her family was the focus and thrill of her life. While in her 70s, she cared for the “elderly,” assisting them with grocery shopping, house cleaning, cooking and baking, clothes washing, bill paying, and checkbook balancing. She now peacefully sleeps in Jesus, awaiting His soon

return and the resurrection day, when her Creator and Redeemer will call her forth to eternal health, eternal life. She is survived by her five children: Larry Roy (Carole) Colburn of Dandridge, TN, Philip Ray (Beverly) Colburn of Clarkrange, TN, Ernest Jay (Carolyn) Colburn of Mt. Vernon, OH, Kenneth Lee (Sandy) Colburn of Cookeville, TN, and her only daughter, Janice Ilene Hughes of Cornersville, TN; 14 grandchildren; eight step-grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and 13 great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, Ernest Roy Colburn; her parents: William August and Ida Clara Lutenberg; one brother, William (Bill) Lutenberg; two sisters: Inez Sheffield and Esther Nelson; and one son-in-law, Ronald Hughes.

**DAVENPORT, DR. GLENN,** 100, born March 15, 1917 in Ringgold County, IA, died Dec. 6, 2017 in Centerville, OH. He was a member of the Kettering, OH, Church. He is survived by his granddaughter, Kim (Kelley) Lunde and her husband, Eric; his grandson, David Mark Kelley; and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Bonita (Cozad) Davenport; and his daughter, Veryl (Davenport) Kelley.

**DAVIS, WILLIAM EDWARD,** 89, born April 13, 1928 in Rock Island, TN, died Feb. 28, 2018 in Goodlettsville, TN. As a young teenager, he went to work in a cotton mill and continued in other labor-intensive jobs. In 1952, he joined the U.S. Marines, serving in the Korean War, and was awarded several medals for his service and skills. Following seven years in the service, he began a new career as a truck driver. His love and talent for music brought pleasure to many. He was a writer and composed many poems. He was a faithful member of the Ridgetop, TN, Church. He is survived by two sons: Mark E. Davis and Ervin (Karen) Brown; three daughters: Tracy Davis, Oleta (David) Emerson, and Cherie (David) La Tourette; one brother, Aubra W. (Billie Faye) Davis; 12 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lona Davis; and several siblings.

**GAMMENTHALER, ROBERT “BOB” ALLEN,** 63, born Feb. 13, 1954, in Fredericksburg, TX, died Oct. 24, 2017. Bob established several businesses in the Chattanooga area and Texas. He is survived by his loving wife, Pam Gammenthaler of Ooltewah; four sons: Rob (Lindsay) Gammenthaler of San Ramon, CA, Mickey (Lucy) Gammenthaler of Arlington, TN, Scott (Lisa) Gammenthaler of Owensboro, KY, and Doug (Macey) Gammenthaler of Loma Linda, CA; two grandchildren: Redmond Scott Gammenthaler and Ellie Jane Gammenthaler; his mother, Esther Gammenthaler of Eustis, FL; one sister, Janice (Benny) Deaton of Murphy, NC; one brother, Sam (Loretha) Gammenthaler of Tangerine, FL; one niece, Jessica (Kelly) Kieper of Kalispell, MT; and one nephew, Jimmy Holm of Kent, WA. A memorial service was held on Oct. 29, 2017, at the Collegedale Church with Pastor John Cress officiating.

**GIACOMOZZI, BRYAN,** 57, born Oct. 17, 1960, died Oct. 21, 2017. He was the husband of Jill, father of Mario (Sandy) Giacomozzi and Sheena Giacomozzi, and son-in-law of John and Mary Lou O’Brian. A memorial service was held on Nov. 11, 2017 in the Gospel Chapel of the Collegedale, TN, Church.

**GONZALEZ, ROGER JOSEPH,** 70, born Nov. 28, 1946 in Providence, RI, died Oct. 19, 2017 after a short, but courageous battle with cancer. He was a member of the Cross Plains, TN, Church, where he served as an elder, Sabbath School teacher, and head of the building committee. Roger was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He served as a medic and conscientious objector. He spent many years as a welder, builder, and business owner. During the last 25 years, he owned EZ Hoods and Advanced Cleaning Systems. He took great pride in teaching people across the country the hood cleaning business. He co-owned and operated the school with his daughter and son-in-law, Anne-Marie and Russell Clark, and his wife, Pat. He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Gonzalez. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Gonzalez; his mother: Swiftley McIntosh Gonzalez; two daughters: Anne-Marie (Russell) Clark, and Rachel (Jeff) Terry; two stepsons: Keith Garner and Brandon Garcia; one stepdaughter, Brandy (Scott) King; three granddaughters: Daria Clark, Annabel Clark, and Harper King; three grandsons: Evan Clark, Chase Garner, and Jacob Terry; one great-grandson, Ayden Clark; three brothers: Joseph (Norma) Gonzalez, Carlos Gonzalez, and Orlando (OJ) Gonzalez.

