Think of what others should be like and
then be like that yourself.

Upcoming Events

July 14-19 @ 6:00p » Vacation Bible School » Hiram Church, GA
July 14-21 » Natural Remedies Seminar » Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital, GA
July 15-19 » Vacation Bible School » Gainesville Church, GA
July 16-21 » Family Camp » Cohutta Springs Youth Camp
July 17-19 @ 8:00a » Church School Rummage Sale » Bowman Hills Church, TN
July 20 » Stewardship Sabbath » McMinnville Church, TN
July 20 @ 9:15a » The Takeover: Youth Day » Atlanta Southside Church, GA
July 20 » "Christ's Method Alone" seminar with Dr. Samaan » Calhoun Church, GA
July 20 @ 2:00p » Health Rally » Hixson Church, TN
July 21 @ 1:00p » Cohutta Health Expo » Community Center, Cohutta, GA
July 22-26 @ 9:00a » Vacation Bible School » Colledale Community Church, TN
July 22-26 @ 6:30p » Vacation Bible School » Hixson Church, TN
July 27 » Stewardship Sabbath » Hamilton Community Church, TN
July 31-Aug 4 » Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting » Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA
July 31-Aug 4 » Regaining Eden Seminar » Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital, GA

Aug 1 » Teacher's report to school
Aug 2-4 » Women's Leadership Training » GCC Office, Calhoun, GA
Aug 3 » Tri-Conference Unity Camp Meeting » First Baptist Church, Augusta, GA
Aug 3 » Stewardship Sabbath » Valdosta Church, GA
Aug 3 @ 2:00p » Personal Ministries Rally » Duluth Church, GA
Aug 4 @ 2:30p » Produce Presentation » Colledale Community Church, TN
Aug 5-6 » Teachers’ Convention » Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA
Aug 10 » Personal Ministries Rally » Athens Church, TN
Aug 16-18 » Pathfinder Leadership Convention » Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA
Aug 17 » Stewardship Sabbath » Cleveland Church, GA
Aug 17 » Prayer Ministries Day » Austell Church, GA
Aug 23-24 » LifeGroup Training Retreat » Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA
Aug 23-25 » Missional Pastor Orientation » Cohutta Springs, Crandall, GA
Aug 24 » Stewardship Sabbath » Meister Memorial Church, Deer Lodge, TN
Aug 24 @ 2:00p » Health Rally » Oak Ridge Church, TN
Aug 25 @ 3:00p » Atlanta CHIP Free Information Session » Atlanta Metro Church, GA
Aug 26-30 » Dibels Assessment Testing

REGISTER FOR EVENTS ONLINE AT REGISTRATION.GCCSDA.COM

[Please note that some of these events may have registration deadlines that have already passed.]

Come get away with your spouse for this year’s Marriage Retreat, to be held Oct. 25-27 in Gatlinburg, TN. Be blessed as you listen to the testimony of Rick and Cindy Mercer. Register at registration.gccsda.com.

Copy&Paste

Purity Men’s Group: This Colledale Community Church group meets weekly to offer support and accountability amongst men seeking to live in purity. This group is confidential, anonymous, and for men only. Email CCCpurity@gmail.com to get in touch with one of the members.

GAP Camp: Standifer Gap Seventh-day Adventist School will be having a summer day camp
for only $75 a week! Gap Camp will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday until Aug. 2 for ages 4-12. Before and after care is available. Pay the first week's tuition to hold your place. Limited spots available. The registration form and more info are available at sgsdaschool.org/article/10/gap-camp or contact the school at 423-892-6013 or Glen Wolters at 423-310-0652 or wolterseg@gmail.com.

**MAC Camp:** The Marietta Adventist Church is excited to announce the launch of MAC Camp, a Christian summer day camp, operating on the grounds of the Marietta Adventist Church and Carmen Adventist School. The camp will be held until July 26, Monday-Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MAC Camp is designed to introduce young people to Jesus, give them new life experiences, and provide a structured environment for parents who need full-time child care. It's a full experience with many of the same activities found in a traditional residential summer camp. In addition, MAC Camp will be providing daily academic instruction for kids to help bridge the gap between grades. For more information, visit our website at macdaycamp.org.

**Unsealing Daniel’s Mysteries Seminar:** This free seminar is a chapter-by-chapter study of the book of Daniel. It began Tuesday night, July 16, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Better Living Center (235 Delay St., Athens, TN). It will run for 12 consecutive weeks every Tuesday night. If there is enough interest, there will be a daytime seminar at 1:00 p.m. If you plan to attend any of the sessions, please register by July 14 at danielseminar.eventbrite.com. Tell all your friends about this seminar!

