Please note: There will be no eCommunique next week. I will be out of the office. Have a great week!!
Apr 11—Home, Family & Relationships Seminar—Duluth Church
Apr 11-12—Power PAC Youth Rally—Peachtree City Church, GA
Apr 12—Personal Ministries Rally—Newton County Church, GA
Apr 12—LEAD Evangelism Training—North Knoxville Church, TN
Apr 12—Cohutta Community Spring Songfest—Cohutta Church, GA
Apr 12—Stewardship Sabbath—Lookout Mountain Church, GA
Apr 12—Home, Family & Relationships Seminar—Duluth Church
Apr 12-13—Master Guides’ Leadership Convention—Conference Office, Calhoun, GA

Apr 13—Home, Family & Relationships Seminar—Duluth Church
Apr 13-17—Stop Smoking Clinic—LaFollette Company, TN
Apr 16—Home, Family & Relationships Seminar—Duluth Church
Apr 17—Michael Card Easter Concert—Dalton, GA
Apr 18—Bible Prophecy Seminar Opening Night—Rossville Church, GA
Apr 18—Home, Family & Relationships Seminar—Duluth Church
Apr 18-19—Dalton 75th Anniversary Celebration—Dalton Church, GA
Apr 19—Stewardship Sabbath—Kingsport Church, TN
Apr 19—Mission Sabbath Training—Fayette Church, Fayetteville, GA
Apr 19—Home, Family & Relationships Seminar—Duluth Church
Apr 19—Health Rally—Benton Church, TN
Apr 19—Will Clinic—Auburn Church, GA

Apr 20—Will Clinic—Loganville Church, GA
Apr 20—Will Clinic—Athens Church, GA
Apr 21—Will Clinic—Madison Church, GA
Apr 22—Will Clinic—Dublin Church, GA
Apr 23—Will Clinic—Statesboro Church, GA
Apr 24-27—Pathfinder Camporee
Apr 26—Stewardship Sabbath—Jasper Church, GA
Apr 26—Health Rally—LaFollette Church, TN
Apr 26-27—Disaster Response Training—Coalfield Church, TN
May 1—National Day of Prayer
May 2-4—Hispanic Master Guides’ Camporee—Cohutta Springs
May 3—Stewardship Sabbath—Adairsville Church, GA
May 3—Prayer Ministry Day—Stone Mountain Church, GA
May 3—LEAD Evangelism Training—Roane Community Church, TN

May 4—God in Shoes Outreach—Gainesville Church, GA
May 4—God in Shoes Outreach—Augusta First Church, GA
May 4—GCA Gymnastics Homeshow—Georgia-Cumberland Academy
May 9-10—Southern Union SEEDS Conference—Raleigh, NC
May 10—Personal Ministries Rally—Jellico Church, TN
May 10—Stewardship Sabbath—Atlanta North Church, GA

-CONFERENCE EVENTS-

Save the Date for Camp Meeting 2014
May 16-17—Korean Camp Meeting—Cohutta Springs Conference Center

May 21-24—Collegedale Camp Meeting—Southern Adventist University
Speaker: Elizabeth Talbot & Roger Hernandez Theme: kNOw FISHING

June 5-8—Olde Time Camp Meeting—Deer Lodge, TN
Speaker: John Earnhardt Theme: Race to Victory Lane

Aug 6-10—Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting—Cohutta Springs Conference Center
Speaker: Alan Meis

Aug 22-24—Hispanic Camp Meeting—Cohutta Springs Conference Center

Will Clinics Schedule
Les Speer, trust services officer, will be conducting will clinics throughout March, April, July, and August. **Please note that worksheets must be completed before attending the clinic.** Worksheets are available from your pastor or the conference’s Trust Services Department.