**GRAVES, MARY LOU,** died quietly on Oct. 31, 2017. She was the beloved wife of 66 years to Dr. Charles Graves; the treasured mother of Dr. Charles (Denise) Graves, Louella (Tim) Freeman, Nancy (Brad) Billington, and Dr. George (Melanie) Graves; as well as nine grandchildren; and soon-to-be seven great-grandchildren. Mary Lou was born in Loma Linda, CA, to Dr. Leslie and Lula Ekvall. She had two younger brothers, Dr. David Ekvall (deceased) and LTC Charles (Teri) Ekvall, retired. Mary Lou grew up traveling the world as her family followed Dr. Ekvall’s medical Navy career wherever it led. Her world experiences ignited Mary Lou’s passion for people, places, and new adventures. She graduated as a nurse from Loma Linda University, where she met and married Charles Graves on June 11, 1951. She supported Dr. Charles in his dream to serve the medical needs of a small town in his home state of Tennessee. They moved to Dunlap in 1955, working together to eventually expand Sequatchie General Hospital to a 49-bed facility. Mary Lou worked as nursing director, floor nurse, operating room supervisor, emergency room RN, and taught numerous nursing aid courses in the community. Later, Mary Lou was an independent nursing consultant, preparing area hospitals and home health organizations for Joint Commission inspections so they would qualify to receive funding. After retiring, she and her husband opened Mary Lou’s Luncheonette in the downtown heart of Dunlap. Dr. Charles was the gracious host and cashier, while Mary Lou cooked

her own recipes five days a week for almost five years. She was a leader in many areas at the Dunlap Church. During the years, she served as Sabbath School superintendent, Sabbath School teacher in the children's departments, Pathfinder leader, Home and School leader, and school board chairperson. She served on various committees in the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, including executive committee and the K-12 board, and did fundraising for Georgia-Cumberland Academy, from the Penny Campaign to build it to the later renovations of the dorms and faculty housing. Mary Lou brainstormed the idea of teaching children how to swim for Vacation Bible School at the Graves family pool, and she personally taught this vital life skill for four decades. Her talents extraordinaire are too numerous to list. Mary Lou's love and creative life reflected God's awesome love, and her absence dims our lives. We look forward to our reunion with our beloved Mary Lou when Jesus returns. It is well with our souls.

**HARTMAN, BETTY MAE**, 89, born Jan. 29, 1928 in Grill, PA, died Dec. 20, 2017 as a result of congestive heart failure. Betty and Carl Hartman were married on Dec. 27, 1951, and spent almost 66 years together. They served in pastoral ministry for more than 40 years in Maryland, Virginia, Florida, Alabama, North Carolina, and Iowa. Upon retirement, they moved back to Andrews, NC, where they built a retirement home and lived for 20 years. They loved serving their community through smoking cessation classes and cooking schools. They also coordinated the monthly MANNA food program in Andrews for 10 years. Because of failing health, Betty and Carl had to leave their beloved home in Andrews and move to an assisted living center near Nashville, TN, in Oct. 2016. A memorial service was held Jan. 13, 2018, at the Hendersonville, TN, Church. Betty is survived by her husband, Carl; two sons: David (Judi) Hartman of Portland, TN, and John (Harriet) Hartman of Knoxville, TN; two grandchildren: Matthew (Lis) Hartman of Memphis, TN, and Beth (Ben) Crerar of Ooltewah, TN.

**HEISER, NANCY**, 75, born Feb. 4, 1942, died Jan. 2, 2018 in Jackson, MS. She was a member of the Community Church in Meridian, MS. She is survived by two sons: Mike of Meridian, and Steve of Ocean Springs, MS. The service was conducted by Elder Roger W. Burke.

**HOOPER, JUNE SNIDE**, 94, born June 29, 1923 in Maryland, died Aug. 28, 2017 in Tennessee. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. She served as a teacher in Texas, India, Pakistan, and Tennessee. She was a librarian in Virginia and Thailand. She is survived by her two daughters and son.

**IHIG, BARBARA**, 94, born Oct. 1, 1923 in Addison, NY, died Feb. 19, 2018 in Madison, TN. She was a member of the Bordeaux Church in Nashville, TN. She is survived by three daughters: Marilyn Owen, Chris Warden, and Becky Wheeler; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

dren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Irvin "Harold" Ihrig. Harold was a long time employee of the Southern Publishing Association after which he was employed by Review and Herald.

**JONES, LOUISE MARJORIE (GOFORTH)**, 97, born March 28, 1920, died Nov. 18, 2017 at her residence in Ooltewah, TN. Louise was a longtime member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. She was baptized at the age of 13, and spent her life serving her Lord. As the pillar of her family, she was the thread that held them together. She walked a Christian life that inspired her family and those around her to do the same. She is survived by her three children: Delores (Larry) Azbill, Darlene (David) Latham, and Donnie (Connie) Jones; six grandchildren: Joey (Kelly Jo) Falkowski, Chris (Emily) Latham, Jason (Jamie) Latham, Justin (Nina) Jones, Jessica (Michael) Sigsworth, and Cameron (Lisa) Azbill; seven great-grandchildren: Olsyn, Stephen, Grant, Garen, Kenzie, Brayden, and Emma Kate; several nieces; and nephews. A service was held on Nov. 20, 2017 in the chapel of Heritage Funeral Home with Pastor Dwight Herod and Pastor LeClare Litchfield officiating with Pastor Jim Moon in charge of the music. Interment followed in Collegedale Memorial Park. She was preceded in death by her husband, Horace Lee Jones; and great-grandson, Ozzy Falkowski.

**KNIGHT, VIOLA SALSGIVER**, 96, born Sept. 29, 1920 in Indiana, PA, died Sept. 6, 2017. She was the daughter of the late Andrew and Carrie Wadding Salsgiver. Viola was a founding member of the Ridgetop Church in Greenbrier, TN, where she had lived for many years, and was currently a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. She is survived by her children: Karen (Russell) Caldwell and Ed Knight; two daughters-in-law: Carol Ann Schneider and Elly Betat Knight Herber; eight grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; several nieces; and nephews. A memorial service was held Sept. 10, 2017, in the chapel of Heritage Funeral Home with Pastor Jim Herman officiating. The graveside services and interment were held on Sept. 11, 2017, at Springfield Memorial Gardens in Springfield, TN. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Knight; son, James Knight; and one stepdaughter, Janice Murley.