**Rummage Sale:** The Bowman Hills Church (300 Westview Dr., Cleveland, TN) will be hosting their annual rummage sale on July 17 (8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.), July 18 (8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.), and July 19 (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Friday is half price day! The money raised is used to fund the school band and supply funds for many other special needs within the school. This is their sixteenth year for the event, which earned more than $25,000 last year.

**Memorial Service:** Atlanta Adventist Academy has gotten word that the family of Gus Ospina will have a memorial service for him on Sunday, July 21, at 3:00 p.m. at the Atlanta Metropolitan Hispanic Church.

**Evangelism Training at Southern Adventist University**
Looking for intense evangelism training in a short period of time? Summer SALT from July 21-28 may be just for you. A partnership between Southern Adventist University (SAU) and It Is Written, Summer SALT covers the essentials of personal and public evangelism. Experienced instructors will help you learn to awaken spiritual interest in others, prepare and give Bible
studies, help people make decisions for Christ, implement a vibrant evangelism cycle in your church, and much more. Registration is only $119 before June 30! Plus, get a $20 discount when you enter code "IIW13". Classes held on the SAU campus. Housing options available. Visit southern.edu/salt or call 423-236-2034 to find out more!

CHIP Program: The Atlanta Metro Church has postponed their program start date. Don't miss the Free Information Sessions on Sunday, Aug. 25, Sept. 1, Sept. 8, and Sept. 15, from 3:00-4:00pm. The symposium will be held in the lower level of 555 Hemlock Circle, Atlanta, GA 30316. Classes will run from Sept. 23-Dec. 9, 2013. Do you or someone you love have serious health concerns but can't afford to spend thousands of dollars for 10, 14, or 21 days at a lifestyle center? Make sure you attend one of the free information sessions! CHIP can help you in a way lifestyle centers cannot. Spaces may fill up quickly and some discounts may be available for each person you bring before Sept. 15 that becomes a participant. Pre-register by emailing Atlanta_chip@yahoo.com or texting/calling 404-395-9459.

Wildwood Regaining Eden Seminar: This seminar will be held July 31 to Aug. 4 at the Wildwood Lifestyle Center and Hospital in Wildwood, GA. The theme is "By Beholding," and is based on the premise that whatever you behold will eventually transform you, whether positively or negatively. Topics will include: What is abuse?; Depression; Overcoming anger and bitterness; Sustaining your emotional health; Fascinations; How food affects recovery; and much more! There will also be a daily 3-hour cooking class and a Q&A session. For more information or to register, call 800-844-1099, ext. 1042 or 423-521-5058.

Missional Pastor Orientation: Chris Donavan, missional pastor coordinator, and the Georgia-Cumberland Conference ministerial leadership invite you to become a missional pastor and plant a church. Attend the 2013 annual Missional Pastors Orientation and learn how the Georgia-Cumberland Conference is empowering and supporting lay pastors to start new churches. Come gain knowledge about a biblical paradigm for reaching people in an effective, missional process and discover your destiny for helping others fulfill the great commission! This event will be held Aug. 23-25 at Cohutta Springs Conference Center. The orientation is free, but space is limited. For more information, contact Chris Donavan at cdonavan@gccsda.com or the Ministerial Department at 800-567-1844.

Southern Union Women's Conference: Time is running out to register with the early-bird discount for this event, to be held Sept. 5-8 at the Charleston Area Convention Center in South Carolina. Registration is available online at southernunion.com/womensconference or by calling 800-732-7587.
**Festival of the Laity FREE Virtual Conference:** Get equipped for effective ministry with no registration, travel, or hotel expenses! The North American Division Adult Ministries Department is offering FREE online training for Sabbath School, Personal Ministries, and Prison Ministries leaders through the Virtual Festival of the Laity, held **Sept. 11-14**, 2013. Attend from the comfort of your home, church, or office—all you need is a computer with internet access. All of your church’s leaders can benefit these live broadcasts presented by globally respected facilitators. Visit [festivalofthelaity.com](http://festivalofthelaity.com) to sign up.

**2015 GC Session Music Audition:** The North American Division Music Committee for the 2015 General Conference Session (July 2-11 in San Antonio, Tex.) is now accepting applications from musicians/groups desiring to perform at the 2015 General Conference Session. Applications can be downloaded at the 2015 General Conference website at [gcsession.org](http://gcsession.org). Click the “Music Application Packet” tab and follow all directions. Applications will be processed through Dec. 31, 2013.