APRIL
19—Auburn Church, GA, 8:30-10:30 pm
20—Loganville Church, GA, 10:00 am- 1:00 pm
20—Athens Church, GA, 4:00-6:00 pm
21—Madison Church, GA, 4:00-6:00 pm  
22—Dublin Church, GA, 5:30-7:30 pm  
23—Statesboro Church, GA, 5:30-7:30 pm

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**-CHURCH & ORGANIZATION EVENTS-**

**Mission Sabbath—April 19**
The Fayette Church (Fayetteville, GA) will hold a special Mission Sabbath on April 19 at 2:00 pm. This training is for all who are interested in learning how to start Bible studies in their community. Pastor Shawn Shives will be the presenter. After the seminar, there will be visitation in the community for hands-on experience. No cost; no registration required. For more information, call 678-749-1689.

**Natural Remedies Seminar: Weight Management—June 8-15**
Wildwood Lifestyle Center's 2014 Natural Remedies Seminar takes it up a notch. This year we would like you to experience the methods of health and seeing the change within yourself in one week. That's right! You will receive health screenings such as blood work and fitness assessments. Each day you will have fitness and hands-on cooking classes, along with class-style presentations. The afternoon training sessions will include 12 hours of practical training in hydrotherapy, massage, and food preservation. We are also showing you how to shop wisely by visiting a store and learning how to shop towards your goals. Experience weight management in yourself within one week! Register TODAY and save! The Early Bird Registration is $450 until May 5 (includes registration, lodging, and meals). For more information or to register, go to [www.wildwoodhealth.org/seminars/home](http://www.wildwoodhealth.org/seminars/home) or call 800-844-1099 ext 1019 or 423-521-5058.

**Summer SALT—June 22-29**
We are very excited to announce that registration for the 2014 Summer SALT (Soul-winning and Leadership Training) intensive is now open! This program, which will run from June 22-29 at Southern Adventist University, is designed for busy people looking for intense evangelism training in a short period of time. Summer SALT pulls crucial excerpts from our full semester program to cover the basics of personal and public evangelism, the evangelism cycle, and tools for outreach in your local church and community. Speakers will include evangelism experts from SALT, *It Is Written*, and more. Early bird registration is only $99! Housing options are available. Please visit [southern.edu/salt](http://southern.edu/salt) for more information.

**Mission Trip Flea Market—September 2014**
Coming September 2014: Flea market at the McDonald Road Church (5440 McDonald Road, McDonald TN). Support youth mission trip to Belize in 2015. Booths available and donations appreciated (no clothing). For more information, contact Daryl Ford at 423-504-8116.

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**Retool Your School—Oakwood University Competes Again for Home Depot Grant**
Oakwood University has been announced as a finalist in The Home Depot's 2014 RETOOL YOUR SCHOOL Campus Improvement Grant Program. One $50,000 Tier I major grant, 13 Tier II $10,000 grants, and three $25,000 campus pride grants for the schools that receive the most online votes and social media activity, as assessed by The Home Depot®, will be awarded. The Home Depot® will
announce the winners on or around May 2.

In 2013 Oakwood won the Tier 1 grant, which allowed the University to construct an outdoor pavilion. Because of last year's victory, Oakwood is not eligible to win in the Tier 1 category. However, Oakwood is eligible to win in the campus pride category, which will allow the University to re-seed the softball and soccer fields as well as install sprinkler systems.

From February 17 to April 14, supporters can visit www.retoolyourschool.com to vote for Oakwood University's campus improvement project. "We need everyone's support to help Oakwood win this grant," said Kisha Norris, executive director for advancement and development for Oakwood. Oakwood is only Seventh-day Adventist university in the competition.

The winning school of the Campus Pride Grant will be selected by a combination of the applicant's social media activity and voting score. The three applicants with the highest votes and most social media activity, as determined by the sponsor during the voting period, will be awarded with the Campus Pride Grants.

Oakwood University had the most votes last year! Let's do it again. Go to www.retoolyourschool.com and vote as often as possible - and from all of your personal computers and devices. You can also Tweet about the competition using #OakwoodTHDRYS

And be sure to tell your family and friends to do the same.