**LABEFF, BERTIE MAE**, 91, born Sept. 13, 1926, died Jan. 2, 2018 in Meridian, MS. She was a member of Community Church in Meridian. She is survived by two daughters: Sherry Harrison and Shelby Pender, both of Meridian. The service was conducted by Elder Roger W. Burke. Interment was at Mt. Zion Cemetery.

**LLEWELLYN, JOHN MORGAN**, 80, born Nov. 8, 1937 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, died Jan. 10, 2018 in Fairview, NC. He was a member of the Fletcher, NC, Church, and

also served as a deacon for many years. John graduated from Atlantic Union College in South Lancaster, MA, with a B.A. in 1963 and taught elementary school for nine years in Maine, Michigan, and North Carolina. In 1972 he took an apprenticeship to learn heating/cooling, water treatment, and hospital maintenance at Wytheville Adventist Hospital. While at college, he did literature evangelism to pay for his tuition. In 1977 he moved his family to Fletcher, where he worked at Mountain San/Park Ridge Hospital in the maintenance and grounds department for 23 years. He enjoyed mentoring Fletcher Academy students at work. In retirement, John used his time to serve many needy people with maintenance of their homes and yards. John is preceded in death by his parents, Jim and Beatrice Llewellyn; and his brother, Keith Llewellyn. He is survived by his wife, Clara (Sharam) Llewellyn of Hendersonville, NC; two daughters: Lin Llewellyn of Asheville, NC, and Kim Llewellyn of Hendersonville; two granddaughters: Heather (Billy) Brittain of Fletcher, and Holli (Ryan) Lemons of Hendersonville; four great-grandchildren: Colton, Caylee, Ainsley, and Blythe; one brother, David Llewellyn of Ontario, Canada; and two nephews, Paul and Robert Llewellyn of Canada.

**MAVRAKOS, ANTHONY ALEXANDER**, 78, born Oct. 12, 1940 to Paul Anthony Mavrakos and Alyce Bilo Mavrakos in Lynn, MA, died Feb. 2018. He was fondly referred to as "Pastor Tony" and was the eldest of four siblings, raised in a Greek/Russian Orthodox family. Tony showed a strong work ethic at a young age when he worked alongside his dad in his shoe shine/hat making parlor, where he met and shined John F. Kennedy's shoes. He graduated from Salem High School in Salem, MA, in 1959. From an early age, Tony showed great athletic ability and was elected captain of his high school football team, among other sports such as track and field. He was inducted into the Salem High Athletic Hall of Fame. After high school, Tony went to Maritime Academy, and then enlisted into the United States Air Force where he loyally served his country for 22 years. He proudly earned the title of US & European Air Force Handball champion. In 1967, he was assigned to Ankara, Turkey, where he gave his life to Jesus Christ. It changed his life forever. While in Turkey, he was involved in underground churches, and introduced many people to Christ. Prior to returning to the United States, Tony began his family. He was blessed with three children: Paul, Joy, and Katie — his pride and joys. Upon returning to the United States, Tony continued to serve in the military while studying to be a Baptist minister. In 1985, Tony and his family joined the Seventh-Day Adventist (SDA) Church. He accomplished his ministerial studies in 1986 at Southern Adventist University. While in Tennessee, he pastored two churches and began "Revival Time Ministries" — a non-profit organization. In 1990, he accepted a call to be a pastor at Wheaton Church in Maryland. Shortly into his ministry at Wheaton, he became an evangelist for the Potomac Conference. His evangelism included 3ABN (3 Angels Broadcasting Network), Slovakia, England, Can-

ada, and churches across the United States. We know that many were impacted by him. Tony's ministry was unique in many ways as he had a passion for outreach. One of his favorite phrases was "Out of the pews and onto the pavement." He was a living example of this through his various outreach ministries such as cross country bike trips, Takoma Park Church water ministry, and Christ-based anger management programs. He is a published author of several books. Among his many accomplishments and ministries, Tony's pride and joy spread from his children to the addition of his beloved grandchildren who called him "Papou" (Greek for grandfather). Tony's goal was to know that each person he came across heard about the Gospel of Christ, and was given an opportunity to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Tony is survived by his wife, Diane Mavrakos (her children and grandchildren); his children: Paul "Champ" Mavrakos, Joy Litten, and Katie "Kates/Kt-did" Saul (husband Andrew); 10 grandchildren: Alex, Madelyn, and Molly Mavrakos, Hunter Lockette, Nikki, KK, Noah and Isaac Litten, Caleb and Ailani Saul; and three great-grandchildren: Shyanne, Brantley, and Aspen Lockette; his siblings: Alexander Mavrakos (wife Donna), MaryAnn Apostolides (husband Steve), Carol Mavrakos; nieces; and nephews. Tony was preceded in death by his parents: Paul and Alyce Mavrakos.

**MCELROY, JAMES C. "BUDDY", JR.**, 79, born May 28, 1938 in Meridian, MS, died Jan. 7, 2018 in Cuba, AL. He was a member of the Community Church in Meridian for most of his life, where he served in various leadership roles. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Joy; and three sons: Glenn of Atlanta, GA, Jay of Apison, TN, and Sean of Ooltewah, TN. The service was conducted at the North Park Church by Pastor Carlis Clinton, Pastor Samuel Riemersma, and Elder Roger Burke. Interment was at the McElroy Family Cemetery in Cuba, AL.