**Cohutta Cancer Survivor Weekend:** Cohutta Springs Conference Center would like to offer a weekend for cancer survivors and their families sometime next spring and would like some feedback. Do you know a family who could benefit from a cancer survivor weekend? Would your church like to sponsor in some way? Are you interested in becoming a corporate sponsor? Please contact Peggy Hallman at [missions@cohuttasprings.com](mailto:missions@cohuttasprings.com) or call her at 706-695-9093.

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**Other Announcements**

**Social Media Success**

Social media has become a powerful and growing tool for people to connect and for organizations to connect with members and customers. As churches and church organizations look for ways to communicate with membership and reach out to their communities, social media can be an effective tool. Adventist Risk Management has provided three video about succeeding with social media.

[Part 1](#)  |  [Part 2](#)  |  [Part 3](#)

**Employee Photos**

The Communication Department keeps a folder of employee photographs. (Remember our little studio at Camp Meeting?) We are happy to share your picture with you if you ever need a professional photo (like say for a speaking engagement) or if you want it just for your personal
records. Email Brian at brianyoung@gccsda.com

**Fall Housing at Advent House (UTK)**
If you’ll be studying at UTK during the school year, we have space available for rent at Advent House. Please contact Michaela Lawrence Jeffery, Advent House director, for more information. Call 865-522-3193 or write mlawrence@gccsda.com

**Assistant Chaplain Search**
Advent House is part of the Adventist Christian Fellowship network. The assistant chaplain position spans (preferably) 2 years and is ideal for someone who is dedicated to student ministry on a public campus.

**Purpose of the Position**

- To deepen the individual’s relationship with God through opportunities for ministry, personal study, reflection, prayer, and worship
- To provide experience in all the various functions of a public campus chaplain but specifically in the area of social and spiritual programming
- To provide assistance to the Chaplain in secretarial duties, planning ministry functions, contacting students, and encouraging the participation of all possible members
- To provide a mentoring relationship between Chaplain and assistant, encouraging growth, offering instruction, and extending leadership

In addition, this is a task force position that includes a monthly stipend and free housing with students within Advent House.
If interested, take a look at the job description [here](#).

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**Recent News**

- **Few in Number, Big in Giving**
- **Messiah’s Mansion Coming to Standifer Gap Family Center**
- **Meatless Monday Cooking Class a Success**
MAC Camp Brings Jesus to Kids Through Summertime Fun
Few in Number, Big in Giving

Ken Brandon, AAA National Honor Society president, stands in front of the charts used to track fundraising goals during the school's "Pennies for Patients" campaign.

Visit the AAA website

Atlanta Adventist Academy (AAA) is a collection of campuses located in Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama. The educational format is unconventional because students from several different places are connected in real-time using interactive videoconferencing technology.

One of the traditional aspects of AAA's program, however, is their chapter of the National Honor Society. Twenty-six students, from several different campuses, are members of the society. The end of this last school year, NHS students led a school-wide fundraiser called “Pennies for Patients.” The idea was to collect loose change during the month of February and donate those funds to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Day one of the campaign started with a special guest speaker for chapel and then presented the campaign to the students with an added twist: Each class (freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior) would try to outdo the others by raising the most money, and the winning class would receive a special award.

The junior class raised the most funds, but the total results were jaw dropping. An official at the NHS national office had said that a good goal would be raising $1.00 per student for a total of $140. However, students raised $867.24, which equaled more than $6.00 per student—six times the goal set for the school.

Other campaigns, both with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and ADRA, have produced similar results. For example, in a Christmas-time fundraiser, the school raised more than $1,100 for ADRA's annual “Gift Catalog Campaign.” The approach was the same—collect pennies and loose change then donate what was collected.

AAA isn't large in number, but this doesn’t affect its ability to do great things. Every campaign, project, and fundraiser is approached with life and love, and as a result, the students have exceeded expectations and distributed significant gifts to those who need it most.

Written by Ken Brandon, Atlanta Adventist Academy National Honor Society president

Photo contributed
Georgia-Cumberland Conference

Travel back more than 3,000 years into the desert between Egypt and Israel where two million people banded together to build a tabernacle for their God. Each element in the tabernacle had deep significant meaning to the Hebrew people and will be explained in the tour.

Tours will run daily from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with specially-arranged group tours starting at 8:30 a.m. The Messiah’s Mansion exhibit consists of five sections lasting about 15 minutes each.

The colorful, tent-like walls surrounding Messiah’s Mansion suggest lighthearted play, but once inside the walls, visitors soon learn the tabernacle was very serious business. The creators of Messiah’s Mansion tried to include models of every item in the original tabernacle. The model tabernacle is built to scale and is intended to look just like the Old Testament tabernacle did to the Hebrews.