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**Transitions: Homeschool to GCA**

MariRuth Runyon, 13, is homeschooled. She plans to enter Georgia-Cumberland Academy in the fall of 2015 as a freshman. To orient herself to the transition from homeschooling, she requested an interview with Nancy Gerard, GCA's Director of Alumni and Development.

[Read the story](#)

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**Edna Chesnutt Turns 100**

Members of the town of Apison, Tenn. area, including the Methodist, Baptist, and Adventist churches, gathered together March 2, 2014, at the Hullender Farm in honor of one of the areas oldest citizens, a resident since 1934, Edna Chesnutt. They helped celebrate her 100th birthday. She is a member of the Apison Seventh-day Adventist church.

[Read the story](#)
Collegedale School System Students Serve Others

Through a partnership with Southern Adventist University (SAU) the Greater Collegedale School System (GCSS) participates in two unique programs that promote an ethic of service to the elderly. Both programs are funded by an anonymous donor who provides 80% of the grant and requires 20% to be locally raised in the community.

Read the story

MAC Camp Serves Others

Jazmine was a young lady who came to the Marietta Adventist Church as part of the MAC day camp program. Her aunt was looking for a program that could benefit her niece and nephew and give them a positive outlet for the summer, and MAC Camp gave them that opportunity. MAC was originally intended to support local church families, and had many elements of a traditional residential church camp.

Read the story

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to gccnews+unsubscribe@gcscda.com.
MariRuth Runyon, 13, is homeschooled. She plans to enter Georgia-Cumberland Academy in the fall of 2015 as a freshman. To orient herself to the transition from homeschooling, she requested an interview with Nancy Gerard, GCA’s Director of Alumni and Development. The interview follows:

Q: As a homeschooler what should I be doing to prepare myself for academy?

A: “There are several things,” Gerard states. “Learn to be a good manager of your time. When you homeschool you don’t typically have the constraints in time that you do in a school setting and so coming prepared, knowing how to manage time, knowing how to be self-disciplined with your use of time, all those things are really important.

“A lot of homeschoolers do get to be rather good about being self-directed, self-initiated, but some kids come out of elementary school used to having their parents stand over them to make sure they are getting their homework done. This can be a problem.

“So when kids come to high school,” Gerard says, “sometimes they’re not equipped to manage their own time and be disciplined about how to use their time.”

Gerard also pointed out, “The first semester or so, when students get here they’re just having so much fun with their friends, that they don’t handle their time well. Besides that sort of self-discipline piece, the other thing is the social part of it. Some homeschoolers take the opportunity to interact with other kids and some kids don’t. Some homeschooled kids may not be comfortable around other teenagers. One of the things you see in homeschoolers is that they’re typically good at interacting with adults, because they’ve been around adults mostly and where they struggle maybe is getting along and interacting with kids their own age.

“The other thing is to make sure you’re academically up to snuff, where you need to be. It’s a challenge to jump from elementary school to high school, academically. Those are the three big areas, time management, the social, and the academics.”

Q: What kind of testing do you offer for career guidance?

A:” In freshman Bible class they do some career testing and talk about goals for the future and how to choose a career. Every year we have a career day when we bring in 20-30 adults who come and talk to the students about their careers. During the senior year all students receive career aptitude and personality testing done by a psychologist who also spends an hour with each of the students to go over the results of the tests.”
Q: What kind of social events can we expect at GCA?

A: “Every evening there is rec from 7-8. This provides a time for students to participate in intramural sports, but if students don’t want to play team sports there are other games such as foosball, ping pong, or air hockey. There is also a weight room and some students choose to work out or walk during this time.

“In the fall, there’s supper club and it’s an opportunity to ask someone, so the guys usually ask the girls; it’s themed and it’s usually on campus.”