**MUNCEY, MARY GULLETT**, 83, born May 5, 1930 in Manatee County, FL, died April 26, 2017. She was a member of the Palmetto, FL, Church. She is survived by five children: Alfred Jr., Mary Ann Muncey, Bonnie Muncey, Rhonda Elkins, and Betty Lou Muncey; three sisters: Evelyn Graves, Daisy Bryant, and Susanna Faircloth; four brothers: Paul Gullett, Augustus A. Gullett, Frank Gullett, and James Gullett; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren; nieces, and nephews. The service was handled by Brown and Sons Funeral Home in Bradenton, FL. She was preceded in death by her parents: Asa and Frances Gullett of Duette, FL; her husband, Alfred Earl Muncey Jr.; two sisters: Martha Gullett Dixon and Jane Gullett Egert; two brothers: Benjamin D. Gullett and Flint Gullett.

**SELF, HERVEY ETTA MCCLURE**, 93, born May 11, 1924, died Aug. 27, 2017. She was the daughter of Warner and Caroline McClure. She was a secretary, homemaker, and caregiver. She was a longtime member of the Mobile, AL, Church, and was a current member of the Col-

legedale, TN, Church. Hervey enjoyed reading, crosswords, and sewing. She is survived by her four children: Charles C. (Amelia Wilbanks) Self, Robert D. (Ruth Crouch) Self, Donald R. (Beverley Moon) Self, and Lisa Annette (Johnny Woodruff) Self Woodruff; one brother, Charles McClure; 10 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; numerous nieces; nephews; and several sisters-in-law. She was preceded in death by her husband, Amos C. Self; six brothers; and one sister.

**SLATE, DAPHNE JOY HAM**, 92, of Mocksville, NC, died Oct. 4, 2017 at her home. She was born in Bloemfontein, South Africa on Aug. 13, 1925 to Henry Somerset Ham and Aimee Wright Ham. She was educated in South Africa, attended Helderberg College in Somerset West, and then doing the nursing course at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town. She married Dr. Francis Wesley Slate in 1947, and they moved to Johannesburg to work at the Adventist Mission Hospital (Nokuphila), and then three years later, they were asked to go to Basutoland (now Lesotho) to open the work at another Adventist Hospital (Maluti Mission Hospital). In 1952 the Slates moved to the U.S. so that Dr. Slate could do his residency in surgery. She worked as a nurse for several years in Washington, D.C., and in 1958 they moved to Mocksville, where she stayed for the rest of her life. Daphne was a kind and generous person. She was an excellent seamstress and would make clothes for her children, and friends. In addition, she was a prize-winning knitter and many sweaters and vests were enjoyed and treasured by her family and friends. She loved all nature, but particularly her cats and other animals, flowers, and her goldfish, but her highest priority was her family. A passion was the garden. She would be out in her flower garden early in the morning, and would be there most of the day. She knew what flowers to plant so that she would have a colorful garden from spring until fall. She is survived by her husband of 70 years, Dr. Francis W. Slate; three children: Gillian Ann Slate (Stokes) Gatewood, Moira Helen Slate Miethe, and Kenneth Wesley (Barbara) Slate; and one sister, Estelle Burns of South Africa. She was preceded in death by her parents; five siblings; and an infant child. She was a faithful member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and was the organist for many years. There was a Celebration of Life Service on Oct. 6, 2017, at Mocksville Church.

**SMITH, DOROTHY MAY**, 99, of McDonald, TN, born April 21, 1918, died Feb. 9, 2018 in Chattanooga, TN. She was a member of the Collegedale, TN, Church. She is survived by her husband of 67 years, L.B. Smith; daughter, Pamela (Terry) Dietrich; two grandchildren: Nikki (Brandon) Sutton and Mark (Shelli) Dietrich; four great-grandchildren: Hayden, Dylan, Landon Dietrich, and Cassie Sutton. The memorial service was conducted at 4 p.m. on Feb. 17, at the Collegedale Church.

**STEVENS, SHIRLEY MARIE**, 88, born in West Frankfort, IL, died peacefully on Nov. 27, 2017. Shirley moved with her family to Tennessee. She graduated from Collegedale Academy

and attended Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University). Throughout her life, she worked as a secretary at Sears & Roebuck in Chicago, IL, and at McKee Baking Company, the Village Market in Collegedale, TN, and often assisted her husband, David, in his chiropractic practice in Rossville, GA. She contributed her musical talents and care for children to the Ooltewah, TN, Church. She is remembered as a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who devoted her life to the care and happiness of others. She is survived by her three children: Jeff Stevens, Sharon (David) Hopper, and Susan Myers; seven grandchildren: Jaime Myers, Jackie (Eric) Bates, Kelsey (Weston) Porter, Kayla (Travis) Bibb, Chris (Jodie) Hopper, Allen (Emmalee) Hopper, and Jonathan (Amanda) Hopper; 11 great-grandchildren; her sister, Marva Stevens Fowler; one brother, Paul (Laura) Stevens Jr.; many nieces; and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. David J. Stevens, who died February 2017.