“Messiah’s Mansion will give a real opportunity for each of us to see the gospel in living form as it was given to the children of Israel, in symbol, several thousand years ago,” said Dale Tunnell, pastor of the Chattanooga First Church and Messiah’s Mansion Chattanooga coordinator. “It is an incredible learning experience for the entire family to realize what God has done, is doing, and what God will do.”

Operated by the staff and students of Oklahoma Academy, in Harrah, Okla., Messiah’s Mansion has been in operation since 2003 and is transported across the U.S. nearly a dozen times a year. Students along with many volunteers have completed more than 50 exhibits in 15 states, Canada, and Jamaica. Just to set up the model tabernacle in Chattanooga will require 300 local volunteers and 700 man-hours of labor after its arrival on the academy’s semi.

For more information, visit messiahsmanionchatt.org or call 423-954-0174 to arrange a group tour.
Kerri Boone leads out the Live Well Meatless Monday cooking class.

Kerri Boone and Adam White, a cooking class participant, demonstrate making gluten.

In January, Live Well, based in Jellico, Tenn., sponsored a Meatless Monday cooking class at the LaFollette Church in Woodson's Mall. About 25 individuals attended, most of which were community members. The class was conducted by Kerri Boone and her assistants Bonnie Wilkens and Marsharee Wilkens. Participants got a great meal and had fun learning how to “take steps to a healthier you.” During the class, Boone demonstrated a variety of meatless dishes from breakfast to dessert that could be added to the monthly menu. Attendees were told, “Our bodies are wonderfully made by our loving Creator. He designed special natural foods for us to function properly. It's our choice whether we choose to eat them or not.” Each time the choice to go meatless for a meal or more is made, health improves and the cost on the environment decreases making it a win-win choice every time.

According to the National Cencer Institute, serious diseases that are linked to what we eat kill an estimated three out of four Americans each year. That's 75 percent. This cooking class was designed around healthy, plant-based foods that are rich in nutrients and full of fiber to help one feel better and live a healthier life. The purpose of this class was to encourage participants to choose those healthy foods created especially for them and to “eat to live.”

Abundant evidence shows that a vegetarian diet is more healthful than the average western American diet, especially for preventing, treating, or reversing heart disease and reducing the risks of cancer. Research has also shown that a low-fat vegetarian diet is the single most effective way to stop progression of coronary artery disease or prevent it altogether. Several other health conditions, such as diabetes, obesity, gallstones, and kidney stones, are also much less common in vegetarians.

The class was held as part of the Meatless Monday movement which is an international campaign that encourages people to not eat meat on Monday to improve their health and the health of the planet. Meatless Monday is a non-profit initiative of The Monday Campaigns, Inc. in association with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for a Livable Future. Meatless Monday was founded in 2003 by marketing professional Sid Lerner. The program follows the nutrition guidelines developed by the USDA. Meatless Monday is part of the Healthy Monday initiative. Healthy Monday encourages Americans to make healthier decisions at the start of every week.

Meatless Monday focuses its initiative on Monday for multiple reasons. Monday is typically the beginning of the work week, the day when individuals settle back into their weekly routine. Unhealthy habits that prevailed over the weekend can be forgotten and replaced by positive choices. A weekly reminder to restart healthy habits also encourages success. A 2009 trial published in the American Journal of Preventative Medicine provided individuals with weekly health prompts and encouragement. Approximately two-thirds of participants responded with improvements in their overall health, eating habits, and physical activity levels.
During World War I, the United States Food Administration (USFA) urged families to reduce consumption of key staples to help the war effort. Conserving food would support U.S. troops as well as feed populations in Europe where food production and distribution had been disrupted by war. To encourage voluntary rationing, the USFA created the slogan “Food Will Win the War” and coined the terms “Meatless Monday” and “Wheatless Wednesday” to remind Americans to reduce intake of those products.

Herbert Hoover was the head of the Food Administration as well as the American Relief Association during Woodrow Wilson's presidency and played a key role implementing the campaign, which was one of Hoover’s many attempts to encourage volunteerism and sacrifice among Americans during the war. The USFA provided a wide variety of materials in addition to advertising, including recipe books and menus found in magazines, newspapers, and government-sponsored pamphlets.

The campaign returned with the onset of World War II, calling upon women on the homefront to play a role in supporting the war effort. This time, meat was being rationed, along with other commodities like sugar and gasoline.

Meatless Monday was revived in 2003 as a public health awareness program. The campaign was endorsed by the Center for a Livable Future (a division of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health) as well as more than 20 public health schools. In April 2009, Meatless Monday launched an informational video noting the effects of meat consumption on climate change. Meatless Monday is based in the United States, but meatless days (Monday in particular) are gaining popularity worldwide.