“There’s the barn party and other student association planned activities. The first Saturday night of the school year you get to know your classmates. Everyone’s in their class groups and they do all sorts of crazy relays and games.

“There’s usually three or four banquets throughout the year. That’s more of a dress-up-go-out-to-dinner type thing. There’s tons of social stuff going on that’s not always formal.”

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by MariRuth Runyon

photos by Betty Kossick
Members of the town of Apison, Tenn. area, including the Methodist, Baptist, and Adventist churches, gathered together March 2, 2014, at the Hullender Farm in honor of one of the areas oldest citizens, a resident since 1934, Edna Chesnutt. They helped celebrate her 100th birthday. She is a member of the Apison Seventh-day Adventist church.

Born in Canada, of parents Charles Beatty and Ebba Ekeblad (an immigrant from Sweden), the couple met in Iowa, married and moved to Canada, Edna had one sister, and one brother. Her mother died when she was 5 years old.

The family later moved to Yakima, Wash. Edna became an early morning person when quite young because it was necessary to rise at 5 a.m. to walk two miles to school that began at 7:30 a.m. Her sister left home to attend nursing school when Edna was only 11 years old, leaving Edna to care for the home duties.

After graduating from Yakima Valley Academy Edna visited with her brother in California, then visited friends at Southern Junior College in Collegedale, Tenn.

In 1938 she was married to W. H. "Shed" Chesnutt. They settled in Apison, Tenn. where she has still lives. They had two children Eddie (deceased) and Wanda, who has cared for her mother for three years.

Edna has been blessed of God with many talents. She made all her daughter's clothing, including her wedding gown. In addition to gardening, canning, quilting, tatting, crocheting and altering clothes for the neighbors, she worked as secretary at the Apison Elementary School for 12 years. She made prom gowns for all her granddaughters and christening gowns for all her great grandchildren.

She was also the church clerk at the Apison church for 11 years, in addition to playing the piano and organ. She was recruited by the Methodist Church to play for their choir and morning services, where she played until she was 94 years old.

She has made many baby clothes for people and at a later date she made wedding garments for those same people. Later she played music for their funeral.

Her sweetness and willingness to help others is unequaled. She is very special.

by Nancy Patton
Collegedale School System Students Serve Others

Daniel Tanksley, Collegedale Academy student (right), with his friend Kay Mastey.

Collegedale Academy student Sadie Dixon hugs Marie Scholze.

![Daniel Tanksley, Collegedale Academy student (right), with his friend Kay Mastey.](image1)

![Collegedale Academy student Sadie Dixon hugs Marie Scholze.](image2)

![Daniel Tanksley, Collegedale Academy student (right), with his friend Kay Mastey.](image3)
Tommy Thompson, CA student, with his friends Irving and Milly Smith. They met through the Academy Student Service Initiative Stipend for Tuition.

Through a partnership with Southern Adventist University (SAU) the Greater Collegedale School System (GCSS) participates in two unique programs that promote an ethic of service to the elderly. Both programs are funded by an anonymous donor who provides 80% of the grant and requires 20% to be locally raised in the community.

Managed by the SAU School of Social Work, under the direction of Rene’ Drumm, Dean, the ASSIST – (Academy Student Service Initiative Stipend for Tuition) program employs academy students to minister to older adults in their homes or assisted living facilities. Since the beginning in 2007, over 135 Collegedale Academy (CA) students’ lives have been changed through cultivating a positive relationship with an elder. Chris Massengill, chaplain and program administrator, says, “bridging the gap between generations, improving the quality of life for the elderly and cultivating the qualities of Christ love and character is what we want to promote with our students.”

Mia Spicer, CA senior, shared her Christian growth in this way. “Jesus does show Himself through us in the ASSIST Program. Being able to explain what school we come from often leads to the question, “So, you are a Seventh-day Adventist?” Then it just goes from there. At work we also have the opportunity to let Jesus work through us by the way we act. Sometimes, things can get a little frustrating, if we are really tired, or experienced a long day at school, that's when Jesus turns around and uses other residents to show Himself to us through kind words and gestures and smiles”.

