Sept 24—Will Clinic—Valdosta Church, GA
Sept 25—Will Clinic—Waycross Church, GA

CANCELED Sept 27-28—Youth Ministries Convention—Cohutta Springs, GA

Sept 27—God in Shoes Outreach—Pikeville, TN
Sept 27-28—Dan Jarrard presentation—Savannah First Church, GA
Sept 28—Will Clinic—Camden Church, GA
Sept 28—Stewardship Sabbath—Chestatee Church, GA
Sept 28—Personal Ministries Rally—Auburn Church, GA
Sept 28-29—Health Emphasis Weekend (Jarod Thurmon)—Conyers Church, GA
Sept 28-Oct 6—Messiah’s Mansion—Standifer Gap Family Center, Chattanooga, TN
Sept 29—Lakeview 5k & 1 Mile and Health Expo—Powder Springs, GA
Sept 29—Will Clinic—Savannah First Church, GA
Sept 29—God in Shoes Outreach—Greeneville, TN

Oct 1-10—Iowa Assessment Testing
Oct 4—Day of Prayer and Fasting
Oct 4-5—Northeast Tennessee Camp Meeting—The Oaks, Greeneville, TN
Oct 4-6—Hispanic Men’s Retreat—Unicoi State Park, Helen, GA
Oct 4-6—ACF Leadership Reboot—Cohutta Springs
Oct 5—Personal Ministries Rally—Ogden Road Church, TN
Oct 6—Sunbelt/Cohutta Springs Sprint Triathlon—Cohutta Springs
Oct 6—God in Shoes Outreach—Augusta, GA
Oct 6—Questview Community Estate Sale—Lawrenceville, GA
Oct 6—Plant-based Cooking Class (Pt. 1)—Morristown Church, TN

Oct 8-12—Week of Prayer—Cohutta Church, GA
Oct 9-13—Pain Management seminar—Wildwood Lifestyle Center & Hospital, GA
Oct 10-13—The Battle for the Brain seminar (Vicki Griffin)—Morgantown, GA
Oct 13—God in Shoes Outreach—Andrews, NC
Oct 13—Plant-based Cooking Class (Pt. 2)—Morristown Church, TN

Oct 18-19—DO Fast! [click for more info and resources]
Oct 18-20—Men’s Retreat—Cohutta Springs

Oct 20-27—Winter Gardening seminar—Williamsport, TN

Oct 24-27—Hispanic Youth Congress—Camp Kulaqua, FL

Oct 25-27—Marriage Retreat—Gatlinburg, TN

-CONFERENCE EVENTS-

(Canceled) Youth Ministries Convention—Sept. 27 & 28
The Youth Ministries Department regrets to announce that the Youth Ministries Convention, scheduled for Sept. 27-28, has been canceled.

Do Fast (Defend Orphans)—Oct. 18 & 19
Sponsored by the North American Division, the do fast, a 24-hour fast to defend orphans, draws attention to the plight of orphans and how we can help restore them to a life of health and opportunity, as God ordained for all humankind. The fast begins at sundown on Friday, Oct. 18, and ends at sundown on Sabbath, Oct. 19. Visit gccsda.com/events/33514 to learn more, watch videos, and download resources like posters, school tool kits, and more!

Men’s Retreat—Oct. 18-20
All men are invited to attend this year’s retreat! The theme is "Men of Valor" and will feature guest speaker Jorge Torres, chaplain (major) US Army. The event will be held Oct. 18-20 at Cohutta Springs. Register online at registration.gccsda.com or call 800-567-1844 (x 340) for more info.

Married Lovers’ Mountain Getaway—Oct. 25-27
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 by at registration.gccsda.com.

(Canceled) Homeland Lay Evangelism Training—Nov. 1-2
The Adult Lay Evangelism Department is sorry to announce that the Homeland Lay Evangelism Training, scheduled for Nov. 1-2, has been canceled.

2015 GC Session Music Audition—Dec. 31
The North American Division Music Committee for the 2015 General Conference Session (July 2-11 in San Antonio, TX,) 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. Click the “Music Application Packet” tab and follow all directions. Applications will be processed through Dec. 31, 2013.

Cohutta Cancer Survivor Weekend—March 2014
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 or call her at 706-695-9093.

-CHURCH & ORGANIZATION EVENTS-

Health Emphasis Weekend—Sept. 28 & 29
The Conyers Church is having a Health Emphasis Weekend Sept. 28-29. Guest speaker for the Sabbath-morning worship service and afternoon health seminar will be Jarod Thurmon. On Sunday, there will be a 5k run/walk, and at the end of the 5k, refreshments and free health screenings will be offered. Jarod Thurmon will also be presenting a cooking class for the community on Sunday afternoon.

Chattanooga Messiah's Mansion—Sept. 28-Oct. 6
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 1:00pm to 7:00pm with specially arranged group tours starting at 8:30am. The exhibit will be held Sept. 28-Oct. 6 at the Standifer Gap Family Center in Chattanooga, TN. The Messiah's Mansion exhibit consists of five sections lasting about 15 minutes each. For more information, visit messiahsmansionchatt.org or call 423-954-0174 to arrange a group tour.