**TRUAX, ALLEN EUGENE (GENE)**, 87, born March 30, 1930 in Taylorsville, KY, died Aug. 4, 2017. He joined the Navy at the age of 17, and served in Europe, as well as the Pacific and Atlantic fleets. During the early part of his naval career, he met his first wife Doris. They had a daughter, Michelle, in 1951. He retired from the Navy in Maryland after 21 years of service. Around 1967, he was baptized into the Rising Sun Adventist Church as a result of an evangelistic meeting by Joe Crews. He served on the Chesapeake Conference Executive Committee and on the Board of Highland View Academy. His wife, Doris, died in 1982. A short time later, he met Ella Mae through mutual friends. They married and he moved to be near her family in Collegedale, TN. He retired from the social security administration a few months after moving to TN after 17 years of service. After retirement, he was able to dedicate his life to service for Jesus and the people placed in his path. He was a member of the Ooltewah Adventist Church, where he was head elder and school board chairman for a number of years. He and Ella Mae hosted many Bible studies and small groups in their home. He traveled in the U.S. and internationally for Maranatha mission trips. His life of service is a Christ-like example to all who knew him. He is survived by his wife, Ella Mae; daughter, Michelle; step-children: Jeff, Craig, and Michele; and eight grandchildren.

**WYKLE, DELORIS (DEE) COLLINS**, 69, born in Boston, MA, died Jan. 24, 2018 in Franklin, NC. She was a member of the Franklin Church. She was the adopted daughter of the late Laura & Joe Mosley. She served for 41 years in Pathfinder Club Leadership. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, William B. Wykle; son, Anthony Wykle (Janet) of Franklin; adopted sisters: Evelyn Hobbs and Betty; granddaughter, Rachel Wykle; step-grandchildren: Nita Ellewnberg, Rolando Duvergel Jr., and Martin Wykle; and step-great-grandchildren.



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**ADVENTIST HEALTH SYSTEM** in Altamonte Springs, FL is seeking a **College Relations Manager** to work in their Human Resources department. This position provides the opportunity to create, execute, and deliver our campus Adventist recruiting strategy for all AHS regions and businesses. Five years in HR, healthcare, or education required. Bachelor's degree required. Relocation provided. Please send cover letter and resume to [Manuela.asaftei@ahss.org](mailto:Manuela.asaftei@ahss.org) [5]

**OUACHITA HILLS ACADEMY AND COLLEGE** is accepting applications for the following positions: math teacher, English teacher, music director, food service director, college English instructor, and religion instructor. Our website is [www.ohc.org](http://www.ohc.org). Contact *Magda Rodriguez* at [info@ohc.org](mailto:info@ohc.org) or call 870-342-6210 ext. 223 for more information. [5]

**OB-GYN, PEDIATRICIAN, PSYCHIATRIST, AND PSYCHOLOGIST** needed for Adventist owned/operated Rural Health Clinic on the campus of Weimar Institute at Weimar, California. Competitive pay. Call *Dr. Randall Steffens* at: 615-604-0142. [5, 6]

**CAREGIVER NEEDED** to assist retired missionary nurse/educator in her home in beautiful Cumberland mountains, including some cooking. You will have two rooms with private bath, utilities, generous compensation. Noon meal available in vegan/vegetarian cafeteria. SDA community. Must have car. 423-775-4715. Looking forward to meeting you! [5]

**MERCHANDISE FOR SALE**

**STEINWAY 9' CONCERT GRAND PIANO** - Excellent condition! Ideal for serious musician, church, or school. Looks, plays, sounds like new. We are selling our Collegedale home, downsizing, piano must go! Sacrifice: \$46,000. Cost new: \$150,000. Further discount for SDA Church or School. Call for details: 423-400-6369. [5]

**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](http://www.apexmoving.com/adventist) [5-12]

**THE CLERGY MOVE CENTER™** at Stevens Worldwide Van Lines is The Way To Move™ from state to state! Through our national contract with the General Conference, we extend our moving services to all Adventist families. Contact our dedicated Move Counselors for a no-cost/no-obligation estimate at 800-248-8313. Learn more at [www.stevensworldwide.com/sda](http://www.stevensworldwide.com/sda). [5]

**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](http://www.wildwoodhealth.com) [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](http://www.TeachServices.com), used SDA books at [www.LNF-Books.com](http://www.LNF-Books.com) [5-4]

**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](http://www.southern.edu/graduatestudies) [5]

**SINGLE? WIDOWED? DIVORCED?**

Meet compatible SDA's from USA ages 18-98. Each provides: birthday, marital status, race, occupation, interests, goals, year baptized, lots more! Safe, confidential, effective, fun! For information, application and current catalog, send \$25 to: SDA Pen-Pals, PO Box 734, Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513. [5-8]

**ISRAEL TOUR** with Pastor Jim Gilley, 3ABN'S Pastor C.A. Murray and friends. Two trips this fall, November 11 - 19, 2018 \$3,095.00. November 18-27, 2018 \$3,395.00. Includes all tips, taxes, air, and breakfast and dinner buffets daily. From New York, Chicago or Los Angeles, other departure cities available. Call Jennifer at 602-788-8864. [5]

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**"YE OLDE" CEDAR LAKE ACADEMY REUNION** - June 8-10. For alumni and classmates at Great Lakes Adventist Academy, Cedar Lake, MI. Honor classes: 1938, 1948, 1958, 1968. For further information, you may contact GLAA Alumni Office at 989-427-5181 or visit <http://www.glaa.net>.

**MADISON COLLEGE ALUMNI HOME-COMING** - June 22-24. Held at the Madison Academy Campus in Madison, TN. This will be the final homecoming. For registration information: write to PO Box 1735, Madison, TN 37116 or call 615-415-1925.

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# Donating to God's Work

Mr. Davis is over 80 years old. He suffers from some mobility difficulties and has no family to care for him. Because of this, he will soon move to an Assisted Living facility for the elderly. He has a robust, strong faith in the Lord, and wants to do all he can to benefit His work.