Daniel Tanksley, a CA freshman, who is new to the program said, “God uses me by giving me the power to be cheerful, the desire to listen and smile.”

PFE (Partnering For Eternity) is a service scholarship program that SAU launched in October for students enrolled in Adventist elementary schools. The PFE program is designed to motive and grow the elementary age student in service, connecting each student with senior mentors under parental supervision, while providing service scholarship funds for tuition assistance.

GCSS elementary schools A.W. Spalding (AWS) and Collegedale Adventist Middle School (CAMS) collectively have 32 students participating with 396 service hours recorded through February.

by Deborah M. Zirakian,

AWS/CAMS Recruiting/Communications, Collegedale Academy ASSIST Program Coordinator

photos by CA Students with seniors in the A.S.S.I.S.T. Program
CAMS & AWS Students with Senior Mentor in Partnering For Eternity Service Scholarship Program
Georgia-Cumberland Conference

Jazmine was a young lady who came to the Marietta Adventist Church as part of the MAC day camp program. Her aunt was looking for a program that could benefit her niece and nephew and give them a positive outlet for the summer, and MAC Camp gave them that opportunity. MAC was originally intended to support local church families, and had many elements of a traditional residential church camp.

One of the primary goals was to give campers a chance to experience things they wouldn't otherwise have the chance to experience. Trips to the local pool, indoor climbing gym, ceramics painting centers, and Lake Allatoona, provided campers with the chance to experience rock climbing, swimming, tubing, and boating, many for the very first time.

The Marietta Church believes they are called to use their God-given strengths and gifts to build up the body of Christ and the surrounding community. Recognizing MAC Camp as an opportunity to practice the principle of service, Jeff Wood, pastor, contacted the director of the local chapter of the Big Brother, Big Sister organization and a short term homeless shelter near the church with an offer of scholarships for the camp program. On the first day of camp, 75% of registered campers came from these organization as well as community families looking for quality affordable camping.

Jazmine, was one of the campers who came through Big Brother, Big Sister. Some would say she arrived at camp with a “chip on her shoulder” She instigated fights and arguments, refused to do what she was asked and, as she explains it, “pretty much wanted to make everyone’s life a little bit miserable.

The first two weeks of camp Jazmine found herself talking to camp leadership almost daily about some rule infraction or other. “I was always in trouble,” Jazmine explains, “but somehow I knew even when they were making me sit out or talking to me about something I had done, I knew they still cared about me, which is something I really didn’t get.” Little by little the staff began to break through the walls she had built for herself.

One Friday night, Jazmine, who had decided to attend a church youth even, approached Emily Leffler, the summer camp director, aside and confessed that she “wished I had what they had." She explained that, “God was just some kind of nebulus concept out in space, but I was pretty sure up until that summer He didn’t really care about me. Seeing the camp staff live like they knew He was a part of their lives made me want that.”

Leffler directed Jazmine to the youth group leaders, and together they got Jazmine involved with Twelve, the Marietta Church youth group. Jazmine began attending youth group programs, and through the support of the local church, enrolled at Atlanta Adventist Academy and her life is on a very different path. Jazmine credits the summer camp staff for her turn around.

“I saw something in the staff. They were different. No matter what I did, I knew they never stopped caring about me, and even when they were mad at me, I could always see that they were trying to help me, and loved me no matter what. I wanted to be just like them. I wanted to know what made them different.”

As MAC Camp prepares for another summer, plans are in place to reach deeper into depressed communities near the church and offer quality summer camp experiences. Funds are being raised to extend scholarships to even more families who desperately need spiritual educational opportunities for their children during the summer months. If you would like to support this ministry, information can be found at www.macdaycamp.org.