Written by Tawmi Grebe-Mitchell

Photos contributed
Georgia-Cumberland Conference

Ellen White described family as the tie that is “the closest, the most tender and sacred, of any on earth” (Adventist Home, p. 18). Unfortunately, many families are crumbling. It is no surprise then that the Family Ministries Department seeks to equip and encourage leaders in local churches to support one of the most complex but crucial relationships we know as humans—that of the family. As part of that effort, the department held the first of two Charting Our Course Leadership Training sessions for this year on April 13 and 14. Nearly 30 people attended and listened as presenters Elizabeth Castle, Sid Crandall, Jo Dubs, Sylvia Knoch, Donna Crandall, and Kathy Schleier discussed an aspect of family ministries, including communication, strengthening marriages, and spiritual parenting.

“We’ve got to keep families together for the sake of the next generations and keeping people in church,” said Schleier, who spoke on the effects of divorce on children. “The biggest thing is to realize that in our churches, families are hurting, and we are forgetting the children in divorced families.”

Schleier serves as the executive director of Family Frameworks, an organization she started in 2004 to minister to and strengthen families. She said her vision for the Adventist Church is that individual churches would take advantage of the tremendous resources that exist and adopt a program that would reach out specifically to families.

Linda Kulik, a school social worker and family ministries director for the Ooltewah Church, attended the training to augment her professional background with what others in the church had to share.
“Family ministries is my passion,” she said. “In my perception, everything rests on that. It takes all of us pulling together—the church is a family, and it’s a family that’s made up of families. If we’re going to minister outward, we have to be working on healing our families within so they can then take that healing and touch others.”

Kulik also explained why the health of families is key to the church’s vitality.

“I look at how the parts affect the whole. None of us is in isolation. So whatever’s going on in this little part, it affects everything, even though we may not realize it at the time. I see how Satan is so incredibly determined to take down the family because if he takes down the family, he takes down the church, and that’s his goal.”

Kulik said the training reminded her of how she is called to partner with Christ in reaching others and that “His burden is for every one of His children. We are his family. And He promises to give us what we need, so I need to remember: Don’t look at myself, don’t look at my training—just look up to the Father, and He will lead.”

The second training session will be held Oct. 19-20. To learn more, contact Donna Crandall at 800-567-1844, ext. 342.

Written by Britni Brannon, Communication assistant director

Photos by Britni Brannon
Georgia-Cumberland Conference
Jordan had never been in a boat before, nor had he ever experienced floating in a lake with a life jacket on, and he had certainly never ridden in a tube pulled by a ski boat. With more than a little trepidation, Jordan slid off the side of the boat and into the waters of Lake Allatoona. As he was finally convinced to let go of the boat and learn to trust the life jacket, his face erupted into an enormous grin, and he shouted “I’m free!”

Such moments are what drove the Marietta Adventist Church (Marietta, Ga.) to launch MAC Camp, a Christian day camp that exists to introduce young people to Jesus Christ and to give them life opportunities they otherwise wouldn’t have. Under the direction of Jeff Wood, Marietta Church associate pastor, MAC Camp has been designed to create a residential summer camp experience in an urban environment.

Each morning begins with a rousing song service, the MAC Time morning show, and a worship thought provided by the staff and pastoral team. Campers then participate in classes such as Lego builders, pine wood derby cars, Christian drama, soccer, cooking and baking, and much more. In addition to the on-site classes, the camp takes weekly field trips to the local pool for swimming lessons, to the lake to go boating, and to an indoor rock climbing gym. Campers also spend an hour each day in MAC Class 2.0, a summer school program designed to bridge the educational gap between school years.

While planning, MAC leadership reached out to local community organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters and a homeless shelter that provides temporary housing for displaced families. An offer was extended to provide a summer camp experience for kids who would otherwise never have the chance. Currently, 75 percent of camp attendees come from these community relationships. While this dynamic has brought its own set of challenges, one camper summed up why the staff have dedicated themselves to the program. While being dropped off one morning, she looked out the window and said, “I love camp!”

Emily Leffler, an English teacher at Battle Creek Academy who came to Marietta to serve as summer camp director, believes passionately in the mission of MAC Camp.

“No matter how long or exhausting the days get for the staff,” she said, “what keeps the program going is seeing campers try new things, learn new skills, and most importantly, meet Jesus every day.”
Written by Jeff Wood, Marietta Church associate pastor, and Emily Leffler

Photos by Danielle Butala