Mr. Davis asked to meet with his Southeastern Conference Planned Giving Director and decided to donate his home and let the Conference sell it and use the funds to further God's work.

► To learn how you can donate your assets to God's work, contact your local Planned Giving and Trust Services Representative.

## Carolina

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## South Central

Sonja Crayton (615) 226-6500

## Southeastern

Juan Gonzalez (352) 735-3142

## Southern Adventist University

Carolyn Liers (423) 236-2818



**SUSDAGift.org**

the July 2018 Southern Tidings will highlight personal tributes to teachers who had a lasting influence on their students. If there is such a teacher who made a difference in your life, please share your story at [www.southernunion.com/teachers](http://www.southernunion.com/teachers). In 250 words, answer the following: Who was your favorite teacher? Why?

## LAURELWOOD ADVENTIST

**ACADEMY** - Aug. 3-5. Members of the Class of 1968 will meet at the Adobe Resort in Yachts, Oregon, for a 50-year class reunion. Call and make your reservations now. Reference Laurelwood Academy's 50th Class Reunion. Questions? Call Jacquie Jenkins Biloff at 605-295-0040 or email at [skyjaky@gmail.com](mailto:skyjaky@gmail.com).

## AUTO DONATIONS NEEDED



The youth ministry in the publishing department is growing rapidly. Plans for 2018 are to have a strong student program, but many college age youth don't have transportation. If you donate a vehicle to this program, the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference will provide a letter to you defining your donation as a charitable contribution. For more information call Rocky Davis at 615-859-1391.

## SUNSET

	MAY 4	MAY 11	MAY 18	MAY 25	JUN 1	JUN 8
ATLANTA, GA	8:23	8:28	8:33	8:38	8:43	8:46
CHARLESTON, SC	8:03	8:08	8:13	8:18	8:22	8:26
CHARLOTTE, NC	8:11	8:17	8:22	8:28	8:32	8:36
COLLEGE DALE, TN	8:29	8:34	8:40	8:45	8:50	8:53
HUNTSVILLE, AL	7:33	7:39	7:44	7:49	7:54	7:58
JACKSON, MS	7:43	7:48	7:53	7:58	8:02	8:06
LOUISVILLE, KY	8:37	8:43	8:49	8:55	9:00	9:04
MEMPHIS, TN	7:48	7:54	7:59	8:04	8:09	8:13
MIAMI, FL	7:53	7:57	8:01	8:04	8:08	8:11
MONTGOMERY, AL	7:28	7:33	7:38	7:43	7:47	7:50
NASHVILLE, TN	7:37	7:43	7:48	7:54	7:58	8:02
ORLANDO, FL	8:02	8:06	8:11	8:15	8:18	8:22
TAMPA, FL	8:05	8:10	8:14	8:18	8:21	8:24
WILMINGTON, NC	7:58	8:03	8:09	8:14	8:18	8:22



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## CAROLINA

**ELDERS' RETREAT** – May 11, 12. Noso-ca Pines Ranch.

**MPA GRADUATION** – May 18, 19. MPA.

**LAKE JUNALUSKA CAMP MEETING** – May 27-June 2. Maggie Valley, NC.

## 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 email: floridaabc@floridaconference.com.

**FLORIDA ADVENTIST BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE** – Avoid shipping costs by placing an ABC order to be delivered to a scheduled location. Orders must be made by phone or e-mail before 5:30 p.m. on the Thursday before a scheduled Sunday delivery and before noon on the Monday before a scheduled Tuesday delivery. Contact your local church or the Altamonte Springs ABC for delivery schedule.

**RED ZONE** – May 25-27. Camp Kulaqua, 23400 NW 212th Ave., High Springs. Annual year-end activity for Pathfinders and Adventurers. Theme: I Am Loved...by the Good Father. Cost: \$7. Details: floridaconference.com/events/red-zone

**PATHFINDER/ADVENTURER LEADERSHIP CONVENTION** – July 27-29. Miami DoubleTree (Hilton Airport Hotel), 711 NW 72nd Ave., Miami. Cost: \$129 if registered by March 29, \$149 afterward or \$169 on site. Includes all meals. Accommodation fee additional (reserved directly with hotel). Details/registration: floridaconference.com/events/leadership-convention-0

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES CHILD EVANGELISM TRAINING** – July 28, 8 a.m.-6:15 p.m. Miami DoubleTree (Hilton Airport Hotel), 711 NW 72nd Ave., Miami. Partnering with the Pathfind-

er/Adventurer Leadership Convention for this one-day certification in child evangelism. You must attend all seminars to receive a certificate. The schedule will match the seminar schedule for the Leadership Convention. Discounted rates at DoubleTree Hilton are available through July 13.

## GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

**SUMMER IS COMING! TO GET THE EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT AT COHUTTA SPRINGS YOUTH CAMP**, register by April 30. <http://www.cs-yc.com/> Crandall, GA.

**HOW TO CONDUCT A MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM** – May 5. Presenter Tuwan Ussery. An educational program for leaders who want to learn how to conduct mental health outreach in their community. This training is free, no registration. Adults-only event. Knoxville, TN, First Church.

**HEALTH RALLIES WITH EW DEMPSEY**

May 5. 2-5 p.m. Lenoir City, TN.

May 12. 2-5 p.m. Atlanta Kenyan Upendo Company, GA.

**ADVENTURER FAMILY FUN WEEK-END** – May 11-13. Cohutta Springs Youth Camp, Crandall, GA.

**COLLEGEDALE CAMP MEETING** – May 30-June 2. Theme: "Be the Gospel." Guest speaker: Dan Jackson, North American Division president. Collegedale, TN.