Vegetarian Cooking Class—October
The Cumberland Heights Church (Coalmont, TN) will be having a vegetarian cooking class every Monday night during the month of October. Call 931-692-4101 for more information.

Sunbelt/Cohutta Springs Sprint Triathlon—Oct. 6
Now celebrating its 30th year, the Sunbelt/Cohutta Springs Sprint Triathlon features a 1/2 mile swim, 18-mile bike, and 4-mile run. It will be held on Sunday, Oct. 6, at Cohutta Springs Youth Camp in Crandall, Ga. Packet pickup will be from 10:30am to 11:45am, and the race will start at 12:30pm. More information and registration can be found online at southerntriathlon.com

Community Estate Sale—Oct. 6
The Questview Church will be hosting a community estate sale on Sunday, Oct. 6, from 7:00am to 3:00pm. Location is at 1404 Lawrenceville/Suwanee Rd., Lawrenceville, GA 30043. All new and gently used items will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Quality, hand-selected items at pauper prices! Items to be sold include: men's, women's, and children's clothes, shoes, jewelry, fine art, housewares, home decor, small kitchen appliances, patio furniture, rocking recliner, books, toys, decorations, and more!!
Wildwood Pain Management seminar—Oct. 9-13
Oct. 9-13, Wildwood Lifestyle Center & Hospital will be hosting a Pain Management seminar. It is designed for health professionals and also enthusiastic people who are interested in health. A variety of medical professionals will speak on the different causes of pain and methods of pain management. This year’s presenters include Joe Gager, PT; Roby Sherman, MD; Zeno Charles-Marcel, MD; Agatha Thrash, MD; and Mark Johnson, MD, to name a few. Our topics include physical therapy uses for pain; overlooked causes of pain; cancer pain; nerve blocks, epidurals...treatment for acute pain; psychological intervention for chronic pain; opioid withdrawal; and more! Early bird registration is $375 until Sept. 15 (includes seminar entry, housing, and meals) For more info, call 800-844-1099 (x1043) or visit wildwoodhealth.org/seminars.

Winter Gardening Seminar—Oct. 20-27
Don't pack away those gardening tools just yet! Bountiful Blessings Farm and the Dysinger families are hosting a Winter Gardening Seminar Oct. 20-27. Just think: You don't need a heated greenhouse in order to enjoy your very own fresh veggies all winter long! More details may be found at bountifulblessingsshared.com/seminars/.

Atlanta Southside Homecoming—Nov. 8-10
The Atlanta Southside Church will be holding their first homecoming during the weekend of Nov. 8-10, celebrating 46 years in the Jonesboro, Ga., area.

announcements

New Low Power FM Filing Window
Low Power FM (LPFM) radio stations have been offered a rare application “filing window” by the Federal Communications Commission for new LPFM stations from October 15 until 6 p.m. ET, October 29. The only previous opportunity to file applications for new LPFM stations was a series of regional filing windows conducted in 2000 and 2001.

"It is impossible to predict when another LPFM filing window might open, but it could likely be another decade away—if ever," said John Geli, program/operations manager of the LifeTalk Radio (LTR) Network. "We don't want any of our Adventist churches, schools, hospitals, or other entities across North America and U.S. Territories to miss out on this rare opportunity to be able to apply for a low power radio station for their community," he said.

Interested parties should prepare to take advantage of this rare opportunity now. The upcoming filing window will be open for applications throughout all 50 states and all U.S. territories. Learn more.

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.
“Did You Know” series: 28 Fundamental Beliefs
The North American Division Office of Communication has produced 90-second videos of the 28 Fundamental Beliefs. The videos are on the MyWayToJesus.com website. This website project was developed for people who have no idea about who Jesus is. We know that many people are seeking for Jesus or "a higher power." This site will answer many questions for those that are seeking and will ultimately direct them to the answers they are looking for. The videos are just one part of the website project. However, it is a major part. The videos are also being used as commercial spots on Hope Channel (beginning this month), on the new General Conference website (being released this fall), and will be made available to churches to use free of charge through AdventSource. View the spots at http://vimeo.com/channels/didyouknow.

news

GRIFFIN CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE
Flames engulfed the Griffin Hilltop Church in Griffin, Ga., early Sunday morning, Sept. 22, 2013. [Read the story]

SOUTHERN'S GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM RANKED AMONG BEST
Southern Adventist University’s School of Nursing's graduate program has recently been rated as one of the best nursing degree programs available. [Read the story]

CALHOUN CHURCH WOMEN TO HOST COMMUNITY HOMESPUN TEA
On Sept. 22, the Women’s Ministry Department of the Calhoun (Ga.) Church will present a “Homespun Tea,” with guest speaker, Ruthie Jacobsen. [Read the story]

ANCIENT HEBREW TABERNACLE TO BE RAISED IN CHATTANOOGA
A full-scale model of the ancient Hebrew tabernacle built in the wilderness by the Hebrew nation will be on exhibition in Chattanooga, TN, from Sept. 28 to Oct. 6. [Read the story]
To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to gcenews+unsubscribe@gccsda.com.

Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote
Griffin Church Destroyed by Fire

Image attributed to: Sandra Brown
Flames engulfed the Griffin Hilltop Church in Griffin, Ga., early Sunday morning, Sept. 22, 2013. The building is a total loss.

According to WKEU Radio–The Rock–88.9 FM/1450 AM–Griffin, Georgia:

“When firefighters arrived, they found flames coming through the roof of the structure. Firefighters were on the scene for several hours keeping the blaze from spreading. Fire Chief Tommy Jones said that there were no injuries, and no firefighters were injured in the incident. A major concern was getting water to the structure that sits several hundred feet from the roadway on top of a hill. The old home had been vacant since Mr. Arthur Forrer’s death, and was the old home site of Dr. Forrer in the 1920s and ‘30s.”

Dan Hall, pastor of the Griffin Church, said the church had been in this new location for the past five years. The church is now left to decide where to go from here. In the meantime, neighbors in the community have offered assistance.

“Three local congregations have offered us the use of their facilities,” Hall said. “All three offers were very generous, and we will have a
board meeting to decide on which location.”

Conference officials offered their condolences to the members.

“Any time there is pain, we hurt as well,” said Ed Wright, Conference president. “And we pray for God’s healing to touch those in pain at this difficult time.”

Written by Tamara Wolcott Fisher, communication director

Photos by Sandra Brown
Southern Adventist University’s School of Nursing's graduate program has recently been rated as one of the best nursing degree programs available in the nation by MastersDegreeOnline.org. The website is dedicated to providing higher education information in an easy to use medium and has evaluated Southern's Master of Science in nursing degree to be one of the top 50 nursing graduate programs in the country for the 2013-2014 academic year.

The methods used by MastersDegreeOnline.org to rank graduate nursing programs are based on a combination of interviews with deans in the field, surveys of students, program reputation, and previous graduate successes.

Southern's graduate program offers both master’s and doctoral degrees in nursing. Students can also earn a dual Master of Science in nursing/Master of Business Administration degree.

Currently, 195 students are pursuing a graduate nursing degree at Southern.

Written by Lucas Patterson, SAU editorial manager

Photo by Monkey Business Images/Dreamstime.com
On Sept. 22, from 2:00pm to 3:30pm, the Women’s Ministry Department of the Calhoun (Ga.) Church will present a “Homespun Tea,” with guest speaker, Ruthie Jacobsen. Area ladies are invited to the event.

Coordinator for the tea, Glenda Hayward, shared how plans for the tea got under way.

“In January, when the pastor of Trinity Baptist Church passed away, we wanted to reach out to the women of their church. But the tornado hit, and we had to take care of the more practical needs of the community.”

However, she said the idea stayed with the planning committee, and the women decided to revive the idea of hosting a tea and invite the community women to attend, as a means “to enlarge the circle of Jesus.”

“A tea provides women an atmosphere for unhurried conversation, a time for making memories, and sharing in a peaceful, serene, feminine environment,” said Carole Huddleston, director women’s ministry. “Ladies should feel comfortable dressed up in all their tea "finery," or in just a simple garment. The objective is to enjoy the time by visiting with one another, sampling delightful dainty treats, and just relaxing. The goal is to bring ladies of the community into common ground: a tea together with prayer and fellowship.”

To make the occasion extra special, the planners invited author Ruthie Jacobsen, a resident of north Georgia, who is the coordinator for prayer ministries for the North American Division. Jacobsen, a former talk show host for 3ABN and a registered nurse, is known for her prayer conferences across the United States and in several foreign countries. Hayward said the theme of the event is “When you can’t see His hand, trust His heart.” The event will also include music by vocalist Nancy Sharp, and a trio of instrumentalists—Cheryl Jones, Marla Nedeleu, and Steve Dyrda.
There is a nominal $5 cost for attendees (pay at door), and you must register by noon on Friday, Sept. 20, to attend, due to limited seating. Register by phone (706-629-5470) or email (Callhoun@gccsda.com)

Written by Betty KossickPhoto by Shaiith/Dreamstime.com
A full-scale model of the ancient Hebrew tabernacle built in the wilderness by the Hebrew nation will be on exhibition and available for tours, free of charge, at the Standifer Gap Family Center (8304 Standifer Gap Rd., Chattanooga, TN) from Sept. 28 to Oct. 6.

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 1:00pm to 7:00pm with specially arranged group tours starting at 8:30am. 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 local pastor Dale Tunnell, 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 messiahsmansione.org or call 423-954-0174 to arrange a group tour.

Written by Melissa Summers

Photos from messiahsmansione.org