**SCENIC CITY ARK 5K/10K** – June 3. A 400-meter race is free to ages 12 and under. Meet at the Southern Adventist University track. Proceeds benefit Scenic City ARK. Collegedale, TN.

## GULF STATES

**PATHFINDER FAIR** – May 4-6. Camp Alamisco.

**CAMP MEETING-BASS** – May 24-26. Bass Memorial Academy. Forgiven to Forgive with Dr. Darold Bigger, Dr. Robert Folkenberg Jr, and Chef Mark Anthony. [www.gscsda.org/camp-meeting18](http://www.gscsda.org/camp-meeting18)

**SOUTH AFRICA MISSION TRIP** – July 16-31. Help us Share Him! Contact the Youth Dept. at [tca-sey@gscsda.org](mailto:tca-sey@gscsda.org)

**CAMP ALAMISCO 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT** – Camp Alamisco – Oct. 6.

## KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

**CAMP MEETING** – May 25-June 2. Highland Academy

**HISPANIC CAMP MEETING** – June 8-9. Highland Academy.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** – June 12. Conference Office.

## SOUTHERN ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

**SUMMER CLASSES BEGIN** – May 7. Numerous online courses are available for both undergraduate and graduate curriculums. Prospective students must apply and be accepted before registering. Start the process at [southern.edu/apply](http://southern.edu/apply).

**ACADEMIC SUMMER CAMPS** – June 18-20. Southern is hosting camps for high school students in automotive repair, business entrepreneurship, creative writing, filmmaking, fine arts painting, photography, pre-med, psychology, social work/missions, strings chamber music, vegetarian culinary arts, and women and minorities in civic engagement. Registration is \$150 for day campers (\$200 if housing is needed). For more information or to register, visit [southern.edu/camps](http://southern.edu/camps) or call 423-236-2781.

**SUMMER SALT INTENSIVE** – July 5-8. Designed for busy people looking for intense evangelism training in a short period, Summer SALT covers the basics of personal and public evangelism, the evangelism cycle, and tools for outreach in your local church and community. Families are welcome for this one-week intensive, coordinated in partnership with It Is Written. For more information, visit [southern.edu/salt](http://southern.edu/salt).

## CAMP MEETINGS

### CAROLINA

Portions of Camp Meeting will be viewable at [www.carolinasda.org/camp-meeting](http://www.carolinasda.org/camp-meeting)  
 English.....May 27-June 2.....Theme: *Great Controversy*.....Lake Junaluska, NC  
 Sunday-Wednesday Speaker: Ty Gibson  
 Thursday-Sabbath Speaker: Shawn Boonstra  
 Hispanic.....September 7-9.....Nosoca Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC  
 Eastern Carolina.....October 27.....Greenville North Church, Winterville, NC

### FLORIDA

Please note: Florida Camp Meeting is held in the spring.

English.....April 5-8.....Theme: *Legacy of Hope*  
 Speaker: Ty Gibson.....Camp Kulaqua, FL  
 Accommodation/Meal Registration and archived sermon video:  
[floridaconference.com/campmeeting](http://floridaconference.com/campmeeting)  
 Spanish.....April 13-15.....Theme: *Legado de Esperanza*  
 Speaker: José Esposito.....Camp Kulaqua, FL  
 Accommodation/Meal Registration: [floridaconference.com/campestre](http://floridaconference.com/campestre)

### GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

[Details: [www.gccsda.com](http://www.gccsda.com)]

Korean.....May 18-20.....Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA  
 English.....May 30-June 3.....Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, TN  
 Theme: *Be the Gospel*  
 Speaker: Dan Jackson  
 Olde Time.....June 7-9.....Meister Memorial Church, Deer Lodge, TN  
 Theme: *Be the Gospel*  
 Deaf Fellowship.....August 8-12.....Cohutta Springs Conference Center, Crandall, GA  
 Theme: *The High Price for Freedom*  
 Speaker: Douglas Silva  
 Northeast Tennessee.....September 21, 22.....The Oaks, Greenville, TN  
 Theme: *Be the Gospel*  
 Speaker: Doug Jacobs  
 Sabbath in the Smokies.....September 28, 29.....Cades Cove (Great Smoky  
 Mountains National Park), TN  
 Hispanic.....October 19-21.....Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville, GA  
 Theme: *Todo Miembro Involucrado (Total Member Involvement)*

South Georgia Blitz.....November 10.....Theme: *Be the Gospel*  
 Various churches

### GULF STATES

Details: [www.gscsda.org/campmeeting18](http://www.gscsda.org/campmeeting18)

Theme: *Forgiven to Forgive*

Speaker: Dr. Darold Bigger.....April 6, 7.....Camp Alamisco  
 May 23-26.....Bass Memorial Academy  
 Wednesday and Thursday Speaker: Dr. Darold Bigger  
 Friday and Sabbath Speaker: Dr. Robert Folkenberg Jr.

### KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

English.....May 26-June 3.....Theme: *Jesus Changes Everything*.....Highland  
 Academy, Portland, TN  
 Speakers: Mike Tucker, Karl Haffner, Eduard Schmidt, Sung Kwon, and Norman McNulty  
 Hispanic.....June 8, 9.....Highland Academy, Portland, TN

### SOUTH ATLANTIC

June 7-16.....River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC  
 Theme: *He Still Reigns*

### SOUTH CENTRAL

Theme: *We Would See Jesus*

June 2-10  
 Latino.....Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL  
 English.....Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL  
 Korean & Haitian.....Oakwood University, Huntsville, AL

### SOUTHEASTERN

English-Adult/Main Pavilion.....June 21-30.....Theme: *Building the Kingdom  
 through Hope and Wholeness*.....Hawthorne, FL  
 Speaker 1st Sabbath: Alex Bryant, NAD Executive Secretary  
 Speaker 2nd Sabbath: TBA  
 Youth Pavilion.....June 21-30.....Hawthorne, FL  
 Haitian-Adult/Main Pavilion.....July 4-8.....Hawthorne, FL

## SUMMER CAMPS

### CAROLINA

Nosoca Pines Ranch, Liberty Hill, SC

[Register online at [www.nosoca.org](http://www.nosoca.org)]

#### Traditional Camps

Adventure (ages 7-11).....June 17-24  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-13).....June 24-July 1  
 Teen (ages 13-16).....July 1-8  
 Family Camp (all ages).....July 9-13  
**Specialty Camps**  
 Horsel Camping Trip (ages 14-17).....May 27-June 1  
 SIT Camp (ages 16-17).....June 10-22  
 Water Sports Camp (ages 13-16).....June 17-24  
 Horsemanship I Camp (ages 12-16).....June 17-24  
 Horsemanship II Camp (ages 12-16).....June 24-July 1  
 Horsemanship Camp III (ages 13-16).....July 1-8

### FLORIDA

Camp Kulaqua, High Springs, FL

[Details: [www.campkulaqua.com](http://www.campkulaqua.com)]

Cub Camp (ages 7-9).....June 3-10  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12).....June 3-10  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17).....June 3-10  
 Horsemanship Specialty Camp (ages 11-16).....June 3-10  
 Cub Camp (ages 7-9).....June 10-17  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12).....June 10-17  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17).....June 10-17  
 Horsemanship Specialty Camp (ages 11-16).....June 10-17  
 Cub Camp (ages 7-9).....June 17-24  
 Junior Camp (ages 10-12).....June 17-24  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-17).....June 17-24  
 Horsemanship Specialty Camp (ages 11-16).....June 17-24  
 Family Camp.....Aug. 31-Sept. 3

### GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND

Cohutta Springs Youth Camps - Online registration

and details at [www.cs-yc.com](http://www.cs-yc.com)

Camp Staff Training.....May 31-June 9

#### Regular Camps

Junior I.....June 10-17  
 Junior II.....June 17-24  
 Adventure.....June 24-29  
 Junior III.....July 1-8  
 Tween.....July 1-8  
 Teen I.....July 8-15  
 Rock Solid Teen I.....July 8-15  
 Teen II.....July 15-22  
 Rock Solid Teen II.....July 15-22  
 Family Camp.....July 24-29

#### RAD Camps

Paintball Camp I.....June 10-17  
 W.I.T. Camp I.....June 10-17  
 Lifeguard Camp.....June 10-17  
 FitLife Camp I.....June 10-24  
 Ultimate RAD Camp.....June 17-24  
 Paintball Camp II.....June 17-24  
 S.I.T. Camp.....June 17-24  
 W.I.T. Camp II.....June 17-24  
 DiscipleTrek Camp.....June 17-July 8  
 RAD Horse Trip.....June 24-July 1  
 Wakeboard Camp I.....June 24-July 1  
 C.I.T. Camp.....June 24-July 1  
 Paintball Camp III.....July 1-8  
 Golf Camp.....July 1-8  
 W.I.T. Camp III.....July 1-8  
 FitLife Camp II.....July 1-22  
 Basketball Camp.....July 8-15  
 Whitewater/Kayak Camp.....July 8-15  
 W.I.T. Camp IV.....July 8-15  
 Wakeboard Camp II.....July 15-22  
 W.I.T. Camp V.....July 15-22

### GULF STATES

Camp Alamisco, Dadeville, AL

Details: [www.Alamisco.org](http://www.Alamisco.org)

Adventure Camp (ages 7-11).....June 3-10

Junior Camp (ages 10-13).....June 10-17

Teen Camp (ages 12-16).....June 17-24  
 Family Camp 1 (all ages).....July 2-8  
 Family Camp 2/Young Adult (all ages).....July 5-8  
 Family Camp 3 (all ages).....July 8-13

### KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE

Indian Creek Camp, Liberty, TN

Staff-in-Training (ages 15½, 17).....June 3-8  
 Junior Camp I (ages 8-12).....June 10-17  
 Junior Camp II (8-12).....June 17-24  
 Teen Camp (ages 13-16).....June 24-July 1  
 Family Camp I (all ages).....July 3-8  
 Family Camp II (all ages).....July 8-15  
 Family Camp III (all ages).....July 15-22  
 Teen Adventure Camp (ages 13-17).....July 22-27  
 Basketball Camp (ages 13-17).....July 22-27  
 Gymnastics Camp (ages 13-17).....July 22-27  
 Lifeguarding Camp (ages 15-17).....July 22-28

### SOUTH ATLANTIC

River Oaks Campground, Orangeburg, SC

Junior Bible/Summer Camp (ages 8-17).....TBA

### SOUTH CENTRAL

Camp Thunderbird, Chattanooga, TN

Orientation/registration/details: [www.scc-adventist.org/summercamp](http://www.scc-adventist.org/summercamp)

Camp Staff Training.....June 24-July 1  
 Cub Camp (ages 6-12).....July 1-8  
 Friendship Camp (ages 8-14).....July 8-15  
 Sports Camp (ages 7-17).....July 1-225

### SOUTHEASTERN

Southeastern Conference Campground, Hawthorne, FL

Youth Summer Camp.....TBA



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